

SAIDDHUNI





Bowling • Cocktail Bar • Lounge



16 Church Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 4AR

For All Reservations Call: 0208 420 7318

www.lavalanes.co.uk info@lavalanes.co.uk

Maurya ^{MR}
Restaurant

Finest Indian Cuisine

w: www.maurya.co.uk e: info@maurya.co.uk

Visit our website or contact us for more information...

Maurya Stanmore: 16 Church Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 4AR

Tel: 0208 416 0770 / 0440



Premier Banqueting

LONDON

Premier Banqueting London

1 Canning Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA3 7TS

www.premierbanquetinglondon.com 0208 427 4237 info@premierbanquetinglondon.com

For more information, visit our website or get in touch with us. With your specific requirements in mind, we can assist you with more insight.

**Congratulations & Best Wishes on the 5th Anniversary
Celebrations of Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of
London (SHITAL)**

from

Sandip, Priti, Sunny Ruparelia & Family



2 Ganesh Vandana	79 Remuneration of Hard Labor
3 Message from Temple Priests	82 Importance of Human Birth
4 Message from SHITAL Chairman	87 Shraddha and Saburi
5 Message from Shirdi Sai Baba Santhan	92 Donations
7 Message from Editorial Team	93 Donations - Leicester Temple
8 Introduction to Baba	95 Walk for Sai - 2014
12 Money	99 Acknowledgement to SHITAL
15 Donations - London Temple	103 Shri Sai Satcharitra
23 Rinanubandh	107 SHITAL Aims and Objectives
32 Shri Ram Navami Celebrations 2014	110 SHITAL's Yearly Calendar
36 Guru Purnima Festival 2014	113 Shri Ganesh Chaturti
42 Guruvar	115 Acknowledgement to SHITAL
47 Baba's Punyatithi 2014	116 Acknowledgements to Volunteers
53 Donations - London Temple	119 List of Advertisements
55 Food Serving	Baba's 11 Promises
59 Importance of Food	11, 21,31,41,51,61,71,81, 91, 101, 111
60 SHITAL Food Distribution	Devotees Experience
62 Acknowledgement to SHITAL	17, 22,27,29,77,84
66 Ego	
72 Baba's Devotee: Kashiram Shimpi	



"Why should one fear, when I am here?"

Ganesh Vandana



**Vakrathunda Mahaakaaya
Sooryakotee Sama Prabha
Nirvighnam Kuru Mey Dheva
Sarva Kaaryeshu Sarvadhaa**



**O Lord with the curved trunk and a mighty body, who has the magnificence of Million suns,
I pray to you Oh Lord, to remove the obstacles from all the actions I intend to perform!
Shri Sai, you are none other than Lord Ganesha, please help us in finishing this mammoth task!!**

Lord Ganesha, the deity in human form, with head of an elephant, represents the power of The Supreme Being, who removes obstacles and ensures success in human endeavours. Ganesha as a deity is worshipped across religions like Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.

The portrayal of Lord Ganesha symbolizes blend of best parts of human and animal body and each part has a profound spiritual significance. The large head of an elephant symbolizes wisdom, understanding, and discrimination. The large ears signify that a perfect person is one who possesses a great capacity to listen to others and assimilate ideas. The two tusks denote the two aspects of the human personality, wisdom and emotion. The broken left tusk conveys the idea that one must conquer emotions with wisdom to attain perfection. The elephant small eyes symbolize the idea that even if an individual gets bigger in wealth and wisdom, he should, surrender ones pride and attain humility and perceive others to be bigger than him. The four arms indicate that the Lord is omnipresent and omnipotent. The big belly signifies that a perfect individual must have a large capacity to face all pleasant and unpleasant experiences of the world. The mouse, which symbolizes the ego, sits near the feet of Ganesha and is his vehicle which indicates that a perfect person is one who has conquered his (or her) ego in order for wisdom to shine forth. The right foot (Symbol of Reason and Knowledge) dangling over the left foot (Symbol of emotion) illustrates that in order to live a successful life one should utilize knowledge and reason to overcome emotions.

Shri Shirdi Saibaba is revered as one of the greatest saints ever seen in India, endowed with unprecedented powers, and is worshipped as a God incarnate. Some of His followers regard Him as a Saint, some as an incarnation of Lord Shiva or Lord Dattatreya or Saint Kabir and some believed Him as a Sadguru (*true teacher*). It is a belief of many followers that Shri Sai, is none other than Lord Ganesha. Hemadpant who wrote Shri Sai Satcharitra began his work, by making obeisance to the God Ganesha to remove all obstacles and make the work a success and says that Shri Sai is the God Ganesha. Following his footsteps we are starting this edition of Saidhuni with Ganesha Mantra and significance of Ganesh Swarup (*true nature*).

O Ganesha we pray to you to remove all hurdles from the path of success of all readers of Sai Dhuni and Sai Devotee's and bless us with wisdom to follow true teachings of Sai Baba.



"I am formless and everywhere"

Message from Temple Priests



OM SAI RAM

In this world, people practice so many religions; but actually, all of them chant different names for the same God. In the holy land of Shirdi, Sat Chit Ananda form of God, Sat Guru Sainath appeared to bless all of us and performed so many Divine leelas and miracles. Today, all over the world there are so many people reading the Sai Satcharitra and chanting Sai naam. Everyday, there are so many devotees worshipping Sai Baba by performing many pujas. Even today, devotees all over the world are experiencing Baba's amazing leelas and grace In UK, here in Wembley & Leicester, there are so many devotees who have got Baba's blessings and have been successful. I pray that Baba continue to bless one and all in the same way. My regards and best wishes to all the devotees who are performing this great service of Sai Dhuni, the board of trustees, priests and the devotees. By Sai's grace, let there be abundance and success to everyone....

Om Sai Ram

Appa



OM SAI RAM

STHAVARAM JANGAMAM VYAPTAM, YATKINCHIT SACHARACHARAM TATPADAM DARSHITAM YENA, TASMAI SRI GURAVE NAMAH

By Baba's grace, We have been blessed with the good fortune of performing tri kala puja (puja and offering during morning, afternoon and night artis) for Shri Sainath daily and the special monthly devata puja as well. It is indeed the purva janma punya (merits from past births) that has given us such a great opportunity.

We pray to Baba that He bless us that we serve Him more and more, as a result of which, may all Sai devotees get Sai's blessings and achieve their hearts' desires. By the blessings of Baba, we will be opening more temples and centres. I request all devotees to avail this wonderful opportunities. Please come and join whole heartedly in serving Sai Baba in many different ways – according to one's capacity and ability. Our heartfelt regards and respects to the board of Trustees who are doing this great service to Baba and facilitating devotees to come closer to Baba, the Sai Dhuni team and all the devotees. May Baba shower His blessings on everyone....

OM SAI RAM

Kumar Aiya

Prasad Aiya

Murthi Aiya



"I am the Progenitor of God. Meditate on Me as pure Ananda Nirakara; But if you cannot do so, meditate on this Body as it is"

Message from SHITAL Chairman



OM SAI RAM

By Baba's grace, Shirdi Sai Baba Temple, London, SHITAL is now 5 years old and since its opening on 31st January 2010, a lot has changed. We have been able to expand and open more centres nationwide for those devotees who cannot visit the Temple in Wembley. By Baba's grace, Shirdi Sai Baba Temple in Leicester is nearing its 2nd Year Anniversary on 30th March 2015.

At present we hold regular prayers and bhajans in the following locations: East London, Reading, Hounslow, Slough and Milton Keynes. We would like to encourage the devotees in these locations to come forward and help us in achieving the aim of spreading Baba's word and opening Shirdi Sai Baba Temples across the country. We are also looking to open prayer and bhajan centres in Scotland and Wales. With a lot of hard work and, of course with Baba's Grace, we have been able to provide regular educational classes free of charge. As you will all be aware Baba loved serving food to all, indifferently, therefore, to continue with Baba's Seva, SHITAL has started distributing food to the needy in various areas. Our annual fundraising event, 'Walk for Sai', has grown to include 'Walk for Sai - LEICESTER'. This year, devotees walked in London and Leicester with the aim of collecting funds and propagating Baba's message to all parts of the United Kingdom in different ways. We highly encourage more people to join in and support us with these services and help us to raise awareness of our Beloved Sai Baba and His presence in the UK.

As we celebrate our Fifth Anniversary, we would like to congratulate and thank the SAI DHUNI editorial team for their hard work and dedication to bringing this magazine together and helping us to reach a wider audience. We would also like to thank all of the devotees, for their contribution in various forms to make SAI DHUNI a success.

Finally, sincere thanks to the Board of Trustees, Management, all the Volunteers and Supporters for their hard work and generous support in making everything possible at SHITAL.

Baba Malik!

Sri Rama Krishna

Chairman The Board of Trustees SHITAL

Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London

Union Hall, Union Road, Wembley, Middlesex. London, HA0 4AU.

Shri Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Leicester, Guild Hall, Colton Street, Leicester LE1 1QB (LE1 1QA for SatNav)

Tel: 0208 902 2311(London Temple.) 01163 671 833 (Leicester Temple.)

E-mail: sai@shirdisai.org.uk

Website: www.shirdisai.org.uk



"If you avoid rivalries and bickerings, God will protect you"

Message from Shirdi Sai Baba Sansthan



PTR. No. : E-69, AHMEDNAGAR

SHRI SAIBABA SANSTHAN TRUST, SHIRDI

SHIRDI : Post : Shirdi - 423 108, Tal. Rahata, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra (India)

Telephone : +91-2423-258 800 Fax. : +91-2423-258 870, Telegram : Sainath, Shirdi

Message

It gives me immense pleasure to convey my heartiest congratulations to the Trustees, Management, Volunteers and the devotees of SHITAL on the auspicious occasion of 5th Anniversary celebrations of Shri Saibaba Temple on 31st January, 2015.

Hope "SAIDHUNI" souvenir will always work as a powerful communication source and service for Sai devotees and play a vital role in spreading the Holy message and teachings of Shri Saibaba.

On behalf of Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi and Management Committee, I send our best wishes to SHITAL and the editorial board of "SAIDHUNI" for the great success of this issue.

With blessings of Shri Saibaba.

(Rajendra Jadhav)

Executive Officer & Member,
Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi

avk/

Place : Shirdi

Date : 23rd December, 2014



MUMBAI : Sakinaka, 804, - E. Dr. Ambedkar Marg, Dadar, Mumbai - 400 014
Telephone : +91-22-24165536, Fax: +91-22-24150798, Telegram : Sainath, Mumbai
website : <http://www.shrisaibabasansthan.org> <http://www.sai.org.in>
E_mail : sababa@shrisaibabasansthan.org.in sababa@sai.org.in



“Baba, there is no other saviour, except you, save me anyhow”

Raj Jewellers



Manufacturers & Retailers

- Repair all types of jewellery
- 9ct, 18ct, 22ct & 24ct
- Repairs done while you wait
- We buy scrap gold & silver
- We also sell coins & bullion bars
- We make valuation certificates for your jewellery

45 Belgrave Road, Leicester, LE4 6AR

Tel: 0116 2669022 raj-jewellers@hotmail.co.uk



Best wishes to Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London (SHITAL) on their 5th Anniversary

Mr. Arvindbhai K. Maisuria

Bombay Gents Hair Stylist

Est. 1986



Very reasonable prices for new-born babies' Balmovara (Clean - Shave) Home service available, for your convenience



- બાબાં બાળકોના બાલ મોવારા (બાલરી) માટે ખાસ વાજબી ભાવ
- ટીનેજર માટે ટ્રેન્ડી કટ • સોમ થી ગુરૂ સિનિયર સિટિંગ્સ માટે વાજબી ભાવ અને સ્પેશિયલ સુવિધા • ખરતા વાળ, માથામાં ખોડો કે ઉંદરી થઈ હોય તો તેની ચોગ્ગ સારવાર • આપની માંગ મુજબની હેર-કટ તથા હેર-ડાઈ માટે અમારો સંપર્ક સાધો. ગ્રાહકોનો સંતોષ જ અમારો મુદ્દાલેખ

અમારી શોપ કમ્પ્લીટ એરકન્ડીશન્ડ છે.

14-15, THE ARCADE, KINGSBURY ROAD, OPP. KINGSBURY TUBE STATION, LONDON - NW9 9HL

Tel. : 020 8206 2303
Mobile : 07877 724 630

WE HAVE NO BRANCH

Opening Hours : Mon to Sat - 9 am to 6 pm.

Message from the Editorial team



Shri Satchitanand Sadguru Sainath Maharaj ki Jai !

OM SAI RAM

By Baba's grace, we are proud and delighted to launch our fifth souvenir magazine SAI DHUNI on the 5th anniversary celebrations of Shri Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association of London (SHITAL).

We bow down and heart-fully thank, our beloved Shri Shirdi Sai Baba for giving us His blessings to carry out this beautiful task. We thank Him for choosing us to spread His glories and name through SAI DHUNI in the United Kingdom.

During His lifetime in Shirdi, Baba created Dhuni (sacred fire) and He never left it unattended. It is still burning in Shirdi enlightening us and giving Udi (sacred ash). Baba gave Udi from His Dhuni to anyone who was in any kind of danger; and it protected them from any harm. In the same way SAI DHUNI intends to enlighten us and to know more about our beloved Shirdi Sai Baba. It also covers stories and miracles of Shirdi Sai Baba and His near and dear devotees throughout His lifetime and after His demise, in Shirdi and around the world.

SAI DHUNI also projects various day-to- day activities of SHITAL and future projects and plans of expansion of a chain of Shri Shirdi Sai Baba Temple's in the U.K. It also outlines our plans for the current temple and its growth. We thank all the trustees, the management, volunteers and you the devotees of Baba in supporting us in making SAI DHUNI successful. We also sincerely thank all our donors and everyone who contributed to SAI DHUNI magazine in form of both articles and stories. Your support is highly appreciated.

Lastly, a big thank you to the editorial, design, advert and proof reading teams who have been working tirelessly for the last few months to ensure that SAI DHUNI could be launched. Special thanks to the printers, who ensured SAI DHUNI is printed and delivered on time.

We wish you a very happy and pleasant reading. As SAI DHUNI is an annual publication, your feedback, suggestions and ideas will be very helpful to us to improve. Please write to us at the temple address or email us at info@saidhuni.org.uk

We now present you SAI DHUNI 5, The Infinite Light!

SaiDhuni Editorial Team

E-mail: info@saidhuni.org.uk

Website: www.saidhuni.org.uk



“Oh mother, My Guru never taught Me any Mantra, then how shall I blow any Mantra in your ears?”

Introduction to Baba

Om Sai - Lighting Oil lamps with water

Can any human be able to light a lamp with water instead of oil? The obvious answer is 'NO', we cannot. But 'YES', IT WAS POSSIBLE in case of a poor Fakir, who lived in dilapidated mosque 150 miles from Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. The Fakir was called Sai Baba of Shirdi, an incarnation of GOD for many.

He was very fond of lighting lamps. He lived by begging alms and helping people with their problems. In His early life in Shirdi, Baba used to borrow oil from shop-keepers to light lamps overnight in the dilapidated mosque. He had a habit of doing this every night for some time. One day the shop-keepers met and together they decided not to give Him oil.



As usual when Baba went to them, they all said they cannot lend him Oil. Unperturbed, Baba returned to the mosque and started putting dry wicks in the lamps. The shop-keepers were curious and started watching what Baba was doing and how He would light the lamps without oil.

Baba took the Tumrel (tin pot), which had few drops of oil, He added water into it and drank it and then forced the water to fall in the tin-pot. After consecrating the tin-pot in this way, He took the water and started filling all the lamps which had dry wicks and lighted them. To the surprise and dismay of the people watching, the lamps began to burn and kept burning the whole night. The shop-keepers saw this miracle and repented on their mistake and apologized. Baba, the all merciful, forgave them and asked them to be more **truthful** in future.

Few questions may arise in the minds of some that:

1) If Baba was such a great personage - God in fact, why should He recourse to begging bowl, all His lifetime? This question may be considered and replied from two standpoints.

(i) Who are the fit people, who have a right to live by the begging-bowl? Our Shastras say that those people, who, getting rid of, or becoming free from the three main Desires, viz. (a) for progeny, (b) for wealth, (c) for fame, and accept Sanyasa, are the fit people to live by begging alms. They cannot have cooking arrangements and dine at home. The duty of feeding them rests on the shoulders of householders. Sai Baba was neither a house-holder nor Vanaprastha. He was a celibate sannyasin from boyhood. His firm conviction was that the universe was His home. He was the Lord Vasudeo - Preserver of the universe and the Imperishable Brahman. So He had full right to have recourse to the begging-bowl.

(ii) Now from the standpoint of Pancha-soon - five sins and their atonement. We all know that in order to prepare food-stuffs and meals, the householders have to go through five actions or processes, viz. (1) Kandani-Pounding, (2) Peshani-Grinding, (3) Udakumbhi - Washing pots, (4) Marjani - Sweeping



“Om Sai Sri Sai Jai Jai Sai”

Introduction to Baba (contd...)

and cleaning, (5) Chulli-Lighting hearths. These processes involve destruction of a lot of small insects and creatures, and thus the householders incur a lot of sin. In order to atone for this sin, our Shastras prescribe five kinds of sacrifices, viz. (1) BrahmaYajna, (2) Vedadhyayan - offerings to Brahman or the study of the Vedas. (3) Pitra-Yajna-offerings to the ancestors, 4)Deva-Yajna - offerings to the Gods, (5) Bhoota-Yajna-offerings to the beings, (6) Manushya-Atithi-Yajna-offerings to men or uninvited guests. If these sacrifices, enjoined by the Shastras are duly performed, the purification of their minds is affected and helps them to get knowledge and self-realization. Baba, in going from house to house, reminded the inmates of their sacred duty. Fortunate were the people, who got the lesson at their homes from Baba.



2) Why did Baba wait until the shop-keepers denied giving oil in order to light the lamps with water? -

By borrowing from the shop-keepers, Baba wanted to give them an opportunity to give/donate and Baba taught the shop-keepers to give whole heartedly and be truthful at all times. Charity is one of Baba's main teachings. Baba always cooked in the Masjid and distributed food to hungry. The food begged by Baba was kept in the Masjid and whoever was hungry could come and take it. Sometimes even animals took the food, but Baba never shooed them away. Through this act, Baba taught two main things 1) Giving up ego & money (wealth) & 2) Doing charity.

Who was Baba and what was His mission:

No one till date knows when and where Baba was born, what His name was or who His parents were. He was first seen in Shirdi as a young lad of 16 years doing severe penance under a neem tree. He disappeared after a few days and returned to Shirdi with a marriage party and stayed in Shirdi forever. The name "Sai" was given to Him upon his arrival at Shirdi, by Mahalsapati, a local temple (Kandoba) priest. Mahalsapati recognized Him as a saint and greeted Him with the words 'Ya Sai!', meaning 'Welcome Sai!'. Sai in Sanskrit refers to "Sakshat Eshwar" or the divine and in Persian for "Saint" while Baba is a Hindi endearment meaning 'loved father'.

After Sai Baba's arrival in Shirdi, He started living in the outskirts of the village. He used to live in the debris of the old village wall, where people use to throw their garbage and a stream of filthy stinking water ran. After a while, Baba moved to a dilapidated mosque situated inside the village, He called the mosque Dwarakamai. He used to live on alms. He never cared for what He wore, where He lived and what He ate. His only motive was to help the mankind in whatever way they needed him.

Baba started treating the village people on their health issues. No doctor would have advised the way Baba treated but miraculously the diseases disappeared. He cured leprosy, snake and scorpion bites, eyesight and alcoholic issues and there are several examples where the childless couples were gifted with children. As Baba's miracles spread, people started flocking to Shirdi.



"All the insects, ants, the visible, movable and immovable world is My body and Form"

Introduction to Baba (contd...)

Baba's missions included:

Religious tolerance – He has devotees from different religions and He never tried to convert anyone. He encouraged them to follow their own religion. Shirdi is the only place where Ram Navami and Urus (Muslim festival) are celebrated on the same day on a very large scale. No one ever could know till date Baba's religion.

Simplicity – Though He had rich devotees who were ready to build palaces, He never left the mosque. He lived in the mosque through out His life.

Charity – He encouraged devotees to do charity, and he said providing food is the best charity you could do.

Protection – Once a person becomes His devotees, Baba would be there for him always. He would be with him life after life until he reaches salvation.

Baba Malik



“Alright, do not go, we should mean well and do well. Whatever is destined to happen, will happen”



*“Whoever puts his feet on Shirdi soil,
his sufferings would come to an end”*

Money

“If anyone prostrates before Sai and surrenders his heart and soul to him, then all the chief objects of life, viz., dharma (righteousness), artha (wealth), kama (desire) and moksha (deliverance), are easily and unsolicitedly attained. Four paths, viz., of karma, dnyan, yoga and bhakti lead us separately to God. Of these, the path of bhakti is thorny and full of pits and ditches and thus, difficult to traverse; but if you, relying on your Sadguru avoid the pits and thorns and walk straight, it will take you to your destination (God), so says Sai Baba.” (Chapter six, Shree Sai Sat Charitra), translation by Gunaji.

One of the goals of human birth is ‘Artha’ which is translated as wealth. Nowadays, wealth is all that we amass in monetary terms. Clearly, being one of the aims, it is not independent of the other three goals of life such that the fulfillment of one goal should not compromise another. We carry out actions to accumulate wealth, which in itself is not the goal. Taken with the other three, one must distribute the wealth in a way that is righteous, fulfills our desires, and leads us to deliverance rather liberation from the cycle of births and deaths.

To this end, we must inculcate a sense of vairagya (detachment) and viveka (discrimination). This gives us the ability to overcome any vices that come with an attachment to wealth by exercising control over how and where the wealth is to be accumulated and distributed. The accumulation for example is not at the expense of another, where it is stolen, and it is distributed in a way that does not cause one to be better off than another at the opportunity cost of the other three goals of life. “Sadgurus, like Sai Baba open our (eyes of the) intellect and show us the divine beauty of the self, and fulfill our tender longings of devotion. When this is done our desire for sense objects vanishes, twin fruits of Vivek (discrimination) and vairagya (dispassion or non-attachment) come to our hands and knowledge sprouts up even in sleep.” (Chapter Eighteen Shri Saisatcharitra).

For this Baba employed the concept of ‘dakshina’. It is believed that one prostrates before Saints in prayer, one must not go empty handed. Many placed copper coins before Baba. “It is said in shruti (veda) that puja of the gods is not complete, unless a golden coin was offered.” The brihadaranyak Upanishad also says that man inter alia must practice ‘dana’, i.e., charity. “Give with faith, or even without it give with magnanimity, i.e., liberally, give with modesty, awe and sympathy.” It was after Baba’s fame spread far and wide that He started to take and in some instances ask for dakshina (charity). He did this to teach the devotees the lesson of charity and to remove their attachment to money thus purifying their minds.

Baba taught that money in itself is in fact an obstacle to the path of spiritual progress as we see in the story of brahmgyan. At chapter 16 Shri Saicharitra, the story of the rich gentleman is related.



“Am I not always with you? Then do you offer Me anything before you eat?”

Money (contd...)

He was very prosperous and had amassed large quantities of wealth. He came to Shirdi and sought to attain the brahmgyan (the ultimate knowledge) from Baba. His friend dissuaded him saying, "It is not easy to know Brahma and especially so for an avaricious man like you, who is always engrossed in wealth, wife and children. Who will in your quest of Brahmayan satisfy you, who does not give away even a paisa in charity?"

Baba deployed a sport wherein he sent many persons one after the other to obtain a paltry sum of 5 rupees. All the while, the gentleman sat there without mention of the fact that he was in possession of 250 rupees. Baba said to him. "Roll up your bundle of brahma, viz currency notes. Unless you completely get rid of your avarice or greed you will not get the real Brahma. How can he whose mind is engrossed in wealth, progeny and prosperity, expect to know the Brahma without removing his attachment for them? The illusion of attachment or the love for money is a deep eddy (whirlpool) of pain, full of crocodiles in the form of conceit and jealousy. He, who is desireless, can alone cross this whirlpool. Greed and Brahma are asunder as poles; they are eternally opposed to each other. Where there is greed there is no room for thought or meditation of the Brahma. Then how can a greedy man get dispassion and salvation? For a greedy man there is no peace, neither contentment, nor is there steadiness. If there be even a little trace of greed in mind, all the sadhanas (spiritual endeavors) are of no avail. Even the knowledge of a well-read man, who is not free from the desire of the fruit or reward of his actions, is futile and can't help him in getting self-realization. The teachings of a guru are of no avail to a man who is full of egoism and who always thinks about the sense objects. Purification of mind is absolutely necessary, without it all our spiritual endeavors are nothing, but useless show and pomp. It is therefore, better for one to take only what he can digest and assimilate.

Baba always said- "My treasury is full and I can give anyone, what he wants, but I have to see, whether he is qualified to receive my gift. If you listen to me carefully, you will be certainly be benefitted. While sitting in the masjid I never speak any untruth".

We can continue to make donations, and various other ways of distributing the money we have to endure our non-attachment continues so that we do not accumulate demerit, and fall short of our devotion to the Lord's feet.

With this, we conclude and seek the grace of Baba to allow us to manage the money we earn in the most righteous of ways. Many a time, and many devotees have had the experience of not having much in their pocket and being faced with a situation where donating the last penny may save someone's life or may provide food, shelter, and clothing. Baba will always guide.



"Are not your thoughts, doubts and apprehensions calmed down now ? (Hari) Lord will protect him who has got faith and patience"

Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority

CASH ISA

With Variable & Fixed Rates

- Opening of account with minimum £1 for Variable rate & £1000 for Fixed rate
- Fixed Rate term 1 to 5 years
- Transfers of Cash ISA from other providers accepted
- Easy access
- Long term saving
- Competitive tax free interest rates
- Fixed rates guaranteed for the period of deposit
- Yearly limit fixed by HMRC every year

For further information please visit:

Our website www.pnbint.com OR Any of our Branches OR Customer Support at **0800 849 9229**

CENTRAL LONDON

1 Moorgate, London EC2R 6LR
Tel: 020 7796 5600

SOUTHALL

90 South Road, Southall, Middlesex UB8 3PL
Tel: 020 8574 5500

LEICESTER

160 Belgrave Road, Leicester LE4 5AU
Tel: 011 6266 1560

BIRMINGHAM

250 Sels Road, Birmingham B21 9LZ
Tel: 012 1554 5022

ILFORD

47 Carbrook Road, Ilford E1 4FG
Tel: 020 8514 9449

WEMBLEY

188 Ealing Road, Wembley HA0 4JD
Tel: 020 8903 7667

WOLVERHAMPTON

502-504 Dudley Road, Wolverhampton WV2 5AA
Tel: 019 0287 0380



Punjab National Bank (International) Limited (PNBIL) is a UK incorporated banking subsidiary of Punjab National Bank, India (PNB). PNBIL is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. PNBIL is a member of the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) and the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). PNBIL is authorised for accepting deposits by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA). Your eligible deposits with PNBIL are protected up to a total of GBP 85,000 by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, the UK's deposit protection scheme. Any deposits you hold above the GBP 85,000 limit are not covered.*

Donations - London Temple

1. Shri Sai Satcharitra

SHITAL distributes Shri Sai Satcharitra books to all the desiring devotees completely free of cost. You can contribute to the free distribution of Shri Sai Satcharitra books by sponsoring in following ways.

- Sponsor 11 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £21
- Sponsor 21 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £41
- Sponsor 51 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £101
- Sponsor 101 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £201



2. Annadanam (Food)

The Mahabharata declares that there is no greater charity than giving food to hungry. Shirdi Sai Baba Temple London provides food to devotees daily. You can donate rice bags, lentil bags, sugar, spices, and oil to the temple. You can also sponsor food plates as below

- Sponsor 21 food plates - £41
- Sponsor 51 food plates - £101
- Sponsor 101 food plates - £201
- Sponsor 111 food plates - £221

3. Shawls and Flower Garlands

We dress Baba with shawls and flower garlands at the temple, and also at our Sai Baba prayer centres. To ensure that correct size shawls and garlands are used to dress Baba, devotees can contribute by sponsoring in following ways

- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Day - £21
- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Week - £151
- Sponsor Shawls for Fortnight - £301
- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Month - £651

We use fresh flower garlands every day for 3 different forms (idols) of Baba and Hanumanji

- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Day - £41
- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Week - £281
- Sponsor Garlands for Fortnight - £611
- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Month - £1271



4. Aarti Translation and Transliteration

By Baba's grace, we are translating and transliterating Baba's original Marathi Aarti's (Kakad Aarti, Madhyana Aarti, Dhoop Aarti and Shej Aarti) to European languages. This translation and transliteration is done by professionals. Devotees can contribute by sponsoring in following ways:

- Sponsor one Aarti translation and transliteration to one European language - £150

Devotee's Experience



I write this experience with heartfelt gratitude to Sai Baba for always looking after his devotees and showering his unconditional love.

I am a strong believer of Goddess Durga and Sai Baba and on learning that there is a Sai Baba temple in London and opposite to it is a Durga temple, my joy knew no bounds...! This year, unfortunately my family and I went through some difficult circumstances. A very dear member of our family was diagnosed with serious illness. The circumstances were so tough that I can only describe myself being 'drenched in stresses. I had a plethora of questions, which had no answers, feelings of anxiety that seemed endless. Under such circumstances I just wanted to be with my family, however, at that same time my passport needed to be renewed before I made plans to travel.

One day I visited Sai Baba's temple and I was asked if I could volunteer at Baba's stall that the temple were organising. I was in a dilemma about whether I should go but eventually I volunteered at the stall and spread Baba's message by means of distributing Sai Dhuni.

The following day I went to the passport office where I was informed that I had to come for an interview as my previous passport was stolen during a theft at my home. I remember feeling upset as my old passport had already been replaced and I just needed to renew the current one. I then attended the interview and to my surprise the officer spoke to me as if he knew me very well, he apologised to me stating that I was not required to give an interview, he was very professional, kind and asked me to come back again in a week. I visited the office again, not knowing how many more appointments I would need to attend to complete the formalities. It was truly unbelievable to learn that my passport was ready.

I thanked the officer and we started having general discussions, it came to light that his children attended the same school as I did in India. We spoke about life in London as part of which I mentioned that I visit Sai baba's temple. He looked at me with astonishment and said that he recently visited Sai baba's stall in London, it was the same stall where I volunteered and gave him Prasad. We both exchanged smiles, humility and gratitude and identified that it was Baba's grace.

Sai baba clearly takes care of his devotees, its true he takes us across seven seas; all we need to do is have firm faith and true devotion towards him. Sai baba teaches the true essence of life, if we follow his teachings we are destined to achieve the purpose of our lives.

I pray to Sai baba to reside in our hearts and keep us close to his feet...always!

Om Sai Ram (Baba's ardent devotee)



"As she thus sought My protection, I gave her a plegde that I would cross seven seas to help her"

Devotee's Experience (contd...)

OM SAI RAM

I did not know anything about Sai Baba until I started college. In First year of college, my mother took me to a nearby temple (she also was not a Sai devotee). After seeing Baba's life-size idol for the first time, I just offered normal prayer (without much devotion). Whenever anyone would asked me who my favourite God was, I would always say "I dont really have one...I just pray like that". But slowly, during first year of college, I found myself visiting Sai temple frequently. I just used to sit there and stare at Sai idol for long minutes, wondering why it seemed like Baba's eyes were so kind as though they were talking to me. Soon, whenever someone asked, I found myself telling them "Sai Baba is my favourite God. I am Sai's daughter". I never read Sai leelas or knew about Sai Satcharitra or Sai bhajans. But Baba's grace still pulled me towards Him.

There have been times when I have gone to Shirdi Sai temple and cried my heart out in front of Baba. After marriage, due to increase in responsibilities, I never got a chance to even look at his picture. And I am afraid to say that I never used to get a chance to sit and pray to him peacefully.

Yet Sai always lets me know that He is there, in some way or the other. Sai Baba came in my dreams only once or twice. One night after 10 years of my married life, this year in 2014, I got an exceptional feeling within me saying, "Rohini, Rohini wake up, Go and bring me to your house...White in color, 1lts Coke bottle size.... search". Next day morning, I narrated everything to my husband and he asked me to forget about it and bow to him asking forgiveness for any of our mistakes. Few days passed. I still remember, it was 11am and I was in the kitchen cooking lunch, all of a sudden I felt Baba standing in front of me shouting to get his moorthi as soon as possible. I ran to Wembley Baba's temple, told them about my dream and they asked me to wait until they get a moorthi of my specifications. Then in Sri Rama Navami, I visited Baba temple unexpectedly for follow up, and to my astonishment, there in temple I saw Baba Moorti just as I saw in my dream, same color, perfect size... all to all... such a beautiful and graceful look... Wow I can't express that happiness both in me as well as in him. I only heard his words " At last you found me!". That was his first entry to my house . He is my father, guru, my family. No Baba, No Me. Bow to Sri Sai.



"After the Temple is complete, I will come there to stay"

"OM SHRI SAINATHAYA NAMAHA"

BY BABA'S GRACE



SHIRDI SAI BABA TEMPLE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON

ORGANISES

BHAJANS & PRAYERS EVERY WEEK

EAST LONDON

EVERY
SUNDAY 4PM - 7PM

SHIRDI SAI BABA TEMPLE HALL
114-116 LEYTON ROAD
LONDON
E15 4ET

HOUNSLOW

EVERY
THURSDAY 6PM - 8PM

LAMPTON SCHOOL
LAMPTON AVENUE
HOUNSLOW,
TR9 4EP

SLOUGH

EVERY
THURSDAY 6PM - 8PM

THE CENTRE
FARNHAM ROAD
SLOUGH
SL1 4UT

LEICESTER

SHIRDI SAI BABA TEMPLE
OPENED ON
30-3-2013
GUILD HALL, COLTON STREET
LEICESTER
LE1 1QB

Programme:
Prayers
Baba's Discipal Kirtan as done in SHIRDI
Bhajans
Food Offer

MILTON KEYNES

EVERY
SATURDAY 6PM - 8PM

WESTCROFT MEETING PLACE,
WINDMILL CRESCENT,
MILTON KEYNES,
MK4 4CH

READING

EVERY
SATURDAY 5PM - 8PM

AMERSHAM ROAD YOUTH &
COMMUNITY CENTRE
118 AMERSHAM ROAD,
GATENDEN, READING,
RG4 6HA

BY
BABA'S GRACE
FULL TIME
COMMUNITY
CENTRE
OPENING SOON
IN READING

Please Note that these events are FREE to attend.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US:

WWW.SHIRDISAI.ORG.UK

0208 902 2311 / 0116 367 1833

UNION HALL, UNION ROAD, WENBLEY, HA9 4AU.

INFO@SHIRDISAI.ORG.UK

*Sai Ram to
all our readers*



Jade Pharmacy
2 Weald Lane
Harrow Weald
Middx HA3 5EG
Tel: 020 8427 1067

Jade Pharmacy
204 Ealing Road Wembley
Middx HA0 4QG
Tel: 0208 9020173

Jade Pharmacy
385 High Road
Harrow Weald
Middx HA3 6EL
Tel: 0208 427 1810

Jade Pharmacy
389 Alexandra Avenue
Harrow
Middx HA2 9SG
Tel: 0208 866 1754

Jade Pharmacy
553 Kingsbury Road
Kingsbury
London NW9 9EG
Tel: 0208 204 8851

Jade Pharmacy
5 Broadway Parade
Pinner Road
North Harrow HA2 7ST
Tel: 0288 427 2118

Jade Pharmacy
392 Rayners Lane
Pinner
Middx HA5 5DY
Tel: 0288 866 1408

Jade Pharmacy
174-176 Heston Road
Heston
Hounslow TW5 0QU
Tel: 0208 570 4219

Jade Pharmacy
3 Crosslands Parade
Crosslands Avenue
Southall UB2 5RB
Tel: 0208 574 2915

Jade Pharmacy
317-319 Vicarage Farm Road
Heston
Hounslow TW5 0DE
Tel: 0208 570 3579

Jade Pharmacy
570 London Road
Icknorth
Middx TW7 4CP
Tel: 0288 588 1444

Call us if you would like us to order, collect
and deliver your repeat prescription for **FREE**



*“The wretched and miserable will rise
to joy and happiness as soon as
they climb the steps of My Samadhi”*

Devotee's Experience

"Stay by me and keep quiet. I will do the rest" - Baba

I feel Baba's presence all the time around me especially when I am feeling down. I think Baba blessed and stayed by me for each and every second during the troubled time when my Dad passed away last year.

I got the news from my sister that my Dad was hospitalized in India. Immediately my Mom and I flew to India and stayed by his side for two weeks. Once doctors confirmed that he was out of danger and I came back to London. After a week my sister called again and informed us that my Dad has passed away. I did not know what to do. I

thought I was prepared for it but when the moment came I knew I wasn't. I couldn't even cry.



When the news came to me, I was about to board the train to my work. As soon as I got the news I informed my manager. He asked me what I am going to do and whether I am going to India or not. My honest reply was I don't know. He realized I was upset and shocked and asked me to go home.

I came home, stood in front of Baba and asked him what I am supposed to do. I wanted to go to India but I didn't have money. (As I spent all my savings to buy air tickets for my parents and myself for my Dad's hospital expenses.) So I stood in front of Baba and asked Him what He wants me to do? I wanted to go but I did not have money. I decided not to try anything from my side and left the decision to baba. If He wants me to go then He will take me there. I just sat in front of Baba and started praying. I just thought of one number and asked the answers from "Your questions and Baba's answers."

The message was "it's not in your fate but just because of Sai's blessings you will be wherever you have to be" and at that moment tears rolled out from my eyes. Five minutes later one of my friends called me to pay condolence. She asked me whether I am going or not. I again replied that I don't know. She asked whether I have booked my ticket. I said no. She said she will book the flight ticket and wanted me to pack my bag and that she will call me in 10 minutes. Hearing noise from my room my flat mate entered my room and asked why I did not go to office. I informed him that my father has passed away and my friend is booking my ticket. He immediately gave me money from his savings and booked me a cab.

I just told Baba You are arranging everything so You take me home safely. My ticket was booked in half an hour and I reached Gatwick Airport in 40 minutes. This all happened in just 2 hours. I reached my city and I took a taxi from the airport to home and inside the taxi a small Baba's swaroop was smiling at me. Baba was with me all the time and I reached my home safely as He promised. My Dad's funeral was 12:30 pm and I reached my home exactly at 12:00pm. When the ambulance came to take my Dad for his final yathra again there was Baba's photo in front of the ambulance. Though I cried I felt relieved that Baba will take care of my Dad. "When Baba is there, Why do I have to fear?"

Love and Light

Om Sai Ram



"All this is God's Leela or sport"

Rinanubandh

Rinanubandh

Before starting to write I would like to begin with various salutations. Firstly to the God Ganesh to remove all obstacles and make the work a success and says that Shri Sai is the God Ganesh. Then, to the Goddess Saraswati to inspire me to write out the work and says that Shri Sai is one with this Goddess. Then, to the Gods; Brahma, Vishnu and Shankar - the Creating, Preserving and Destroying Deities respectively; and says that Sainath is one with them and He as the great Teacher, will carry us across the River of Worldly Existence. And also to my mother and father.

There are many tough periods in our lives. Is today the day? Constant reminder to me and all of us that today could be the day that I/we leave this world. Reading and hearing the news, people who I did not know killed in combat and the destruction caused by war. Spread of diseases like Ebola and cancer where people have lost their lives reminds us of the temporary nature of these bodies. This allows me to remember and contemplate upon the truth of my identity and to hold the Lord closely to my heart. I read a verse from the Bhagvad Gita (a holy script) that I would like to share with you.

“That which pervaded the entire body you should know to be indestructible. No one is able to destroy that imperishable soul. The soul can never be cut into pieces by any weapon, nor burned by fire, nor moistened by water, nor withered by the wind.”

Like the Bhagvad Gita (the holy script) , the Shri Sai Satcharitra (book on Sai’s life) should be intricately woven into the fabric of our family lives. The soothing and lightening words conveyed in the Shri Sai Satcharitra should become an inseparable part of our everyday lives. The Shri Sai Satcharitra has wonderful life and teaching of the Shri Sai Baba that can bring us inner peace and strength. The Shri Sai Satcharitra is not a scripture for Indians or Hindus. It is a scripture for all mankind. It transcends the message which is now being appreciated by millions of people of all nationalities all over the world. The Satcharitra does not call for conversion from one faith to another. The Satcharitra answers the deepest questions of life. No matter what our ethnicity, race or cast, no matter what our gender, age, economic status or education. Every single one of us needs to know the answers to the questions - Who am I? What is the purpose of my life? Where can I find true happiness ? And what is death?

As I was reading the Satcharitra I stumbled across the word Rinanubandh. What does this word really mean? The word means Karmic Debt. Karma literally means “deed” or “act” and more broadly names the universal principle of cause and effect, action and reaction which governs all life. Karma is a natural law of the mind. Karma means not only action, but also the result of an action. Whatever we are going through at the moment is the result of previous actions, not just of this life, but many lives. In short Karma is the sum total of our actions both in this life and in the preceding ones. Nothing happens by accident or chance actions. Everything happens in regular order, the past, present and the future being interconnected and interdependent.



“Avoid needless disputations and avoid falsehood”

Rinanubandh (contd...)

In each life, we have mother, father, brothers, sisters, spouse, and children and so on. We are born in a family as a result of undischarged debts of past lives. Constantly we are creating accounts, debiting and crediting. We are creating Karmic debts with all those with whom we interact. The Karmic debts (rina) lead to bondage or attachment (nubandh). These Karmic attachments pull us into the wheel of existence again and again. Rinanubandh (the bond that results from Karma debts) is at the root of repeated lives. Karma leads to rina and rina leads to Karma. It works both ways. If you have given something to somebody in some life, the memory is stored in your causal body. That person will be your debtor in this birth. If you have taken in the past, it will be taken from you in some birth. The causal body stores the memory of all of one's rinanubandhanas of countless births. Till all the karma stored in the causal body is burnt away or exhausted, there is no liberation from rebirth. Human life is nothing but a memory of rinanubandhana, the story of the countless karmas that we make, and live through. Every relationship reflects some rinanubandhana.

Baba's advice regarding our behaviour

The following words of Baba are of general welfare and invaluable. If they are kept in mind and acted upon, they will always do you good. "Unless there is some relationship or connection, nobody goes anywhere. If any men or creature come to you, do not discourteously drive them away but receive them well, and treat them with due respect. God will be certainly pleased, if you give water to the thirsty, bread to the hungry, clothes to the naked and your veranda to strangers to rest. If anybody wants any money from you and you are not inclined to give, do not give but do not bark at them like a dog. Let anybody speak hundreds of things against you, do not resent by giving any bitter reply. If you tolerate such things you will certainly be happy. Let the world go topsy-turvy, you remain where you are. Standing in your own place look on calmly at the show of all things passing before you. Demolish the wall of difference that separates you from Me, and then the road for our meeting will be clear and open. The sense of differentiation as I and thou is the barrier, that keeps away the disciple from his Master and unless that is destroyed the state of union is not possible. "Allah Malik," i.e. God is the sole Proprietor, nobody else is our Protector. His method of work is extra-ordinary, invaluable and inscrutable. His Will will be done and He will show us the way, and satisfy our heart's desires. It is on account of Rinanubandh (former relationship) that we have come together, let us love and serve each other and be happy. He who attains the supreme goal of life is immortal and happy; all others merely exist, i.e. live so long as they breathe."

Motherly Love of Sai Baba

Everybody knows how a cow loves her infant calf. Her udder is always full and when the calf wants milk and dashes at the udder, out comes the milk in an unceasing flow. Similarly a human mother knows the wants of her child and feeds it, at her breast in time. In case of dressing and adorning the child, the mother takes particular care to see that this is well done. The child knows or cares nothing about this, but the mother's joy knows no bounds, when she sees her child beautifully dressed and adorned. The love of mother is peculiar, extraordinary and disinterested, and has no parallel. Sadgurus (true teacher) feel this motherly love towards their disciples.



"Am I not in the place where you go to ease your self? Why do you fear?"

Rinanubandh (contd...)

This ocean of mundane existence is very hard to cross. Waves of infatuation beat high there against the bank of bad thoughts and break down trees of fortitude. The breeze of egoism blows forcibly and makes the ocean rough and agitated. Crocodiles in the form of anger and hatred move there fearlessly. Eddies in the form of the idea "I and Mine" and other doubts whirl there incessantly and innumerable fishes in the form of censure, hate and jealousy play there, Though this ocean is so fierce and terrible, Sad-guru Sai is its Agasti (Destroyer) and the devotees of Sai have not the least to fear of it. Our Sadguru (true teacher) is the boat, which will safely take us across this ocean.

Parable of Nine Balls of Stool (Nava-vidha Bhakti)

"Once a Soudagar (merchant) came to Shirdi. Before him a mare passed her stool (nine balls of stool). The merchant, intent on his quest, spread the end of his dhotar and gathered all the nine balls in it, and thus he got concentration (peace) of mind".

Mr. Patankar could not make out the meaning of this story; so he asked Ganesh Damodar, alias Dada Kelkar, "What does Baba mean by this?" He replied - "I too do not know all that Baba says and means, but at His inspiration I say, what I come to know. The mare is God's grace and the nine balls excreted are the nine forms or types of Bhakti, viz., (1) **Shravana** (Hearing); (2) **Kirtana** (Praying); (3) **Smarana** (Remembering); (4) **Padasevana** (resorting to the feet); (5) **Archana** (Worship); (6) **Namaskara** (Bowing); (7) **Dasya** (Service); (8) **Sakhyatva** (Friendship); (9) **Atmanivedana** (surrender of the self). These are the nine types of Bhakti. If any of these is faithfully followed, Lord Hari will be pleased, and manifest Himself in the home of the devotee. All the sadhanas, viz. Japa (vocal worship), Tapa (penance), Yoga practice and studying the scriptures and expounding them are quite useless unless they are accompanied by Bhakti, i.e., devotion. Knowledge of the Vedas, or fame as a great Jnani, and mere formal Bhajan (worship) are of no avail. What is wanted is Loving Devotion. Consider yourself as the merchant or seeker after the truth and be anxious and eager like him to collect or cultivate the nine types of devotion. Then you will attain stability and peace of mind". Next day, when Patankar went to Baba for salutation, he was asked whether he collected the 'nine balls of stool'. Then he said that he, being a poor fellow, should first be graced by Baba, and then they will be easily collected. Then Baba blessed and comforted him, saying that he would attain peace and welfare. After hearing this, Patankar became overjoyed and happy.

When you read about the lives of Babas' devotees you realise that the word Rinanubandh has a deeper meaning. A bond that has existed for many generations. His devotees came from varied backgrounds. Some highly educated, others were rustic villagers. Some were young, while others were middle-aged and set in their ways. They went to Shirdi not knowing what to expect. Others went there by chance. But once they met Baba their lives were changed forever. And the Karmic bond started unfolding. Thus they returned time and again to be with the living God who blessed them and gave them a handful of udi (ash). In the years that followed, no matter what befell them they knew that Baba was always with them. This Satcharitra is a kaleidoscope of Leelas, photographs and the lives of Baba's devotees.



"As long as the body remains, Samsara remains"



Canada • America • the Caribbean • India • Nepal • Bhutan • Far East • Africa
 Middle East • Australia • New Zealand

Why Book with us?

- ✓ Over 30 years experience in travel
- ✓ Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- ✓ Speak to our friendly consultants in Hindi, Gujarati or English
- ✓ Competitive prices on flights, hotels and holidays
- ✓ The best flight prices from over 200 worldwide airlines
- ✓ Over 150,000 bookable hotels at unbeatable prices, with just 1 click
- ✓ Tailor-made holidays to worldwide destinations
- ✓ Weddings, honeymoons, hen and stag breaks
- ✓ Incentive groups, meetings and conferences
- ✓ Indian visa service
- ✓ Travelpack are fully bonded with ATOL and ABTA

Travelpack.com

Find the right flight at the right price...

ASK ABOUT
**TRAVELPACK'S FLIGHT
 PRICE MATCH**

Exclusive offer

£50 OFF HOLIDAYS

Quote **TMP50**

Not available for all destinations. Terms and conditions apply.

Devotee's Experience

OM SAI RAM

Our Dear Sai Baba is always there for us even before we realise. As the master wire-puller, He orchestrates so many things, so skilfully, that when we look back, all we can do is bow our heads down in wonder and be overwhelmed by His love for His devotees. In Sai Satcharitra, we read how Baba was already there in Gaya before Shama could reach there in the course of his travel and how Baba blessed Hemadpant by coming to his house in Bandra on the day of Holi. In both cases Baba was present in form of His photo swaroop. Baba also appeared in His photo swaroop when Kaka Saheb Dikshit was setting out for Shirdi for the first time to have Baba's darshan..

..

Many times we see that Baba has prepared the grounds for us even before we actually become aware of it. In such instances, we get a glimpse of realization that He is the actual Doer and all of us are mere puppets in His grand show. Once I had appeared for a job interview. There were two people on the panel interviewing me and one of them was a lady of Indian origin. By Baba's grace, I was selected and joined work. I was not directly working or interacting with the lady who interviewed me in my new role. After a couple of weeks, we happened to cross paths. To my great surprise she asked me, 'Are you a Sai Baba devotee? Do you read Sai Satcharitra?' She said there was something I said during my interview which was the words of Hemadpant in the Sai Satcharitra and straightaway, she knew that I was Baba's devotee. She said I was going ask you as I was leading you out after the interview but I thought I'd ask you after you join as I knew you would be joining soon. Actually I don't even recollect what I said. All I could think was that Baba had made me say something by which He could indicate something to that interviewer (Both being His devotees).

I was quite surprised at the miracle of Baba and am thankful to come across His devotee at my work place. She later gave me a picture of Baba swaroop, some udi prasad and tied me a Baba friendship band saying that she was very happy that now there is someone in the office with whom she can share Baba's talks. Incidentally, that day was the date which Baba left His mortal form - the 15th of October. It made me realize that the leelas in Sai Satcharitra are ever alive and is being performed eternally by Baba in different places and times to strengthen our faith in Him and surrender ourselves to His loving care.

O Deva Sainatha, please let the tender creeper of our faith become strong so that no matter how many challenges we come across, we could be peaceful knowing that Your hand is ever present to take us over them. Let us develop immense patience, which is born from implicit trust in You - that come what may, You are definitely standing next to us and guiding us. When You are present with us, then why fear anything or anybody?

Om Shri Sainathaya namaha



"All mental and bodily process are Samsara"

Congratulations and Best Wishes to
SHITAL on their 5th Anniversary Celebrations!!

**BEST
FINANCE IN
YOUR AREA**

GET YOUR LOANS APPROVED

WE CAN HELP YOU WITH

MORTGAGES*

- Residential Mortgages
- Re-mortgages
- Further Advance
- Buy to let

BUSINESS FINANCE

- Commercial Mortgage
- Commercial Loans
- Business Overdraft

LOANS FOR ANY PURPOSE

- Secured Loans

OTHER SERVICES

- Self Employment Reg
- Vat Reg & Cancellation
- Reference letters
- Payroll Solution

INSURANCES*

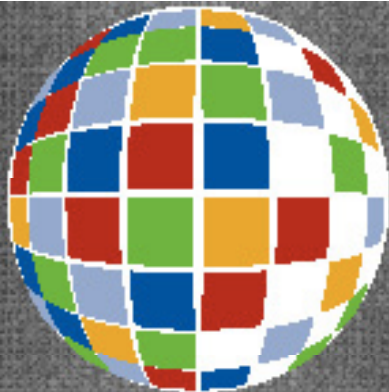
- Building Insurance
- Content Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Professional Indemnity
- Employer's Liability
- Public Liability
- Travel Insurance
- Accident, Sickness & Unemployment Cover

Credit And Finance 020 8900 9090

Email: creditandfinance@gmail.com | Fax: 020 8900 8640 | Web: www.creditandfinanceltd.com

Visit us : 1 Lancelot Parade, Lancelot Road, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2AJ

*We are not authorized to give advice on mortgages and investment, we introduce to various independent Financial and Mortgage Advisors



PETRALUXE

We are Manufacturers of Porcelain Tiles which can be placed on the Walls Floors, Swimming Pools, Terraces Area and External Facades.

Rima Khullar
Regional Sales & Marketing Director
Email: r.khullar@petraluxe.co.uk
Tel.: 0800 014 6114
Mob.: +44 (0) 778 046 8082
Skype ID – Petraluxe.uk
www.petraluxe.com



Head Office:
Petaluxe Ltd,
Unit D4,
Fairacres Industrial Estate,
Dedworth Road,
Windsor,
SL4 4LE



Devotee's Experience

I wanted to write my divine experiences with baba for a long time and I must apologies to Baba that it took me so long to share. I do not think it's possible to describe even a small percentage of his grace through words but I will give it a try. In 2004, I was in Delhi searching for a job. I had no belief in God till that time and my way of living life was casual. But after job searching for months without any success I was really breaking down. Then suddenly one day my childhood friend called me and asked me if I was going for an interview that day. I said yes and asked him how did he know about it. . He said that Sai baba came in my dream and told, let your friend know that he will get a job today. His answer was a surprise for me. On that day I had no confidence in myself but still I got that job. It was a big relief for me as I was living in Delhi away from home for almost 4-5 months searching unsuccessfully. That night my friend called me again and said, so you got the job and you didn't even thank baba. I was kind of shocked that how does he knows without me telling him. That's when I experienced baba's miracle for first time through my friend.

Later in 2004 I moved to Gurgaon and found a Sai Baba's temple very close to my house. I started going there every Thursday and slowly I started believing in Baba. I used to attain immense peace when I went to that Mandir and that's when my life changed. I changed as a human being and started to realize my mistakes. I felt there was a voice in my dreams to correct me and guide me. I always wanted to go abroad for higher study but my financial condition was not very supportive. However I prayed to baba and applied for a UK visa with a minimal chance to get a Visa. However, in 2005 I got the visa for 3.5 years which was no less than a miracle and from there on I had a long list of Baba's grace on me

I met my wife in 2005 while I was in university and we fell in love. She was a Sikh and I am a Hindu. Although I don't believe in religion but our families do. We continued our relationship without knowing our future in UK or India. Though I was only 21 but I had lots of responsibilities for back home in India. But with Baba's blessings both our parents met and agreed to relationship and we married in 2008. We worked hard to build our future. With baba's blessing we applied for our permanent residency for Australia and received it in 2008 December, just before my UK Visa was about to expire.

In January 2009 we moved to Australia and found out my wife was pregnant. I had no job at that time and I started worrying but I prayed and started reading Sai Satchartira. Next day itself I got an interview call and got a job and in August by Baba's blessing our little angel, daughter was born. Going ahead I decided to change my profession and start a commission-based job with minimal salary. Many of my friends suggested me not to do it as I had a young family. Every time I am stuck I would read Sai Satchartira and put 2 letters in front of Baba's photo. If answer is yes I go for it and never look back. Today after 5 years in my new profession, by baba's grace, I have reached a level, which seemed absolutely impossible. Now I am very well settled financially, I've built a great property and investment portfolio and business is great. And above all I have got the most beautiful assets my Family with me, my 2 little daughters, a very supportive wife who was always by my side during my hard times and my mother who often comes and visits us. And every one of us believes in Baba whole heartedly. Without him I feel I am nothing. My family and I owe him everything and we just want Sai to be with us in every moment of our life. One thing I would like to share is that if baba was not part of my life, it wouldn't be worth it .

If we cast our burden on him he shall surely bear it. Every time you are worried just leave all your worry to Baba and he will surely look after us.

Om Sai Ram

||Om Sai Namoh Namah,Shree Sai Namoh Namah,Jai Jai Sai Namoh Namah,Sadguru Sai Namoh Namah||



*“All persons, all creatures differ in form etc., why?
Because of previous karma of each”*

We specialise in

- All kinds of IT - Networking Support
- Annual Maintenance Contracts
- Website Development customised to your needs
- Office and Home Automation Products



RMGL
RATNA MARBLES AND GRANITE LTD

Importers of Marble - Granite - Limestone
Kitchen & Granite Worktops - Marble Bathrooms

Call for Quotation - 0208 904 3441 / 0203 372 5489
Email : info@ratnamarble.co.uk



Our Showrooms:

28 Kendal Street, London - W2 2AW
28 Upper Richmond Road - SW15 2RX

www.ratnamarble.co.uk



*“I shall be ever active and vigorous
even after
leaving this Earthly body”*

Shri Ram Navami Celebrations 2014

Ram Navami 2014 – Monday 7th of April and Tuesday 8th of April 2014:

Significance of Ram Navami:

Lord Rama (an incarnation of Lord Vishnu), was born on the ninth day of the month of Chaitra, hence we celebrate his birthday as a 'Navami'. Lord Rama was called 'Maryada Purushottama' - He exemplified the perfect person; how to live our lives in accordance with dharma and the divine principles. He was an ideal son, an ideal brother, an ideal husband, an ideal friend and an ideal king. He can be taken to embody all the highest ideals of man. He led the ideal life of a householder to teach the tenets of righteousness to humanity. He ruled His people so well that it came to be known as Ram-Rajya, which meant the rule of righteousness, the rule which bestows happiness and prosperity on all. On Ram Navami, in many places, a spiritual discourse on Lord Rama's birth is held in the afternoon. At 12:00 noon – which is the birth time of the Lord; symbolically, a picture or idol of Lord Rama is placed in a cradle and rocked. A red, fragrant powder (gulaal) and flowers are showered onto it to celebrate His advent. Many places in North India host fairs in connection with the festival, culminating in spectacular fireworks on Ram navami.

How Ram Navami became one of the main festivals celebrated in Shirdi during Baba's times:

Rama Navami is the greatest festival celebrated at Shirdi. The Sai Satcharitra, chapter 6, gives a detailed description of the origin of Ram Navami celebrations in Shirdi as follows - Baba's devotee, Shri Gopalrao Gund was blessed with a son by the blessings of Sai Baba after many childless years. Thus overjoyed, Gopalrao Gund proposed holding a fair, or Urus, as an expression of his gratitude to Baba in the year 1897. Baba gave his permission for the celebration and fixed the day for Ram Navami. This was an ingenious touch of Baba's.

Gopalrao Gund prevailed upon his friend Damu Anna Kasar (who had similarly been blessed by Sai Baba with sons), to supply a flag for the procession. In addition, Gund asked Nanasahab Nimonkar to supply a second flag with embroidery. This was also done and both flags (described as "huge" by M. W. Pradhan, who saw them) were taken in procession through the village and fixed at the two corners of the mosque, which is called by Sai Baba as Dwarkamai.

Another procession called Sandali (Sandal paste and scrapings are carried in thalis or plates, along with incense in procession throughout the village with the accompaniment of band and music and then after returning to the Masjid, the sandalwood paste is applied to the nimbar with hands) started in this fair, which was held in honour of great Muslim Saints by Baba's devotee Amir Shakkar. So on the same day, the two processions, the Flags by the Hindus and that of Sandal by the Muslims, went on side by side, and are still going on. Thus, the two communities were brought closer together in a natural yet remarkable way.

Descendants of these two devotees continue this tradition and flags are brought and offered at Baba's Samadhi before being taken on a grand procession. The procession begins - as it did in Baba's time - at the house of the three carpenters who did the bulk of the repair work on the mosque (Tukaram, Gabaji and Kondaji, the first of whom personally served Baba for several years). In the evening, the descendants of Abdul Baba perform the "Sandal procession", finishing at Dwarkamai and applying the sandalwood paste to the nimbar there.



"Always take your meals before you start for a journey"

Shri Ram Navami Celebrations 2014 (contd...)

Feeding the poor, which was so dear to Sai Baba, was also an important aspect in this fair. For this purpose, cooking, on a grand scale and preparing various sweet dishes, was done in Radha-Krishna Mai's lodging, where various rich and wealthy devotees took a leading part.

Gradually, every year the festival began increasing in importance and in 1912, some devotees felt that there seems to be some providential arrangement in the fact that the Urus or fair is celebrated in Shirdi on the Ram Navami day - the Ram Navami day is very dear to all the Hindus - so why not begin Ram Janmotsav, celebration of the birth of Shri Ram on this day here? They sought Baba's permission and Baba gladly gave it. On Ram Navami day, the Masjid was decorated, a cradle was placed to denote the birth of Lord Rama, Ram Ahkyan kirtan was sung, Sunthavada Prasad was distributed and the following day, Gopal Kala festival was celebrated. From the following year, Nama Saptah (singing the glory of God's name continuously day and night for seven days) commenced a week before Ram Navami.

In Shirdi, two locally historic rituals are carried out during this festival: the sack of wheat that is kept in Dwarkamai is changed and the old one taken to Prasadalya to be used there, and secondly, the Dwarkamai flags are replaced.

Ram Navami celebrations at SHITAL in the UK:

In Wembley and Leicester Sai Baba temples, Ram Navami was celebrated as a joyous two day event on the 7th and 8th of April 2014 by following in the footsteps of celebrations conducted in Shirdi.

On Monday, the 7th of April 2014, the temple opened as usual at 8 am followed by Kakad Arti at 8:15 pm after which, the Pothi (Marathi Sai Satcharitra) was taken in the Palkhi at 9:00 am. The Akhanda Parayan of the Holy book Shri Sai Satcharitra in English language (non - stop reading softly in front of Baba where a small altar was set up and cordoned) commenced immediately after that and went on till midnight.

Simultaneously, Baba's Mangal snan was taking place, followed by Chota Arti - Shirdi Mazhe Pandharpur, after which the chanting of, "SRI RAM JAI RAM, JAI JAI RAM; SAI RAM SAI RAM, JAI SAI RAM", by devotees went on in a soft melodious tone until 12:00 noon when Baba's Madhyan (Mid Day) Arti was conducted. Thereafter, at 12:30 there was Shri Vishnu Sahasra Naam Parayan (chanting of the 1000 names of Lord Vishnu), followed by Hanuman Chalisa recitation at 1 pm.



"Believe Me that if anybody sings My Leelas, I will give him infinite joy and ever-lasting Contentment"

Shri Ram Navami Celebrations 2014 (contd...)

The Dhoop arti took place at 6 p.m after which, there was Bhajan singing in Leicester temple. Both the temples remained open all night on the 7th and Baba's Prasad was distributed continuously throughout both the days. There was Pothi procession and Chota Arti after the Sai Satcharitra Parayan was successfully concluded just before midnight, following which Sai Maha Mantra chanting "OM SAI, SHRI SAI, JAI JAI SAI" commenced throughout the night till 6 am. Meanwhile, the Kawadi procession was conducted at 5 am after which Baba's Mangal Snan took place at 6 am. At 6:45 am, Baba's Padya Puja and Chota Arti - Shirdi Mazhe Pandharpur was performed followed by Rudra Abhishek at 7 am.

The Sacred flags or Nishan were taken in procession at 8 am after which they were worshipped at 8:15 am. Shri Ram Janana Kirtans commenced after that by 8:30 am and preparations to welcome baby Rama began by decorating the cradle. Exactly at 12 noon which is the auspicious time of Lord Rama's advent, baby Lord Rama's Swarup was placed in the cradle symbolically and the cradle was rocked gently and reverentially; with love and devotion. Madhyan Arti was performed immediately and thereafter, the traditional 'Sunthawada' (ginger powder mixed with sugar) was distributed to devotees who had darshan along with the Holy teertha and Maha Prasad.

Leicester temple had Bhajan singing after that from 13:15 onwards by professional Bhajan singers. At 1:30 pm, the devotees began the recitation of Rama Raksha Stotra (which is an invocation to Lord Rama for protection; it is believed that the recitation of the Sri Rama Raksha Stotra results in establishing an impenetrable, amazing and powerful armour around oneself) and Sundar kaand reading till 4:15 pm when the Urus procession took place.

At half past 4 in the evening, Dahi Handi/ Gopal Kala festival took place. An earthen pot containing a mixture of milk, dry fruits, ghee was tied up from the ceiling, at a height of around 20-30 feet in the air. The ropes were operated like a pulley to pull the pot to different heights and directions, as the young enthusiastic participants tried to break the earthen pot with a wooden stick. The successful winner got the silver coins which were hidden in the pot. The Dhoop Arti at 6 pm was followed by Ram Janana kirtan after which Shej Arti was performed at 9:30 pm. Thereafter, Mahaprasad was distributed and temple closed around 11 pm. Thus concluded the wonderful two day celebrations that took place in London and Leicester; to welcome the advent of Lord Rama.



"Be wherever you like, do whatever you choose, remember well that all what you do is known to Me"

Shri Ram Navami Celebrations 2014 (contd...)



Guru Purnima Festival 2014

Guru Purnima 2014 – Friday 11th of July and Saturday 12th of July 2014:

Significance of Guru Purnima:

The Purnima (full moon day) in the month of Ashadha (July August) is celebrated as Guru Purnima. This is the day devotees and aspirants in the path of spirituality worship to one's Guru and express gratitude with reverence and love. It is also called Vyasa Purnima, the memory of great sage Veda Vyasa – the compiler of 4 Vedas, composer of the 18 Puranas, Mahabharata and Srimad Bhagavatam.

Salutations to Guru:

**Agyaana timir-aandhasya Gyaanaanjana Shalaakayaa
Chakshur-unmeelitam yena tasmai Shri Gurave Namah**

**Agyaana timir-aandhasya Gyaanaanjana Shalaakayaa
Chakshur-unmeelitam yena tasmai Shri Gurave Namah**

**Na Guror-adhikam tattvam na Guror-adhikam tapah.
Tattva-gyanat-param nasti tasmai Shri Gurave Namah.**

My salutations to Shri Guru, who has taken up a form to bless his disciples like us with real knowledge. There is no higher truth than the Guru, no higher penance than (service to) the Guru, and there is nothing higher the Knowledge of the truth imparted by the Guru.

How Guru Purnima celebrations originated in Shirdi during Baba's times:

Guru Purnima was the only festival Baba asked His devotees to celebrate. Shri H.V. Sathe, one of the early and close devotees of Sri Sai Baba, recounts, "Baba's arati and puja on ordinary days were started, but for some time there was no celebration of Guru Purnima by special worship of Baba on that day. Baba himself sent for my father-in-law (Shri Dada Kelkar) and said, 'Do you not know that this is Guru Purnima? Bring your worship material and do your Guru Puja.' Then we had Guru Puja on that day and this practice of celebrating Guru Purnima by all the devotees worshipping Baba then begun, has continued to date." [From Devotees' Experiences of Sri Sai Baba, by B.V.Narasimhaswami].

Another letter published in the "Shri Sai Leela" (monthly magazine) throws some light on the actual antecedents of the event. The letter was written by Shri Tatyasaheb Noolkar to Shri Nanasaheb Chandorkar. Unfortunately the date of the letter is not mentioned. The letter reads:

"On Saturday just as I got up in bed, I remembered it was Guru Puja day and made preparations. After bhiksha [begging rounds of Sai Baba] we were permitted to perform Guru Puja. Baba allowed us to do all upachar quietly. He returned all dakshina that was given at the time of puja. Then He sent word to Radhakrishna and Dadabhat [Dada Kelkar, father-in-law of Rao Bahadur Sathe] that puja and arati was being done and they should come soon. So Radhakrishna sent her puja [materials] and Dada came with his puja articles."



"Being quite desireless, you should meditate on the Lord who is in all the creatures and when the mind is concentrated, the goal will be achieved"

Guru Purnima Festival 2014 (Contd...)

It is evident from the above letter that some devotees who knew that it was Guru Purnima implored Baba to allow them to do Guru Puja and eventually somehow obtained his permission. Also, that it was only after meting out the permission to other devotees that Baba sent word to Dada Kelkar.

They started worshipping Shri Sai Baba as their Guru, and that practice has continued till today not only in Shirdi but all over the world where prayers are offered to Shri Sai Baba.

Is Surrender to the Guru the only Sadhana Prayer?

The answer to this complex question as given by Shri Sai Baba comes straight out of Sri Sai Satcharita. It is mentioned in chapter 2: Kakasaheb Dixit (an ardent Devotee of Shri Sai Baba) has published his notes regarding this matter. The day after Hemadpant's meeting with Sai Baba in 1911, Kakasaheb went to Baba and asked whether he should leave Shirdi. Baba said, "Yes". Then someone asked - "Baba, where to go?" Baba said, "High up." Then the man said, "How is the way?" Baba said, "There are many ways leading there; there is one way also from here (Shirdi). The way is difficult. There are tigers and wolves in the jungles on the way." I (Kakasaheb) asked - "But Baba, what if we take a guide with us?" Baba answered, - "Then there is no difficulty. The guide will take you straight to your destination, avoiding wolves, tigers and ditches etc. on the way. If there be no guide, there is the danger of your being lost in the jungles or falling into ditches."

Mr. Dabholkar was present on this occasion and he thought that this was the answer Baba gave to the question whether Guru was a necessity (Vide Sai Leela Vol. I, No.5, Page 47); and he thereupon took the hint that no discussion of the problem, whether man is free or bound, is of any use in spiritual matters, but that on the contrary real Paramartha (Supreme meaning) is possible only as the result of the teachings of the Guru, as is illustrated in this chapter of the original work in the instances of great Avatars like Rama and Krishna, who had to submit themselves to their Gurus, Vasishtha and Sandipani respectively, for getting self-realization and that the only virtues necessary for such progress are faith and patience. (Vide Sai Satcharita, Ch. II, 191-92).

Sai Baba is ever present:

Now, one may think, it was alright when Baba was present and guided His devotees, but what about us now? Whom do we approach? Baba has given assurance to His devotees with a mother's solicitude, "Do not grieve when my body passes away. My tomb will live and move and speak with all those who make me their sole refuge."

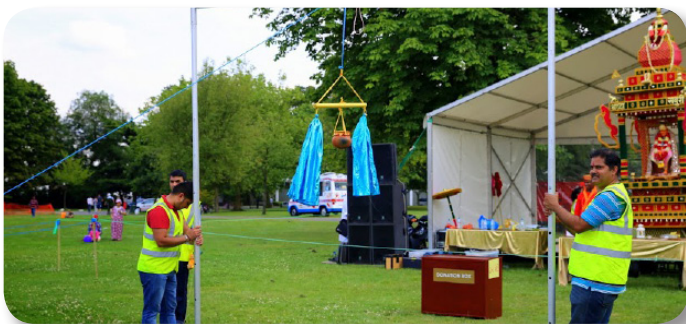
Guru Purnima celebrations at SHITAL in the UK:

Guru Purnima was celebrated with a lot of devotion, enthusiasm and fervour in Wembley and Leicester on Friday, the 11th of July and Saturday, the 12th of July 2014. There was a Rath Yatra festival held on the Saturday, the 12th of July at Barham Park in Wembley and at Cossington Park in Leicester. Under the expert direction and guidance of the creative Chief priest Kumar Aiyya, artistic flower decorations for both the temples began in Wembley days in advance - where enthusiastic devotees stayed up all night to design beautiful floral decorations and colourful Rangoli patterns with flowers for Baba. (Cont pg 39)



"Believe Me, though I pass away, My bones in My tomb will give you hope and confidence"

Guru Purnima Festival 2014 (contd...)



“Brahma is the only “Reality” and the universe in ephemeral and that no one in this world, be he a son, father or wife, is really ours”

Guru Purnima Festival 2014 (contd...)

The Team Leaders for volunteers rallied eager devotees and organised meetings well in advance to explain individual roles and responsibilities at the Park for the Rath Yatra; as well as in the temple on the Main day. When the much awaited day dawned, in the morning of Friday the 11th, the temple opened 8 am followed by Kakad Arti at 8:15 pm after which, the Pothi (Marathi Sai Satcharitra) was taken in the Palkhi for a procession around the temple at 9:00 am.

The Akhanda Parayan of the Holy book Shri Sai Satcharitra in English language (non - stop reading softly in front of Baba where a small altar was set up and cordoned) commenced immediately after that and went on till midnight. Simultaneously, Baba's Mangal snan was taking place, followed by Chota Arti – Shirdi Mazhe Pandharpur. Baba's Madhyan (Mid Day) Arti was conducted at 12 noon and Dhoop Arti took place at 6 pm. The Akhand Parayan concluded successfully around 11 pm. Then, the Marathi Shri Sai Satcharitra or thr Pothi was reverentially placed in the palanquin or Palkhi and taken in a procession inside the temple and arti was offered by singing Shirdi Mazhe Pandharpur to mark the successful Samapti or completion of the Akhanda Parayan (non stop reading marathon of the Holy book). Around midnight, the father of the head priest Kumar Aiyya, who is fondly known as 'Appa' by everyone, performed the Rudra Abhishek puja by chanting the sacred 'Rudram' chants 11 times. He explained very lucidly - how the Guru's worship on this particular Full Moon day is supercharged with His Divine mercy like the cooling rays of the full moon which shows us the path and guides us as well as soothes us with its cool moonlight and gladdens the heart.

The Guru is the one who can give us Spiritual vision to discriminate between the temporary and the real, only He can give us the Supreme benediction of steady Devotion and ultimately guide us to be permanently free from all the miseries of this world.

Devotees then commenced chanting the Sai Maha Mantra in soft melodious tones by taking turns all night till 6 am when Baba was given His Mangal snan with the usual chanting of Vishnu Sahasranam, and then He was dressed in festive finery and offered Chota arti. Meanwhile, the teams of devotees who were volunteering for seva at the park proceeded around 10 am to the Barham park with all the required materials (which was very thoughtfully planned and arranged by the temple staff – each and every minute detail was looked after so that the volunteers were able to conduct their services in the stalls without any lack or want), and began setting up the stalls. The devotees who remained in the temple started making arrangements for Prasad distribution and queue management to facilitate good darshan of Baba for the expected devotee multitudes.

It was truly Baba's grace that the day turned out very bright and sunny – (quite the opposite of the forecast of rains and showers). After Madhyan Arti, Baba's Utsav Murti Swaroop was reverentially placed in the Palkhi and the devotees proceeded to take Baba to Barham park, with Reena leading the way carrying the symbolic diya (lamp) in her hands. There, Baba was placed on the Rath (chariot) and after the customary rituals, devotees lovingly pulled Baba's Rath and took Baba around the park amidst enthusiastic chanting of Palkhi bhajans and dancing in front of the Rath.

The devotees from Marathi Mandal performed the traditional 'Leizhim' dance to the beats of the traditional drums and Milindji, Lalit and other devotees started the chants that was reminiscent of Ganapati celebrations in Maharashtra!!



“Be entirely prideless and egoless in all things and thus your spiritual progress will be rapid”

Guru Purnima Festival 2014 (contd...)

Then Baba was placed on His Seat in the middle of the decorated dais and again an Arti was performed. Abundant, sumptuous Prasad and refreshments was served very efficiently to one and all in the park, much to the delight of devotees and enthusiasts who came and appreciated the stalls and interacted with all the volunteers. The annual magazine Sai Dhuni and pamphlets about the temples and centres was distributed to many guests and many of them were interested in getting themselves registered (on the spot itself by volunteers who were feeding in data at the stalls as the forms were being filled) so that they may get regular updates about temple activities on a weekly basis.

There were volunteers who were informing about Walk for Sai – the Charity walk which was being planned to take place around first to second week of September. The 'Day for Sai' Programme was also received favourably, creating lot of awareness and interest, whereby a devotee gets to sponsor an entire day of seva to Baba in either of the temples. Many Sai Satcharitra books were also distributed to interested guests. Eminent Dignitaries (like the Councillor and the Chief Guest) were gifted with Mementos. Professional singers soon began singing lovely soulful bhajans which was very much appreciated by the guests. Young enthusiastic children took part in the Dahi handi and tried their luck, swinging the stick to reach the shifting, moving target of the prized Dahi handi.

The winner was a young boy, who happily shared the prize booty with all the other children, keeping in spirit of the cowherd children of Vrindavan. The star attraction in the park that afternoon was the dance drama performance by the children's' troupe (trained and guided by volunteer Mrs Jignasha Shah), who enacted a lovely touching dance drama 'Sab ka Malik Ek' based on the Supreme kindness of Saibaba where He cured a leper devotee performed the miracle of lighting lamps with water. Onlookers literally had goosebumps and tears in their eyes and the children who performed were heartily cheered and felicitated.

The Cossington Park Rath Yatra met with great success as devotees flocked from far and near to participate in the Rath yatra, interacted with the devotee volunteers in the stalls and enjoyed Prasad.

Meanwhile, at the temple, all through the afternoon, devotees flocked to take darshan and blessings of Baba in amazing numbers. The temple staff and devotee volunteers efficiently managed a turnover of over three thousand devotees within a span of three to four hours.

The Rath Yatra Utsav at the parks concluded in the evening when Baba was taken back in the palkhi to the temple. Baba's Shej arti was performed at 8:30 after which sumptuous Prasad was served and thus the two day eventful celebrations were joyously concluded.



"Be contented and cheerful!"



*“My tomb shall bless and speak to
the needs of my Devotees”*

“Dedication to Baba as a Guru”,

“The site with the Neem tree and surrounding space was bought by Mr. Hari Vinayak Sathe, and on this site a big building styled Sathe’s Wada was erected. This Wada was the sole resting place for pilgrims, who flocked there. A Par (platform) was built round the neem tree and lofts with steps were constructed. Under the steps, there is a niche facing South and devotees sit on the Par (platform) facing north. It is believed, that he who burns incense there, on Thursday and Friday evenings will, by God’s grace, be happy.”

-Sri Sai Sat Charitra, Chapter Four

“Sri Gurudev Data”,

They call Him the Saint of Shirdi – a small, once remote village in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra. His origin has never been known with conviction while He lived in His mortal form, and not even in His sukshma roopa, His nirgun roopa. In His human form, He lived as a fakir in a dilapidated masjid, which He called Dwarakamayi – the lap of a mother’s unconditional love for her children. His days were spent begging for alms at five homes in Shirdi, and His nights in continuous chanting of names of Allah and Ram. He sat with His back to the nimbar wall of the masjid, with a constantly burning fire i.e. His dhuni. It still lit today, almost 96 years after He shed His mortal coil. In His dhuni He offered the oblation of our ego, desires, vanity and symptoms of being under illusion of the play of Maya/Prakriti. And to those who could potentially want to get rid of their attachment to the worldly existence, He found and still finds ways only known to Him of pulling them towards His teachings and under His protective, ever giving wings of love.

Baba uses parables, riddles and words that are always having deeper insight, but somewhat abstract to understand and apply immediately. But, where an answer is sought or guidance is required immediately, He graces one forthwith with the exact meaning of His word. His mortal life is an example for us about how we should live our life. True living is to be with total surrender to our chosen deity or a Guru, who will take us to the end or rather to the beginning to our real lives, our absolute truth. Baba’s teaching is to have faith and patience coupled with an intense desire to surrender at the feet of the Lord, to relieve us of this life and pave the way to our realization and merger with divinity. By living as a fakir, he is not setting an example that we must all turn into fakirs but, that we must turn our mind into a fakir thereby living in humility, disinterestedness, detachment, and focused only on our goal of achieving the oneness with divinity. We must inculcate inwardly His way of outward fakiri and carry on with our worldly activities without making the world our reality, but in constant remembrance of divinity. Baba is The Guide. Baba is Our Teacher. Baba is the Absolute Truth. He is the wirepuller and inner ruler seated in our heart.

Guru is the one who leads the created to the creator. Guru is the descent of the Divine in human form to create the right conditions for the seekers to ascend to his Divine essence (Moksha or Enlightenment or Chaitanya).



“Be not obsessed by the importance of wealth”

Guruvar (contd...)

It is believed that when the Lord was creating the universe, He introduced Himself into it as Dharma. The planes of existence were created, the beings related to every plane were created and Dharma was enunciated. But then the need was felt by the beings, to be guided in terms of Dharma. For that reason, the seers worshipped the Lord and invoked Him as the Teacher. Out of compassion, the Lord Absolute Himself came down as the Teacher to be in the universe and to guide. He thus, made a second descent into the creation to be the Teacher, out of compassion for the beings. He has, thus, donated himself into the creation for a second time and therefore is called Datta. Baba slept in a Chavadi on alternate days. The eastern side of Chavadi was set apart and none were permitted to sleep there. Ladies were not allowed to enter this portion but only the western side portion and after visiting Baba, they had to leave immediately. Thursdays were important to Baba's devotees. Baba who gave high importance to the Guru tradition told them that Thursday (Guruvar) was very dear to him. Thus, the importance to Thursday started. At the beginning Chavadi Utsav was celebrated once in two days. Afterwards, it was celebrated once a week on Thursdays. The Utsav attracted a large number of devotees who participated with joy and danced with full devotion. We shall now go into these details.

Chavadi Utsav On Utsav night, devotees gathered near the front side of the mosque and sang bhajans (singing devotional songs accompanied by musical instruments) for some time. Behind the bhajan party was the chariot, on their right side was the tulsi plant and to their front was Baba. The lighted torches for the procession were prepared. Some would cry out loudly with devotion "Sainath Maharaj Ki Jai" now and then. Lights were lit all around the mosque and buntings tied. While these arrangements went on, Tatyia would come to Baba and ask him to get ready. Baba's horse Shyam Karna, gaily decorated, would be kept ready for the procession. Baba, putting on his upper cloth, carrying the sataka under the arm and the chillum along with tobacco, would get ready to go. Tatyia would bring a zari shawl and would put it around Baba's shoulders and lifted him up slowly. After getting up, Baba would go near the Dhuni, push the firewood with the toe of his right foot and with his right hand put out the lamp in the mosque. Then turning in all directions he would appear to talk to someone by making gestures. Perhaps, he was talking to his mother, Dwarakamai! After that he would come down the steps of Dwarakamai and the devotees would cry out "Shri Sainath Maharaj Ki Jai". Some devotees on either side of Baba would wave the chamaras. Lengths of white cloth were spread throughout the path on which Baba walked. Tatyia would hold Baba's left hand, while Mhalsapathi his right hand. Bapu Saheb Jog would hold a zari silk umbrella over Baba's head. Baba's horse Shyam Karna would be in the front of the procession. The bhajan party would be behind the horse, with different musical instruments.

After proceeding for about 10 to 15 feet, Baba's sight would wander somewhere else. He would appear to be talking to somebody and making gestures. Baba also appeared to be talking and making gestures to Hanuman in the Maruthi Mandir to the left. When the procession would reach halfway, the facial expressions of Baba would change. His appearance was shining and emitting bright light, like a morning sun. Sometimes he used to look with piercing eyes at some of the devotees, and their fears, sufferings and diseases would disappear. The devotees would become joyous and Mhalsapathi would dance as if in a trance. Tatyia used to shed tears of joy at this sight. But Baba appeared unmoved by all this and was steady. Dixit used to shower flowers and gulal on Baba. In this manner, as soon as the procession reached the main entrance to Chavadi, Bapu Saheb Jog would wash the feet of Baba in a silver plate apply sandal paste and gave arathi with Camphor. After that Baba was slowly taken inside and made to sit on a bed made up with several mattresses. Then Shama would prepare chillum and give it to Tatyia. (*Cont pg 45*)



"Be liberal and munificent but not lavish or extravagant"



MAALIK & CO
Solicitors & Advocates

Congratulations and Best Wishes to
SHITAL ON THEIR 5TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS!!

Serving you with
Baba's blessings



Based in Southall – Free First Consultation

Call us today on 0208 571 4981

We can help you with the following:

Immigration Matters

- Asylum, Legacy and Human Rights
- Student (Tier 4), College Issues
- Appeals at Tribunal
- British Nationality and Citizenship
- Judicial Review and Detention
- Business (Tier 1), Work Permit (Tier 2)
- Indefinite Leave to Remain
- Marriage Visas, Visitor Visas
- European Applications

We can also help you with:

Other Matters

- Road Accidents / Personal Injury
(‘No win No Fee’ basis)
- Accidents at Work
(‘No win No Fee’ basis)
- Divorce Matters
- Family Matters
- Affidavits and Sponsorship
- Declarations and Change of Name
- Other Legal Matters

78 South Road, Southall, UB1 1RD (Opp Quality Foods/Iceland)

Tel: 0208 571 4981 | Fax: 0208 574 2259

Emergency only: 07985 6555 75 (Hasil Makkar)

www.maalikandco.com

Guruvar (contd...)

After smoking once, Tatyā would give it to Baba. It was then given to Mhalsapathi after Baba smoked. This act showed oneness. In this way the Utsav would end and some devotees would put garlands on Baba. Baba had no desire for all these. But he agreed to all these for satisfaction of the devotees. Finally, Bapu Saheb Jog would give full arati and the devotees would go back to their places. After making all arrangements for Baba, Tatyā would take leave of Baba, and while permitting him to go Baba would ask him to come once during the night and see him. Tatyā would do as asked.

After all the devotees would leave, Baba used to make a bed with 50 or 60 bed sheets, one over the other and sleep. That used to be Yoga Sleep. But, for Baba it was not real sleep. If Baba would sleep then the entire world will sleep. Sai devotees, while going to bed, are advised to recollect the Chavadi Utsav and imagine them to be in the procession. Then they will be closer to Baba and it would be possible to see him in their dreams.

Everything that happens is but an expression of the Divine Will. The 'descent of the Divine energy' (Guru principle) and the 'ascent of the human aspiration' (spiritual path of the seeker) are mutually complementary.

Guru is one in whose presence, by whose touch (shaktipat) or thought (sankalpa) one feels inner happiness and bliss. Guru alone can remove doubts, pitfalls and snares in the path of the seeker. Guru is God Himself. Guru inspires, Guru guides and Guru enlightens seekers and struggling souls of the Sansarik world.

Shri Dattatreya is the supreme form of that Guru principle. Since Shri Datta Guru performs the task of the Guru principle, His mission will continue till the last person in the universe attains Final Liberation. Since Sri Guru Datta (Dattatreya) is the synthesis of the Trinity who presides over the 7 planes of creation, he is considered the foremost one. The foremost one is called in Sanskrit, Guru. In any group, the head of wisdom is therefore called Guru, meaning: "the foremost one in that group and for that group". Sri Guru Datta is the foremost one, the Guru in creation, if we take the creation as a group. It is him that every spiritual group in India invokes when the groups utter forth the following invocation:

*Guru Brahma, Gurur Vishnuhu
Gurur Devo Maheshwaraha
Gurur Sakshat Parabrahma
Tasmai Sri Gurave namaha*

The ancient tradition is to invoke Sri Guru Datta, the Synthesis of Trinity, through one's own Guru. The meaning of the sloka is:

*The Teacher who is Brahma (the Intelligent Activity),
The Teacher who is Vishnu (the Knowledge/Love Wisdom),
The Teacher who is Isvara/Siva (Will) and
The Teacher who is Parabrahma,
"the synthesis of the Three and the One who is beyond the Three",
To that Teacher, I offer my salutation.*



"By the action of Karma, I got embroiled and came to a body"

Guruvar (contd...)

Thus, the One Teacher/Master of the universe is invoked through every teacher/Master. The Teacher is always One. The individual in whom the equilateral triangle is built, and who transcended the 3 qualities, contacts the most sublime energy of the Guru and therefore becomes himself an outpost to the One Guru. Verily an individual teacher is a representation of the Teacher and The Master, hence all forms of teachers should be accepted and respected as the forms of “The One Teacher”. The One Teacher radiates through all such accomplished beings. Thus Baba is verily adorned and worshipped as the incarnation of Shree Datta Himself.

Guru also means, “The One who causes recollection”. The True Teacher, Sat Guru, has only one mission to accomplish that is, to recollect to each one that gather around him his real state of being, or the original state of being. In other words, the secret mission of a teacher is to recollect to every being that they are a being of light and nothing less than that. He lays the Path giving the means to every being, so that the aspiring beings can function as per the given code and realize themselves as beings of light, beings of pure consciousness, immortal and divine.

This mission is carried out by Sri Guru Datta with an army of accomplished beings, in all the 7 planes of existence. At every plane of existence there is a teacher’s principle, functioning through certain beings. The essential quality of the teacher is compassion, Dakshina. He is compassionate towards the beings, never judgmental. He knows that those around him hold on to different states of awareness and compassionately guides them towards their goal. A true teacher never believes in punishing, for him, every being is a being of light, a divine being and hence he cannot but be friendly and compassionate towards their ignorance. Baba is an embodiment of Shree Dattatreya, the supreme Sadguru, and the day dedicated to Him is Thursday, which is the day of the Guru, and the day ruled by Jupiter.

According to Mahabharat Aadiparv, Lord Brihaspati is the son of Maharishi Angira and is the priest of Devas. Lord Brihaspati was a great devotee of Lord Shankar. He went to the Prabhas Tirth and prayed to Lord Shankar very deeply. Lord Shankar, pleased by Brihaspati’s devotion, blessed him and gave the position of the ‘Priest of Devas’ and also included Him in the family of Devas.

According to Rigved, Lord Brihaspati was very handsome. Lord Brihaspati, when pleased by his devotees, blessed them with wealth, saved them from difficulties and exhorts them to live on right path. Lord Brihaspati travels on a Golden Rath driven by eight speedy yellow coloured horses. According to Rigved the weapon of Lord Brihaspati is a stick (Dand) made up of Gold. Lord Brihaspati had three wives, Shubha, Tara and Mamta. From Shubha, he had seven daughters and from Tara, seven sons and one daughter. The wife Mamta, bore him two sons - Bharadwaj and Kach. Brihaspati is the Lord of Dhanu and Meen rashi. In the solar system, Guru, Brihaspathi or Jupiter as he is popularly known occupies the second largest position after the Sun. Jupiter is revered as celestial preceptor of the Gods. Worship of Bhraspati or Guru (Jupiter) Devata on Thursdays is considered to be the best day for the worship of Jupiter.

We also note that Fridays is considered as auspicious to muslims to visit the mosque and the preparations for the worship are normally carried out on Thursdays, which incidentally is also a day that they consider holy and observe austerities such as fasting. Thus, for those devoted of Sai Baba, who is their Guru, and an incarnation of Shree Dattatreya, Thursdays hold utmost importance. To this day, we are still able to witness Baba’s chariot procession in Shirdi every Thursday.



“Brahman is My father and Maya My mother”

Baba's Punyatithi 2014

Punyatithi 2014 – Thursday 2nd October and Friday 3rd October 2014:

Significance of Dusshehra or Vijay Dashami:

Dussehra or Vijaya dashami, the day following Navaratri, is celebrated throughout India as the victory of good over evil. It is the day when Lord Rama killed the ten headed demon king Ravana and gave the throne of his kingdom Lanka to his brother Vibhishana, who was a devotee of Lord Rama. In India, at some places people engage in public processions, at some places people participate in Ram Lila and some people organize Ravan Dahan (burning of an effigy of Ravan) in the city. Feasting and busting crackers are also an important feature of the Dusshera celebrations. At many places in the country, colourful fairs and exhibitions are also organized on this occasion.

Significance of Dassehra or Vijaya Dashami in Shirdi:

For Sai devotees, it is the holy day when beloved Guru Sai Baba attained Maha Samadhi and hence known as Baba's Punyatithi day, so Vijaya Dashami is the day of Saibaba's Punyatithi celebration. Punyatithi is the day to remember that great saints merged into Divine Self. It was on the auspicious day of Dassehra in the year 1918, the 15th October, that Baba left his Finite mortal form and merged with the Infinite Divine Self.

Spiritual import of reading Spiritual literature prior to passing away:

It is the general practice amongst the Hindus that when a man is about to die, some good religious scripture is read out to him with the object that his mind should be withdrawn from worldly things and fixed in matters spiritual, so that his future progress should be natural and easy. Everybody knows that when king Parikshit was cursed by the son of a Brahmin Rishi and was about to die after a week, the great sage Shuka expounded to him the famous Bhagawat Puran in that week. This practice is followed even now and Gita, Bhagawat and other sacred books are read out to dying persons. Baba being an incarnation of God needed no such help, but just to set an example to the people, He followed this practice. Two weeks before passing away, He ordered one Mr. Vaze to read Rama Vijay to Him. Mr. Vaze read the book once in the week. Then Baba asked him to read the same again day and night and he finished the second reading in three days. Thus eleven days passed. Then again he read for three days and was exhausted. So Baba let him go and kept Himself quiet.

Baba's giving up of His Mortal form:

The Sai Satcharitra says: "Baba got a slight attack of fever on 28th September, 1918. The fever lasted for 2 or 3 days, but afterwards Baba gave up his food and thereby He grew weaker and weaker. On the 17th day, i.e., Tuesday, the 15th October 1918, Baba left His mortal coil at about 2-30 p.m. Two years before this, i.e., in 1916, Baba gave an indication of His Passing away, but nobody understood it then. On the Vijayadashami (Dassehra) Baba, all of a sudden got into wild rage in the evening, when people were returning from Seemolanghan (Crossing the border of the village). Taking off His head-dress, Kafni and Langota etc. He tore them and threw them into the Dhuni before him. . He stood there stark naked and with his burning red eyes shouted "You fellows now have a look and decide finally whether I am a Muslim or Hindu" Everybody was trembling with fear and nobody dared to approach Baba.



"Be quiet. Do not fear"

Baba's Punyatithi 2014 (contd...)

After some time Bhagoji Shinde the leper devotee of Baba went Boldly near him and succeeded in tying a Langota round his waist and said," Baba what is all this? Today is 'Seemolanghan i.e. Dassahra' Baba striking the ground with his satka said," This is my Seemolanghan", Baba did not cool down till 11.00 P.M. and people doubted, whether the Chavadi procession would ever take place that night. After an hour Baba resumed His normal condition and dressing Himself as usual attended the Chavadi procession. By this incident Baba suggested that Dassahra was the proper time for Him to cross the border of life. Baba gave another indication as follows - Ramchandra Patil became seriously ill. He tried all remedies, but finding no relief despaired of his life was awaiting for the last moment. Then one midnight Baba stood near his bed. Patil held His feet and said," I have lost all my hopes. Please tell me definitely when I shall die". Merciful Baba said," Don't be anxious, your Hundi (Death-warrant) has been withdrawn but I am afraid of Taty Patil. He will pass away on Vijayadashami of 1918.

Ramachandra Dada soon left bed and soon was on his legs. Time passed quickly. The month of Bhadrappad of Shake 1840 (1918 A D) was ending and Taty fell sick and was bed ridden Baba was also down with fever. Taty had full faith in Baba. Taty's illness grew from bad to worse and could not move at all but always remembered Baba. The day predicated i.e. Vijayadashami was impending and Ramchandra Dada and Bala Shimpi who was told the predication were terribly Frightened about Taty. Taty's end was near. But a curious thing happened, Taty remained and Baba passed away instead. People said that Baba gave his life for Taty.

Next morning (16th October) Baba appeared to Das Ganu at Pandharpur in his dream and said to him "The Masjid collapsed, all the oilmen and grocers of Shirdi teased me a lot, so I leave the place. I therefore came to inform you here, please go there quickly and cover me with 'Bhakkal' (meaning plentiful) flowers." Das Ganu got the information also from Shirdi letters. So he came to Shirdi with his disciples and started bhajan and kirtan and sang the Lord's name, all through the day before Baba's samadhi. Himself weaving a beautiful garland of flowers studded with Lord Hari's name he placed it on Baba's Samadhi and gave a mass-feeding in Baba's name. "

It should be noted that the request to "cover me with 'Bhakkal' flowers" - was the first and only time Baba actually requested for something.

Punyatithi celebrations at SHITAL in UK:

So here, in the UK, Baba's 96th Maha Samadhi anniversary function was celebrated by SHITAL on 2nd and 3rd October 2014 in Wembley and Leicester Sai Baba temples. In an attempt to serve Baba as per His words, Baba's was covered with flowers on Dassahra day in the morning to create a Pushpa Samadhi.

Many devotees made contributions by getting bouquets and flowers to cover Baba with flowers. Kumar Aiyya, the head priest had ingeniously carved out ornate Thermocol and soft board pillars and side boards to support the Pushpa Samadhi arrangement. Beautiful artistic motifs were drawn on them and under Kumar Aiyya's dextrous direction; devotees filled them with different coloured flowers to erect the Samadhi. Thus the completed floral altar – complete with backdrop, dome and side pillars – was a sight to behold; indeed a feast for the eyes. The temple was decorated with flower strings, bouquets and colourful Rangoli patterns.



"Consider yourself as the seeker after truth and be anxious and eager to collect or cultivate "Loving Devotion" then you will attain stability and peace of mind"

Baba's Punyatithi 2014 (contd...)

Thursday morning, on the 2nd, after the temple opened at 8 and Kakad arti, the Pothi (Marathi Sai Satcharitra) was placed in the Palkhi (palanquin) and reverentially taken in a procession around the temple three times. Immediately after that began the Akhand Parayan (nonstop reading) of Sai Satcharitra in English and Rama Vijay in Marathi. Two small altars were placed on either sides of the temple in front of Baba where devotees sat in quiet, continuous succession to render the service of softly reading one chapter of each holy book as per their ability.

Meanwhile, Baba was offered Mangal snan, dressed in festive finery and Shirdi Mazhe Pandharpur Chota arti was performed at 9:45 am, Madhyan arti at 12 noon and Dhoop Arti at 6 pm. The Sai Satcharita paath concluded near midnight after which the Pothi was taken in a procession. Rudra Abhishek was performed thereafter by senior priests to invoke the Lord's blessings and abundance in all endeavours. Sai Maha mantra soft chanting was commenced at 2 pm by devotees in succession till 6 am. Meanwhile, two avartans (rounds) of Ram Vijay parayan (reading) was concluded around 4 am whereon, Shirdi Mazhe Pandharpur Chota Arti was performed. As the day dawned, Baba was offered Mangal Snan at 6 am, offered beautiful garments and Shirdi Mazhe Pandharpur Chota Arti was performed.

Jholi Bhiksha significance:

At 8:30 am, the Bhiksha - Jholi was conducted to commemorate Baba's alms seeking practice in Shirdi during his time. Lord Sri Saibaba of Shirdi, the incarnation of Lord Dattatreya or the unified aspect of the Trinity - embodiment of Brahma, Vishnu and Siva - appeared in the form of a fakir. The term 'fakir' means a beggar owning nothing, except a bag (a Jhola, as you call it), and a stick in his hand. He goes for Bhiksha or alms, for he lives on alms. The Supreme Lord of the universe, the master of all the forces of Nature at whose command the sun and the moon and the stars function – went begging for Bhiksha!

The spiritual significance of this Bhiksha or Alms begging is very deep and profound. Lord Sai is that he is asking us: "Give me all your sins." He does not beg for rice, wheat and daal from us. He asks for the sins of our past lives and of our present life, and this is the Bhiksha that he wants. He will collect the sins of all people. How many sins have we committed in our earlier lives and up to this time in this life! He can swallow and digest all the sins of all the people. So, with Jholi or Zoli (a cloth bag usually hung from the shoulder by those that go on begging rounds) He goes from door to door asking for alms. Can we even imagine the magnanimity and power of the one who asks for the sins of all people? He does not want our virtues and good conduct. We always ask for good things, merits and benefits. But, Baba asks for our sins. He wants only all the evil propensities that are in us. He puts them in his Jholi, walks off and digests the whole thing. How merciful is Our dear Lord Sainath!!!

It is a well-known fact that Sri Sai Baba lived on alms collected from five houses daily in Shirdi. It was Baba's practice to collect bread and solid food in the jholi and liquid or semi-solid food in a tin container. Having thus collected his bhiksha, Baba would return to the Masjid and mix all food together before partaking it. At times hungry people and even stray cats, dogs and animals would eat from the same and Baba never said anything to anyone. It was considered opportune and luck to be able to offer something in Baba's jholi, since the benefits accrued by this act were enormous both spiritual and material. In his last few days, when Baba was very weak to go around for begging, his close devotees went for begging rounds on his behalf.



"Devotees could never approach Me unless I meant to receive them"

Baba's Punyatithi 2014 (contd...)

Jholi Bhiksha in Shirdi:

The Sri Sai Baba Sansthan in Shirdi honors this tradition of Baba's rounds in Shirdi during Maha Samadhi celebrations by taking out jholi procession. The entire township of Shirdi decorates itself to welcome Baba in the form of His representatives - the jholi bearer. The feeling and emotion amongst both the jholi bearers and the devotees has to be experienced and felt. Trustees, Sansthan officials, villagers and other devotees who are picked by lottery system are given a chance to go around the town with a jholi in their shoulder. After the morning abhishek all the lucky people selected as jholi bearers by the Sansthan gather in the Samadhi mandir and after performing pooja and getting tilak on their forehead start in a procession going around the town. Residents, shop keepers and visiting devotees anxiously wait for the jholi bearers to visit them. Villagers decorate their homes, put rangoli and with pooja materials and offerings patiently wait for the jholi bearers. When the jholi bearer reaches their door, the villagers first welcome them as Baba was traditionally welcomed. They wash the feet of the jholi bearer, do pooja and then put their offerings in the jholi. The offerings are as varied as can be from rice grains, wheat, sweets, fruits, flowers, money, etc. The jholi bearer then gives a handful from the jholi back to the offerer as Baba's prasad. The Sansthan vehicles follow the jholi bearers and when the jholi becomes heavy it is emptied in the vehicle and returned to the jholi bearer to continue in the procession. The feeling of each one is that Baba himself is visiting them and surely their faith is answered by Baba.

Jholi Bhiksha in the UK:

Here in the UK, at both the Wembley and Leicester temples, the trustees went to seek alms on Baba's behalf to five devotees' houses (who were intimated in advance) in the vicinity of the temple. Then at 9:15 am, the Aradhana Vidhi commenced – where prayers and shlokas (hymns) were performed by the priest in the same way as it is done in Shirdi. The much awaited Pushpa (flower) Samadhi, covering Shri Sai Baba till neck with fresh cut flowers & Petals began at 10 am.

After Madhyam Arti at 12 noon, professional bhajan singers rendered soulful bhajans from 2 pm onwards. Dahi Handi program took place at 4 pm and at 4:30 pm the Seemollanghan program was done symbolically. Evening Dhoop Arti was performed at 6 pm, followed by Bhajan Sandhya rendered by professional singers followed Palkhi procession. The festival celebrations concluded with Shej Arti followed by sumptuous Prasad for all devotees along with the flowers from Baba's Pushpa Samadhi distributed as Prasad to one and all.



“Do not try to get any Mantra or Upadesh from anybody. Make Me the sole object of your thoughts and action and you will, no doubt, attain Paramartha (the spiritual goal of life)”



*“I shall be active
and
vigorous even from my tomb”*

Baba's Punyatithi 2014 (contd...)



"No quest can be successfully carried out on an empty stomach"

Donations - London Temple

1. Shri Sai Satcharitra

SHITAL distributes Shri Sai Satcharitra books to all the desiring devotees completely free of cost. You can contribute to the free distribution of Shri Sai Satcharitra books by sponsoring in following ways.

- Sponsor 11 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £21
- Sponsor 21 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £41
- Sponsor 51 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £101
- Sponsor 101 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £201



2. Annadanam (Food)

The Mahabharata declares that there is no greater charity than giving food to hungry. Shirdi Sai Baba Temple London provides food to devotees daily. You can donate rice bags, lentil bags, sugar, spices, and oil to the temple. You can also sponsor food plates as below

- Sponsor 21 food plates - £41
- Sponsor 51 food plates - £101
- Sponsor 101 food plates - £201
- Sponsor 111 food plates - £221

3. Shawls and Flower Garlands

We dress Baba with shawls and flower garlands at the temple, and also at our Sai Baba prayer centres. To ensure that correct size shawls and garlands are used to dress Baba, devotees can contribute by sponsoring in following ways

- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Day - £21
- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Week - £151
- Sponsor Shawls for Fortnight - £301
- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Month - £651

We use fresh flower garlands every day for 3 different forms (idols) of Baba and Hanumanji

- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Day - £41
- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Week - £281
- Sponsor Garlands for Fortnight - £611
- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Month - £1271



4. Aarti Translation and Transliteration

By Baba's grace, we are translating and transliterating Baba's original Marathi Aarti's (Kakad Aarti, Madhyana Aarti, Dhoop Aarti and Shej Aarti) to European languages. This translation and transliteration is done by professionals. Devotees can contribute by sponsoring in following ways:

- Sponsor one Aarti translation and transliteration to one European language - £150

Donations - London Temple (contd...)



Shirdi Sai Baba Temple

Instruction to your bank or building society to pay by Direct Debit

Please fill in the details below including official name here using a ball point pen and send it to:

Shirdi Sai Baba Temple
 Union Hall
 Union Road
 Wembley
 Middlesex
 London
 HA9 4AU

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Establishing Society account number

Branch Sort Code

Please send full postal address of your bank or building society
 To: The Manager Building Society
 Address

 Postcode

Reference

Service User Number

4	4	1	4	7	3
---	---	---	---	---	---

FOR PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple OFFICIAL USE ONLY
 This is not part of the instruction to your bank or building society.
 Important - Please complete these details:

Account Holder(s) Name & Address:
 Name:

 Address:

 Postcode:

 Email Address:

Instructions to your bank or building society
 Please pay PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards imposed by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may revoke any PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple used, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Signature(s)

 Date

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account

DDH

This guarantee should be detached and retained by the Payer.

The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple will notify you five (5) working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple or your bank or building Society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society - If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple asks you to
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building Society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

Food Serving

Baba advised not to disregard offers of food

To do any work or job, energy is needed and it is acquired by eating food. So to do any task perfectly, we need to have our food in required quantity. Offers of food when neglected, hurts somebody's feelings, which no doubt Baba did not like.

To show us this preaching practically Baba narrated His own experience when He met His Guru in foods through a poor Vanjari (traveller) His companions disregarded offer for food, Baba did not. So He met His Guru - Ch 32. Also Appa Kulkarni could not find Fakir when he started his search on empty stomach. But when he went after his lunch, Fakir Himself was seen to be coming towards him and asking for Dakshina - Ch 33.



It has been stated before that Baba required very little food for Himself and what little He wanted, was obtained by begging from a few houses. But when He took it into His mind to distribute food to all, He made all preparations from beginning to end, Himself. He depended on nobody and troubled none in this matter. First He went to the bazaar (market) and bought all the things, corn, flour, spices etc., for cash. He did also the grinding. In the open courtyard of the Masjid, He arranged a big hearth and after lighting a fire underneath kept a Handi (big vessel) over it with a proper measure of water. There were two kinds of Handi, one small and the other big. The former provided food for 50 persons, the later for 100. Sometimes He cooked 'Mitthe Chaval' (sweet rice), and at other times 'pulava' (spicy rice) with meat. At times in the boiling varan (soup), He let in small balls of thick or flat breads of wheat flour. He pounded the spices on a stone-slab, and put the thin pulverized spices into the cooking-pot. He took all the pains to make the dishes very palatable. He prepared 'Ambil' by boiling jawari-flour in water and mixing it with butter-milk. With the food He distributed this Ambil to all alike. To see whether the food was properly cooked or not, Baba rolled up the sleeve of His Kafni and put His bare arm in the boiling cauldron without the least fear, and churned (moved) the whole mass from side to side and up and down.



"No other gift from any man can be compared to His (God's)"

Food Serving (contd...)

There was no mark of burn on His arm, nor any fear on His face. When the cooking was over, Baba got the pots in the Masjid, and had them duly consecrated by the moulvi. First He sent part of the food as prasad (offering) to Mhalasapati and Taty Patil and then He served the remaining contents with His own hand to all the poor and helpless people to their hearts' content. Really blessed and fortunate must be those people who got food prepared by Baba and served by Him.

Somebody may raise a doubt here and ask did Baba distribute vegetable dishes and meat food as prasad alike to all His devotees? The answer is plain and simple. Those who were accustomed to (take) animal food were given food from the Handi as prasad and those who were not so accustomed, were not allowed to touch it. He never created in them any wish or desire to indulge in this food. There is a principle well established that when a Guru himself gives anything as prasad, the disciple who thinks and doubts whether it is acceptable or otherwise, goes to perdition.



The Handi business went on for some time till 1910 and was stopped thereafter. As stated before, Das Ganu spread the fame of Baba by his kirtans (songs of fame) far and wide in the Bombay Presidency and people from that part of the country began to flock to Shirdi, which became in a few days a place of pilgrimage. The devotees brought with them various articles for presentation and offered various dishes of food as naivedya (offering). The quantity of naivedya offered by them was so much that the fakirs and paupers could feed themselves to their hearts' content, leaving some surplus behind.

After the arati was over and after Baba sent away all the people with Udi and blessings, He went inside and sat with His back to the Nimbar for meals, with two rows of the Bhaktas, one on each side. The Bhaktas who brought naivedya thrust inside their dishes containing a variety of food such as Puris, Mande, Polis, Basundi, Sanza, fine rice etc., and kept waiting outside for prasad consecrated by Baba. All the foods were mixed in a hotch-potch and placed before Baba. He offered it all to God and consecrated it. Then portions of the same were given to the persons waiting outside and the rest was served to the inner party with Baba at the centre. The Bhaktas sitting in two rows then dined to their hearts' content. Baba asked Shama and Nanasaheb Nimonkar daily to serve the consecrated food to all the persons sitting inside and look to their individual needs and comforts.



“Offers of bread and food should be regarded as auspicious signs of success”

Food Serving (contd...)

This they did very carefully and willingly. Every morsel of the food thus partaken gave them nutrition and satisfaction. Such sweet, lovely and consecrated food it was! Ever auspicious and every holy!

Devotees Service to Baba

Tatya Kote's mother, Bayajabai, used to go to the woods every noon with a basket on her head containing bread and vegetables. She roamed in the jungles kos (about 3 miles) after kos, trampling over bushes and shrubs in search of the mad Fakir, and after hunting Him out, fell at His feet. The Fakir sat calm and motionless in meditation, while she placed a leaf before Him, spread the eatables, bread, vegetables etc., thereon and fed Him forcibly. Wonderful was her faith and service. Every day she roamed at noon in the jungles and forced Baba to partake lunch. Her service, Upasana or Penance, by whatever name we call it, was never forgotten by Baba till his Maha Samadhi. Remembering fully what service she rendered, Baba benefited her son magnificently. Both the son and the mother had great faith in the Fakir, Who was their God. Baba often said to them that "Fakir (Mendicancy) was the real Lordship as it was everlasting, and the so-called Lordship (riches) was transient". After some years, Baba left off going into the woods, began to live in the village and take His food in the Masjid. From that time Bayajabai's troubles of roaming in the jungles ended.

Now let us turn to another sparrow (Baba's word meaning devotee). One lady in Burhanpore saw in her dream Sai Baba coming to her door and begging khichadi (rice cooked with dal and salt) for His meals. On awakening she saw no body at her door. However, she was pleased with the vision and told it to all including her husband. He was employed in the Postal Department and when he was transferred to Akola, both husband and wife, who were devout, decided to go to Shirdi. Then on a suitable day they left for Shirdi and after visiting Gomati Tirth on the way, reached Shirdi and stayed there for two months. Every day they went to the Masjid, performed Baba's worship and passed their time happily. The couple came to Shirdi to offer Khichadi as naiveidya but for the first 14 days, somehow or other, it could not be offered. The lady did not like this delay. Then on the 15th day she came at noon to the Masjid with her khichadi. There she found that Baba and others were already sitting for meals, and that the curtain was down. Nobody dared enter in when the curtain was let down, but the lady could not wait. She threw up the curtain with her hand and entered. Strange to say that Baba seemed that day, hungry for khichadi and wanted that thing first and when the lady came in with the dish, Baba was delighted, and began to eat morsel after morsel of khichadi. On seeing the earnestness of Baba in this respect, everybody was wonderstruck and those, who heard the story of khichadi, were convinced about His extraordinary love for His devotees.

Once Mr. Raghuvir Bhaskar Purandare of Bandra, a great devotee of Baba, started for Shirdi with his family. Mrs. Tarkhad went to Mrs. Purandare, and gave her two brinjal and requested her to prepare Bharit of one brinjal and Kacharya of the other, when she went to Shirdi and serve Baba with them. After reaching Shirdi, Mrs. Purandare went with her dish of Bharit to the Masjid when Baba was just about to start his meals. Baba found the Bharit very tasty. So He distributed it to all and said that He wanted Kacharyas now. A word was sent to Radha Krishna-Mai, that Baba wanted Kacharyas. She was in a fix, as that was no season of brinjal. How to get brinjal was the question? When an enquiry was made as to who brought the Bharit, it was found that Mrs. Purandare was also entrusted with the duty of serving Kacharyas. Everybody then came to know the significance of Baba's enquiry regarding Kacharyas, and was wonderstruck at Baba's all-pervasive knowledge.



“Demolish the wall of difference that separates you from Me; and then the road for our meeting will be clear and open”

Food Serving (contd...)

Always eating by sharing with others and food

This message was conveyed by Sai Baba in a very tricky way in Chapter 24 of Sacred Text - Shri Sai Satcharitra. Author of original Sai Satcharitra - **Shri Annasaheb Dhabholkar's** fun was made by questioning about grains of gram on the folds of his coat sleeve. Further, it was explained that when no one is nearby, any person or animal, then He must be remembered before eating. The reason which He gave was as follows:

He has advised us that before the senses, mind and intellect enjoy their objects, he should first be remembered, and if this be done, it is in a way an offering to Him. The senses etc. can never remain without their objects, but if those objects are first offered to the Guru, the attachment for them will naturally vanish. In this way, all the Vrittis (thoughts) regarding Desire, Anger, and Avarice etc. should first be offered and directed to the Guru and if this practice be followed, the Lord will help you in eradicating all the Vrittis. When before enjoyment of the objects, you think that Sai Baba is close by, the question whether the object is fit to be enjoyed or not will at once arise. Then the object that is not fit to be enjoyed will be shunned and in this way our vicious habits or vices will disappear and our character will improve. Then love for the Guru will grow and pure knowledge will sprout up. When this knowledge grows, the bondage of body - consciousness (we are the body) will snap and our intellect will be merged in spirit-consciousness (we are the spirit). Then we shall get Bliss and contentment. There is no difference between Guru and God. He, who sees any difference in them, sees God nowhere. So leaving aside all ideas of difference, we should regard Guru and God as one, and if we serve our Guru as stated above, Lord (God) will be certainly pleased and purifying our minds He will give us self-realisation. To put the matter in a nut-shell, we should not enjoy any object with our senses etc. without first remembering our Guru. When the mind is trained in this way, we will be always reminded of Sai Baba, and our meditation on Sai Baba will grow apace. The Sagun Form of Sai Baba will ever be before our eyes and then devotion, non-attachment and salvation will all be ours. When Sai Baba's Form is thus fixed before our mental vision, we forget hunger, thirst, and this sansar; the consciousness of worldly pleasures will disappear and our mind shall attain peace and happiness.

Food - the best charity one can give

Different sadhanas (means of accomplishments) are prescribed in our scriptures for different ages. Tapa (Penance) is recommended for Krita age, Jnana (Knowledge) for Treta age, Yajna (Sacrifice) for Dwapara age and Dana (Charity) for Kali (present) age. Of all the charities, giving food is the best one. We are much perturbed when we get no food at noon. Other beings feel similarly under similar circumstances. Knowing this, he who gives food to the poor and hungry, is the best donor or charitable person. The Taittiriya Upanishad says that "Food is Brahma; from food all the creatures are born and having been born, by food they live, and having departed, into food again they enter." When an Atithi (uninvited guest) comes to our door at noon, it is our bounden duty to welcome him by giving him food. Other kinds of charities, viz., giving away wealth, property and clothes etc., require some discrimination, but in the matter of food, no such consideration is necessary. Let anybody come to our door at noon, he should be served forthwith; and if lame, crippled, blind and diseased paupers come, they should be fed first and the able-bodied persons and our relations afterwards.



"Do not be anxious that I would be absent from you"

Importance of Food

In Mrs. Tarkhad's case, Baba was much pleased with her when she gave a piece of bread to a hungry dog that stood in front of her before meals. Another incident Baba said to Laxmibai Shinde that He hungry. She hastily went home and cooked chapati for Baba and returned. Baba gave all the food to a dog nearby realizing its hunger. This annoyed Laxmibai but Baba explained her that appeasement of dog's hunger was the same as His. Though some speak and others are dumb, the hunger of all creatures is the same. Know for certain that he, who feeds the hungry, really serves Me with food,

"The dog, which you saw before meals and to which you gave the piece of bread, is one with Me; so, also the other creatures (cats, pigs, flies, cows etc.) are one with Me. I am roaming in their forms. He, who sees Me in all these creatures, is my beloved. So, abandon the sense of duality and distinction and serve Me as you did today."

Now that Baba is not sporting in flesh and blood, our wish to feed Him can be satisfied by feeding hungry creatures irrespective of whether it is human being or an animal. Baba Himself performed this act of charity by cooking food for poor and needy. On the day of mass feeding, Baba used to get all the required raw-materials, did necessary grinding and chopping without allowing anybody to interfere in His service. Devotees who received such charity had a heavenly experience. Later on when devotees flocked in large numbers to Shirdi, food came in large quantities. Still Baba practiced distributing the food to others and retaining only a small quantity for Himself. Such was our Lord always gave us practical teachings with His own deeds.

Feeding the Poor is the best of all charities

Mankind is bestowed with hands by God. Along with them, one should exercise one's discretion and give in charity something of what one has. To 'donate', means 'to give'. We have to give what others are badly in need of. Donating from what we have in excess is not regarded as donation at all. The wise say, feeding the hungry is the best of all charities. God gifted us this rare body not only to serve but to abide by righteousness. We need sufficient food to keep the body in good health so that it can engage in spiritual practice of merging one's soul with that of the Supreme Spirit. Therefore, serving food to the hungry is a great service to God. Though Baba took bhiksha, Baba Himself used to cook and serve food with love. Nothing but the charity of feeding the hungry propitiates the Supreme Spirit who dwells in every being in the form of digestive fire. Hence, Baba never encouraged devotees to fast and when Radhabai Deshmukh fasted, Baba opposed it. Baba always preached that fixing one's mind on God is the real fasting, which means staying in God's presence. Sai fed a hungry dog with a roti (bread) prepared and brought to Him by Laxmi Bhai. The offering of food which nurtures the body will lead man to the path of rectitude and it is the best of all charities. Baba set an example by Himself cooking and serving the food. "Bow to Shri Sai and Peace Be to all"



"Did you forget me?"

SHITAL's Food Distribution

Food Distribution

By Baba's grace SHITAL delivers food containers to these below charities. Devotees interested in donating food for this good cause, please contact Temple Management on 0208 902 2311 (London), 01163 671 833 (Leicester) alternatively email: sai@shirdisai.org.uk

Following are details of charities to whom SHITAL provides cooked food and Groceries:

- 1) Young Addaction Brent (Monday to Friday) 97 Cobbold Road Willesden London, NW10 9SU
- 2) Wembley Center for Health and Care (Mon & Wed) 116 Chaplin Road, Wembley HA0 4UZ
- 3) EACH Harrow (Mon & Wed) Signal House 16 Lyon Road Harrow HA1 2AG
- 4) CRI Substance Misuse Services (Tuesday & Wednesday) 6, Craven Park Harlesden NW10 8SY
- 5) Turning Point - Junction Service NHS Foundation Trust 27 Station Road Harlesden NW10 4UP
- 6) Sufra - Food Bank & Kitchen 160 Pitfield Way, Stonebridge London NW10 0PW
- 7) KIDSCOMPANY1 Kenbury Street London SE5 9BS
- 8) LIFT - Rise to your potential Charles Berry Street 45 East Bond Street, Leicester LE1 4SX
- 9) The Bridge - Homelessness to hope 6 Westfield Road, Leicester LE3 6HR
- 10) Shri Swaminarayan Temple Queensbury
- 11) East Park Gurudwara Leicester
- 12) Durga Temple Leicester
- 13) Balaji Temple Leicester
- 14) Kali Mata Temple Walthamstow



“Do not disregard offers of food; served dish should not be thrust away”



*“ My mortal remains still
speak from my tomb ”*

Acknowledgement to SHITAL's Food Distribution



CRI Brent
6 Craven Park
Harlesden
NW10 8SY

15th December 2014

Dear Trustees & Management,

CRI Brent would like to thank "Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association of London" for the kind donations of food over the past 12 months. The food goes directly to our service users, those whose lives have been impacted by drug and alcohol use, and being able to offer them hot food has been of great benefit to the project. We are looking forward to continuing this relationship into 2015.

Yours sincerely,



Edward Field
Project Manager

safer communities, healthier lives

Registered office: 5th Floor, North West Suite, Tower Point, 44 North Road, Brighton BN1 1YR
tel: 01273 877013 fax: 01273 693183 e-mail: info@cri.org.uk www.cri.org.uk
© 2014 Brent and Westminster CRI. All rights reserved. In England and Wales (020222) and in Scotland (020222). Company Registered in England. Registered office: 5th Floor, Tower Point, 44 North Road, Brighton BN1 1YR



EACH HARROW
Signal House, 16 Lyon Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 2AG
Telephone: 020 8861 3884
Fax: 020 8863 8400
Email: info@eachharrow.org.uk Web: www.eachcounselling.org.uk



16/12/2014

*Trustees & Management
Shirdi Sai Baba Temple
Association of London
Tele: 02089022311

Dear All

We all at EACH really appreciate the food containers provided. We distribute it to clients, who are homeless, unemployed. The clients really appreciate the beautiful gift that is provided to them.

So we thank you all for the kindness and willingness.

Regards

All the Team at
EACH Harrow
Signal House
16 Lyon Road
Harrow
Middx
HA1 2AG
0208 861 3884

 Services at EACH Harrow are funded by Harrow Council Public Health, Drugs & Alcohol Services.
Registered Charity No. 1329877 Company Ltd. by Guarantee No. 2818614

More acknowledgments on pages 99 and 115



“Drink it all, you won’t get any such opportunity hereafter”



KIDSCOMPANY

Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association London
Union Hall, Union Road,
Wembley, Middlesex
HA9 4AU

5th December 2014

To our amazingly generous friends at the Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association,

I write to you with a deep sense of gratitude for the incredible donation of food you sent us. My team spends every December running around like mad trying to bring in enough money to keep our kids safe and warm during the winter, and make sure they can experience a joyful Christmas. We work incredibly hard, so when special people like you show such kindness and generosity, it is like magic has arrived at our door.

The plight of our extraordinarily brave children and young people keeps us overcoming challenges. When feeling depleted, I keep thinking of the incredible bravery of kids like the eleven-year-old who was raped by the paedophiles in Bristol as part of a group of men who were abusing young girls. Our worker was the first person in whom the child confided. As we gained her trust, she agreed to give evidence, and she and our worker were put into hiding by the police so that she would be safe and see the court case through. Even though the men have been convicted, her recovery is just commencing, and she will go through a turbulent journey dealing with the traumas she has endured. We will remain alongside her as a compassionate companion and help her regain strength so that she can live through her talents and re-engage with the desire to live.

Our ability to provide this child and others like her with thoughtful care is made possible because of special people like you.

On Christmas Day itself, we are expecting some 4,000 of our amazing children, young people and vulnerable adults for lunch. We are also delivering food hampers to some 12,000 more. We had to open on the 25th December because so many children were despairing and then attempting suicide. So, we are giving them a really good day to look forward to - they will be getting presents, food and, above all, the care and the love of volunteers and staff who hope to make the day a special one. You will be in our hearts as one of the angels who made all this possible.

With love and gratitude,

Camila Batmanghelidjh
Chief Executive
Kids Company

1 Kenbury Street | London SE5 9BS | Registered charity number 1068298

T: 0845 644 6838 | F: 0207 202 2702 | E: info@kidsco.org.uk | W: www.kidsco.org.uk



“Do not entertain the sense of doership in doing good as well as bad deeds”

Congratulations & Best Wishes to Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London (SHITAL) on their 5th Anniversary Celebrations

from

Suraj Sweet Mart Ltd

44-A Ealing Road, Wembley, HA0 4TL

Open 7 Days a week

*Specialist in
Vegetarian food*

*Catering for
All occasions*

Pure Vegetarian

*Specialist in Mini Lunch,
Sweets & Savouries*

**Tel: 0208 900 1339, 0208 900 1991
Mobile: 07786442 737
Established Last 15 Years**

Weekend Specials

*Patta Gathiya
& Jalebi*

*Mini Lunch
from £ 1.99 only*



*The Taste you will love
The Quality you can trust*

Acknowledgement to SHITAL's Food Distribution (contd...)

Please Ask for:

Direct Line:

Date:



Leicestershire community
projects trust

21-23 Dover Street
Leicester LE1 6PW
Tel: 0116 2551608
Fax: 0116 2470427
info@lcp-trust.org.uk
www.lcp-trust.org.uk

Sia baba centre
Colton Street Leicester

Dear friends

17th October 2013

We would like to thank you for the donations of cooked food that you make which help us provide lunchtime meals for the people using this day centre.

All the people using the centre are homeless or in danger of becoming so and also have addiction problems. Their health is very poor and they all have a very poor diet, and in some cases hardly eat anything at all. Often the food they receive here will be all that they eat in the day. The food you provide is very popular and welcomed by centre users.

Limited funding means that we are unable to provide hot meals ourselves so your donations are very important in helping people improve their health, deal with their addictions and hopefully move towards a more stable lifestyle.

With many thanks on behalf of the staff here and the users of the day centre

John Chalmers

Patron: The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire

Registered in England and Wales: Company No. 1617951 Registered Charity No. 512719
Registered Office: 95 New Walk, Leicester LE1 7EA



“Do not be idle, work, utter God's name, read scriptures”

Ego

Hemadpant says in Chapter 24 of Shri Sai Satcharitra, *'Unless, we surrender our ego to the feet of our Sad-guru, we will not succeed in our undertaking. If we become egoless, then our success is assured.'*

Human mind has a tendency to think forward and look ahead to strive more in their life. Everyone in this world wants to do well, i.e. earn more money, live in big houses, buy new cars, have a luxurious life style etc. Living in today's world is almost like surviving in a competition where everyone is trying to compete and outperform each other. We get so engrossed with our day-to-day activities that we tune ourselves with this behavior and do not even get a chance to sit back and think about the consequence of our actions. We start taking pride in doing good and take all the credit for ourselves. Some of us get so proud that we become egoist and take everything for granted. Baba said that egoism is most the difficult quality within our personality that we can get rid of. It is egoism that breeds negative competition and ill feelings. It is egoism that gives rise to hatred, cheating, jealousy and anxiety.

For instance, an egoist person would never like to see other person prosper or succeed in their life. It is egoism that creates an unhealthy competition and hatred among the people. A man always runs after sense objects to get peace and happiness. As a result he remains busy in making sure that he earns enough money for him and his family. In this process he sometimes loses his health, friends, family members and even creates enemies for himself. Hence Hemadpant says in Chapter 26 in Shri Sai Satcharitra, *"Introvert our mind, turn it inward, give us discrimination between the Unreal and the Real and non-attachment for all worldly things and thus enable us to get Self-realization. We surrender ourselves, body and soul (body-consciousness and ego)." While ego has to merge with Sai at the right time, ego is also the tool for doing one's karma in this world. Ego can be used for useful purposes. The important thing to remember is to submit our ego to the wishes of the Guru. Thus our ego can be protected from going waste. Sai Ram. By worshipping Sai Baba, we attain both worldly and spiritual objects, and get peace and happiness. Those who want to gain their welfare should respectfully hear Sai Baba's Leelas and stories and meditate on them. If they do this, they will easily attain the objective of their life and get Bliss. People do not like other's to make jokes on them. But with Baba it was different as He had the power to open people's awareness to a higher level thus, lift them from the shackles of their egos (Chapter 24, Shri Sai Satcharitra); so they did not mind the jokes. Here we see a lesson. A man who can laugh at his own folly and a man who can laugh at jokes directed at him are already free from the shackles of pride and ego. It is our ego that makes us like or dislike something. It is our ego, which also makes us enjoy the uneasiness of others (it creates a desire to dominate others for our pleasure. Sai Ram.). However, in presence of our Sadguru Sai, our egos get refined and we learn lesson from jokes or humor. It is the effect of Sadguru and results of our merit of this birth or past lives that enables us to attain this wisdom. When Hemadpant requested SaiBaba to let him write about Baba's life, Baba said:*

"Let him make a collection of stories and experiences, keep notes and memos; I will help him. He is only an outward instrument. I should write Myself My autobiography and satisfy the wishes of My devotees. He should get rid of his ego, place (or surrender) it at My feet. He who acts like this in life, him I help the most. What of My life-stories? I serve him in his house in all possible ways. When his ego is completely annihilated and there is left no trace of it, I Myself shall enter into him and shall Myself write My own life. Hearing my stories and teachings will create faith in devotees' hearts and they will easily get self-realization and Bliss; let there be no insistence on establishing one's own view, no attempt to refute other's opinions, no discussions of pros and cons of any subject."

(Chapter 3, Shri Sai Satcharitra).



"Desires must be controlled. You must master them and not be their slaves"

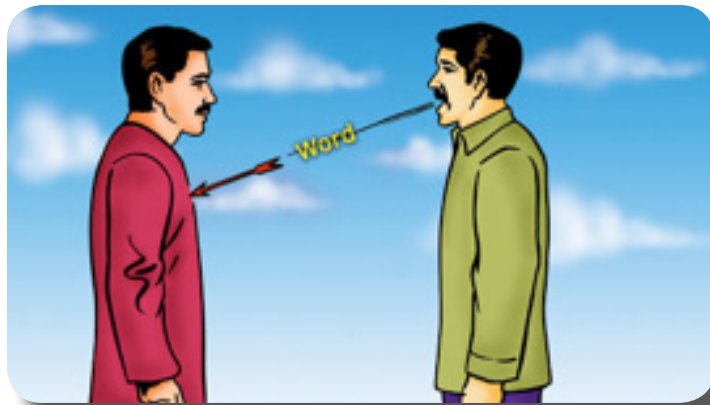
Ego (Contd...)

This implies that God (Sai Baba) blesses those who are willing to surrender their ego at the feet of the Sadguru. We should always be careful that there is no trace of ego left in us at any time in order for us to gain the grace of our Guru (Sai Baba). In the instance above Hemadpant said that he considered himself unqualified to write the story of a great saint like Sai Baba but because he surrendered his ego at the feet of Sai Baba, he was successful in being blessed by Him. It is believed that SaiNath Himself entered in Hemadpant's body and wrote His own life- which is the great work of "Shri Sai Satcharitra".

The lesson that we learn here is that God is pleased with those who surrender themselves, body and soul, to Him and trust Him fully. Whatever is happening, is being done by Sai and whatever is going to happen in future will be for their good. They should also realize that it is not them who are doing things but it is Him (Sai Baba) the master of our destiny who is pulling the wires skillfully and always guiding us on the right path at all the times.

Shirdi Sai Baba's Philosophy about Speech

The tongue has two functions - to taste the food and to speak.



Use of Scornful Speech:

We have read about importance of 'non-violence' in our scriptures.

"Non-violence' means not hurting anybody physically, mentally or by speech"

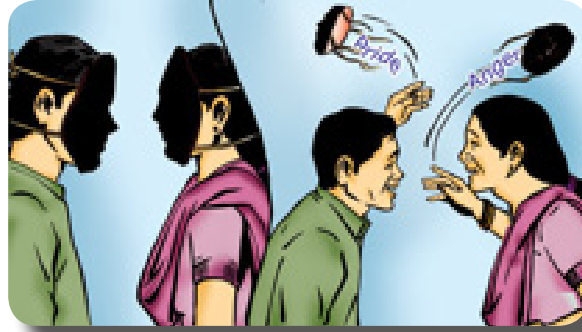
Sai Baba also advised us to be humble in our speech. Scornful words hurt a person much more than physical or mental violence. Such words are not easily forgotten and cannot be withdrawn. Consequently they cause an ever-lasting ill feeling. Baba's advice was to be soft in speech. Even more He said, "Let anybody speak hundreds of things against you, do not resent by giving any bitter reply. If you tolerate such things you will certainly be happy" - Chapter 19 of Sacred Text - Shri Sai Satcharitra. To make it sure that devotees follow it, He added, "He, who carps and cavils at others, pierces Me in the heart and injures Me, but he that suffers and endures, pleases Me most" - Chapter 44.



"Everything is Mine"

Ego (Contd...)

Arguments and Disputes:



Another teaching, which Sai Baba gave about speech, is to avoid arguments and disputes, which spring from egoism. They spread ill feelings, hatred and enmity. We have seen how Baba put a check on habit of arguing regarding necessity of a Guru by Shri Hemadpantin Chapter 2. Baba made this habit permanently null by addressing Him as 'Hemadpant' and gave permission to write Sacred Text - Shri Sai Satcharitra.

Indulgence in Scandal-mongering and Discussions of Other's Affairs:

Sai Baba advised His devotees not to indulge in scandal mongering or slandering others. Baba by His omniscient nature, he knew where and when devotees commit mistakes. He made it a point to correct them by effectively taunting them.



This can be seen in given incident: Once it so happened that, a Bhakta of Baba, reviled someone behind his back. Leaving aside merits he dwelt on the faults of his brother and spoke so sarcastically that, the people who heard it were disgusted. Generally we see that, people have a tendency to scandalise others unnecessarily and it brings ill feeling. Sai Baba knew this and at noon when He met the one who had slandered, near Lendi, Baba pointed out to him a pig, that was eating filth near the fence and said to him, *"Behold, how, with what relish it is gulping filth. Your conduct is similar. You go on reviling your own brethren to your heart's content. After performing many deeds of merit you are born as a human and if you act like this, how can Shirdi help you in anyway?"* Needless to say that the Bhakta took the lesson to his heart and went away. - Chapter 19.

Let us take another incident. A pleader from Pandharpur unnecessarily indulged in discussion regarding sub-judge Noolkar's coming and staying at Shirdi for cure of his ill-health. When the pleader went to Shirdi, Sai Baba said, *"How cunning people are! They fall at the feet, offer dakshina, but inwardly give abuses behind the back. Is not this wonderful?"* The pleader understood that the remark was aimed at himself, and being convinced, later said to Kakasaheb Dixit, *"This is not a rebuke to me but a favor and advice that I should not indulge in any scandal or slander of others and not interfere unnecessarily in others' affairs"*.

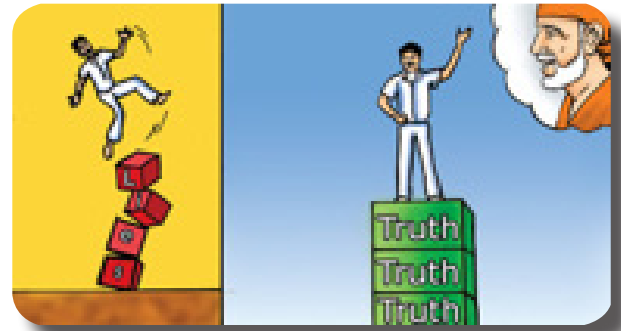


"For a greedy man there is no peace, neither contentment nor certainty (Steadiness)"

Ego (Contd...)

Always speak the Truth:

Our national motto is Truth always Triumphs. In Mahabharata, Dharmaraj, the eldest amongst Pandavas, always spoke the truth, but once in his life he told a lie and therefore had to spend a few hours in hell. Sai Baba was always practical and realistic in His teachings. It was Baba's teaching to His devotees to always speak the truth. Even if a person dared to speak a lie in front of Baba, Baba knew it then and there itself as He is Knower of secrets of every being's heart. In Sai Satcharitra Hemadpant has written untruth does not work before Sai Baba and Sai cannot be procured with untruth. Untruth means downfall. Untruth in the end takes you to hell, "Success is not possible by telling a lie. Sai Baba is omniscient."



However there were many instances where Sai Baba Himself told lies. In chapter 27, Baba told a lie to Ramadasi who was reading Vishnu-Sahastranaam (1000 names of Lord Vishnu) about His stomachache and sent him to market to fetch Sennapods. Shama was a very intimate devotee of Baba and Baba wanted to favor him in a particular way by giving him a copy of Vishnu-Sahastranaam. He took the book of Ramdasi in his absence, gave it to Shama and also played a peacemaker's role to calm down Ramdasi in the end. Another case was when

Baba went with Arti and Udi in disguise of tonga-driver with Ramgirbua for urgent and safe delivery of Nanasaheb Chandorjar's daughter.

Now question arises how do we interpret such acts? Firstly, the saints do not have to bear the consequences of these acts, whether good or bad, since they do not claim the credit of these acts. Secondly, even if such acts are sinful, they are prepared to bear its consequences for the sake of their devotees. In the first instance, Sai Baba wanted to favor His devotee Shama with some religious practice and hence he enacted this drama. Normal advice by words would not have been that effective. In the second instance, Sai Baba wanted to respond to Nanasaheb Chandorkar's fervent prayers to save the life of his pregnant daughter who was having severe labor pains and was unable to deliver. In this case, there was urgency to send Udi and Arti more than 100 miles away and that too at night. Hence, Baba not only prompted Bapurgir to go to his native place at that odd hour but also helped him to reach Jamner from Jalgaon railway station in a tonga thereby resorting to lies to convince Bapugir. Thus, deeds of saints who always want to help His devotees in times of calamities and danger are never questioned as good or bad. Indeed, we have seen many instances wherein saints take calamities of their devotees on themselves. Taking example of our Sai Baba, He took four fully developed bubos of Dadasaheb Khaprde's young son on Himself willingly - Chapter 7.



*"For those who come here (to Me), I have to grind.
(Their Karma)"*

Ego (Contd...)

In another instance, in the year 1910, Baba pulled His arm in Dhuni to save little child of blacksmith from falling into the furnace at some distance from Dwarkamai. Baba was not concerned about burning his arm but He had sense of satisfaction glowing on His face for saving the child. . Now, how can we measure such acts of saints? We can only say that they showed nature of God and were supernatural for us. Never tell a lie, at least not for self-interest or satisfaction of one's ego. However, for benefit of others, there is no harm in telling a little lie. For example, if telling some sad news is likely to shock a person, there is no harm in telling a lie that such a thing has not happened or that we do not know about it. Similarly, if somebody has offered some food with love and care and we do not relish it, but will it not be wiser to praise the quality of food smilingly rather than bluntly telling the truth and hurting feelings of the person! The following is advocated in our scriptures. Telling the truth is good but telling what is beneficial to others is better. In my opinion what results in the ultimate welfare of all beings is real truth. *"One should speak the truth and speak what is pleasing and agreeable to others. Never speak the truth which is not pleasing and agreeable to others"*



Always Keep your Promise:

Sai Baba taught us that if you promise anything you must fulfill it. So never make a false promise to anybody. We should not make any promise if we are not sure of fulfilling it. Many devotees make a vow or promise to God to some act or offer something on condition that their desires are met, but once achieved they forget to fulfill their vow. Such instances were tackled by Baba skillfully. Appasaheb Kulkarni wished to pay Fakir Rs. 10 who had visited his residence during his absence, and Baba got it fulfilled by approaching him again and demanding the full amount - Chapter 33. Similarly we see another instance related to Shama. In this case Sai Baba maneuvered to get Shama's long pending offering to Saptashringi Goddess fulfilled - Chapter 30. Mr. Cholkar was treated lovingly as Baba was much pleased to note that His devotee gave up sugar and drank tea without it until his vow to offer sugar candy to Sai Baba by visiting Shirdi was fulfilled - Chapter 15.

Talk Less:

Sai Baba's principle was to talk less. He never gave any lengthy lectures, but gave His devotees suitable experiences by narrating stories. For spiritual advancement, observing silence for some time every day is good. Baba Himself used to practice this by spending time twice a day in Lendi Baug till the end of His life. Talking too much consumes a lot of energy and time, hence even in day-to-day business, it is advisable to avoid unnecessary talk.

Repeat God's name:

In speech, Sai Baba's most important advice was about repeating God's name. He Himself used to repeat 'Allah Malik Hai' (God is Lord) constantly. He was fond of making others chant God's name continuously day and night for a whole week. This is known as Nama-Saptah. Views of Hemadpant, *"The efficacy of God's Name is well-known. It saves us from all sins and bad tendencies, frees us from the cycle of births and deaths. There is no easier sadhana than this. It is the best purifier of our mind. It requires no paraphernalia and no restrictions. It is so easy and so effective"*.



"God will Cure"



*“ I am ever living to help and guide
all who come to me, who surrender
to me and who seek refuge in me ”*

Baba's Devotee: Kashiram Shimpi

In the proximity of Saibaba

Kashiram Shimpi



Since the time Saibaba came to stay in the Masjid, Kashiram Shimpi supplied the provisions, Tobacco and Chillum. He also provided firewood for the DHUNI (Holy Fire).

When Baba first came to Shirdi, he used to wear Kafni, Cap and Dhoti - all of saffron colour. On some occasions, Baba wore white Kafni and tied dhoti around his head. Kashiram stitched a green Kafni and green Cap for Baba and he started using them. After few days, Baba started wearing white Kafni and tying white Dhoti around his head. He maintained this attire till the end.

It was Kashiram's practice to give money to Baba whenever it was needed. At a later stage, he started placing his entire income before Baba. He used to affectionately insist that Baba should give back whatever money he wished.

However, Baba used to keep only a Paisa or two and return the rest. Kashiram was very much hurt when Baba either did not take any money or took very less.

A person may feel proud that he has the ability to give. Such a feeling is harmful for the spiritual advancement. Hence, Baba either refused to keep any money or took very meager amount. Later on Kashiram was in financial difficulties. At that time, Baba started continuously demanding money from him. Due this insistence, Kashiram lost his feeling of false pride and his monetary situation started improving. In this manner, his false pride disappeared.

Kashiram placed his body, soul and money in devotion of Baba.

Kashiram's business was trading in cloth. He used to go to different villages and set up his shop. While returning from the Bazaar of Village Naur, some looters from the Bhill Community stopped him on the way. Kashiram was riding a horse. The Dacoits took away all his belongings. Kashiram did not oppose them in any manner. However, he was refusing to part with a small packet that he was carrying. The Dacoits felt that it must be containing some valuables! In reality the small packet contained powdered sugar. (Shree Janakidas - a devout person residing at Shirdi in those days - had said "One must feed sugar to the ants". Since that time, Kashiram always carried sugar powder in a packet.) The packet was dearer to his life for Kashiram as it was carried on advice of a pious person. He decided, "Come what may, I will not allow this packet to fall in the hands of the Dacoits."

Suddenly, Kashiram noticed a sword, which had fallen out of the hands of one of the Dacoits and was lying nearby. In a fraction of a second, he packed it up and killed two of the Dacoits. Seeing this, the third Dacoit came from behind and gave a blow of his axe on Kashiram's head. Kashiram lost his consciousness and fell down. The Dacoits took him to be a dead person and escaped from the scene.



"Go wherever you will, over the wide world, I am with you"

Baba's Devotee: Kashiram Shimpi (contd...)

While Kashiram was fighting the Dacoits, at the same time in Shirdi Baba was creating havoc. He was He was expressing his anger through abuses and shouting. Some disciples were nearby at that time. They immediately realized why Baba is acting in this manner. He was making an effort to save some dear devotee of his. The Dacoits were many in number and were also loaded with lots of weapons. In spite of this, Baba saved Kashiram from the clutches of Death. After some time, Kashiram regained his senses. He refused to go to a hospital. Instead, he insisted that he should be taken to Shirdi. As directed by Baba, Madhav-Rao Deshpande gave him medicines and Kashiram one again regain his health. The Government honored Kashinath's bravery by giving him a sword. After a few years, on CHAITRA SHUDDH EKADASHI in SHAKE 1830 (English year 1908), Kashiram passed away. Thus, along with Mhalsapati and Appa Jagale, Kashiram also expired on the day of EKADASHI.

This article is originally written in Marathi by Mrs. Mugdha Sudhir Divadkar (mugdha54@rediffmail.com, +91 93239 71117). It was first published in Nov - Dec 2002 issue of Shri Saileela magazine. This article is improvised and translated in English by Mr. Sudhir Divadkar.

In the proximity of Saibaba

Waman Tatya

On some days, Baba used to stay at the Village RAHATE. This is at a distance of 3 Kilometers from Shirdi. While returning from the place, Baba brought plants of different flowers such as JAAI (Jasmine), JUI (Another variety of Jasmine) and ZENDU (Marigold). Baba had nurtured a beautiful garden in the barren plot of land behind the wall of the Masjid. In those days, Waman Tatya (a Potter) used to supply two pots every day. Baba used to tell him to give the pots without baking them. In these pots, every day Baba carried water from a nearby well. He watered the plants with his own hands.

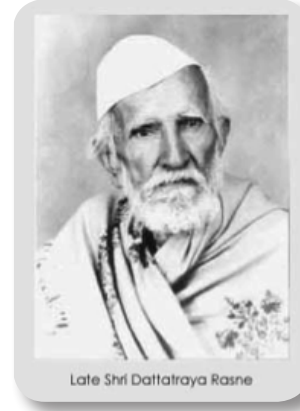
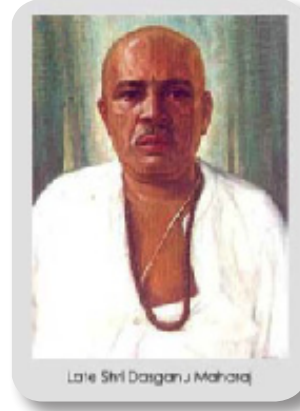
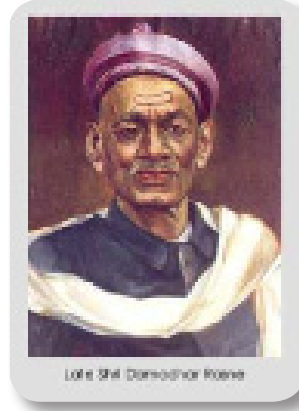
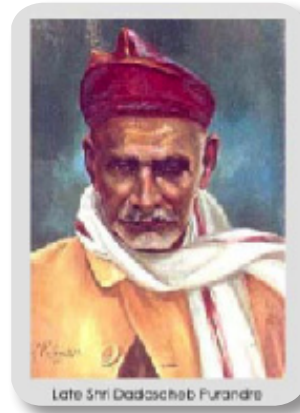
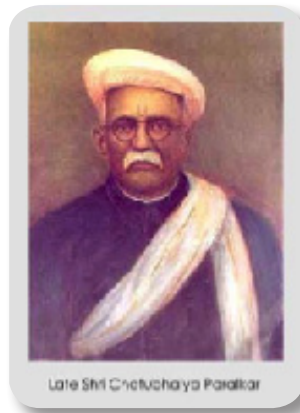
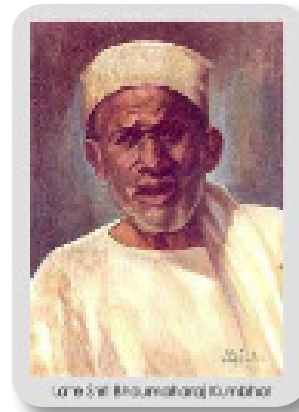
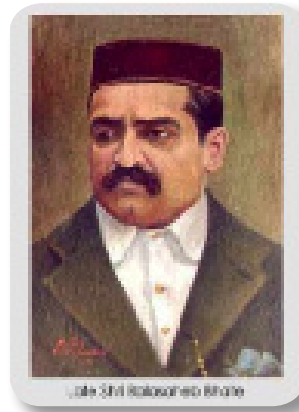
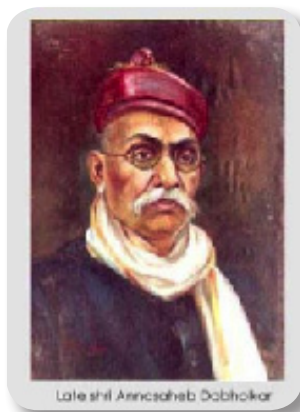
In the evening, Baba placed the pots at the roots of Neem (Azadirachta indica) Tree. As soon as the pots were rested, they immediately broke into pieces. For three years, this routine continued. Waman Tatya continued to supply the pots during those three years. Today, Sathe Wada stands on the same place..

This article is originally written in Marathi by Mrs. Mugdha Sudhir Divadkar (mugdha54@rediffmail.com, +91 93239 71117). It was first published in Nov - Dec 2002 issue of Shri Saileela magazine. This article is improvised and translated in English by Mr. Sudhir Divadkar.



"Give one and receive ten fold"

Baba's Closest Devotees in Picture



"God is great. He is the supreme Master"

Baba's Closest Devotees in Picture



Late Shri Hari Shrinani Dhall



Late Justice Shri Dajsaheb Awasthi



Late Shri Laxman Ganesh Mahajani



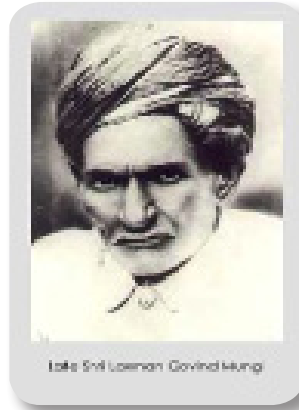
Late Shri Laxman K Nulkar



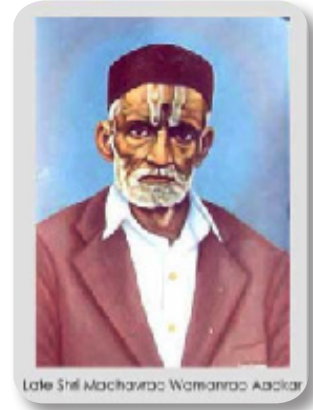
Late Smt. Laxmibai Shinde



Late Shri Machavao Deshpande



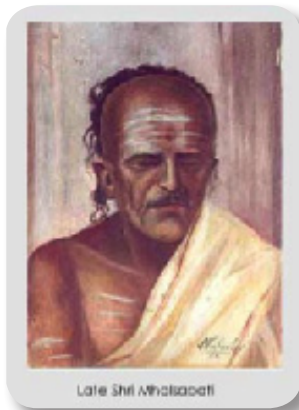
Late Shri Laxman Govind Mungi



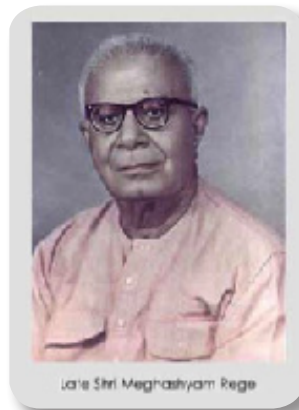
Late Shri Machavao Wamanrao Adikar



Late Shri Mahadeo Waman Soparkar



Late Shri Ahobabti



Late Shri Meghshyam Pige



Late Shri Anandwar Pradhan



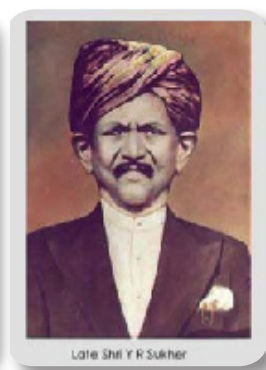
Shri Ramakrishna Shriniksha nawkar



Late Shri Timba Dombkar



Late Shri Yashwantrao Galwankar



Late Shri Y R Sukher

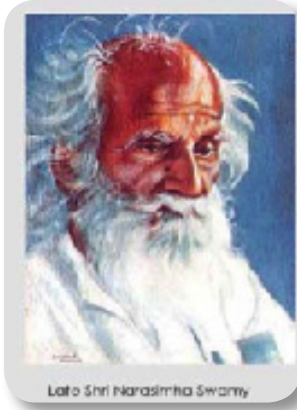


Late Shri Gobal Mukund Butty



“God runs to His Devotees for help in times of danger”

Baba's Closest Devotees in Picture



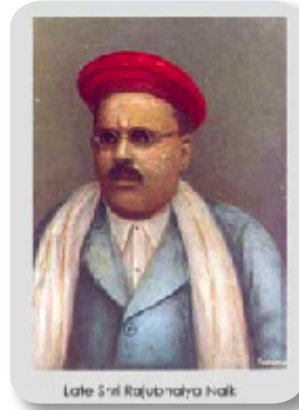
Late Shri Narasimha Swamy



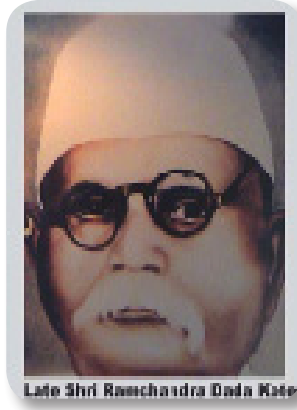
Late Shri. Parvatibai Sapatnekar



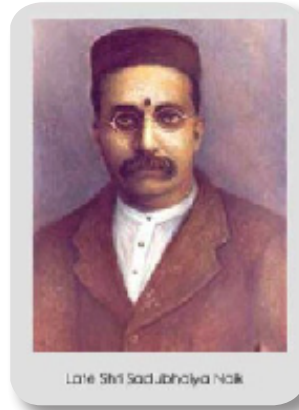
Late Shri Rachakrishna Swamy



Late Shri Rajubhaya Naik



Late Shri Rameshchandra Dada Kote



Late Shri Sadubhaya Naik



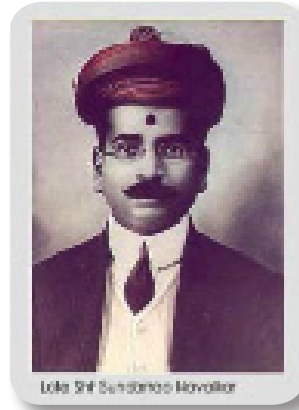
Late Shri Sagun Meru Naik



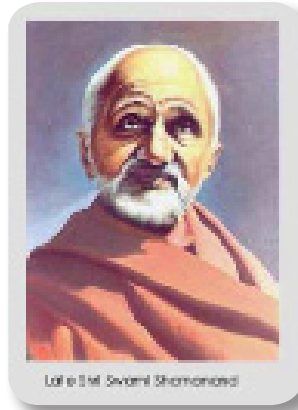
Late Shri Balasaheb Deo



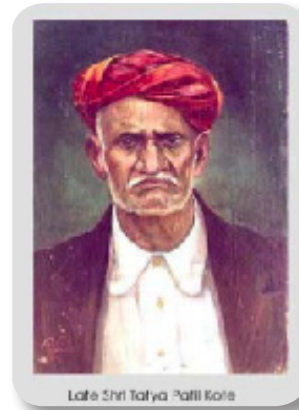
Late Shri Shivramrao Jayakar



Late Shri Sundarabai Navalkar



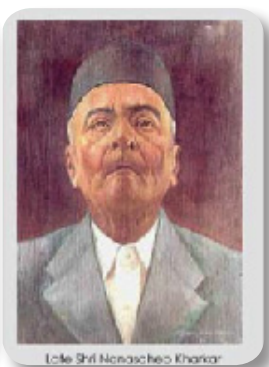
Late Shri Devdasi Sharmasawai



Late Shri Talva Paffi Kote



Late Shri Ganesh Shrikrishna Kharpade



Late Shri Nanasheeb Kharar



Late Shri nanasheeb Chandorkar



Late Shri Nanasheeb Nimankar



Late Shri Nandal Sankalecha



“He who wants to get rid of the cycle of births and deaths, should bad a righteous lire with his mind calm and composed”

Devotee's Experience

I feel privileged to share my experience in Sai Dhuni. When I was a child, I heard about Saibaba but never felt so close to Baba. In our house we used to worship Shankar Bhagwan, who is our kuldevta. I believe one cannot go to Shirdi without Baba's invitation and in 1998 that invitation came in the form of a family trip. I soon realised that it was my destiny and it was going to change my life. Since that day I feel, I am getting Baba's blessings every day. I have felt many heart touching experiences with Baba, and sometimes I think my life is nothing without Him. I got married in 2005 and in September 2006 I had to leave my job in India and come to UK with my husband. When I left my job I was very confident that I will be able to find a decent job in UK based on my experience. But once I came over, I started to realise how difficult it was to get a job here. I began to search bank jobs at same level, but unfortunately, I was rejected every time. The main reason was that my initial visa was valid only for 3 months. However, I had full faith in Baba. The day I started believing in Baba, I always felt that Baba will always take care of me in all situation. Whatever good is happening in my life is all due to Baba's blessings and whatever bad is happening is just my fate. I have a habit that in a situation where I can't take a decision myself I always throw two chits (written yes/No) and take Baba's permission. It has always worked for me! My visa was about to expire in December and I was disappointed as I still could not find a job. I believe it was Baba's wish that I should come to UK and now I will get the job as per His will. I had faith that He will help me. I still remember it was November of 2006, I had gone to Morrisons store for the weekly shopping with my husband and I casually enquired about vacancies at the customer services counter. They said they do have vacancies and I can apply. I took the application form, filled it up and returned it to them. Very next day I got an interview call. At that time I was sure that they will take my interview and reject me, as was happening with my other applications since my visa was expiring on that same month. As per my habit, I asked Baba by throwing chits whether I should go for the interview or not? I got the answer 'YES'! I said to myself, when Baba has said 'YES' He will surely take care of everything.

On the interview day, there was a British lady who took my interview. The interview went well. She asked me about my visa status. I told her about it and that it will get extended. She said "All Right" and in the end said "They will get back to me if I was selected". I came home and thought that I have attended my interview as per Baba's wish and now rest is left to Him. After 2 days I got a call from Morrison's head office confirming that I have been selected and before starting I need to submit necessary documents and photocopies in the store. It was not such a big surprise for me because I was confident that when Baba said 'YES' to me; it means no rejection. My husband and I went to the store to submit my documents and hand over the envelope to the reception which was supposed to be given to the lady who took my interview. As I forgot to ask the interviewer's name that day I asked the lady at the reception to confirm the name so I can mark my envelope for her. She said her name is 'Sai'. I was surprised that how can a British lady's name be 'Sai'. I wrote the name on the envelope and gave it to her. Then she said it's not 'Sai' but it's 'SY'. Though it's spelt differently but the pronunciation is 'SAI'. I & my husband were both happily surprised by the coincidence. I always believe that Baba is with me every moment and even though physically I am in UK but mentally I am in Shirdi all the time. Within 6 month I got a job in Lloyds TSB and my career moved on in UK. Baba never left me alone in any situation and my belief in Baba got stronger every day. In fact when I was pregnant with my first daughter, I believed from day one that my child is going to be born on Thursday. When my labour pain started on Monday I prayed to Baba that I want my child to be born on Thursday. I had to go through the pain for 3 days & magically my daughter is born on Thursday 8/11/07 which was first day of Diwali (Baba's favourite festival!). We kept her second name as 'SAI'. I would like to reiterate here that Baba never asks for expensive things from us He just needs pure heart and soul which is devoted to Him. Once we start believing in Sai wholeheartedly He will take care of us for rest of our life. My magical journey with Sai will go on till my last breath. Om Sai Ram!



"One must rest content with one's lot"

OUR HUMBLE OBEISANCES TO
SADGURU SHREE SHIRDI SAI BABA

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES ON
THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
OF SHIRDI BABA TEMPLE
ASSOCIATION OF LONDON



SHREE SHIRDI SAI BABA DEVOTEES OF MILTON KEYNES,
READING, SLOUGH, HOUNSLOW AND EAST LONDON
WOULD LIKE TO THANK SHITAL FOR FACILITATING
BABA'S DARSHAN

OUR SINCERE THANKS TO NAGRECHA CHARITABLE
TRUST FOR THEIR AVID SUPPORT

Remuneration of Hard Labor

Baba's view on remuneration of labor was that no one should take the labor of others for granted. Workers should be paid promptly and liberally. In this article, we look at the significance of this teaching and how we could apply it in our day-to-day lives. It is a known fact that whatever we have achieved to date is not just due to our efforts but due to the contribution of several other people. Be it selfless teachers, kind relatives, hardworking team members or encouraging friends, everyone has done their bit to help us in this journey. While we may not "pay" each of them in monetary terms, we can and should demonstrate our gratitude through a "thank you", showing we care for them and reciprocating the help where possible.

There are also several unsung heroes who "serve" us day in and day out but we never really notice them or take their services for granted. This includes the people who keep our houses and streets clean, press our clothes, cook foods, wash the dishes, clean our cars, serve us food in restaurants, keep the city safe... the list is endless.

One might say that we "pay" these service providers for their service and that is a fair argument to make but let us not make the mistake of taking this service for granted, of forgetting that these service providers are also human beings who make sacrifices to serve us. During festival times like Deepawali, it is a common custom to offer rewards or baksheesh for this group of postmen, sweepers, and watchmen. This was meant to be a way of sharing a handful from our rich abundance with those less fortunate. There was never a monetary amount agreed and people would offer what they could and the service providers would gladly take it.

In recent times, however, there is often a debate or hue and cry on the need for a baksheesh and the rising sum every year. The debate is usually loudest in some of the richest societies or apartment complexes with multiple emails surfacing in the society group email trying to "agree" an amount to be paid to this group. While it is true that each person should contribute based on their ability, if we reflect hard, many would find that we don't think twice about spending Rs. 500/- to 1,000/- per person on a Friday evening movie ticket but feel cheated and agitated if we have to pay liberally to service providers once a year! Many people flatly refuse on the basis that others would pay the baksheesh. On this occasion of Diwali, it is time we reflect on Baba's teaching and ask ourselves if we might reconsider our stance and show more willingness to share with those less privileged.

1. Slander

One of Sai Baba's devotees spoke ill about one of his brethren behind his back. He dwelt on his faults and spoke so sarcastically that those listening were disgusted. Sai Baba through his omniscience knew what had happened and had his unique way of correcting this devotee when he met him that afternoon. He pointed him to a pig eating filth near the fence and said to the slanderer, *"Behold, how and with what relish it is gorging dung. Your conduct is similar. You have reviled your brethren to your heart's content. After performing many merits, you were born a man. Yet, when you act like this, will Shirdi help you in any way."* Needless to say, the bhakta took the lesson to heart and repented. No doubt, the tongue is a very powerful instrument in that it helps us communicate our thoughts to others. However, like all instruments, it should be handled carefully and we should have the wisdom and discrimination to "switch it off" when not in use. If the tongue is allowed to operate without discretion, we resort to either self-praise or speaking ill of others. This is a known fact and knowing this, we should be careful in its use. A story highlights this well.



"He who trusts Me entirely, hears and expounds My Leelas and does not think of anything else, is sure to attain Self-Realisation"

Remuneration of Hard Labor

Once the tongue and teeth were engaged in a conversation. The tongue told the teeth, "You are so kind and selfless. You chew, cut and grind various delicacies but never enjoy the result as it is I (the tongue) that enjoys the taste. I would like to do something for you. Please tell me how I can of some help to you?" The teeth, humble by nature, replied "Thank you dear tongue for the kind words. We are only doing the duty God has given us. You don't need to thank us or do anything in return". The tongue, however, was adamant and insisted on returning the favor. Tired of its pleas, the teeth finally said, "If you really want to do something for us, our request would be not to use foul language, spread rumors or speak ill about others. You indulge in such activities indiscriminately and we, the teeth, bear the brunt of people's blows and get broken first. You remain unharmed, protected by us!"

The learning for us from Sai Baba's teaching is to communicate our thoughts and express our views when necessary but be vigilant about use of the tongue. Often, silence is a stronger weapon than words. Brevity in usage of words is important and we should resist the temptation to continue speaking once we have made our point. Whenever a conversation, either at home, work or social settings degenerates into self-praise or talking ill of someone or something, we should nip it in the bud by stepping out of such setting or, where it is not possible, at least not adding fuel to the fire through our words. If observed at a slightly deeper level, it becomes evident that the "tongue" is an inert instrument and cannot do anything by itself. It is the mind that expresses itself through the tongue. The mind uses the 5 senses (tongue = taste, eyes = sight, nose = smell, ear = sound, skin = touch) to receive stimuli from the world and 5 organs of action (tongue = speech, hands = action, legs = movement, anus = excretion, genital organs = reproduction) to get its work done in the world. If the mind dislikes someone, it uses the tongue to slander him, if the mind wants to taste something sweet, it uses the eyes to attract the sweet, the nose to get attracted to the smell, the hands to pick the sweet, the teeth to grind it and the tongue to taste it!

Thus, controlled by the mind, we move around in the world like "robots" doing what the mind wants us to do. If the mind is sad, we are sad; if the mind is happy, we are happy; if the mind is angry, we are angry. Once we understand this and start to practice this teaching, a logical question could arise in our minds. Since we have been speaking pretty much non-stop from childhood, how do we suddenly resist the temptation to speak especially in the company of rajasic or tamasic people? There are several ways and we highlight two of those in this article:

1. Satsang - Try and use every opportunity to mingle with people who speak about the Lord or sing His praises. These could be discourses, bhajans or other forms. If we can't find such people, let us start by reading books such as Sai Satcharita or lives of saints and sages and keep good company.

2. Chanting the Lord's name - This could be the name of a chosen form of God e.g. "Ram Ram" or "Om Sai". Some prefer to chant loudly, some softly and others in their own mind. This gives the mind something "good" to do without indulging in slander.

In closing, we should remind ourselves that these activities are stepping-stones in our sadhana. When pursued with devotion, sincerity, faith and a spirit of surrender, the Lord helps bring them to fruition. Just like the initial days in a gymnasium are painful but, with practice, we become physically stronger, in the gymnasium of life such activities will make our mind purer and calmer. For every one step we take towards the Lord, he takes ten steps towards us. Armed with this faith, may we pursue our spiritual journey with renewed vigor every moment!



"Have you got such faith?"



*“If you look to me,
I look to you”*

Importance of Human Birth

The Importance of Our Human Birth,

According to Shri Sai SatCharitra Chapter 8, Hemadpant has mentioned, *'In this wonderful universe, God has created billions of creatures or beings (including Gods, demigods, insects, beasts and men) inhabiting heaven, hell, the earth, oceans, the sky and other intermediate regions. Of these, those creatures or souls whose merits preponderate go to heaven and live there till they enjoy the fruits of their actions. And when this is done, they are cast down.'*

Baba's love for His devotees is like a mother's love for her children, which is fully unconditional. He always encourages good thoughts and actions within human beings and inspires us to follow the right path in our life. In doing so and following His teachings, we as human beings keep accumulate merits of our good karma. When our time comes to leave our soul/life, if the accumulations of merits of our good karma outweigh our sins or demerits or even bad karmas (actions), in that case, God sends us to heaven to enjoy the fruits of our actions during our lifetime as humans. Once we finish enjoying our period of merits, we are then cast down. On the other hand, souls whose sins or demerits prevail go down to hell and have to suffer the consequences of their misdemeanours or bad karmas (actions) for so long a time as they deserve. When their merits and demerits balance each other, they are born on earth as human beings and are given a chance to work out their redemption.

Ultimately, when their merits and demerits are both completely destroyed, they get their deliverance and become free. Hence to put the matter in a nutshell, it is up to us which path we prefer or chose to adopt. As human beings we have been given a chance by God to perform good karmas (actions) in our lives. The intelligent people prefer to walk on the right path, which can be full of obstacles and pain but in the end their efforts will lead them to God, which is pure Brahma (complete reality). Those who prefer to walk on the opposite route just to gain short-term gains or happiness end up losing a lot in the end. They would have to again be born on this earth to work out their karma (action) and for those people the circle of birth and death continues.

In short, the true essence to those who take birth is that, being born, as a human being is difficult therefore; man must be resolute in pursuing the path of righteousness. The knowledge of the difference between what is eternal and what is only illusory or transient must be obtained through effort. The first step in this process is to understand that there is a soul, which is independent of the body.

One goes through many successive births. Birth means combination of the soul with the body. The soul successively combines with many bodies in different births. Adi Shankaracharya says that, *'just as the thread on which several flowers are strung together is separate from them, just as the body that wears around itself several garments is different from them, the soul that acquires different bodies in different births is different from them.'*



"He who surrenders himself to the feet of Hari (God) will get free from all troubles and attain bliss"

Importance of Human Birth (contd...)

Therefore, since birth is the combination of the soul with the body, a person must try to obtain a body that produces happiness and avoid that which gives grief. The former can be obtained only through good deeds, while bad deeds give rise to the latter

The Special Value of the Human Body

Some people say that there is nothing worse than the human body, which is full of filth, mucus, phlegm and dirt. It is subject to decay, disease and death. This is no doubt true to a certain extent, but in spite of these drawbacks and defects, the special value of the human body is that man has got the capacity to acquire knowledge. (Shri Sai SatCharitra Chapter 8). Human beings have been blessed with a unique gift of knowledge. It is only due to human knowledge that one can think of the delicate and temporary nature of the body itself and the world, and thereby develop disgust for sense-enjoyments. Thus, humans have the capacity to discriminate between the unreal and the real and thereby attain divine-vision. People who think negatively and who think that one should not look after his/her body, as it is transient and full of filth, can never attain self-awareness. There are also other types of people who continuously run after sense objects like money for attaining their selfish motives and wasting that money on doing all sorts of bad activities, these are the people who are not doing any good to themselves and are sure to go to hell. Therefore, the proper course for us to pursue, is that the body should neither be neglected nor fondled, but should be properly cared for; just as a traveler on horse-back takes care of his horse till he reaches his destination and returns home. Thus, the body should always be used or engaged to attain self-realization, which is the supreme end of life. We are blessed to get a human form as because of our knowledge we are able to differentiate the right from wrong. Also it is the knowledge element that differentiates us from the animals for we are able to understand and appreciate God's beautiful creation in our lives. When we appreciate God's leelas (miracles) and extraordinary work, this in turn satisfies Him the most and He is pleased with us. So it is our duty towards nature and towards God to appreciate our chance to come into this world and get this opportunity to not only enjoy what we get but also learn the true value of real love. Thus Hemadpant says, *'it is good luck to get a human body and even better luck to have the recourse of Sai Baba's Feet and to surrender to Him completely.'* (Shri SaiSatCharitra; Chapter 8). Even human births are of different kinds, some are beggars but some are quite well off, it is because of their previous birth's deeds. But whatever are the circumstances in human birth, we have one most important power that no other species has and it is knowledge. It could only be utilized in human birth using which we can change our destiny.

The main reason for this human birth is to do meditation of God in order to get ourselves free from the bondage of karma (actions). As per our previous karma (actions) we would get pain/happiness, but we need to always remember that these are only the rewards or punishments for our previous deeds and always keep in mind that we do have knowledge even though it would be limited because the circumstances around it are the results of previous deeds. It is ONLY in human birth that knowledge could be utilized and we can do worship of God. If we do not do that, then this human birth will be of no use. No matter how good food we take, how well protected our house is, how physically fit we are, how good doctors we have at our disposal, death can come at any time. In other words, no matter what, death will come anytime. If death is sure to come, what is the use of so many bad deeds that we did just to collect money, property, relatives! Nothing is going with us. Whenever we die, only our karma (actions) will go with us. Therefore, it is a must to remember HIM (God) before we leave this physical body.



“Have consideration for the poor and the wretched”

Devotee's Experience

OM SAI RAM

It was 2nd Feb 2013 when my mom died of AML Leukemia. We had a horrible time since we had to take care of my mom without letting her know that she had cancer. Due to this I was not able to concentrate on my work. There were lots of misunderstanding between my wife, and me as we were newly married and she was not able to accept the things that were happening at my home and we were always busy with hospitals and sickness. It is natural that newly married girls would have lots of expectations and dreams, but in our home the situation was different. She was born and brought up in an upper middle class family and was not able to handle this situation. It was very hard for me to believe that my mom is no more, and I was trying to cope up with it. At this point of time, I was not seriously devoted to Sai Baba. We visited his temple a number of times, but we were not having so much passion for him. It was like visiting one of the many temples out there. Then on the 3rd week of my mother's death, we got good news that my wife was pregnant, 3 weeks. I firmly believed that it was my mom who wants to be with me always. After this I did not feel bad about my mom's absence, as I began to feel she is there with us always, and we will see her back soon in another 9 months. Later during the seventh month of my wife's pregnancy, one day (11th Sep 2013), my wife was complaining that she was having headache. She was in Chennai at her mom's home and I was working in Bangalore. She called me and said that she had some issues like headaches. As there was a regular check-up the next day, we thought we would take care of it the next day since it would be normal for pregnant ladies to have such issues during their pregnancy time.

Next day when she went to the hospital, doctor said she was having high Blood Pressure and that she has to be admitted and monitored continuously. They said the that blood pressure is too dangerous whilst pregnant, and while monitoring if the BP is not coming down to normal, they had to go for caesarean. When I heard this, I was shocked and started praying to God that nothing wrong should happen because the fetus is just seven months old. I departed immediately from Bangalore to Chennai by Bus. I was shivering and had a heavy fever, fearing about what would happen to my wife and kid. On the way whilst travelling to Chennai, I continuously called my in-laws who updated me on the status. In one of the calls they told me that the BP is slightly coming down, but then they called me again and told me that my wife was getting seizures (violent shaking of body and loss of control due to high BP). Doctors called the disease as pre-eclampsia, so she was taken into the operation theatre on emergency for caesarean. My fever and shivering went high, feeling helpless. In the next call I was informed that we have been blessed with a girl baby (12th Sep 2013, 11:45PM). I was not able to feel happy at all, and was worried about baby's weight and health since she was delivered in just seven months and also worrying about my wife's health. They said the baby is doing fine weighing 1.650kg. It was a pre-term baby. I started crying. I did not know before, I would be into such a bad situation. I felt my life couldn't get worse than this.

I reached Chennai and directly went to the hospital to see my kid and wife (13th Sep 2013, 5 am). I was able to see my kid, she was sleeping in the incubator, she was so cute and beautiful. I could feel that it is my mom who came back to see us. However, I was not able to see my wife, as she was in ICU and was still unconscious. They said I could only see her at 8am in the morning. When I went and see her, she was awake, but she did not have good vision. She could recognize me, but could not see. She was blind. Doctors said it was temporary due to high blood pressure she was having. Still her BP did not come down even after lots of BP controlling medicine. She was to be in ICU until she was fine. But since as she was speaking I was felt okay. Then late morning, they took her for an MRI brain scanning, with me. Although while returning, they took her back to ICU on emergency saying she again got mild fits or seizure.



"If a man utters My name with Love, I shall fulfill all his wishes"

Devotee's Experience (contd...)

Then she was again made unconscious by medicine. Her hands and legs were tied, locked to the bed since she went out of control. They started using a ventilator inserted into her lungs, as they said if she were getting seizures again, it would damage her lungs. To avoid that, Doctors inserted a ventilator in her so she could breath artificially. When I went to see her, she was in a serious condition and tied hard to the bed, with ventilators and lots of monitors around beeping with frightening sounds. I cried there, and pledge the doctor to save her as our kid was starving without being feed by her. The doctor was waiting for the MRI report, and when it came she said, she had seizure again and a mild Brain Hemorrhage (Bleeding in Brain). She also said, that my wife should not get seizures again to come out of the critical stage. Her BP was also not coming down. It was 170 to 190 always.

After a day (3rd day), they said the seizure had not come again. I was a little relaxed. We knew a doctor there and we requested him to come and visit my wife. He came out of the ICU after seeing my wife's reports and said that the thing is serious, but since a seizure did not come, she would be out of risk. But since she had brain bleeding, it would be a very slow recovery. He asked us to pray to God. I was in a desperate situation since my kid was being fed with some drips, not her mother's milk even on her 3rd day of birth. I cried a lot and was completely broken. Then after thinking a lot, I told my in-laws that I will be back soon after having a bath at home. So I went down the hospital from the 3rd floor to go home to take a bath. In the entrance of the hospital, at the central hall there was a Sai Baba Idol, which I am familiar with and always worship, but never so seriously. I have worshipped Him many times there, since it was the same hospital where my mom was also under treatment in the past. But this time, I kneeled downed and begged him to save my wife at least for child's sake and cried to Sai Baba. Then I left with a heavy heart and went out to take my bike from the parking. It's 8kms from the hospital to our home. On the way, I had a call from my father-in-law that my wife woke up and started talking, she was also was able to see properly (her blindness was cured on the 3rd day of our child's birth), and she was okay to be shifted to a normal ward. Within just 20 minutes after I prayed to Sai Baba, all the changes happened, like magic. It was hard for me to believe and I felt the goose bumps across my body. Sai Baba came down to help us and after that prayed him with full belief. That's the day I started worshipping Sai Baba all the time.

The doctor who spoke to us was also amazed to know that she recovered so soon with all those complex issues such as the brain bleeding and seizures. He could not believe it, and worth to mention that he is also a deep devotee of Sai Baba! Maybe he also prayed to Sai Baba for us. We stayed there for another 10 days until her BP came down slowly, and all test results for my kid was good. There were no issues with the baby, other than her weight. She lost 200 gms. The doctors said it is normal to lose some weight after birth. She was 1.4kg when we took her to home.

We had full faith on Sai Baba to help us in bringing our kid up to normal weight and health. It takes lots of effort to take care of the kid, and if it is a pre-term kid, it is 20 times tougher. Thanks to Baba, my wife and my in-laws took good care in raising the child. Baba was always with us in all the tough times and helped us during hurdles that we faced in all the days, weeks and months whilst taking care of the baby. The child is now a year old and she is healthy as is my wife who is doing well. Baba has helped us a lot and is still helping us after that. As I promised him, I visited Shirdi to be with his grace. We named our kid Hashini Sai.

Thank you Sai Baba for being so humble always!!

Om Sai Ram!



"If a man sings earnestly My life and My deeds, him I shall beset in front and back and on all sides"

*Congratulations & Best Wishes on the 5th Anniversary of
Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London (SHITAL)*

From



We Specialise In Refurbishment And New Build Works For

- Care Homes
- Hotels
- Luxurious Homes and Apartments
- Alterations & Extensions Works
- Design and Build

Registered Considerate Contractor

T : 020 8451 6674, F : 020 8451 6673

info@acrecontractors.com, www.acrecontractors.com



ACRE HOUSE - Unit 4, Sapcote Trading Centre, 374 High Road, Willesden, London, NW10 2DH



Best Wishes to

Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London (SHITAL)

From

Saffran
Bar & Restaurant

Beer Garden and Function Suite available

551 High Road, Wembley

Middlesex HA0 2DW

020 8903 0455

www.saffranbar.com

For Private Parties Or Group Booking Contact Prakash Gorasia

Shraddha and Saburi

Shraddha and Saburi

Life is full of obstacles that arise at various stages throughout life. There are different ways of looking at these difficulties that we face in life. Some may try to hide away, hoping that their troubles would pass soon; others may choose to face their problems head on, determined not to let them get the better of them. Whichever way we choose to deal with our problems, we can't help wondering why they occur; why me? In these times of need we, as human beings, search high and low for answers to ease our burden and to get us through these difficult times. Some search for answers in books, some seek advice from friends, some retreat to find answers in solitude, some seek spiritual guidance and turn towards their Guru for advice and protection from further troubles. When we face difficulties in life, no matter how big or small, we turn towards our Guru, Shirdi Sai Baba, as we know He is the only one who understands what is going on, how we are feeling, why this happened and how to overcome it. He is the only one who can give us a true unbiased answer and method for how to overcome these situations. When looking for answers, we should resort to a thorough reading of Shri Sai Satcharitra. Through such reading, we will find answers, knowledge and understanding and, more importantly, find peace of mind.

Shirdi Sai Baba draws His devotees close to Him and awakens in them a desire to gain more knowledge and understand more about Him and about spiritual life. When His devotees are hungry for this knowledge, He provides them with Shri Sai Satcharitra, through which, He imparts His knowledge. He helps us to understand the meaning of life and the reason for our existence in this world. He makes everything clear and lifts our souls to a higher level. Once you have read Shri Sai Satcharitra and have felt even a small amount of power contained within it, then why would you resort to any other means to gain answers? Shirdi Sai Baba is with all of us, day in and day out, and He is waiting for us to come to Him and to seek guidance. When a devotee is genuinely in search of knowledge, to enable him to gain a greater understanding of, and to get closer to God, Shirdi Sai Baba will set the devotee on a journey to attain that knowledge. This journey may contain a number of obstacles or challenges, each of which has the purpose of teaching us one of life's important lessons. All obstacles and difficulties that we face in life are merely tests, set by the Almighty, with the intention of imparting a deeper knowledge to us and lifting our souls to a higher sense of being. All occurrences in life, whether good or bad, should therefore be looked upon as learning curves and a way approved by Baba for us, so that we can get closer to God. We are not left to deal with difficulties alone, Baba, Himself, will guide us through, all we need is to ask Him to show us the way. We need to have faith in Him and patience to allow the lessons to be learnt. We need to have Shraddha (firm faith) and Saburi (patience & perseverance).

No matter how many times you read Shri Sai Satcharitra, there will always be something new that can be learnt from it. One of the main messages that are echoed throughout Shri Sai Satcharitra is the message of Shraddha and Saburi. Shraddha – meaning Faith – and Saburi – meaning Patience – both go hand-in-hand. You cannot have one without the other. This is one of the most prominent messages that Baba taught us. No matter what life throws at you, no matter what obstacles or troubles you are faced with, if you apply Shraddha and Saburi to the situation, you are sure to overcome even the most trying situations. If you apply Shraddha and Saburi to every aspect of your life, then you are sure to grow to higher heights. However, following Sai Baba's teachings and applying Shraddha and Saburi to your everyday life is easier said than done.



“I am the inner Ruler of all and seated in their hearts”

Shraddha and Saburi (contd...)

When Baba talks about Shraddha, He means true, unfaltering faith and training yourself to be patient is not an easy task. In order to understand more about what Shraddha and Saburi mean in today's world, let's look back and first try to understand what it meant to some of Baba's closest devotees. We can look at the stories of Shama and Hemadpant for guidance, as these were a few of Baba's devotees, who were with Baba day in and day out and who were lucky enough to learn directly from Baba in His human form. Let's not forget that Baba is still present with us now and there are few devotees present in today's world, who have developed their Shraddha and Saburi to such a level that they are not far from Baba Himself.

Let's first take Shama as an example. He was a simple rustic being who lived in Shirdi and was fortunate enough to be one of Baba's most devoted devotees. It can be said that only as a result of his merits in his past lives, he was able to live his life at Baba's feet and that he must have been a truly blessed soul. Therefore, who better to learn the meaning of Shraddha and Saburi from, than Baba's closest devotee? Let's take, for example, the story of Shama's snakebite. Imagine for a moment that you were in Shama's shoes. Imagine that a snake had bitten you, what thoughts and emotions would be running through your mind? You would be terrified, you would be feeling extremely weak and you would be frightened for your life. Your friends are scared for you and are insisting that you go with them to a doctor to get treated. Yet, at a time when you can say you're not in your best senses, you stand up against your peers and you go running to your Lord, you go running to Shirdi Sai Baba and you pray to Him, as to you, He is your only savior. What can a doctor do that God cannot?

After all, God governs everything that the doctor does anyway. That is true Faith. Furthermore, if you were in that situation and you were on the verge of your life, having just been bitten by a snake and you went against your peers advice, when you know they're trying to save your life, and you went running to your Lord and then your Lord turned to you and shouted at you, telling you to get out of His home, your Holy Temple, how would you cope? What would you do? Who would you turn to? Would you continue to have unfaltering Faith in your Lord? Although it may appear clear to us that when Baba was shouting at Shama, He was actually shouting at the snake's poison and not addressing Shama directly, if we put the story into context and put ourselves in Shama's shoes, it is not so simple.

This is the test that Shama had to go through. He proved that his faith was true and unfaltering, but how many of us in that situation would pass such a test? Faith is a term that is used lightly in today's world, but how many of us know and understand its true meaning and even what it is like to have True Faith? This is the meaning of Shraddha. Shraddha is true, unfaltering belief in Baba. How many of us think we have True Faith in Baba? What happens when Baba decides to test that faith? Would we pass the test? Remember that Baba resides in your heart. He knows your thoughts before you've even thought of them. Would you pass His test?

In Chapter 23 of Shri Sai Satcharitra, Hemadpant mentions the different types of devotees: those that carry out their Guru's wants without even being asked; those that carry out their Guru's wishes, only after being asked; and those that postpone and delay the carrying out of such wishes. If we look closely at these, we can determine the different levels of Shraddha that devotees have. The stronger the devotees Shraddha, the closer they are to the Lord; they become One with the Lord.



"I say things here. There they happen"

Shraddha and Saburi (contd...)

Through the stories that Shirdi Sai Baba has inspired Hemadpant to write about in Shri Sai Satcharitra, we can see examples of the different types of devotees and how Baba tests each of them and helps them to develop their level of Shraddha and Saburi. For example, when Baba asked Bade Baba to behead a dying goat to put it out of its misery, Bade Baba refused, as there was a cholera epidemic in Shirdi and the heads of the village had decided that no goats should be killed there, as a measure to try and contain the epidemic. Sai Baba then asked Shama to behead the goat. Without asking questions or debating, he went to fetch a knife to carry out the order. The person, from whom he borrowed the knife, soon recalled it, once she knew what it was to be used for. Then Shama went to find another knife, but delayed his return. This was Baba's way of testing Shama. He laid obstacles in Shama's path, to make it more difficult. Baba followed the best course to impart the instructions.

Next was Kakasaheb Dixit's turn. He went to fetch a knife, came back and got into the position to do the deed. He looked at Baba for guidance as to whether he should carry out the deed and Baba gave the go-ahead, so he began to strike. Baba stopped him just before the deed was done, but it appears that Kakasaheb Dixit had passed the test. He was a pure soul and could never harm anyone, yet he lifted the knife to kill, as his Lord asked him to, without enquiring about it as he had strong Shraddha in Sai Baba. This story highlights the various levels of devotee's Shraddha.

Nowadays, it is very easy to mis-interpret the true meaning of a story like this. In today's world, there are lot many choices available; there are many options and opinions of peers and society to deal with. These were also present in Baba's time, but they have developed to become more complex over time, making it seem even harder to steer away from the attachments in this world, or as Sai Baba calls them, the whirlpool's of this illusive world, Maya. Please do not take this story to mean that by blindly following someone, you will be proving your Shraddha. This story has a much deeper meaning and spiritual connection and the way we can differentiate between this world (Maya) and Baba, is by following our heart, as Sai Baba lives in our heart.

In Shri Sai Satcharitra, Baba Himself, advises that before we embark on anything or before we enjoy anything, we should first offer that thing to Baba and then, if that thing is fit to be enjoyed/embarked on, we would have no problem in continuing. Otherwise, if it feels wrong, it probably is wrong.

The deeper we delve into the topic of Shraddha, the more we start to understand Baba's methods, and the closer we get to gaining more knowledge and lifting our souls to a higher level of Shraddha. All Baba wants is firm faith and devotion to Him, He will do the rest. So give a thought about the type of devotee you feel you are and what level of Shraddha you'd like to have. Once you have decided, Baba will highlight your path to get you there. He will walk along that path with you, by your side and will keep you on the right track, so long as you sincerely work on developing your Shraddha and your Saburi and getting closer to Him. Remember that Baba is not interested in the image you portray on the outside, He sees right into your heart and knows your thoughts and feelings before you do, so be true to yourself and the further you walk along that path and the closer you get to Baba, the more you'll start to see Him walking alongside with you. Have Shraddha (firm faith) and Saburi (patience & perseverance).



"I shall repay his debt by giving him salvation (Self realisation)"

Holidays, Honeymoon and Worldwide Flight Specialist

Price Match Guarantee

ImBEL TRAVEL City Breaks Deals - Hotels - Package Holidays - Insurance
Worldwide Flights - Eurostar Holiday United
Call : 020 8809 5522 | www.imbeltravel.com | info@imbeltravel.com Make holiday everyone

The Imaginative Realm

Harpreet Aji
Motion Graphic Design
www.harpreetajji.co.uk
07540551671
TheImaginativeReal@hotmail.com

Motion Graphic design | Graphic Design | Title Sequence | Editing | Illustration & More



*“If you cast your burden on me,
I shall surely bear it”*

Donations

Various ways YOU can contribute and help the temple

1. Gift Aid your donations

Gift Aid is one of the simplest and most effective ways of giving to charity. It is a scheme introduced by HM Revenue & Customs, which allows us to reclaim the basic rate tax you pay as a UK taxpayer. Gift Aid is worth at least an extra 25p for every £1 you give. This is at absolutely no extra cost to you! Please remember that what you pay in income/capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we will reclaim against your gift.

2. One-off donations

The temple accepts cash, cheques, credit cards or paypal. Cash can be put into the hundi (*dontation box*) at the temple. You can request a receipt at the front desk for either cash or cheques. Credit cards are also accepted at the temple.

3. Regular Donations

We are a long term charity. Your regular donation by standing order/ direct debit will be of great help.

4. Donate in memory

Celebrate and commemorate the Life of someone special by donating to the temple in lieu of flowers.

5. Volunteers needed at the temple and at other centres

Our organisation was started by volunteers, and today they're still at the very heart of everything we do. Volunteers are needed at the temple. Please contact the temple for more details.

6. Devotees required to make flower garlands

Training can be provided to devotees to assist in making flower garlands used for Baba and other deities at our temple.

7. Other donations

The temple uses daily ghee and oil for the Aarti lamps so donations of these items are helpful. Also fresh fruit, dates and fresh flowers are offered to Baba and are always helpful. Donation of paper plates, plastic spoons and take away boxes are accepted for the prasadam.



“I shall draw out My Devotees from the jaws of Death”

Donations - Leicester Temple

1. Shri Sai Satcharitra

SHITAL distributes Shri Sai Satcharitra books to all the desiring devotees completely free of cost. You can contribute to the free distribution of Shri Sai Satcharitra books by sponsoring in following ways.

- Sponsor 11 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £21
- Sponsor 21 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £41
- Sponsor 51 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £101
- Sponsor 101 Shri Sai Satcharitra books - £201



2. Annadanam (Food)

The Mahabharata declares that there is no greater charity than giving food to hungry. Shirdi Sai Baba Temple London provides food to devotees daily. You can donate rice bags, lentil bags, sugar, spices, and oil to the temple. You can also sponsor food plates as below

- Sponsor 21 food plates - £41
- Sponsor 51 food plates - £101
- Sponsor 101 food plates - £201
- Sponsor 111 food plates - £221

3. Shawls and Flower Garlands

We dress Baba with shawls and flower garlands at the temple, and also at our Sai Baba prayer centres. To ensure that correct size shawls and garlands are used to dress Baba, devotees can contribute by sponsoring in following ways

- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Day - £21
- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Week - £151
- Sponsor Shawls for Fortnight - £301
- Sponsor Shawls for 1 Month - £651

We use fresh flower garlands every day for 3 different forms (idols) of Baba and Hanumanji

- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Day - £41
- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Week - £281
- Sponsor Garlands for Fortnight - £611
- Sponsor Garlands for 1 Month - £1271



4. Aarti Translation and Transliteration

By Baba's grace, we are translating and transliterating Baba's original Marathi Aarti's (Kakad Aarti, Madhyana Aarti, Dhoop Aarti and Shej Aarti) to European languages. This translation and transliteration is done by professionals. Devotees can contribute by sponsoring in following ways:

- Sponsor one Aarti translation and transliteration to one European language - £150

Donations - Leicester Temple (contd...)



Shirdi Sai Baba Temple

Instruction to your bank or building society to pay by Direct Debit

Please fill in the details below including official name here using a ball point pen and send it to:

Shirdi Sai Baba Temple
 Union Hall
 Union Road
 Wembley
 Middlesex
 London
 HA9 4AU

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Bank/Building Society account number

Branch Sort Code

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society
 To: The Manager Building Society
 Address
 Postcode

Reference no

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account

Service User Number

4 4 1 4 7 3

FOR PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple OFFICIAL USE ONLY
 This is not part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society.
 Important - Please complete these details:

Account Holder(s) Name & Address:

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email Address:

Instructions to your bank or building society
 Please pay PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Direct Debits from the account debited in this instruction subject to the safeguards ensured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may revoke any PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Signature(s)

Date

DCH

This guarantee should be detached and retained by the Payer.

The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple will notify you five (5) working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple or your bank or building Society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society
 - If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when PSL re Shirdi Sai Baba Temple asks you to
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building Society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

Walk for Sai - 2014



For the last 3 years, one of the most awaited and successful events organised by SHITAL has been the charity walk, "Walk for Sai". By Baba's grace, with 208 staunch walkers participating and 60 volunteers helping, Walk for Sai 2014 is most successful charity walk of all 3 years. Enthusiastic devotees of Baba of different ages from London and Leicester participated in the walk on 14th September 2014.

The walk in London in its 3rd year covered a distance of 10 miles from Cassiobury Park in Watford to Wembley Temple. There were 35 volunteers assisting walkers to reach the destination throughout the route. On average walkers took 4 hours to complete the walk.

On the same day, in its 2nd year, devotees from Leicester started their walk from Central Park in Syston to Leicester Temple on Colton Street covering a distance of 6.5 mile. The walk was successfully completed by all walkers taking an average time of 2.5 hours with the assistance of 25 volunteers.

The walk started from the parks in morning after Baba's Shirdi Majhe Pandharpur Aarti. Refreshments were provided to the devotees before, after and during the walk at various check points. There was a lot of enthusiasm among the devotees with all their focus on Baba. Devotees chanted Baba's name during the walk and felt very close to Him. Some devotees shared their experience. One of the devotees, Deepak Mehra said "It felt like Baba was Himself walking with him. 10 miles is not a short distance. Baba gave me the strength". And one of the volunteers, Vijay Pattar said "I wanted to do some seva for Baba, Walk for Sai is the best way I could have done. I feel satisfied that I have contributed to a good cause. I thank SHITAL for giving me this opportunity to serve Baba". (Cont pg 98)



"If you can do anything, do some good unto others"

Walk for Sai - 2014 (contd...)



“Plants bend when they have fruits”

Walk for Sai- 2014 (contd...)



"If you always say (Sai, Sai), I shall take you over the seven seas"

Walk for Sai- 2014 (contd...)


Walks on both the locations were done with the primary aim to spread Baba's name and teachings and to collect funds for Temples. In total, around £20,800 were raised by the devotees from London and Leicester making it the most successful fund raising event of the year. These funds will be used in infrastructural development of the Temples, providing storage containers in London and Leicester, new washing area in London temple and securing part of the funds required for upcoming events of Temples like Anniversary, Ram Navami, Guru Poornima and Punyatithi.

In 2015, we hope by Baba's grace Walk for Sai will reach new heights and more devotees will join this good cause and help SHITAL to achieve its objectives. The date for 2015 is not finalised yet and will be communicated through email. You can register to receive weekly updates by registering at www.shirdisai.org.uk or by contacting staff members in Leicester and London Temple.



"I rest there where there is full devotion"

Acknowledgement to SHITAL's Food Distribution (contd...)


rise to your potential

Tel: 0116 2551608

20th November 2014

For the Attention of the Management


Re Weekly Donation of Hot Food

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the members of the temple for your kind and continuous generosity, with the weekly donations of hot food you provide for our service user group, at the Anchor Centre. It is always appreciated and well received.


However, as from today we are in the process of getting ready to move to alternative premises whilst repairs and modernisation of our current building is taking place. Therefore we will not be able to accept and provide food to our service user group whilst this is going on.

Once we know the proper address and if feasible to transport the food, we would like to reinstate the offer of on the same basis as before.

Thank you again for your kind generosity and compassion you show to our service user group

Yours sincerely

Cheri Irving-Clarke
Operational Manager

lift ventures ltd
Charles Berry Street
45 East Bond Street
Leicester
LE1 4SX
Tel: 0116 221 2795
Fax: 0116 221 2783


Hindu Mandir
WELLINGBOROUGH DISTRICT HINDU ASSOCIATION (WDHA)
133 Highfield Road, Wellingborough, NN8 1PL
T: 01933 222250 E: hindu.temple@hotmail.com W: <http://www.wdha.co.uk>

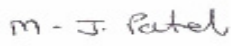
To,
Shirdi SaiBaba Temple
Leicester

Date : 10/10/2013

Dear Hiteshbhai and Trustees,

I appreciated your support us to provide Flour – 145 kgs & Rice – 185 kgs during ' Shri Giribapu's ShivKatha' held at Wellingborough District Hindu Association (WDHA) From 01.10.2013 To 07.10.2013.

I thank you very much on behalf of WDHA.

Kind regards,

Mahendra J. Patel
(WDHA – Holding Turstee)
Mob: 07789755221

More acknowledgments on pages 62 and 115



“If My stories are listened to, all the diseases will be got rid of”

+44 (0) 208 900 1191



sales@liquidbubble.com



WEB DESIGN



GRAPHIC DESIGN



PRINT



WWW.LIQUIDBUBBLE.COM

**Congratulations & Best Wishes on the 5th Anniversary Celebrations
of Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London (SHITAL)**

from



Londis

Convenience Store
406-408 Ealing Road
Alperton
Wembley, HA0 1JQ

Tel - 020 8991 2873



*“If you seek my advice and help,
it shall be given to you at once”*



*Congratulations
&
Best Wishes on the
5th Anniversary Celebrations of*

**Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association
of London (SHITAL)
from**



Maresh
hairdressing salon
unisex

Opening Hours:
Mon-Fri 9.30am to 6.30pm
Sat 9am to 5.30pm
Sun 10am to 2pm

36 Bilton Road, Perivale
Middlesex UB6 7DS
Tel: 020 8991 1928

**Amrita
beauty**

Opening Hours:
Tues - Fri 9.30am to 5.30pm
Sat 9am to 5.00pm

36 Bilton Road, Perivale
Middlesex UB6 7DS
Tel: 020 8991 1928

**Congratulations & Best Wishes on the 5th Anniversary Celebrations of Shirdi
Saibaba Temple Association of London (SHITAL) from
Mr. Ashok Dalal and Mrs. Daksha Dalal of**

MEERA MOTORS



78 Nedham Street Leicester LE2 0HA, Tel: 0116 251 4104

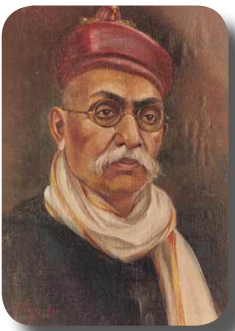


**M.O.T & Repairs, Servicing & Mechanical Repairs
on all makes of Cars Body Work undertaken**

Shri Sai Satcharitra

Shri Sai Satcharitra, the magnum opus, which provides an interesting mix of Shirdi Sai Baba's advent in Shirdi, His leelas (*miracles, play*), His teachings, etc., is penned by late Govind Raghunath Dabholkar (Hemadpant) with the blessings of Shri Sai Baba.

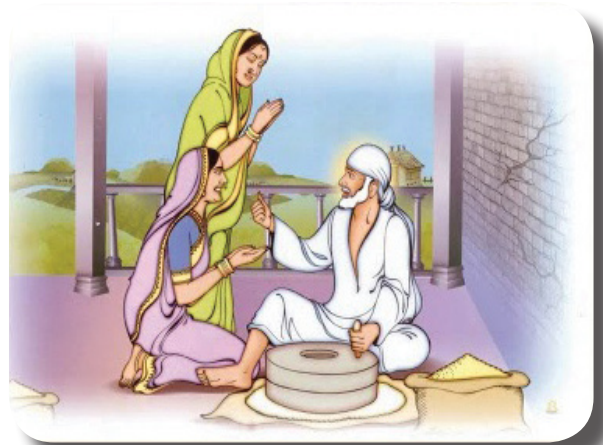
Shri Sai Satcharitra is the first and foremost book based on Baba's life and the real stories that happened at that time. All the characters are real and the events were experienced by some devotees. While reading this book the flow of this book makes readers feel as if all these events happened in their own life and they have experienced them closely. The Shri Sai Satcharitra is another of Baba's leelas, because not only has it fulfilled the desires of His innumerable devotees by providing them help for their material and spiritual growth, but has also proved to be a fountain of inspiration for other literary works on Sai Baba. Innumerable devotees have penned books inspired by the Shri Sai Satcharitra. Many musical composition and films have been based on the 'charitra'



Govind Raghunath Dabholkar (1856-1929) alias Hemadpant was blessed by Sai Baba Himself at the first meeting. Hemadpant was born in 1856 in a poor Adya Gowd Brahmin family in a small town Kelave-Mahim in Thane district. His family was poor, in terms of education, he did his primary education in his native place and then went on to study in English upto 5th standard at Pune. Due to adverse circumstances he could not complete his education. He managed to pass public service examination at that time and accepted the post of school master in his native place.

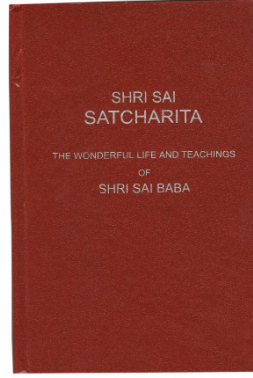
It occurred to Hemadpant to present Baba's legendary life, while he was intermittently living in Shirdi from 1910 to 1916, after he witnessed Baba grinding wheat and then having the flour thrown on the village border limits to cast out cholera. This incident was an inspiration to Hemadpant for writing Shri Sai Satcharitra, as he contemplated Baba's grinding, almost every day, not of the wheat, but sins, the mental and physical afflictions and miseries of His devotees.

Hemadpant was 60 years old and was sceptical, whether he would be able to write on Baba's life; so he wanted to seek Baba's blessings to accomplish the task. Shama requested Baba on behalf of Hemadpant. Baba was moved and placed His boon bestowing hand on Hemadpant's head and gave him Udi (*sacred ash*) as prasad. Baba then asked Hemadpant to make a collection of His stories, experiences, conversations etc. Baba said that if Hemadpant removes his ego then Baba Himself will write His own stories. For the benefit of His devotees Baba gave permission to Hemadpant to be an instrument in writing His biography. Baba Himself said that **"Listen to My stories with reverence, narrate them to others in keertan (devotional songs), and meditate upon them! This will give rise to love and devotion, which will instantly destroy ignorance. Where there is faith and devotion, I remain enslaved forever; but otherwise, I am unattainable."**



"Unless you have given it before you do not get it now"

Shri Sai Satcharitra (contd...)



“When these stories are heard with devotion, the devotees will experience constant bliss and self-realisation. Where disputes and arguments prevail, maya (*illusion*) and ignorance abound, thus eluding self-knowledge, hence he remains unhappy on earth and even in heaven.”

Hemadpant thought, there are several works on Baba by other devotees like Das Ganu, Savitribai Raghunath Tendulkar, Amidas Bhavani Mehta, etc., then, why one more book on Baba. But, then he felt that Baba’s life is as wide and deep as a boundless ocean and all can dive deep into the same and take out precious gems of knowledge and devotion and distribute them to others. Hemadpant started writing in 1922-23 and wrote for six years (1929) under the divine inspiration of Baba. Hemadpant writes - “When I myself start to write anything, I cannot compose a few words or sentences; but when He of His own accord makes me write, I go on writing and there is no end to it.”

The Shri Sai Satcharitra is published by Shirdi Sai Baba Sansthan. The first edition in Marathi, containing 53 chapters, composition of 9,308 ovis (*verses*), approximately 900 pages, in vertical size of 8’x5.5’, at price Rs. 3/-, was released on November 26, 1930. Later it was translated verse by verse in Gujarati, Telugu and Kannad. Adapted versions are available in English, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannad, Urdu, Gujarati, Sindhi, Bengali, etc. Millions of copies of the Shri Sai Satcharitra have been sold till date. We humbly request the devotees, where ever you are, read few pages of the Shri Sai Satcharitra every night before going to sleep and keep Baba as the last thought before sleeping.

Benefits & Rewards of reading of Shri Sai Satcharitra:

- Devotees get their desires fulfilled after reading complete Shri Sai Satcharitra in one week.
- At times of distress if devotees sincerely search for the answers from ‘Shri Sai Satcharitra’ they will find answers and solace and their faith in Baba will grow.
- The more you read it and absorb it by heart, the more it will bring you closer to Baba and all your doubts and apprehensions will be cleared.
- By listening to the stories of Baba with love and devotion, devotees will forget their bodily ailments. And if they contemplate upon the stories, it will exhaust all karmas (*deed or act*), of the past and the present life, which results in rebirth.
- The stories of Baba, if remembered throughout life and studied daily will free the listeners from worldly affairs and bring peace to all.

For the benefit of devotees, SHITAL distributes Shri Sai Satcharitra books to all the desiring devotees completely free of cost. To donate Shri Sai Satcharitra books, , please see turn to Donations page 15, 53 or 93. Om Sairam.



“If others hate is, let us simply take to “Nama Japa” and avoid them”

Translation Project by SHITAL

By Baba's grace SHITAL has been working hard towards translation of Shri Sai Satcharitra as well as Arti's in different Languages.

The below is the list of Arti's already translated and are available in soft copies.

**Kakad Arti –
In Chinese, Italian, Persian, Portuguese and Spanish Languages**

**Dhoop Arti –
In Chinese, Italian, Persian, Portuguese and Spanish Languages**

**Madhyan Arti –
In Chinese, Italian, Persian, Portuguese and Spanish Languages**

**Shej Arti –
In Chinese, Italian, Persian, Portuguese and Spanish Languages**

Anyone interested in getting these copies or for sponsorship and donation towards the Translation project please contact the Temple Management on 0208 902 2311 (London), 01163 671 833 (Leicester) alternatively email sai@shirdisai.org.uk.

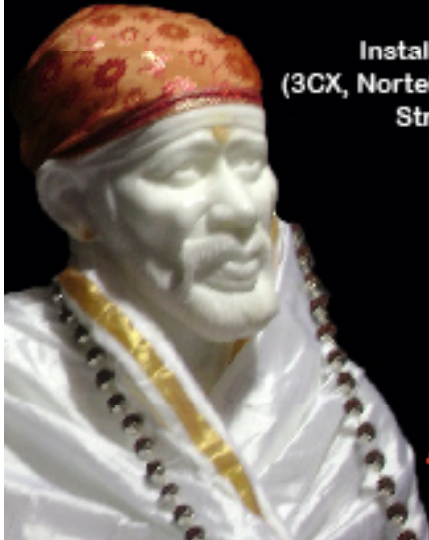


“Unless his mind is purifies, he cannot get self realisation”

Your one in all solution provider

info@mntelecom.co.uk

www.mntelecom.co.uk



Installers & Suppliers of Telecommunications Equipment
(3CX, Nortel Meridian/ CS1K/ BCM/ Norstar, Avaya IP, Panasonic, BT),
Structured Cabling & Networking, Electrical works,
CCTV, Alarms, Access Control, LED lights.

Suppliers of SIP lines.

No charge for surveys (20miles)

Tel/Fax No. 0845 557 6056

Mobile No. +44 (0)7850 753960



BHAVANI

Sweet & Savoury

Pure Vegetarian Takeaway

We cater for all special occasion;

- Birthdays
- Weddings
- Parties
- Events



Fresh Mithahi and Quality Farsan

Specialists in delicious and mouth watering Indian sweets and savoury dishes.

67, Narborough Road, Leicester - LE3 0LE Tel: (0116) 233 3350 or (0116) 255 6807

SHITAL Aims and Objectives



Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association of London (SHITAL) is a result from prayers of many devotees who always wished and desired to have Baba's temple in London. To have a place where they can pray and meditate on Baba.

It all started in year 2008 with formation of Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association of London (SHITAL) by few ardent devotees of Baba. In the same year SHITAL launched its web portal www.shirdisai.org.uk. Later on since early 2009, weekly bhajans (devotional songs) were conducted on Thursdays at Union Hall, Wembley where few enthusiastic devotees used to come and join. Within few months, the number of devotees increased from 25 to nearly 250. By the end of 2009, the trustees of SHITAL got the Union Hall on a long-term lease and the temple opening plans were put in place.

On 31st January 2010, Baba fulfilled the dreams of His devotees and blessed us all and the first Shirdi Sai Baba Temple was opened in London.

It was the result of prayers, wishes and devotion of thousands of Baba's devotees. It was their calling and praying that Baba heard and granted them their most desired wish.

On 30th March 2013, SHITAL were blessed by Baba, and opened a Temple in Leicester.

SHITAL is a registered charity and its purpose of opening the temple is entirely on spreading Shri Shirdi Sai Baba's message throughout the United Kingdom and Europe.

About SHITAL

Objective: The objective of the organisation is to advance the Hindu faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the teachings of Shirdi Sai Baba as set out in Shri Sai Satcharitra, through holding prayer meetings, lectures, public celebrations of religious festivals, producing and distributing literature on Shirdi Sai Baba's teachings and assisting those in charitable need.

Launch date: By Baba's grace, on 23rd April 2009 SHITAL was incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 as a private limited company. Charity commission of U.K. registered Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association of London as a U.K. Registered Charity on the 25 October 2010.

Guiding principles: Shraddha (firm faith) and Saburi (patience or perseverance)

Rituals: Similar to current practices in Shirdi Sai Baba temple, Shirdi, India.

Source of income: Donations from devotees.

Operated by: A growing team of dedicated volunteers and devotees.

SHITAL does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, colour, national origin, disability, sexual preference, or age in admission, or participation in its programs, services and activities. At the Shirdi Sai Baba Temple, London, we wish to offer devotees a similar environment to that found in Shirdi.



"I am the Controller-the wire Puller of the show of this Universe"

SHITAL Aims and Objectives (contd...)

Current Temple opening timings:

Everyday: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m.	Temple opens
8:15 a.m.	Kakad Aarti (morning prayer)
9:10 a.m.	Mangal snan (holy bath) for Baba
9:45 a.m.	Shirdi Majhe Pandharpur Aarti
12:00 p.m.	Madhyan Aarti (noon prayer)
6:00 p.m.	Dhoop Aarti (evening prayer)
8:30 p.m.	Shej Aarti (night prayer)
9:00 p.m.	Temple closes

Additional rituals on Thursdays:

As Thursday is the most important day for Baba, the schedule is as follows: After Dhoop Aarti i.e. at 6:30 p.m. a chapter from Shri Sai Satcharitra is read aloud followed by the singing of Shri Hanuman Chalisa.

Baba's palki (palanquin) seva is another ritual performed on Thursdays which is carried out at 8:00 p.m. Baba's swaroop (idol) is placed on a palanquin (a closed conveyance consisting of a chair) and carried by four paldaar-choubdaar (devotees dressed in Maharashtrian-style festive red tunics and turbans) accompanied by flags, poles, chhatra (umbrella), ghee lamp, fruits, incense, flowers and coconuts. The palki is taken to the Eelapatheeswarar Alayam (Shiva temple) across the road where prayers and rituals are performed and is then brought back to the temple for Baba's Shej Aarti.

The ultimate aim of SHITAL is to become a platform to spread Baba's message to every corner of the United Kingdom and then Europe. To achieve this, we will have to break the 'Ultimate Aim' to smaller and achievable yearly aims. Now the BIG question is how do we achieve these? Simplest of all the answers is by Baba's grace. Then how do we get Baba's grace. Yet again the answer is very simple. Follow His teachings and messages and He will grace us. His teachings which are applicable while working on SHITAL's aims and objectives are that "One has to be SELFLESS AND UNCONDITIONAL." So the final answer is when a collective force of 'selfless' & 'unconditional' devotees work on the objectives and aims of SHITAL, then the 'ULTIMATE AIM' is possible.

By Baba's grace, most of the aims set for 2014 were either initiated or fully materialised.

The aim of having a presence in Midlands is now materialised in Leicester.

Information stalls on Baba and SHITAL were set up at various locations in London for 18 -20 consecutive weeks by our volunteers.

Various sponsorship schemes were introduced and 'Walk for Sai' a charity walk in London and Leicester was organised to collect funds for SHITAL.

By Baba's grace, we now closely work with the local residents and the Brent Council with great planning and strong implementation methods.



"If you always tolerate hatred, you will certainly be happy"

SHITAL (contd...)

It could be our inability or ignorance or a test from Baba, but still some of the aims set in 2013/2014 were not achieved. By Baba's grace, these and more will become the aims of 2015. We sincerely urge all of you to join us in any possible way convenient to you in making these a reality.

Aims for 2015:

1. By Baba's grace, we aim to start SHITAL's activities in Scotland & Wales as an immediate priority. We are looking for a group of devotees who could carry out SHITAL's activities in these locations every week.
2. Create Fundraising Team and Structure to support SHITAL activities.
3. By Baba's grace, open a community centre in Reading, as of now it is in full swing
4. Encourage devotees to sponsor various activities by SHITAL. For example sponsor Shri Sai Satcharitras, Baba's shawls, and garlands.
5. Design a programme for young children to understand Shirdi Sai Baba & involve them in various temple activities.
6. To formulate a core team for Fund Raising & PR activities for SHITAL.
7. Establish strategies on how to raise funds for smooth running of Temple & for future development plans.
8. Establish strategies on building a professional PR network in the society to support our objectives.
9. Identify Sponsors for "Building funds".
10. Establish sponsorship for 3 yearly mega events.
11. Establish sponsorship for Thursday Bhajans at Leicester temple.

Issues with the Brent Council remained the biggest of our challenges. Hence, creation of harmony and peace with it supersedes all the above until it is achieved by Baba's grace.

If any Devotees wish to provide services towards Baba and Temple in any form please speak to member of staff. Your support and dedication towards Baba will be much appreciated.

Shri Shirdi Sai Baba Temple, Union Hall, Union Road, Wembley, Middlesex. HA0 4AU.
Shri Shirdi Sai Baba Temple, Guild Hall, Colton Street, Leicester LE1 1QB (LE1 1QA for SatNav)
Web: www.shirdisai.org.uk Email: sai@shirdisai.org.uk
Phone: 0208 902 2311(London Temple)
Phone: 01163 671 833 (Leicester Temple)
Registered Charity No. 1138530.



"I require nothing, I am ever free"

SHITAL's Yearly Calendar

Forthcoming Festivals / Celebrations at Shirdi Sai Baba Temple During 2015

Jan-15			Feb-15			Mar-15		
Festival/Event	Date	Day	Festival/Event	Date	Day	Festival/Event	Date	Day
Ekadashi	1st Jan	Thursday	Special Puja for the month	1st Feb	Sunday	Special Puja for the month	1st March	Sunday
Shree Vishnu Puja	4th Jan	Sunday	Shree Shiv Puja	15th Feb	Sunday	Shree Nava Graha Puja	1st March	Sunday
Eid e Milad	4th Jan	Sunday	Ekadashi	17th Feb	Tuesday	Holi	5th March	Thursday
Makar Sankranti	15th Jan	Thursday	Maha Shivratri	19th Feb	Thursday	Dhuleti	6th March	Friday
Ekadashi	17th Jan	Saturday	Shivaji Jayanti			Sant Tukaram Beej	7th March	Saturday
Vasant Panchami	24th Jan	Saturday				Rang Panchami	11th March	Wednesday
Ekadashi	30th Jan	Friday				Ekadashi	17th March	Tuesday
London Temple Anniversary	31st Jan	Saturday				Gudi Padva	21st March	Saturday
						Ram Navami		
						Festival Begins	27th March	Saturday
						Main Day	28th March	Sunday
						Ekadashi & Leicester Temple Anniversary	30th March	Monday
Apr-15			May-15			Jun-15		
Festival/Event	Date	Day	Festival/Event	Date	Day	Festival/Event	Date	Day
Hanuman Jayanti	4th April	Saturday	Special Puja for the month	3rd May	Sunday	Vat Purnima	2nd June	Tuesday
Special Puja for the month			Shree Sai Baba Puja			Special Puja for the month		
Shree Hanuman Puja	5th April	Sunday	Ekadashi	14th May	Thursday	Anand Meela	6th June (TBC)	Saturday
Ekadashi	15th April	Wednesday	Ekadashi	29th May	Friday	Mahamrityunjay Puja	7th June	Sunday
Ekadashi	29th April	Wednesday				Ekadashi	12th June	Friday
						Ramzan Month begins	19th June	Friday
						Ekadashi	28th June	Sunday
Jul-15			Aug-15			Sep-15		
Festival/Event	Date	Day	Festival/Event	Date	Day	Festival/Event	Date	Day
Special Puja for the month			Special Puja for the month			Janmashtami		
Shree Guru Puja	5th July	Sunday	Shree Lakshmi Puja	1st Nov	Sunday	Gokul Ashtami	5th Sept	Saturday
Ekadashi	12th July	Sunday	Ekadashi	7th Nov	Saturday	Gopal Kala	6th Sept	Sunday
Ramzan Eid	18th July	Saturday	Diwali	11th Nov	Wednesday	Special Puja for the month		
Ashadhi Ekadashi Pandharpur	27th July	Monday	Dhan Teras	10th Nov	Monday	Shree Ganesha Puja	6th Sept	Sunday
Guru Purnima	30th July	Thursday	Narak Chaturdashi	9th Nov	Tuesday	Ekadashi	8th Sept	Tuesday
Festival begins	30th July	Thursday	Lakshmi Poojan	11th Nov	Wednesday	Walk for Sai	13th Sept (TBC)	Sunday
Main Day	31st July	Friday	Annakut/ New Year	12th Nov	Thursday	Shravan Month ends	13th Sept	Sunday
			Bhai Duj	13th Nov	Friday	Ganesh Chaturthi	17th Sept	Thursday
			Kartik Ekadashi Palkhi	22nd Nov	Sunday	Bakri Eid	24th Sept	Thursday
			Guru Nanak Jayanti	25th Nov	Wednesday	Ekadashi	24th Sept	Thursday
						Anant Chaturdashi	27th Sept	Sunday
Oct-15			Nov-15			Dec-15		
Festival/Event	Date	Day	Festival/Event	Date	Day	Festival/Event	Date	Day
Special Puja for the month			Special Puja for the month			Special Puja for the month		
Shree Durga Puja	4th Oct	Sunday	Shree Lakshmi Puja	1st Nov	Sunday	Shree Datta Puja	6th Dec	Sunday
Ekadashi	8th Oct	Thursday	Ekadashi	7th Nov	Saturday	Ekadashi	7th Dec	Monday
Navratri begins	13th Oct	Tuesday	Diwali	11th Nov	Wednesday	Chavadi Arti 106th Anniversary	10th Dec	Thursday
Maha Navami	21st Oct	Wednesday	Dhan Teras	9th Nov	Monday	Ekadashi	21st Dec	Monday
Dasherra - Baba's Punyatithi	21st Oct	Wednesday	Narak Chaturdashi	10th Nov	Tuesday	Shri Datta Jayanti	24th Dec	Thursday
Festival begins - Palkhi	22nd Oct	Thursday	Lakshmi Poojan	11th Nov	Wednesday	Eid - e - Milad	24th Dec	Thursday
Main Day - Rath Yatra	22nd Oct	Thursday	Annakut/ New Year	12th Nov	Thursday			
Ekadashi	24th Oct	Saturday	Bhai Duj	13th Nov	Friday			
Muharram	24th Oct	Saturday	Kartik Ekadashi Palkhi	22nd Nov	Sunday			
Kojagiri Purnima	26th Oct	Monday	Guru Nanak Jayanti	25th Nov	Wednesday			



"Inquire always, who am I?"



*“There shall be no want in
the house of my devotee”*

Congratulations & Best Wishes on the

5th Anniversary Celebrations

of Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London
(SHITAL)

from

Kirti Catering

Outdoor pure vegetarian catering specialist

Weddings - Receptions - Birthdays - Anniversaries

Community events - All type of parties & functions

For booking contact: Jayaben or Mukeshbhai Patel

Tel: 0208 204 0293, Tel/Fax: 0208 422 9883

Mobile: 07956 129 267

Unit 6, Archdale Business Centre,

South Industrial Estate, Bremer Road, off Stanley Road,

Harrow, Middx, HA2 8DJ



CARRUS GROUP

EXECUTIVE CHAUFFEUR | AIRPORT TRANSFER

Prices from **£45**

Mercedes E-Class

↑ 4 x Passengers 2 x Large 2 x Cabin



Mercedes Viano

↑ 6 x Passengers 6 x Large 6 x Cabin



Mercedes S-Class

↑ 4 x Passengers 2 x Large 2 x Cabin



We cover all
destinations to and
from Central London.

E bookings@carrusgroup.com T +44 (0) 203 188 1079

WWW.CARRUSGROUP.COM

Shri Ganesh Chaturti

Shri Ganesh Utsav - 29th August to 8th September 2014

Significance of Ganesh Chaturthi:

The Ganesh Chaturthi festival is celebrated in the Hindu calendar month of Bhaadrapada, on the Shukla Chaturthi (fourth day of the waxing moon) as Lord Ganesha's birthday; by the Hindus throughout the world. It is believed that Ganesha bestows his presence on earth for all His devotees during this festival. He is Vighneshwara, the One who removes all obstacles on the path of the worshipper, and bestows upon him worldly as well as spiritual success. He is the Lord of Harmony and Peace. The universe is sustained by Ganas (gods) and Ganapati is their master.

Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations:

This festival is celebrated with extreme vigour and enthusiasm especially in western India, specifically in Maharashtra – where it is celebrated as a public event since the days of Shivaji. The modern festival involves installing clay idols of Ganesha in homes (even by common people of Maharashtra) as well as public pandals (temporary shrines); which are worshipped for ten days; ending on Anant Chaturdashi (fourteenth day of the waxing moon period). Various offerings are offered to Ganesha, especially durva grass, hibiscus flowers and modaks – which are His favourite. The idols are immersed at the end of the festival in a body of water such as a lake, whilst requesting the Lord to come back soon next year.

Ganesh Chaturthi festival celebrated at SHITAL, UK:

This year, Ganesh Chaturthi festival began on 29th August at 10:30 am with Ganesh Sthaapna (the installation of Lord Ganesha's idol that was specially made by the renowned makers from the village of Penn in Maharashtra). A special Altar was erected next to Baba to worship Lord Ganesha. Lord Ganesha was welcomed with enthusiastic chanting of “*Ganpati Bappa – Moraya.... Mangal Murti.... Moraya.....*” ; “*Moraya re....Bappa Moraya re.....*”. The priest then performed the Prana Pratishtha (symbolically invoked life into the idol by chanting mantras) and offered the ritual called as Shhodashopachara (16 ways of paying tribute). Bhoga of Coconut, Bananas, jaggery, 21 modakas, 21 durva (trefoil) blades of grass and red flowers were offered. Lord Ganesha was anointed with red unguent, (made of kumkum and sandalwood paste). Throughout the ceremony, Vedic hymns from the Rig Veda, the Ganapati Atharva Shirsha Upanishad, and the Ganesha stotra from the Narada Purana was chanted. Every afternoon, there was Shri Ganpati Atharva Shirsha Recitation for 11 times at 04:00 PM. Ganapati arti – Sukhkarta Dukh harta was sung with fervour at 11 am and 7 pm for 11 days from Bhadrapada Shudha Chaturthi to the Ananta Chaturdashi. On 7th September which was a Sunday, Shri Ganesh Pooja was performed as the special month. On the 11th day, which was on the 8th of September 2014 Ganesha Visarjan was performed in the following way - the idol of Lord Ganesha was taken with due pomp and fervour after the noon arti and offerings, at 1 pm, in a procession accompanied with chants of –

“*Ganpati Bappa – Moraya.... Pudhchya varshi lavakar ya... Ganapati gele gavala... chaein padene aamhala....*”

to be immersed in the sea symbolizing a ritual see-off of the Lord in his journey towards his abode in Kailash, while taking away with Him the misfortunes of His devotees.



“Joy and sorrow are mere delusion”

ABBAY & FOX

SAFE DEPOSIT LTD



NOW OPEN

276 Bath Road, Hounslow

Middlesex, TW4 7DF

020 8572 7700

www.abbey-fox.com



*Best Wishes to Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London (SHITAL)
on their 5th Anniversary
from*



PRH

Electricians



**All Electric Work Carried Out by our
Specialists**

Call Chandra Upadhayay on

07909 908 935

**Part P
NICEIC Certified
Domestic Installer**



Acknowledgement to SHITAL's Food Distribution (contd...)



0116 255 8922
Stephen_robert_owen@hotmail.com

6 Westfield Road
Leicester
LE3 6BR

December 2014

Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association of London
Union Hall, Union Road
Wembley HA9 4AU

Dear Trustees & Management,

I am happy to write to you concerning the support given to us by Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association of London, in Leicester.

Every week for the past few years they have provided food for up to 100 homeless and vulnerable people in Leicester.

They also provide people each week to serve and organise the session as well as interacting with our clients.

Without their continued support on Sunday afternoons we would find it difficult to maintain the 3 sessions a week that we currently run.

On Behalf of the board and volunteers of The Bridge I would like to thank you for what you do but particularly on behalf of our 100 clients.

Stephen Owen

(Chair of Trustee Board The Bridge –Homelessness to Hope)

Registered Charity No:1131922

www.bridgeleicester.org



www.sufra-nw-london.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 1191311

Wednesday 17 December 2014

Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Association of London
Union Hall
Union Road
Wembley
Middlesex
HA9 4AU

Dear Narendra Tharwani,

Re: Food Donation

On behalf of Sufra NW London, I would like to thank you and your temple for your kind donation of food, which we have begun distributing to families in need.

Your donation of over 400kg of food will support 27 low-income families with emergency food aid in our local community.

Sufra NW London is very proud of its relationship with faith communities across the London Borough of Brent. I am very pleased to acknowledge our first official donation from the local Hindu community and I look forward to working with you in the future.

I would be very pleased to welcome members of your congregation to Sufra NW London to see our food bank in operation. If you would like any further information about our work, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mohammed S Mamdani
(Director)

160 Fildes Way, Stonebridge, London, NW10 0PW
Telephone: 020 3441 1335 | Email: admin@sufra-nw-london.org.uk

More acknowledgments on pages 62 and 99



Om Mrityunjayaaya Namah.
Om, to (Shiva in His aforementioned form) the Death-winner, prostration !

Acknowledgements to Volunteers

By Baba's Grace, SHITAL would like to take this opportunity to thank all our well wishers and generous supporters. Special thanks to trustees and management of Shri Elapateeshware Temple (Shive Temple).

Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi Bank of Baroda Punjab National bank Mr. Hasmukhbhai Nagrecha & Family Mr. Pravinbhai Kurji & Family	Mr. Sandipbhai Ruparelia & Family Mr. Ratheesan Yoganatha & Family Mrs. Jayaben Patel & Family Mr. A. K. Vivekananthan & Family Mrs. Mugdha Divadkar & Family	Lebara Group Pafax Printwell Kailash Partbat Kirti Catering
---	---	--

SHITAL is operated by ever growing team of dedicated volunteers who work at the temple and at various prayer centres. Special thanks to the below mentioned hardworking volunteers

Abhimanyu Sisodia Abhisaran Kalluri Abhishek Bhardwaj Aditya Shekhawat Ajay Ganatra Ajay Rawal Ajaybhai Ganatra Ali Mohtashami Alka Chohan Alka Choudhary Alka Kalia Alka Soni Alpa Vyas Aman kumar Amarit Singh Amarjit Kaur Amish Shah Amisha Arora Amit Modha Amit Ram Amita Popat Amrit Singh Anand Acharya Anand kumar Anand Tailor Ananta Patel Anil Divecha Anil Kumar Anil Patel Anil Porxotomo Anila Shastri Anita Soni Ankit Agarwal Ankur Sharma Anna Durai Anu shree Anu Uttam Archana Sharad Archana Sharma Arjun Damania Arjun Nanda Arpita Agarwal Arti Solanki Arun Patel Arun Rajendran Aruna Nagar Arvind Parmar Arvindaben Gokani Asha Patel Ashik Madlani Ashok Dalal Ashok Kotha Ashok Parmar	Ashu Saini Ashwarya Gautam Ashwin Patel Ashwin Suthar Ashwin Tandel Ashwini Patel Avinash Patalay Avninder Ghai Baldeep Nagi Bavani Manamohan Beena Raithatha Bhanu Jadeja Mathal Bharat Gohel Bharat Panchal Bharat Patel Bharat Sachdev Bharathi Babu Bhargavi Kaushik Bhavana Tailor Bhavani Jethwa Bhavani Madam Bhavesh Dobariya Bhavik Chudasama Bhavik Patel Bhavini Ganatra Bhavisha Bhatt Bhavya Anil Bhrat Kumar Solanki Bhrat Vara Bhrati Damani Bhupesh bhai Premabhai Tandel Bhushan chawla Bicu Bagoan Biks Bhayani Bina Patel Bindu Nadipani Brahma Kurabalakota Brijesh Patel Chakrapani Aravapalli Champa Patel Chandaben Chauhan Chandan Patel Chanden Gohil Chandra Upadhayay Chandresh Thakar Chandrika Chudasama Chandrika Gohil Charan Lingamarla Chetna Madani Chinmayee Krishnamoorthy Chithra Balasubramanian Christopher Tilley	Daksha Dalal Daksheh Patel Dale Murphy Dalpat Parmar Darshan Singh Nagi Darshanaben Madani Darshna Tara Deepa Rao Deepa Thakrar Deepak Mehra Deepak Pala Deepak Patel Deepak Puri Devendra Joshi Devi Jethwa Dhananjay Mishra Dharmesh Hari Bhai Dharmesh Jagu Dharmista Patel Dhawal Patel Dhiraj Vara Dhiren Badyani Dhirubhai Gokani Dhruv Kakad Dilip Barbar Dilip Mohan Dilip Soni Harinath Lingala Harish Babu Haritha Kundoor Harpreet Tikoo Harpreet Ajji Harsha Evuri Harshad Makwana Harshal Lonare Harshil Khambhaita Hemali Patel Hemamalini Gopinath Hershil Khambhaita Hetal Thakkar Hima Bindu Hina Bhatt & family Hina Shah Hindpal Singh Hiren Khakhar Hitesh Patel Hitesh Chohan Hitesh Patel Inderjeet Nagi Indu Ben Pala Ira Sood Isha Dhody Ishwarbhai Maisuria	J Charu Janki Jani Jasbhai Patel Jateen Patadia Jatin Mandali Jatin Tandel Jayaben Shah JayaKrishna Padavala Jayraj Patel Jayshree Iyer Jayshree Patel Jigar Rana Jignasha Shah Jignesh Rana Jit Jetwa Jitendra Timbadiya Jitesh Narotam Jitu Parmar Joban Putra Jonas von Stedingk Jvriya Songra Jyotsna Praveen Jyoti Jethwa Jyoti Julka Jyoti Sharma Jyotsna Vju Jyotsna Praveen Kailash Kenjale Kailash Singh Kailashben Patel Kamakshi Murali Kajal Patel Kalpana Acharya Kalpesh Patel Kamala Jogia Kamlesh Bhai Givin Kamlesh Chudasama Kamlesh Soma Kamleshbhai Givin Kannan Gurukkal Kantibhai Patel Kanubhai Gohil Kapil Varshney Kapilaben Patel Karthik Krishnan Kaushik Dharmadhikary Kaushik Sunkara Keerat Khalsa Ketan Kumar Madani Ketan Machhi Ketan Madani Khushali Tandel Khushbu Shah	Kiran M Amin Kiran Sreesailam Kiran Virdee Kirit Voralia Kirti Rupardia Kishorbhai Rana Kishore Pandia KNR MohanRao Kobi Aiya (Priest) Komal Modha Kranthi Kumar Ravuri Kranthi Suha Krishna Avula Krishna Sanagala Krishnan Rajaram Kshiti Khupse Kuldeep Nagi Kumar Aiya (Priest) Kumar Dassenaieke Kunal Ghogre Kunal K Amin Kunal Mehta Kuntal Patel Kushal Chudasama Kusumben Patel Lakhu Odedra Lakulesh Dave Lal Tejwani Lalit Patil Laliben Thanki Lalji Patel Laxman Chetty Laxman Kastala Laxmiben Patel Laxmita Quessou Leelam Sobti Madhava Kukreja Madhavi Avula Madhu Naik Madhu Thadakamalla Madhusudan Krishnamoorthy Mahandran Raja Mahankali Srirama Kumar Mahendra Mehta Mahendra Parmar Mahendra Raja Mahesh Divan Makwana Harshad Malvi Oberoi Mamta Patel Mangat Raj Maniben Devji
--	---	--	--	---



“Know for certain that hw who feeds the hungry, really serves Me with food. Regard this as an axiomatic Truth”

Acknowledgements (contd...)

Manish Dave	Pallavi Khambhaita	Reshma Narotam	Sanjeev Sobti	Sunita Patel
Manish Gogia	Parameshwaran SR	Ricky Sharma	Sanjeev Virdee	Sunita Patel
Manish Kapadia	Parameswara Golamari	Rima Khullar	Sanjiv Sodhi	Sunita Prabhala
Manish Narotam	Parbat Odedra	Rishi Gautam	Sanjok L Odedra	Sunjay Morjaria
Manisha Patel	Paresh Shah	Rita Patel	Sanket Desai	Sunny Sobti
Manjit Jutla	Partik Prema Tandel	Rita Sharma	Santosh Shedabale	Sunny Vanraj
Manju Kara Vadra	Parul Gupta	Rita Vyas	Sarada Saney	Suraj Chudasama
Manjulaben Vaja	Parveen Kumar	Ritesh Madan	Sarita Yadav	Surekha Patel
Manoj Jadeja	Pinky Khanna	Rohit Kumar Mavji	Satish Nareddy	Surender Vara
Mansi Sharma	Pon K Nathan	Ron Staff	Satish Panchal	Suresh Gurukkal
Mansukh Dattani	Pooja Jingade	Ronica Upadhyaya	Satish Reddy	Suresh Popat
Mayur Bhagaita	Pooja Karia	Rosie Kaur	Satishbhai Patel	Surubhai Yadave
Mayur Ramani	Pooja Pala	Ruby Kaur	Satya Kurabalakota	Sushil Panchal
Mayura Deshpande	Poonam Sundhir	Rupen Radia	Satyavrata Anand	Sushila K. Gohil
Mayuri Patel	Pradip Lodhi	Rupesh Narotam	Seema Basal	Susil Kumar
Meera Dalal	Pradip Parmar	Ruxi Patel	Seema Idnani	Swaroop Ramadugu
Mehak Sharma	Prama Madhav Tandel	Sachin Dojode	Seema Khithani	Swati Kamella
Mehul Damwala	Pranumati Patel	Saichaitanya Saney	Sejal Pala	Tandel Dhanavanti
Milind Patil	Prasanna Padavala	Sailaja Lingamarla	Selina Soni	Tanisha Mehta
Mina Ganatra	Prasant Kapoor	Sairam Bhamidipati	Senthilnathan Ramakrishnan	Taraben Patel
Minaben Kotecha	Prasath Suthagar	Sajay Khambhaita	Seyjal Ladha	Tripjot Oberoi
Minal Rami	Prashant Penubaka	Samir Patel	Sham Karwal	Tulxidas Vaingoncar
Mital Thanki	Prashant Virkar	Samit Gupta	Sharadkumar Patil	Uday Tikoo
Mitesh Maru	Pratap Upadhyaya	Sandeep Chaudhary	Sharda Chaudhary	Ujjwala Chevuri
Mohan Khithani	Prateek Malhotra	Sangeeta Banalam	Shashi Mulugu	Umasankar Narreddy
Monalisa Roy	Pratik Kothari	Sangeeta Bartam	Shelley Kohli	Umasankar Reddy
Monica Somasundaram	Pravin Dosaj	Sangeeta Padte	Shilpa Yalsangi	Upasana Kukreja
Mukesh Jaldevi	Pravin Gohil	Sangeeta Shet	Shivani Ghai	Upendra Soma
Mukesh M Bhatt	Priti Paw	Sangeeta Shet Bhatkal	Shivprasad Bhatkal	Vaishali Ganatra
Mukesh Makwana	Priya Patel	Sangita Patel	Shreena Chohan	Vaishali Kakad
Mukesh Patel	Priyanka Kenjale	Sanjay Bhutia	Shreya Khambhaita	Vaishali Soni
Mukesh Shah	Punit Gour	Sanjaybhai Julka	Shrimati Mulvi	Vallabh Patel
Mukta Goswami	Pushpa Makan	Sanjaybhai Khambhaita	Shriya Khambhaita	Vandut Patel
Muralidhar Aiyer	Pushpa Makwana	Sanjeev Sobti	Shruti Patel	Vaneesh Bharija
Murugesan Mani	Pushpa Patel	Sanjeev Virdee	Siddesh Rane	Vanita Varma
Naga Raju Kotagiri	Pushpa Tandel	Sanjiv Sodhi	Simmi Patel	Varinder Sundhir
Nagabrahmam Maddukuri	Radha Bellur	Sanjok L Odedra	Simrit Singh	Varsha Ladha
Nagendra Reddy	Raghuram Sathanapalli	Sanket Desai	Sirisha Vadlamudi	Varsha Lingala
Nainaben Sangani	Rahul Sharma	Santosh Shedabale	Sita Uppu	Varsha Prmia
Nalin Mehta	Raj Ghandi	Sarada Saney	Siva Chellam	Vasanthi Meganathan
Narendra Mistry	Raj Kakkar	Sarita Yadav	Siva Siventhiran	Vasantlal Quessou
Narendra Tharwani	Raj Kumar Vallabhaneni	Satish Nareddy	Siva Sri Dr. K. P. Ramanatha	Vasudha Kalia
Naresh Narotam	Raj Vadlamudi	Reshma Narotam	Kurukkal (Appa)	Venkatramana Prasad M.
Naresh Yelluri	Raj Vyasbhattu	Ricky Sharma	Sivagaamy Ganasan	Venu Gokaram
Narshi Jadav	Rajasekar Gurukkal	Rima Khullar	Sivanabukarasusarma Sivapathavurithaya Iyer	Veribhai Gohil
Natha Bhai Odedra	Rajashree Patel	Rishi Gautam	Siyakumar Seshadri	Vickey Singh
Neelima Shah	Rajat Asthana	Rita Patel	Somasekar Mandalapu	Vijay Anand
Neena Dhiman	Rajendra Vallbhaneni	Rita Sharma	Sonalben Patel	Vijay Parmar
Neeraj Kukreja	Rajesh Jagtap	Rita Vyas	Soumyashree B S	Vijay Pattar
Neeraja Sattur	Rajesh Kawa	Ritesh Madan	Sowmy Bandakunta	Vijay Puri
Neetu Chauhan	Rajpal Tara	Rohit Kumar Mavji	Sravanthi Thadakamalla Krishnamoorthy	Vijaya Ben
Neha Dave	Rajshree Wakhare	Ron Staff	Sreekanth Pasuladi	Vijaya Dave
Neha Raithatha	Rajshri Odedra	Ronica Upadhyaya	SreeRama Raju Kammela	Vijayaben
Nehal L Odedra	Rakesh Chawda	Rosie Kaur	Srinivas Kotamasu	Vikas Thakur
Nidhi Sridhar	Rakesh Solanki	Ruby Kaur	Srinivas Prabhala	Vikram Chauhan
Nikhil Gupta	Raksha Thanki	Rupen Radia	Srinivas Velupula	Vinay Patel
Nila Parmar	Ram Bhatt	Rupesh Narotam	Srividya Mandli	Vinit Lakhani
Nilesh Parmar	Ram Dutt	Ruxi Patel	Srushti Panchal	Vinod Devkar
Nilesh Raithatha	Rama Shah	Sachin Dojode	Subash Kashyap	Vishal Tailor
Nirali Patel	Ramesh Balaji	Saichaitanya Saney	Sudha Gola	Vishnu PR
Nirali Tandel	Ramesh Thiru	Sailaja Lingamarla	Sudhakar Akula	VishwaMohan Rao
Niranjana Hiremath	Ramesh Vara	Sairam Bhamidipati	Sudhakar Saney	Visvanathan Kamalanathan
Nirja Patel	Ranjan Chaudhary	Sajay Khambhaita	Sudhir Nune	Viveh Anna
Nirmala Upadhyaya	Ranjan Premji	Samir Patel	Sugeetha Kumarayogendram	Vivek Basal
Nisha Sharma	Rashmika Patel Tharwani	Samit Gupta	Suhasini Priya Dharmakingam	Vivek Ratan Sinha
Nishant Hajare	Rashmin Jani	Sandeep Chaudhary	Sujit Vangala	Vrund K Amin
Nishant Shukla	Rashmita Ramji	Sangeeta Banalam	Sumita Kukreja	Vrunda Rotte Shedabale
Nishma Patel	Ravendra Thakor	Sangeeta Bartam	Sumitraben Vara	Yesha Lakhani
Nita Thanki	Ravi Lal	Sangeeta Padte	Sundeep Jaiswal	Yogesh Kadam
Nitin Makan	Reena Kakkad	Sangeeta Shet	Sunil Garg	Yogesh Patel
Nitish Dusane	Reena Morjaria	Sangeeta Shet Bhatkal	Sunilbhai Thakrar	Yogita Kashyap
Nupur Asthana	Reenuka Phadke	Sangita Patel		Zarine Pestonji
Omika Kalia	Renu Bala	Sanjay Bhutia		
Padma Parikh	Renuka Phadke	Sanjaybhai Julka		
Padmaben Mistry	Renuka Tilley	Sanjaybhai Khambhaita		

Please accept our apologies if we have forgotten to acknowledge anyone.
Your support and dedication is valuable to SHITAL. Thanks.



“Leaving out pride and egoism and with no trace of them, you should surrender yourself to me who am seated in your heart”



Congratulations & Best Wishes
on the
5th Anniversary Celebrations
of Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London
(SHITAL)

from

Popat Store
Importers, Exporters & Distributors
of Houseware,
Cookware & Electrical Appliances

138 & 158 Ealing Road,
Wembley Middlesex.
HA0 4PY. United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 208 903 6397 or
+44 (0) 208 902 2543

Fax: +44 (0) 208 903 9613

Email: popatstore@btopenworld.com



JOSHITEX (UK) LTD.

The Place for all your fabric needs
we do mail order!!!

Shop Address:
212-214 Ealing Road
Wembley, Middlesex
HA0 4QG
Nearest Tube Station -
Alperton (Piccadilly Line)

✉ info@joshitex.co.uk

@ www.joshitex.co.uk



Tel: (0208) 903 5155

Fax: (0208) 902 2702

Mob: (07956) 555 040



List of Advertisements

Page No	Advertisers	Page No	Advertisers
114	Abbey & Fox	100	Londis
86	Acre Cont	44	Maalik & Co
106	Bhavani sweet shop	102	Mahesh Hair Dressers
6	Bombay Gents Hair stylist	102	Meera Motors (Leicester)
112	Carrus	106	MN Telecomm
78	Centre Advert	114	P.R.H. Electrician
28	Credit & Finance Ltd	28	Petraluxe
90	Imaginative Realm	118	Popat stores
90	IMBEL Travels	14	Punjab National bank
30	IT Logix	6	Raj Jewellers (Leicester)
20	Jade Pharmacy	30	RMGL
118	Joshi Textiles	64	Suraj Sweets
112	Kirti Catering	26	Travelpack
100	Liquid Bubble		
	Inside Front Cover - Premier Banqueting		Back Cover - Lebara

Reference

Ganesh Vandana:-

www.shrisaibabasansthan.org/shri%20saisatcharitra/english/saich01.html, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ganesha>, www.koausa.org/Gods/God8.html

<http://www.gabitos.com/eldespertarsai/template.php?nm=1279343160>

<http://saileelas.org/articles/nimbalkar/food.htm>

<http://www.shirdisaibabastories.org/2009/08/shirdi-sai-babas-philosophy-about-food.html>

http://www.shirdisaibabastories.org/2009/08/shirdi-sai-babas-philosophy-about-food_04.html

<http://www.shirdisaibabastories.org/2009/08/shirdi-sai-babas-philosophy-about.html>

Shri Sai Satcharitra by Hemadpant

Disclaimer

“SAI DHUNI” or “Shirdi Saibaba Temple Association of London (SHITAL)” does not claim any copyright on the articles and or pictures posted in this magazine and does not claim authenticity of the same. The liability of writing original articles and giving credit to original authors rests upon the members who have submitted the posts. All the articles undergo a basic level of editing to make them fit for the magazine and to cater to the overall objective of the magazine without changing their essence. This includes abbreviating the articles or doing grammatical corrections or changing the topic of the post or any other edit deemed fit by the editorial team. Checks for copyright violations are done and acknowledged in bibliography, it is at a very primitive level and the overall responsibility of the articles submitted rests with the members. “SHITAL” is a non-profit organisation aiming at spreading spirituality in its various forms while maintaining emphasis on Shirdi Sai Baba.



“Mediate always on My formless nature which is Knowledge incarnate, consciousness and bliss”



IN ASSOCIATION WITH

PROVIDE



FREE

MATHEMATICS LESSONS

FOR

Yr. 4 & 5 [Grammar/Private school – 11+ exams] / Yr.7, 8 & 9 [Towards GCSE exams]
On every Sunday [during school terms] between 17.30hrs to 19.30hrs.

AND

FREE

SEMINARS ON

SECRETS OF SUCCESS IN STUDIES

“HOW TO BETTER YOUR CHILD’S BEST”

MUST ATTEND SEMINARS FOR PARENTS WITH CHILDREN OF AGE EIGHT UP TO SIXTEEN (16)

Seminars will be conducted at regular intervals during the year 2014

Venue: Art Gallery, 3rd floor, 22 Patida House, London Road, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 7EX

Please call us to reserve your place. Entry strictly by prior reservation.

020 8795 0684 /078 52 4666 52



How to Meditate on Baba:

Hemadpant has explained in Shri Sai SatCharitra Ch. 22: 'Look at Baba's posture, how fine it is! He is sitting with His legs folded, the right leg held across the left knee. The fingers of His left hand are spread on the right-foot. On the right toe are spread His two-fingers - the index and middle ones. By this posture Baba means to say, as it were - if you want to see My Light, be ego less and most humble and meditate on My toe through the opening between the two branches - index and middle figers - and then you will be able to see My Light. This is the easiest means of attaining devotion.'

Always by your side

 **Lebara**



Helping people make the most of every moment

We **bring happiness** to the lives of **migrant communities** all over the world by providing products and services that make their lives easier - at **every step of their journey**.

Find out more at [lebara.com](https://www.lebara.com)

International



National



Talk



Text



Data