



Sabka Maalik Ek

SAI SANDESH

The Monthly Newsletter of Om Sai Mandir

September 2004; Volume 1, Issue 3

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The newsletter is available online at: www.omsaimandir.org



Love All, Serve All



Shree Krishna Janmashtami Special Issue

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PROPHECIES ON THE ADVENT OF SRI SATHYA SAI BABA

God incarnates in every age to set humanity on the right path. The advent of avatars [God in physical form] is visualized by saints, centuries before the actual descent takes place. Ancient scriptures had, in abundance, predicted the advent of avatars, the likes of Krishna, Rama, Jesus, and Buddha, thousands of years before the masters actually graced earth.

We live in very fortunate times as the divine has come in the form of Swami. Innumerable prophecies have come to light that describe not only His advent, but also minute details about the life of this most mysterious avatar. In this article, we make an attempt to describe a few such prophecies.

Sri Aurobindo's Quest. In 1910, he embarked on a mission to bring the Lord to earth and immerse the entire world in bliss. Realizing that the task could only be performed by the Lord, he undertook spiritual practices for sixteen years. On November 24, 1926, he announced that Krishna had descended.¹ It is of great significance to note that Swami incarnated on November 23, 1926.



Sri Aurobindo

Nostradamus. The famous French psychic who lived in the 16th century A.D., prophesied: "He who has been awaited for such a long time, will appear in Asia, will choose Thursday as his Holy Day, His voice, reign and power will rise across land and sea, from all parts of the world they will come to honor Him".¹



Prophet Mohammad. He has mentioned certain things regarding the Master of the world in volume 13 of the book, "Ocean of Light" (Mehdi Moud). He has said, "The Great Teacher or God would come with the following characteristics: His hair will be profuse; His front teeth will be spaced apart; He will be clean shaven; His clothing will be like a flame (Baba's orange robe); His face will be sometimes like copper, sometimes gold and sometimes very dark; His body will be small; He will give gifts that are light in weight; He will live 96 years (Swami has predicted his lifespan to be 96); He will bring things out of His body (vibhuti), through His mouth (lingams)." These predictions tally so well with the observed characteristics of Baba.¹

Nadis. In India, palm leaf books (Nadis) provide fantastic predictions about many persons. In one such "Nadi," the predictions regarding Satyanarayana Raju (the



childhood name of Baba) mention his being an "avatar amongst avatars" and about his starting schools and hospitals.¹ Dr. E.V.Sastri, a prominent member of the Indian Astro Occult Research Association, New Delhi, during the course of his research, found a 'Nadi' available in Tamil Nadu, which had all the indications about Sathya Sai Baba's horoscope written by a famous erudite Pundit, some 500 years ago. It was written on a piece of palm leaf of the size 36 cms long and 2 ½ cms broad. It reads: "The person to whom this horoscope relates will renounce the world in his boyhood, will start schools and hospitals, will publish books for the upliftment of the world, will spend every day of his whole lifetime for the establishment of Dharma, which is his ideal and objective." It is mentioned that, "He will be an avatar amongst the avatars."²

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Mon, September 6: Shri Krishna Janmashtami
Sat, September 18: Ganesh Chaturthi
Mon, September 27: Shri Shirdi Sai Jayanti

OCTOBER

Fri, October 01: Sri Viswamji to visit Om Sai Mandir
Fri, October 15: Devi Navaratri Begins
Thurs, October 21: Durgashtami
Sat, October 23: Vijayadashmi/Dussehra
Sun, October 31: Karva Chauth

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The Bible. Baba once remarked, “There is one point that I cannot but bring to your special notice today. At the time when Jesus was merging in the supreme principle, he communicated some news to his followers which has been interpreted in a variety of ways. The statement is simple: ‘He who sent me among you will come again,’ and he pointed to a lamb. The lamb is, merely a symbol, a sign. It stands for the voice ‘Ba-Ba’; the announcement was of the advent of Baba. ‘His name will be truth,’ Christ declared. Sathya means Truth. ‘He wears a robe of red, a blood red robe.’ (Baba pointed to the robe He was wearing). ‘He will be short, with a crown (of hair).’ The lamb is the sign and symbol of love. Christ did not declare that He would come again; He said, ‘He who sent me will come again.’ That ‘Ba-Ba’ is this Baba.” (Pointing to Himself).”²



Shirdi Sai Baba. What could be more authentic than a prophecy by the Lord himself? Shirdi Sai had, just before His samadhi [merging into the infinite], declared that He would reincarnate in 8 years. Shirdi Sai Baba left his mortal coil in 1918 and Sathya Sai Baba incarnated in 1926—exact span of 8 years.

Venkavadhoota. Swami’s grandfather, Kondamma Raju, had a great guru by the name Venkavadhoota. Venkavadhoota had assured him that God would incarnate in his family. True to the prediction, God did incarnate in that family in the form of Baba.

In Ancient Hindu Scriptures. The epic Jaimini Mahabharata contains a detailed and complete account of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. It mentions the name of the Avatar, a full account of his dynasty, and contains descriptions of several wonderful miracles performed by the Lord—indicating the beginning of a new era by establishing true religion on the lines of Satya Yuga [the age of truth].⁵

The Upanishads. Upanishads speak of a Golden Age. These scriptures further declare that the descent of God in 3 consecutive incarnations (Shirdi Sai Baba, Sathya Sai Baba, and Prema Sai Baba) spanning 250 years, will usher mankind into this era.

Bharadwaja. Thousand of years ago, the great sage Bharadwaja, wishing to master all the vedas [scriptures], was advised by Indra [the ruler of the gods] to perform a yagna [vedic ritual]. Eager to have

Shakti [the consort of Lord Shiva] preside over it and receive her blessings, Bharadwaja left for Kailash [a sacred peak in the Himalayas], the abode of Shiva and Shakti, to convey the invitation. Finding them coupled in the cosmic dance, Bharadwaja waited for eight days—apparently ignored by them, although he had failed to comprehend the welcoming smile cast at him by Shakti. Disappointed, Bharadwaja decided to return home. But as he began to descend, he fell in a stroke, his left side paralyzed as a result of the cold. Shiva then cured him by sprinkling water from the Kamandalu [vessel]. Bharadwaja was granted boons by both Shiva and Shakti, who also were pleased to attend the yagna. Shiva promised the rishi [sage] that they would both take human form and be born thrice in the Bharadwaja lineage as Shirdi Sai Baba; Sathya Sai Baba, and Prema Sai Baba. Devotees of Baba also consider him to be an incarnation of Dattatreya.

Swami’s Birth. Mother Eshwaramma, once related the incident that shed light on how Swami was conceived. While she was at the well, a big ball of blue light descended from the sky and entered into her being. Since that day, people found a divine aura emanating from her. When Swami was taking birth, musical instruments, of their own accord, started playing divine music—as if welcoming the Lord.

Reason for the Divine's Descent. The avatar comes to transform humanity through the transformation of individuals. The avatar works through individuals, transforming them into the divinity. The light from the many individuals gradually dispels the darkness of ignorance, impacting all of humanity.

Baba says: “No one can understand my mystery. The best you can do is to get immersed in it. It is no use arguing about pros and cons; dive and know the depth; eat and know the taste. You must dive deep into the sea to get the pearls. What good is it to dabble among the waves near the shore, and swear that the sea has no pearls in it and that all tales about them are false? So also if you must realize the full fruit of this Avatar, dive deep and get immersed in Sai Baba. Half-heartedness, hesitation, doubts, cynicism, listening to tales, are of no avail. Complete faith—that alone can bring victory.”³

1. http://www.sailightandlove.org/arteng_avatar.htm

2. Collection: Preetham Sai P.V., Mangalore, India

3. <http://www.cosmicharmony.com/Av/SatyaS2/SatyaS2.htm>

4. <http://www.saibaba.ws/avatar/avatarhismission.htm>

5. <http://www.saibaba.cn/goldenage.html>

6. <http://www.saibaba.ws/avatar/tripleincarnation.htm>

DID YOU KNOW?

Hanumanji in Himalayas



The picture was taken of Hanuman in a cave in Manasarovar in the Himalayas. It appears that a person, out of a group, who visited the cave, took a photograph of this "Hanuman" in flesh form and for some unexplained reason died.

<http://www.geocities.com/Eureka/Enterprises/1503/Saikrish31.html>

OM SAI MANDIR'S DAILY ACTIVITIES

DAILY ARATIS:

Kakad Arati	8.00 A.M.
Madhyana Arati	12.00 P.M.
Dhoop Arati	6.00 P.M.
Sheja Arati	8.00 P.M.

SPECIAL BHAJANS:

Every Thursday	6.30 P.M. – 8.00 P.M.
Every Sunday	2.00 P.M. – 3.00 P.M.

SAI NAAM JAP (CHANTING BABA'S HOLY NAME):

Last Saturday of Every Month 8.30 A.M. – 8.30 P.M.

STOTRAS (CHANTING VISHNU SAHASRANAM, LALITA SAHASRANAM, BABA'S 108 NAMES, ETC.):

Daily 12.30 P.M. and 6.30 P.M.

ANNADAN [FOOD SERVICE]: Daily at the Temple

ANNADAN [FOOD SERVICE] FOR HOMELESS BROTHERS AND SISTERS: Every Saturday at 54th Street & Lexington Avenue: 1 p.m.; 29th Street & 1st Avenue: 3 p.m. To participate/volunteer/contribute, please call the temple at: (718) 461-0454.

PUJA SPONSORSHIP

Archana.....	\$11
Abishekam.....	\$51
Satyanarayana Vrata.....	\$81
Vahana Puja.....	\$15
Annadan.....	\$251

To sponsor pujas, call: (718) 461-0454.

SHORT STORIES BY BABA

ABDULLAH

Abdullah was sleeping in a corner of a mosque in Mecca, when he was awakened by the conversation of two angels above his head. They were preparing a list of the "Blessed" and one angel was telling the other that a certain Mahbub of Sikandar City deserved to be ranked first, even though he had not come on pilgrimage to the Holy City.

Hearing this, Abdullah went to Sikandar City and found out that he was a cobbler, repairing the shoes of people. He was famished and poor; for, his earnings barely sufficed to keep flesh and bone together. He had by severe sacrifice piled up a few coppers during the course of years; one day, he spent the entire treasure to prepare a special dish which he proposed to place before his enceinte wife as a surprise gift.

When he was proceeding home with the gift he heard the cry of a starving beggar who seemed to be in the throes of extreme hunger. Mahbub could not proceed further; he gave the pot containing the costly delicacy to the man and sat by his side, enjoying the blossoming of satisfaction on his haggard face.

The act gave him a place of honor in the register of the Blessed, a place which pilgrims to Mecca who had spent millions of Dinars in charity could not secure. The Lord cares for the feeling behind the act, not the fanfare and the fuss.

- Adapted from Oka Chinna Katha by N. Kasturi

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

I am here beside you. I am within you. I am in your heart of hearts. I am here to help you and guide you. Turn to God; I cannot do that for you; you must do that yourself. A rare chance to find God is in your grasp. Do not sacrifice even one breath without coming closer to your own God-self. Benefit from every means I give you to find God. Each day is your chance to achieve the greatest of all earthly accomplishments. To become yourself – GOD. - *Baba*

DEVOTEES' EXPERIENCES

PRESENCE OF BABA IN THE HOUSE

- Ashok Kumar Gupta

May 2004, our retirement day, we were to shift from the government flat to our own house. It was our last Sai Amrit Vani in the old house; we allowed devotees to bring prasad/bhog [offerings] for Baba. The place was packed to capacity. Vibhuti was coming from almost all the photos and statues of Baba kept in the mandir [temple] and all over the house. We recited Sai Amrit Vani. It was so soothing and refreshing, words cannot explain the experience. We felt the presence of Baba at that time. One can only imagine when one sees the lap of Mrs. Veena Gupta filled with Udi/Vibhuti.

Mrs. Gupta prayed for all present and for all who had asked for prayers. People had darshan of Baba all over the house. Now it was time for prasad distribution. A wide variety of prasad was prepared, filling all tables. There was not a single item which was not blessed with Udi.

Mrs. Gupta distributed the Prasad. As devotees started eating, a dog, of dark black color, opened the door by pushing it. It was very strange for a dog to come upstairs on the first floor and to open the door like that. People started giving him prasad from their plates.

Even I gave him a good amount of prasad and then shut the door. He again opened the door with his paw. People asked Mrs. Gupta to feed him, only then he would go. Mrs. Gupta gave him all the variety of Prasad like Pakodas, Kari-Rice, Poolav, different types of sweets, and so on. She finally asked him to leave as he had eaten enough. The dog went away. Now the discussion started that it was Baba in that roop [form]. To end the discussion, Mrs. Gupta said that we should leave it to Baba, and prayed that if that was you then please let us see one more roop/leela of yours. After that some people went to the mandir (in the kitchen). To their surprise they saw three lines of chandan [sandalwood] appearing on the forehead of the photo from which the Udi was coming. It was wet. People started weeping with joy. Some remained stunned. This was unimaginable. This may look like a story. But this really happened and it happens often. Words are not enough to explain the leelas of Baba.

TEMPLE JOURNAL

The following pictures were taken on Rakhi Poornima Day (August 30, 2004) during the observance of Sathyanarayana Vrata Puja:



**Sai Sandesh can be read online at:
<http://www.omsaimandir.org>
 Devotees can send articles, experiences,
 etc. to saisandesh@omsaimandir.org**

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Every year we celebrate Krishna Janamashtami, the birthday of Lord Krishna. Here's a story on how Lord Krishna was born and some of His childhood leelas.

A long time ago, there lived a noble king named Ugrasen. He was the king of Mathura, but his son Kamsa was a cruel man. He imprisoned his own father and became the king in his place. Kamsa used to kill innocent people. Seeing all the injustice, Brahma prayed to Vishnu. Lord Vishnu assured that He would take birth on earth and kill Kamsa. On the day Kamsa's sister, Devaki, was married to Vasudev, a voice from heaven said, "Oh proud king, the eighth child of Devaki shall kill you."

The frightened Kamsa immediately took his sword to kill his sister. Vasudev pleaded Kamsa to spare his wife and promised to give all his children instead. Kamsa agreed to spare her, but imprisoned both Devaki and Vasudev. In the prison, Kamsa killed all the children of Devaki.



When the eighth baby was to be born, Kamsa increased security in the prison. At midnight, on a stormy night, when the eighth child was born, the prison guards fell asleep and the prison doors opened automatically. Taking this opportunity, Vasudev took the baby in a basket, crossed the river Yamuna, and reached Gokul.



In Gokul, he gave the baby to Nand and Yashoda and brought their baby girl to the prison. Soon after, Vasudev returned to the prison, the prison guards woke up and realized that a baby girl was born. When Kamsa tried to kill the baby, it flew away saying, "You evil one, I am Mahamaya. Your destroyer is already born and is safe and sound!" Hearing this, Kamsa ordered Putna, his wicked maid to kill all the babies born on the same day as Devaki's eighth child.



Putna smeared poison on her breast and went around feeding all the babies. Meanwhile in Gokul, Nand and Yashoda were happy to see the baby and they named him Krishna. With time, people began suspecting Putna, because all the babies whom Putna fondled were dead.



Putna reached Yashoda's house. She asked for Krishna and Yashoda gave the baby to her. After a while, everyone heard a loud shriek. They saw Putna lying on the floor and Krishna was smiling and kicking next to her. Krishna had scratched her breast to bleed and Putna died with her own poison.



Everyone around realized that Krishna was not an ordinary boy. Krishna grew up in Yashoda's house. He was the leader among his group of friends. He was fond of curd and butter, and would steal butter from cowherds' houses.



Kamsa, in the meanwhile, was trying different ways to kill Krishna. One day when Krishna and his friends were grazing cows, Kamsa's devil Aghasur assumed the form of a python. The cowherds thought it was a cave and entered. Krishna also entered the cave. All of a sudden, Aghasur closed his mouth and everyone got scared and started crying. Krishna then made a hole in the eyes of the python and all the cowherds escaped.



Kamsa sent a giant devil, Pralambasur, dressed as a young cowherd. While playing, Krishna's team lost. Pralambasur was in Krishna's team, so had to carry Balram, the winner of the other team on his shoulders to the river Yamuna. Soon Balram realized that Pralambasur was trying to kill him, so Balram hit him on the head and killed him.



Kamsa later sent his elephant to attack Krishna. When the elephant rushed towards Krishna, He twisted the trunk of the elephant, pulled the tusk, and crushed the elephant's head.

Later, Kamsa organized a wrestling fight to kill Krishna. But Krishna and Balram killed all the wrestlers. Finally, when Kamsa came to fight, Krishna jumped on Kamsa, threw him on the ground, and killed him.

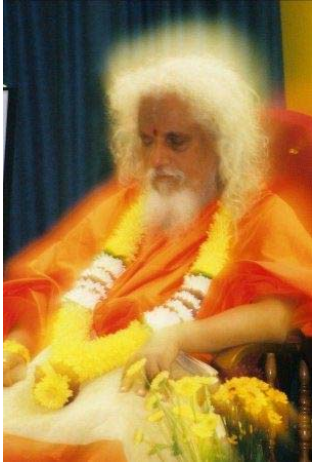


Thus, Krishna liberated the people of Mathura from the cruel Kamsa. He released his grandfather and gave him back his kingdom. Krishna loved and respected both his parents: Vasudev and Devaki; and Nand and Yashoda.

- 1) <http://www.hindukids.org/>
- 2) <http://www.ruchiskitchen.com/ruchiskitchen/kids/mythology.htm>

VISWAGURU SRI VISWAMJI TO VISIT OM SAI MANDIR

Sri Viswamji is scheduled to visit Om Sai Mandir on October 01, 2004 between 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Devotees consider



him to be the 9th Avatar [incarnation] of Lord Dattatreya [trinity of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva]. It is said that a highly evolved soul, Kanchi Paramacharya, Sri Chandrasekhara Saraswathy, beheld Viswamji with awe, wonder, and mystifying excitement. He was amazed to see a lustrous splendor around Sri Viswamji. The Swami got a big-sized Rudraksh rosary, bedecked the neck of Sri Viswamji with the sacred garland, and named Viswamji as “Mahayogi”—the greatest of yogis.

His Message

The entire universe is enveloped by divine energy, sustaining every object from an atom to a human being. The life-force that is in every living creation is God. Not realizing this truth, man is under the mistaken notion that God is somewhere far away from him. That is the reason why he is not able to love others. The configuration of atoms results in the formation of matter and the whole world is formed in this manner.

Man is the embodiment of divine energy. The family is the central supporting pillar for maintaining righteousness. For the world to gain social enlightenment, families should be brought together through the bond of spirituality. The body of a human being is like a temple, with the heart as the altar. Man worships God, not because He would grant favors, but by doing so, the divine energy within may manifest itself. A person, who through spiritual practices, establishes a permanent relationship with the all-pervading divine energy, himself gains certain powers and uses the same for the welfare of the entire human family. He is a Yogi.

Viswamji's Realization

Viswamji's spirit of renunciation has in it the deepest reality of the soul. Since his working days as a teacher, he spent all his earnings for the poor, the needy, and the deserving. Divine love is not an idle exercise of thought force. It is pragmatic and applied as seva [service] to fellow human beings. Sri Viswamji is not a recluse, retiring sage, or a tapasvi. Instead, he involved himself in rendering yeoman service to fellow human beings from a hired room, in Railpet, Guntur, where he spent many years shedding light and lustre on all who visited him for help and success. He became free from bondage by realizing that material things do not help one to become the highest or to realize the highest. He dedicated himself to the idea of reforming the individual, of the family units of the country and humanity. He chose the path of making men and women travel to divine living. He strives incessantly to bring about a revolution in human nature without attachment to worldly objects. He made his body the power house to draw strength—physical and spiritual to render service to humanity.

Viswamji's Mission

Sri Viswamji proclaims that self-realization is the best realization. He says that God resides in you, which you must realize through Sadhana. With such a blessed realization one can achieve an identity of purpose which props human welfare. Eventually one world consciousness can be fostered. This alone is the only way to establish one world family. This must be the ultimate aim of mankind, where all God's creation can live in peace, harmony, and prosperity. The science and art of Divinity, divine living and spirituality have to be made a way of life for every person on earth. This is Sri Viswamji's solemn aim. He vows to develop five fold enlightenment in every human being namely: Self Confidence, Self Discipline, Self Control, Self Enlightenment, and Self Sacrifice.

Living for others is learnt by every person through the practice of these eternal values.

All devotees can avail of this golden opportunity to secure the blessings of a divine being. Sri Viswamji will be visiting Om Sai Mandir on October 01, 2004. For further information, please call: (718) 461-0454.

Source: <http://www.viswaguru.com>

AN APPEAL

Devotees are requested to generously contribute toward the development of the temple. Devotees can make their checks payable to: **Om Sai Mandir**

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