

# THREE SAI PRACHARAKS

# TRIVENI



compiled by  
**Dr.G.R. Vijayakumar**



***SRI NARASIMHA SWAMIJI***



***SRI RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI***



***SRI SIVANESAN SWAMIJI***

**'THREE SAI PRACHARAKS: TRIVENI': Sri Narasimha Swamiji, Sri Radha krishna Swamiji, Sri Sivanesan Swamiji'** - is a compilation of life sketches of three ardent devotees of Sri Shirdi Sai Baba. Compiled by Dr. Sri G.R. Vijayakumar. (Rendered into Tamil by Sri S.S. Mahadevan).

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## **WHY THIS BOOKLET?**

Bharat, because it bestows spiritual solace to the entire world through great souls generation after generation, is known as Punyabhoomi. Sri Shirdi Sai Baba is one such great soul. Last year saw the completion of one century of Baba's Mahasamadhi. Today, crores of Sai devotees lead a life of pristine nature treading the path of Sri Baba's life and thought.

Today, practically there is no one who does not know Sri Sai Baba. But the great saint remained unknown to anyone for long years. It goes to the credit of three eminent devotees of Baba, Sri Narasimha Swamiji, Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji and Sri Sivanesan Swamiji, that Sri Sai Baba now adorns the homes and hearts of devotees the world over. The trio, the Tirveni, silently devoted their entire life in achieving the great mission. Even those devotees who are well aware of Sri Baba's spiritual powers might not even have heard of these three great visionaries.

Dr. G.R. Vijayakumar, an ardent devotee of Baba, applying his heart and soul, has painstakingly marshaled nuggets of biographical information and has come out with this book, so that Sai devotees would greatly benefit. (Chennai based senior journalist Sri S.S. Mahadevan has rendered it into Tamil).

It is hoped that Baba's devotees would receive this book being published by 'Bengaluru Kethuhalli Dwarakamayi Sai Mandir' as a blessing of the three great souls, the Triveni, and discover the purpose of their life in performing Sai Seva.

The book is priced : Sai Seva.

# FOREWORD

It is a honour bestowed on me to write a few words to this compendium **'THREE SAI PRACHARAKS: TRIVENI': Sri Narasimha Swamiji, Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji, Sri Sivanesan Swamiji'**.

The human being is an amalgam of matter and spirit, lower and higher tendencies. In spite of having sound physical and mental health, many of us continue to suffer as we neglect this inbuilt spirituality of ours.

Sri Narasimha Swamiji in his masterpiece 'Life of Sai Baba' states 'We are not human beings having a spiritual experience but are spiritual beings having a human experience.' When we read about these saints, we raise to the level of the spirit and know that we are with the eternal divinity and we attain great spiritual merit.

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji led a life in which he demonstrated the concept 'I am in you and you are in me.' Even a little touch of his divine inspiration to recite Vishnu Sahasranama has transfigured thousands of Sai devotees from great disasters. Sri Sivanesan Swamiji with his down to earth simple life gave us the perception of an ancient rishi and he was a role model for 'Nama Japa'.

Sitting near a well, Baba would completely take out his intestines and he was washing it like a piece of cloth. This 'DhothyPothy' yoga and his other practice of his peacefully sleeping on a plank hung by mere shreds with four oil lamps burning as a weightless body show that Baba is 'Parabrahman'

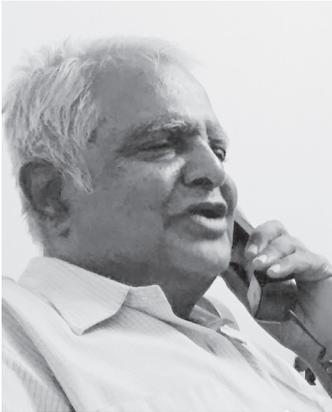
In the search for metaphysical truth, Sri Narasimha Swamiji, Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji and Sri Sivaanesan Swamiji, have struggled and demonstrated that the two coins of 'Dakshina' – Faith and

Patience, advocated by Sai Baba presents a more reliable approach than intellect. Faith in Sai Baba and devotion to him shows us 'what is' in a given phenomenon but certainly not 'what should be'.

We appreciate the efforts in bringing out this book and look forward to many sevotees to achieve spiritual upliftment.

May Sai Baba and the Trinity Sri Narasimha Swamiji, Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji and Sri Sivanesan Swamiji bless us all.

**Dr. G.R. Vijayakumar**



### **Dr.G.R.Vijayakumar**

Dr.G.R.Vijayakumar (born 1949) is known to Sai devotees since 1977 through his articles and poems in several Sai magazines. He was guided to Saimarg by Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji and was associated with Sri Sai Spiritual Centre for four decades between 1977 and 2016. His biography on Sri Narasimha Swamiji is translated into 13 languages and another book 'Loving God' on the life of Sai Baba published by Sterling – New Delhi has been acclaimed national Best Seller. His biography on Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji is titled 'A Profile of Greatness'. He was also

devoted to Sri Sivanesan Swamiji. He has to his credit 23 books in English and Kannada and over 2,000 published articles.

Dr.Vijayakumar holds a MBBS and MD from Bangalore University and a Doctoral degree from Srilanka apart from PG Diplomas in Nutrition and Industrial Health. He retired as Chief of Medical Services of Ashok Leyland, an automobile major. Post retirement, he has been serving Rajiv Gandhi Health University as a Professor Emeritus since 2007 and also as Hon.Principal of All India Institute of Local Self Government.

He has won several awards. ‘Rashtra Vibhushana’ – a National award from NCERT IN 2015, an International award from USAID for AIDS Prevention and President’s Gold Medal for having donated his blood 107 times. He got the ‘Best Editor’ award seven times during 1988 and 2007 when he was editing a corporate house journal ‘Ashley News’. He was also Executive Editor of ‘Saipadananda’ magazine for 29 years during 1986 and 2016.

He has travelled all over the world. He has a love for teaching and spends all his time with students even now.

His wife Seetha, also an author and a great Sai devotee, attained Baba’s feet in 2010. His two sons – Sai Raghu and Sai Prabhu are software engineers, married and well settled. Life for him has always been ‘Be good and do good.’



# SRI PUTTANNA

*It is with the kind blessings of him that this booklet is brought out.*



Sri Puttanna (K.S.Nagaraja Rao) is now 92-year old. He is one of the few Sai devotees who have physically seen and are aware of great strides made by Sri Narasimha Swamiji and Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji. He was introduced to Sai Baba and Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji sometime in 1953 by M.Subbaramaiah his maternal uncle.

Puttanna studied up to Matriculation and joined Central Silk Board, Government of India. He began his service as a clerk. Very soon he became an Officer and earned for himself a good name. He was sympathetic to the poor who described him as a "Saint ". During the entire period of his service in the Silk Board, Puttanna maintained a spotless character, and could not be lured with any presents or baits.

When he was working in Mumbai, Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji blessed him many times by calling on him. During this time, he accompanied Sri Narasimha Swamiji on Sai Prachar work too. After retirement in 1986, he settled down in Thyagarajanagar, Bengaluru to involve himself wholeheartedly in Sai seva.

Puttanna did not go in search of Baba. But Sai Baba came in search of him in the guise of Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji and made him an instrument to convey his grace to humanity.

His Bhajans, Nama Japa, his Poojas of Sai Baba, Satyanarayana Poojas attracted many devotees towards him and they all revere him as 'Puttanna Guruji. Many siddhis

were at his command. He neither practiced nor craved for them. In addition to daily worship, he performed *Sai Satcharita* daily parayan.

He introduced Lalita Sahasranama archana, Sai Nama Japa of ‘Om Sai Sri Sai Jaya Jaya Sai’ both ‘Likhit’ and verbal, Sai Satcharita parayan and many more activities during 1986-2004. The most remarkable feature of Puttanna’s life was his success in reforming the characters of some men and women. He was not a great scholar in the worldly sense, but he has written over 15 books in Kannada and these works are full of philosophical truth and spirituality. He was not a great orator, but his speeches were charged with devotion and sincerity.

From 2004 onwards, Puttanna founded an organization – ‘Saipadananda Satsang’ and achieved great strides in Sai Prachar, promoting Nama Japa and Vishnu Sahasranama parayana. He promoted one crore ‘Likhit Japa’ of ‘Om Sai Sri Sai Jaya Jaya Sai’ and interned at Malleswaram Mandir and another five crore ‘Likhit Japa’ of ‘Om Sai Sri Sai Jaya Jaya Sai’ were immersed at Kanyakumari. His greatest contribution is getting Vishnu Sasranama chanted nine crore times in different places of different states and also performing over one thousand Vishnu Sasranama homas. He was decorated with an honorary Doctorate for this achievement in 2017.

Puttanna visited Shirdi many times after he was first blessed by Baba and Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji in 1953. He helped in building Sai temples in many places. Puttanna recovered from a near-fatal illness of Appendicular Abscess and Peritonitis in 2014.

Puttanna has settled down with his wife in Banashankari Third Stage of Bengaluru. His only son is well-settled in software and has a young grandson.

# THIS BOOKLET IS IN MEMORY OF THIS SAI DEVOTEE



K. NAGARAJAN  
1960 - 2018

Sri Naagarajan, also known as Sri Sai Naagarajan, from Udumalpet is an ardent Sai Baba devotee and is a widely known and distinguished name among Sai devotees across Tamil Nadu. Hailing from a middle class family of Tamils engrossed in devotion, he rose to the rank of Superintending Engineer in Agriculture Department of Govt of Tamil Nadu through his self efforts, honesty and dedication. His career spanned for more than 35 years and he got retired in June 2018. He had an untimely demise in November 2018 when he was 58 years old. He was happily married to Tmt Revathi and the couple had a daughter and a son.

He was a man of great intellect, a spiritualist and an adept in 'Nama Saran' and Dhyana Bhakti of Sai Baba. He had read the Vedanta and other philosophical texts to strengthen his Sai Bhakti into Truth, Love and Happiness. He was a Panorama of spirituality and an embodiment of devotion. His devotion to Sai Baba has attracted wide attention.

He was the Chief founder of Shirdi Shri Anantha Sai Baba Temple at Udumalpet and served as the Chairman for more than 5 years right from its inception till his demise. He was well known for his complete devotion to Sai Baba & he spread Baba's teachings to the devotees of the town of Udumalpet and beyond. He had been a tireless worker in

showing the devotees, the path to surrender themselves to Shirdi Sai's feet. He was also known for his humbleness and social works. The temple at Udumalpet is very well managed with the help of Trustees, Volunteers and Devotees & a lot of social work are being done regularly.

His devotion to Shirdi Sai Baba is exemplary. He was also one of the principal founders of Dwarkamayi Mandir at Ketohally in the outskirts of Bengaluru. In August 2018, he also brought in a marble idol of Sai Baba and took great efforts in conducting the rituals and worship connected with idol-installation. But he merged into Sai's feet even before the 'Mandala Pooja' concluded.

Post retirement, he spent most of his time at Sai Baba temple at Udumalpet and he even visited Shirdi several times. He had a strong belief that doing sai bhajans is one of the most important sadhana to remove ego, leading to oneness with the sadhguru. He enjoyed bhajans and also sang in many sai bhajans.

'Guruve Saranam' is the phrase that comes into one's mind when thinking of Sai Naagarajan, as he used to chant it all the time throughout the day. Though his demise was untimely, he will live on in the hearts of Sai Baba devotees forever.





मौनंयाख्याप्रकटितपरब्रह्मतत्त्वं युवानं  
वर्षिष्ठान्तेवसदृषिगणैरावृतं ब्रह्मनिष्ठैः ।  
आचार्येन्द्रं करकलितचिन्मुद्रमानन्दमूर्तिं  
स्वात्मारामं मुदितवदनं दक्षिणामूर्तिमीडे ॥

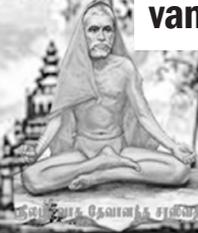
वसुदेवसुतं देवं कंस चाणुरमर्दनम् ।  
देवकीपरमानन्दं कृष्णं वन्दे जगद्गुरुम् ॥



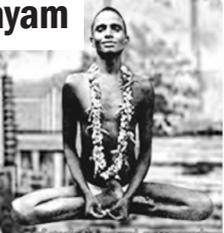
सर्वधर्मान्परित्यज्य मामेकं शरणं ब्रज ।  
अहं त्वा सर्वपापेभ्यो मोक्षयिष्यामि मा शुचः ॥

VII

vande datta guru paramparayam



ஸ்ரீ ஹரி கோவிந்த சுவாமி



ஸ்ரீ தத்தாத்ரேயர்

ஸ்ரீ பாத வல்லபர்

ஸ்ரீ பூர்சிப சுவாமி



ஸ்ரீ சாய் பாபா



ஸ்ரீ ஹக்கல் கோடமஹாஜ்  
சாமிசுவாமி



ஸ்ரீ ஜெளன் மஹாஜ்



ஸ்ரீ சங்கர்மஹாஜ்



Kanchi Kamakoti  
Peetam  
Sankaracharya Sri  
Chandrasedkarendra  
Saraswathi Swamigal  
(Maha Periyava)

**TWO SPIRITUAL GIANTS WHO LED SIMPLE LIVES**

Sri Shirdi Sai Baba  
who, based in  
Shirdi, radiated  
spiritual bliss.



# SRI NARASIMHA SWAMIJI

## A PROFILE

Swamiji introduced Ramana Maharishi through his book 'Self-Realization' a (biography of Ramana) in 1929 - that is 25%; introduced Upasani through his book 'Sage of Sakori' a biography of Upasani in 1936



that is another 25%; introduced Sai Baba through his books, lecture-tours, personal efforts during 1936-56. (50%) That is swamiji's contribution.

He taught the priests at Shirdi the 'Pooja vidhi' as per Vedic rites. Introduced of Vishnu

Sahasranama chanting and mass recitation of three arathis. Composed Ashtothara in which he poured out his devotion. Subsequently composed Sai Sahasanama.

A king cobra blessed the devotees by its presence at Coimbatore on January 7, 1943 and later disappeared into one of the anthills.

Nagasai Mandir came into existence in 1944 through public funds and efforts of Sri AVK Chary. Narasimha swamiji was the torch bearer of the message of sai baba and the sai movement grew in leaps and bounds.

Swamiji attained 'Samadhi' on 19th October 1956 – full moon day at 3-45am. He did not want any 'Samadhi' or memorial to be built for him. Hence he was cremated in the Besant Nagar Public crematorium. Sri O K Varada Rao, Sri T.Kesava Rao under the guidance of Shuddananda Bharati Swamiji and Swami Kesavaihji performed the last rites. Swamiji was 82 and gave up his body in full consciousness and did not suffer from any disease or pain.

# SRI NARASIMHA SWAMIJI

(1874 August 21 - 1956 October 19)

## Apostle of Shirdi Sai Baba

*He propagated about Baba across the country. He authored books on devotees' experiences including those of people visiting Shirdi. He took Baba out of Shirdi and made him universal. Unveiling of his portrait in the Samadhi Mandir by Justice Rege was a tribute to his unprecedented efforts in propagating about Baba all over India. He was acclaimed as Sai Baba's Great Apostle.*

Sri Narasimha Swamiji's contribution can be summarised as follows. He

\* introduced Ramana through his book 'SelfRealization' a biography of Ramana in 1929 (25%)

\* introduced Upasani Baba through his book 'Sage of Sakori' a biography of Upasani in 1936 (25%)

\* introduced Sai Baba through his books, lecture tours, personal efforts during 1936 - 56 (50%) He taught the priests at Shirdi the 'Pooja Vidhi' as per Vedic rites. He introduced Vishnu Sahasranama chanting and mass recitation of three arathis. Composed Ashtothara in which he poured out his devotion. Subsequently he composed Sai Sahasranama (It was a big miracle. Swamiji struggled but could

not compose even one nama of Sai Sahasanama. On 21.12.1936 around 11 pm he was sitting in Sathe wada making an attempt to compose Sai Sahasanama. Dasa Ganu entered the wada and told him to look at him and start composing. Dasa Ganu sat for meditation there itself. By 4 am Dasa Ganu came out of meditation and asked Sri Narasimha Swamiji about the progress. Sri Narasimha Swamiji replied – ‘I have completed the task. I have written down whatever you have dictated, Actually Dasa Ganu was in deep meditation. Reverting to this miracle both Ganu and Swamiji have affirmed that Sai Baba himself dictated Sai Sahasranama to Sri Narasimha Swamiji).

Sri Narasimha Swamiji is appropriately known as the Great Apostle of Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi. It was he who discovered Sri Sai Baba and presented him to the world. Sri Narasimha Swamiji refused to write his autobiography and did not leave a full record of the course of the events leading to his own spiritual pursuit and hence, based on the available records, the following has been gathered and presented.

With his initial publicity work about Baba and later publicity by several devotees of Baba within India and across the world, Baba has become known across the world including the smallest countries in different directions. It is equally surprising to observe that people in the farthest and smallest countries in all the directions, also have perused the articles on Sai Baba. Some such countries are Cuba (Havana), Taiwan, Lithuania, Benin and Rwanda in different directions in the globe. It is all the more striking to know that the people in St.Martin, perhaps the smallest island in the world in the southeastern Caribbean Sea, having a population of about 38,000, have also felt the presence of Baba. People in Curaçao, an island having less population in the southern Caribbean Sea off the Venezuelan coast, are also perusing the articles. This phenomenon can be easily explained and construed by the fact that Baba, being God Incarnate is known to, and is being felt by, all people in all the countries.

Sri Narasimha (later on popularly known as Sri Narasimha Swamiji) was born on August 21, 1874 in an orthodox Brahmin family at Bhavani in the then Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu. His parents were Sri B. Venkatagiri Iyer and Smt. Angachi Ammal. He had a brilliant educational career. After he had finished matriculation in Salem, he went to Madras and passed B.A. and B.L. On return to Salem in 1895, he joined the bar and started practicing law at Salem. He was by nature against the unnecessary and ruinous expenditure that litigation had caused among the poor. He was therefore instrumental in settling several cases by arbitration without any fee. He was always ready to render free service to the poor and the deserving. His unassuming simplicity, integrity and helpful nature won for him great appreciation and regard from the public. He became the Chairman of the Salem Municipality. The rare legal acumen and eloquence that he showed in dealing legal cases, brought him fame and success, resulting in getting a large number of clients, abundant income coupled with high influence in the society. His wife Seethalakshmi had a happy family with sons and daughters and was leading a comfortable life. She was also religiously inclined with a pious approach to life and her helping nature to the poor.

Even though Sri B. V. Narasimha Iyer acquired huge wealth, he was interested in rendering public service as well. He was associated with politics also and was a great admirer and follower of Sri Bal Gangadhar Tilak. In 1912, he was elected as a member of the Madras Legislative Council, in recognition of his flair for public service. He continued to be a member till 1920. He was the first Indian member to address the Legislative Council in Tamil, the language of the region. He participated in the Home Rule League (started by Mrs. Annie Besant) of which was an active member. He was one of the three persons sent to Britain in 1917 to place India's case for Home Rule before the British people. Among the prominent national leaders and contemporaries of Sri B. V. Narasimha Iyer were Sri C. Rajagopalachari, popularly known as

Rajaji and Sri C. Vijayaraghavachariyar. Both were from Salem. Sri B. V. Narasimha Iyer became a prominent figure in the public life of Madras Presidency. His lectures in all places always drew large audience.

A huge calamity struck his family, the one that gave a serious shock to him in 1921 was the death of two of his children Jayaram and Savitri. They, while playing in the garden, had accidentally fell into the well and were drowned. After this incident, he gave up his lucrative legal practice and also withdrew from political and social activities. In the mean time, he had educated the other sons and made them stand on their own legs financially. His surviving daughters Rajalakshmi and Saradamayi had already been married and settled in life decently. He developed detachment from his domestic and worldly affairs. He took up the work connected with the Lakshminarayana temple and got it completed.

He then left home in 1925 and went in search of a Sadguru for spiritual pursuit. In his efforts in this direction, he met Jagatguru H. H. Chandrasekhara Bharati Swamiji at Sringeri. He advised Narasimhan to meet the 'Brahmana Swami' who later on became popular as Ramana Maharishi of Tiruvannamalai. Accordingly Narasimhan went to Tiruvannamalai and stayed with Sri Ramana in one of the caves contemplating 'Who am I?' for 3 years and concentrated on the study of Vedanta. During his stay in Tiruvannamalai he wrote the biography of Ramana Maharishi under the title 'Self Realisation' in English. Through this book, Ramana Maharishi became known to several people across the country and also in Europe and America. This book resulted in many seekers from Europe and America to flock to Tiruvannamalai. Thus Narasimhan introduced Ramana to the outer world. 25% of Narasimha Swamiji's contribution is popularizing Ramana Maharshi.

He then stayed with Siddharuda Swamiji at Hubli for nine months till the latter attained Samadhi in 1929. Later he went to Pandharpur and worshipped Lord Vittal for 18 months and then went to Khedgaon

near Pune and saw Sadguru Narayan Maharaj who advised him to visit Meherabad, a place near Ahmednagar. He went and stayed there with Meher Baba but he was already in a vow of silence. He wrote on a slate to 'go northwards'. Meher Baba was a disciple of Sri Upasani Baba of Sakori and then Narasimhan proceeded to Sakori to meet Upasani Baba in 1933 and there he had to defend Upasani Maharaj in a legal riddle. Upasani had married over sixty young women as a social reformation to permit women to perform Vedic rituals. This was more for a social cause and not for sexual gratification as Upasani was around 65 years of age. But society did not approve of the polygamy of Upasani and two public interest litigations were filed. Narasimhan defended Upasani Maharaj in these legal disputes and the cases were dismissed and the courts declared Upasani innocent in 1936. By then he brought out a book on Upasani, 'The Sage of Sakori'. He introduced Upasani Maharaj to the outer world and this is the next 25% of his contribution.

Narasimhan felt that his life had been without any aim and direction, even while he was wandering. He had heard from Upasani Baba about Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi. He came to know that Sai Baba helped Sri Upasani Baba in his spiritual pursuit but somehow he did not feel like going to Shirdi as he felt that a saint who died in 1918 cannot help him in 1936.

On a direction by an unknown Pathan, Narasimhan visited the Samadhi of Sai Baba on August 29, 1936 and stood silently watching the Samadhi. It was the happiest period in his life as Baba spoke to him in eloquent silence and bestowed spiritual bliss on him. He expressed utmost joy at that time and also expressed that he got from Baba more than what he could take, in spiritual matters. He had thus finally discovered his Sadguru in Saibaba. He also felt that he was living in constant communion with Sai Baba.

During 1936 when Sri Narasimha Swamiji visited Shirdi, the following Baba's devotees were alive at that time for interaction with them: Shama, Tatya, Abdul Baba, Laxmibai Shinde, Saguna Meru

Naik, Balasaheb Bhate, B.V.Dev, Martand Maharaj, Ramachandra Patil, Kaka Mahajani (Laxman Ganesh), Laxmanmama Joshi and Bhagoji Shinde . After 1936, at different places, he also met Justice M.B.Rege, Justice P.R.Avaste, Das Ganu Maharaj, Upasani Baba, H.V.Sathe, Prof G.G.Narke, R.B.Purandare, Damodhar Savalram Rasane, Dattatreya Damodhar Rasane, Sai Sharanandji, Narayan Maharaj of Kedgaon and the children of other staunch devotees of Baba. Swamiji elicited valuable information about Baba from them. Swamiji not only met these devotees in Shirdi and but also traveled to several places to meet the devotees for recording their experiences. He also met Raghuji Shinde, a servant of Baba about his experiences. Thus Swamiji collected a plethora of devotees' experiences and compiled them for publication in 1941. Wonderful was his service! He made available the greatness of Baba for posterity and this is the balance 50% of his contribution.

Till 1936, the number of persons visiting Shirdi was very small, not more than a dozen in number. He decided to carry Baba's message to all the places in the country by touring every town and village and spreading about Baba's mission, miracles and messages. He took efforts to acquire some knowledge of Marathi which he used to seek and collect information from all the devotees who were still living at that time and who were lucky enough to meet Baba when he was in mortal coil and got Baba's blessings. In this direction, he met and interviewed more than sixty such devotees and made enquiries, collected information and recorded their experiences with Saibaba which clearly revealed as to how Baba had helped them in their temporal and spiritual efforts. He was also invited by Justice M.B.Rege, an ardent devotee of Saibaba and through him, he was able to meet Justice P.R.Avaste at Gwalior. Sri Avaste helped Swami to read Sri Sai Satcharita, 'Sai Leea' monthly magazine issues, both in Marathi and also other Marathi publications. With the help from Avaste, Swamiji learnt and started reading books in Marathi and thus became well informed about Baba. Then with Justice M.B. Rege and Justice Avaste, he toured several places in Maharashtra

and addressed mass meetings in English and Marathi. Meanwhile, he wrote a series of articles on Sai Baba in the 'Sunday Times' of Madras till 1938-39. His inspiring articles were published in Sunday Times, in about 30 to 40 issues (in all 20,000 copies) of the journal.

This sparked off an awareness and became the tool for several thousands of devotees across India to know about Baba, his mission and his miracles. He had collected exhaustive information about Baba from R.B.Purandare and B.V. Dev and also about their experiences with Baba; these two ardent devotees had also informed Sri Narasimha Swamiji about Nanasaheb Chandorkar's experiences with Baba.

As a result of all these efforts, large streams of people started visiting Shirdi 1936 onwards. Till then, only about a dozen local villagers from Shirdi used to attend the Samadhi Mandir at the arati timings. Immediately after Baba's Mahasamadhi, the restaurant run by Sagun Meru Naik just opposite to the Masjid was also closed temporarily due to lack of visitors to Shirdi. That was the situation which was later transformed into a busy area after the publicity efforts of Swamiji.

Sri Narasimha Swamiji then started at the age of 66 years, an All India Sai Samaj in Madras in 1940 with the object of spreading Saibaba's mission, miracles and messages among the people. During his visits to the Sai Bhaktas, he collected from them lot of information and their statements and published books under the name "Devotees' Experiences of Sri Sai Baba" in English and Tamil in 1940-41. This was a monumental publication which carried the mission, miracles and message of Baba across the country

Books written by Das Ganu Maharaj, 'Glimpses of Spirituality' by Rao Bahadur M.W. Pradhan and also 'Sai Satcharita' in verse in Marathi, written by Annasaheb Dabholkar are instrumental in propagating the messages of Baba. Swamiji wrote books on Sai Baba. 'Introduction to Sai Baba' being the first book by him. He then wrote 'Who is Sai Baba' which was released in 1939. He also wrote

'The Loving Saint' and then 'Charters and Sayings' and 'Gospel of Sri Sai Baba'. He composed hymns in Sanskrit, entitled 'Sri Sainath Smaranam', which was translated into Tamil and English. In 1944, Swamiji wrote a play in Tamil, entitled 'Sri Sai Charita Natakam'. He also wrote Sri Sai Harikatha to popularise Sai movement through musical discourse. He then wrote and published in 1945 'Glimpses of Sai Baba'. Besides these books, he also published many other books on Sai Baba, which were translated into many Indian languages. He then thought that it was necessary to formulate a systematic way of conducting Saibaba worship. So, he wrote 'Sri Sainath Pooja Vidhi' and 'Sai Sahasranamam' in addition to the Ashtotaram already in use. This was published in Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu and Kannada.

To give further impetus to the Saibaba movement, he felt the need of holding All India Sai Devotees' Convention annually. The first All India Sai Devotees' Convention was held for four days in May 1946 in Mylapore, Madras. More than two hundred delegates and devotees attended the convention. Sri Martand, son of late Sri Mhalsapati also attended the convention besides many others, like Sri Kesavaiahji of Shenoy Nagar as also a large number of local people. Several participants of the convention narrated their experiences as Sai devotees. After the first All India Sai Devotees' Convention, other conventions followed in subsequent years.

Swamiji had miraculous powers. He healed many incurable diseases by the grace of Baba. As Swamiji's health started declining, Sri Saipadananda Radhakrishna Swamiji and Sri Kesavaiahji were authorized to preside over the later conventions.

In 1940, Swamiji started the 'Sai Sudha' monthly with English, Tamil, Sanskrit and Telugu sections. He also started in Madras the three annual festivals, namely, Sri Ramanavami, Gurupoornima and Baba's Mahasamadhi day on the pattern of Shirdi festivals and these programmes were celebrated for ten days with devotional music and songs and religious discourses with poor feeding. Free

distribution of Baba's photo on post card size was also done by Swamiji along with Baba's Udhi Prasad. In 1954, he started Sai Free Dispensary for the benefit of the poor and slum dwellers as well as a library and Sai Vidyalaya.

One Pappayya Chetty of Bangalore, a devotee of Baba who read Swamiji's books, met him at Shirdi in 1940 and handed over a bundle of cash containing Rs.11,458 to Swamiji for his work and left without saying anything. Swamiji utilized this amount for Sai prachar work as per Baba's direction.

In 1949, the Samaj was shifted from Broodies Road to Alarmelu Mangapuram, Mylapore. By donations from generous public and sale of Sai literature, funds were raised for constructing the front hall where Baba's picture was installed and Swamiji started worshipping Baba from Gurupoornima day on July 7, 1952. The construction of the Mandir with a tower on the pattern of Shirdi was completed in 1953.

In 1953 Swamiji slipped in the bathroom. Thus he became seriously ill upto the middle of 1954. Notwithstanding his illness, he decided to spend his remaining time in the propaganda service about Baba and concentrated on completing his work 'Life of Sai Baba'. With Baba's grace, he was provided with a stenographer. Without the help of a stenographer, it would not have been possible for him to complete the task either for the book or for 'Sai Sudha' or for the release of the numerous pamphlets.

Later the help rendered by His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore who donated Rs.5,000 enabled the Samaj to purchase a press, printing machines and blocks which resulted in the publication of four volumes on the life of Sri Sai Baba. No copyright is reserved in any of the books or publications brought out by Swamiji, it is to be noted.

Swamiji's 83rd birthday was celebrated in Chennai headquarters on September 12, 1956. With Baba's grace, he acquired some

powers which he used for the benefit of the general public. From October 1956, Swamiji could not move out of his bed on account of his severe illness. Despite this, he continued his prachar work from his bed and attended to other works and spent the remaining time in meditating on Baba. On October 19, 1956, Swamiji left his mortal coil and merged in Baba. Swamiji's relentless efforts in popularizing Baba started bringing innumerable crowds to Shirdi to have darshan of Samadhi Mandir. Swamiji was a blessed and saintly soul, who was thus mysteriously drawn to Samartha Sadguru Sai Baba. He dedicated his entire later life and energies to the task of ceaseless and vigorous propagation of the mission, miracles and messages of Sri Sai Baba across the people throughout India.

His Holiness Sri Narasimha Swamiji's portrait was unveiled in the Samadhi Mandir in Shirdi along with those of other ardent devotees on 26th January, 1966 by Justice M. B. Rege, an ardent devotee of Baba, who got blessed by Baba when Baba was in mortal coil in Shirdi. Unveiling of his portrait in the Samadhi Mandir was a glowing tribute to his efforts in effectively carrying the message of Baba across India and also the world. He was acclaimed as Sai Baba's Apostle. If today in India there is hardly a town or city where Sri Shirdi Sai Baba is not known, it is entirely due to the remarkable zeal and selfless service of Narasimha Swamiji and based on his publicity and the books compiled/written by him which served as the starting point for understanding the greatness of Baba which is being felt now across the world also.

Moreshwar W. Pradhan paid a glowing tribute to Swamiji in an article dated October 9, 1943 thus: "To broadcast all the experiences and the inner joy of such countless people individually is physically impossible. However, the real facts about Sai Baba's divinity contained in the first edition, were spread far more extensively by the devotional propaganda of Mr. B. V. Narasimha Swami, who by his innumerable publications about Sai Baba's divinity in English, Tamil, Telugu, Sanskrit, Canarese, Malayalam, Hindi, Urdu, Gujarati

and Bengali, and by his personal tours throughout the length and breadth of India, has been carrying the knowledge of the peculiar Avatar of Sai Baba to all the classes and creeds of India..."

Swamiji attained 'Samadhi' on October 19, 1956 at 3.45 am. It was a full moon day. He did not want any 'Samadhi' or memorial to be built for him. Hence he was cremated in the Besant Nagar (Chennai) public crematorium. Sri O. K. Varada Rao, Sri T.Kesava Rao under the guidance of Suddhananda Bharatiyar and Swami Kesavaiah performed the last rites. Even before Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji arrived at Madras Central, Swamiji's body was cremated. However, Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji led the 'Shraddanjali' on October 31, 1956. Swamiji was 82 and gave up his body in full consciousness and did not suffer from any disease or pain.

Sri Narasimha Swamiji's cottage in the All India Sai Samaj is a tribute and homage to Swamiji.

MAY BABA BLESS US ALL



# SADHUS IN THE LIFE OF SRI NARASIMHA SWAMIJI



## HH CHANDRASEKAHRA BHARATHI SWAMIJI SRINGERI

IN 1925 SWAMIJI LEFT HOME HE MET HH.ADVISED HIM TO MEET BRAHMANA SWAMI LATER ON KNOWN AS RAMANA MAHARISHI OF TRIVANAMALAI.

## RAMANA MAHARISHI TRIUVANNAMALAI

AS PER THE ADVISE OF HH. CHANDRASEKARA SWAMIJI NARASIMHA SWAMIJI REACHED TRIVANNAMALAI MET RAMANA MAHARISHI AND STAYED THERE FOR 3 YEARS IN A CAVE STUDIED VEDANTA AND ALSO WROTE A BOOK ON SELF REALISATION ON RAMANA MAHARISHI .



## SIDDHARUADA SWAMIJI OF HUBLI KARNATAKA

FROM RAMANA ASHRAM HE TRAVELLED TO HUBLI AND STAYED WITH SIDDHARUDA SWAMIJI OF HUBLI TILL HE ATTAINED SAMADHI IN1929. SWAMIJI WAS THERE FOR 9 MONTHS.

## PANDARPUR

SWAMIJI LIVED IN PANDARPUR FOR 18 MONTH. LEARN MARATHI, MET BAPU MAI A LADY AVADHUTHA HERE. ONCE SWAMIJI FOLLOWED HER. SHE



ENTERED A CREMATORIUM SHE ASKED SWAMIJI WHAT HE WANTS. HE SAID ABOUT HIS WANDERINGS. SHE ASKED SWAMIJI, ARE YOU HUNGRY? AND GOOD FOOD WAS SERVED IN THE CREMETORIUM. AFTER EATING SHE SAID DID YOU SEE GOD? SWAMIJI SAID NO. SHE SAID THE PERSON WHO SERVED YOU WAS VITTHAL, ADVISED SWAMIJI TO SEE VITTHAL EVERYWHERE.

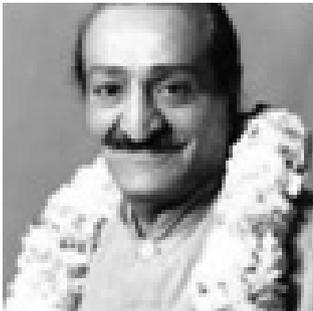


### **ZIPRUANNA**

NARSIMHA SWAMJI HAD A HEAD ACHE WHICH WAS DISTRUBING HIM. HE TOLD ABOUT IT TO ZIPRUANNA. ANNA LICKED HIS HEAD AND BLESSED HIM SAYING YOUR FAME WILL REACH THE HEVAN. SWAMIJI WAS CURED OF HIS HEADACHE,ANNA SAID I AM NOT YOUR GURU.

### **NARAYAN MAHARAJ OF KHEDGAON**

NARAYAN MAHARAJ ADVISED NARSIMHA SWAMIJI TO MEET MEHER BABA



### **MEHER BABA OF MEHERABAD AHMEDNAGAR**

SWAMIJI STAYED WITH MEHER BABA WHO WAS IN MAUNA. WROTE ON A SLATE ASKING SWAMIJI TO GO NORTHWARDS, MEHER BABA WAS DISICPLE OF UPASANI MAHARAJ.



## **HAZRAT BABAJAN AT THE BAVADI CHAR PUNE**

SWAMIJI TOOK DARSHAN OF HER AT  
PUNE

## **UPASANI MAHARAJ OF SAKORI NEAR SHIRDI**

SWAMIJI REACHED UPASANI  
MAHARAJ'S PLACE IN 1933.  
UPASANI MAHARAJ WAS  
FACING A COURT CASE.  
SWAMIJI FOUGHT THE CASE  
AND WON THE CASE IN WROTE  
A BOOK SAINT OF SAKORI. 1936.  
HE WAS NOT SATISFIED IN HIS  
FINDINGS. WAS TOLD BY A PATHAN TO GO TO SHIRDI.

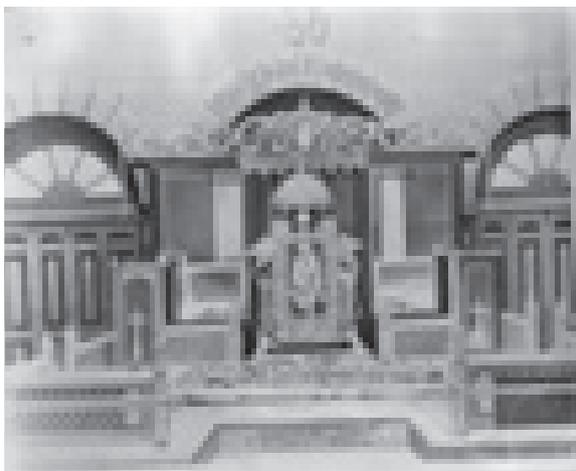


## **PUSHKAR LAKE RAJASTHAN**

IN NOVEMBER 1935  
SWAMIJI HAD GONE TO AJMER  
FOR INTERVIEWING A WITNESS  
IN UPASANI BABA CASE. WHILE  
HE WAS TAKING BATH IN THE  
LAKE, A CROCODILE CAUGHT  
HIS RIGHT LEG AND IT WAS A PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE THAT  
A SARDAR JI SHOT AND KILLED THE CROCODILE. HE WAS IN  
HOSPITAL FOR 3 WEEKS. EVEN AFTER THE WOUND HEALED ON  
THE RIGHT LEG HE USED TO LIMP FOR YEARS .

## OLD SAMADHI MANDIR

ON A DIRECTION BY AN UNKNOWN PATHAN SRI NARASIMHA SWAMIJI VISITED THE SAMADHI OF SAI BABA ON 29TH AUGUST 1936, AND STOOD SILENTLY WATCHING THE SAMADHI. IT WAS



THE HAPPIEST PERIOD IN HIS LIFE AS BABA SPOKE TO HIM IN ELOQUENT SILENCE AND BESTOWED SPIRITUAL BLISS ON HIM. HE EXPRESSED UTMOST JOY AT THAT TIME AND ALSO EXPRESSED THAT HE GOT FROM BABA MORE THAN WHAT HE COULD TAKE IN SPIRITUAL MATTERS. HE HAD THUS FINALLY DISCOVERED HIS SADGURU IN SAIBABA. HE ALSO FELT THAT HE WAS LIVING IN CONSTANT COMMUNION WITH SAI BABA.



# SRI RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI

## A PROFILE

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji joined Sri Narasimha Swamiji in 1943 or 44. He was a voracious reader. He wrote only two books - an incomplete book 'Life of Sri Narasimha Swamiji -



Apostle of Sai Baba' and a small booklet 'To my dear children'. Sri Narasimha Swamiji deputed Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji to represent him as an Executive member of Shirdi Samsthan from 1945. After Narasimha Swamiji's Mahasamadhi, he gave up this position. In 1967, he was requested to take over

as President of AISS. He continued in this position till his Mahasamadhi on 14.1.1980.

Just like his Guru, he desired his last rites to be done in a public crematorium. His mortal remains were consigned to flames at Chamarajpet crematorium. His favourite devotee Sri D.V.Krishna Murthy who served him for 29 years as 'Rama Bhakta Hanuman' performed the final rites.

Ashes were collected in 7 pots. Among these, one is buried in Poyyamani - Swamiji's birthplace near Trichy. One is interred just below his idol at Sai Spiritual Centre at Bengaluru.

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji has recorded in several diaries his words of wisdom and they were published in the form of two-page articles in 'Saipadananda' quarterly magazine till October 2018.

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji suffered from a rare disease. Both doctors and devotees knew that he had made up his mind to merge in Sai Baba on the day of 'Sankranthi' in 1980. He did so.

Sri Saipadananda

# SRI RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI

(1906 April 15 - 1980 January 14)

## A Profile of Greatness

*Narasimha Swamiji attained Mahasamadhi in 1956 and on the same day, transferred all his Spiritual Powers to Radhakrishna Swamiji for continuing the same mission with added vigour. Thereafter Radhakrishna Swamiji took the leadership of Sai movement. The holy Trinity Sri Sai Baba, Sri Narasimha Swamiji, and Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji adoring the sanctum sanctorum in Thyagarajanagar, Bangalore, are the source of peace, strength and bliss for all the visitors.*

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji joined Sri Narasimha Swamiji in 1943 or 44.

He was a voracious reader. He wrote only two books an incomplete book 'Life of Sri Narasimha Swamiji – Apostle of Sai Baba' and a small booklet 'To my dear children'

Sri Narasimha Swamiji deputed Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji to represent him as an Executive member of Shirdi Samsthan from

1945. After Narasimha Swamiji's Mahasamadhi, he gave up this position. He was not considered worthy of succeeding Sri Narasimha Swamiji . They brought in an unknown person, one Bhima Rao, to succeed Sri Narasimha Swamiji as President of All India Sai Samaj. For 12 years Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji did not step into Mylapore Mandir. In 1967, they requested him to take over as President of AISS and he continued in this position till his 'Mahasamadhi on 14.1.1980.

Just like his Guru, he desired his last rites to be done in a public crematorium. His mortal remains were consigned to flames at Chamarajpet (Bengaluru) crematorium. His favourite devotee Sri D.V.Krishna Murthy who served him for 29 years as 'Rama Bhakta Hanuman' performed the final rites. Ashes were collected in 7 pots. Among these, one is buried in Poyyamani – Swamiji's birthplace near Trichy. One is interred just below his idol at Sai Spiritual Centre at Bengaluru.

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji has recorded in several diaries his words of wisdom and they were published in the form of twopage articles in 'Saipadananda' quarterly magazine till October 2018. Sai - willing they may still be published at a later date by a faithful devotee!

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji was born in Poyyamani Village in Trichy District of Tamil Nadu on April 15, 1906. He was the fifth child of Sri Pudukkudi D. Venkatarama Aiyer and Smt. Lakshmi Ammal. Even as a child, young Radhakrishnan was brought up in a religious and spiritual atmosphere. He was always loving the beauty of nature. He began meeting sages and holy persons and visited temples far and near. He was fond of reading books on religious and spiritual matters and the hagiographical books on saints like Raghavendra Swamy, Sadashiva Brahmendra, Chaithanya Mahaprabhu and such other books. He met Ramana Maharshi and Seshadri Swamigal at Thiruvannamalai. The latter gave Radhakrishnan three stones and asked him to cook and

eat them. Ramana Maharshi interpreted it such that he should overcome the stages of "Sattva", "Rajas" and "Tamas", to become a "Gunatheetha".

He had the opportunity of visiting Jagadguru Shankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam and had met the Swamiji a number of times. He did not have much interest in school studies and discontinued them. He was deeply involved in acquiring spiritual knowledge. As he belonged to an affluent family, there was no need for him to search for a job and eke out his livelihood.

Kanchi Acharya had a great influence on Radhakrishnan's personality. When one of his brothers was in Poona, young Radhakrishnan stayed with him and made a number of visits to several religious places. He continued his contacts with several sages for his spiritual pursuit. While visiting some religious places around Poona and Bombay, he had seen some caves suitable for spiritual pursuit and stayed in one of the caves and did penance for 48 days and during that period he had the fortune of having darshan of Lord Dattatreya and was instructed by the Lord to remain in the world to fulfill his mission and also to help the mankind.

Radhakrishnan came to Ooty in 1921 and he was there for the next 20 years. At the age of 21 years, he was under pressure by his family members to marry, though he was not very serious about marriage. But however, he yielded to family pressure and married Parvathi, a relative from his mother's side.

Later, he worked as a part time employee as a steward in the Race Club in Ooty. While working in the Race Club, he had to wear suitable dress and had to look smart consistent with the position. While working there, he used to look as a stylish well dressed young man. He was moving with senior European officers in those days and the other high officials of the society and this resulted in his having many important friends.

He stayed with his elder brother. The two brothers used to go on long walks and had discussions on spiritual matters for hours

together. He used to spend some time daily in the Shiva temple built by their family members along with his close relatives. He used to identify himself with Radha and Krishna and Andal and assuming their roles he would dance in ecstasy during the Bhajan sessions. He loved music very much and used to sing Thyagaraja and Purandhara Dasa Kirthans. He was also a lover of Astrology.

He was initiated into Datta Mantra by Narayan Maharaj of Bet in Ooty in 1927. He was a voracious reader and was visiting frequently the Theosophical Society at Adyar, Chennai. He used to practice meditation and was reading regularly a Sanskrit book, "Mantra Mahodadhi" which was almost his constant companion in life.

There was a deep psychological crisis in his life during 1936 - 42. He had even attempted to commit suicide while traveling in a train from Trichy to Madras. As the train was crossing the Coleroon River near Chidambaram, he opened the door for the purpose of jumping into the river. But he felt immediately that someone was pulling him back. He looked back and immediately saw an old man with a headgear asking him not to do it as he had a mission in life to perform. Later, he realized that it was Baba who pulled him back.

In 1942, he met Sri B.V. Narasimha Swamiji in unexpected circumstances and his search for the "Guru" came to an end at that point. He became a staunch devotee of Baba and later became a spiritual heir to Sri Narasimha Swamiji.

While in Madras, Radhakrishnan supervised the accounts of All India Sai Samaj and helped Sri Narasimha Swamiji in several ways. He was a man who never pushed himself up and was always in a low profile. He avoided publicity and ostentation. He was also not interested in talking about himself and never did he pose for any photograph. He visited some North Indian centres for propaganda about Sai Baba and helped Sri Narasimha Swamiji in making All India Sai Samaj a vibrant institution. He made total surrender to Sri Narasimha Swamiji as his Guru and whatever Sri Narasimha

Swamiji said was law unto him. Radhakrishnan was made Vice President of All India Sai Samaj, Madras.

In 1952, Sri Narasimha Swamiji deputed Radhakrishnan to Bangalore for Sai Prachar work in Karnataka State. Radhakrishnan arrived in Bangalore in 1952 and found that there was a presence of Sai devotees in the Cantonment area and he set up his small office initially in Cantonment. Later he moved to N.R.Colony area and started staying in an upstairs room in a house near the bus stop. This room also became subsequently the home for Sai Spiritual Centre. Radhakrishnan lived for about seven years in the same accommodation until a permanent building for the Centre was constructed.

He was meeting his Guru in Bangalore during his infrequent visits. It was in 1953 Sri Narasimha Swamiji conferred on him the title, "Saipadananda". And Radhakrishnan became Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji. That was the Guru's recognition of Radhakrishnan's unswerving devotion to Baba and sincere obedience to his Guru. In April 1954, Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji inaugurated Sri Ramanavami celebrations of the Sai Bhajan Group in South End Road, Basavangudi and this was the starting point of Sai Spiritual Centre. As regards his food, devoteelike people used to offer him meals and he was without food on several days. He used to visit Tumkur every Saturday for Sai Prachar work.

At the inspiration of Baba, a retired official of the Mysore Government by name Sri Domlur Krishna Murthy (Retd. Asst. Controller) had offered a plot of land measuring 1,000 square yards in Thyagarajanagar in Bangalore for constructing a building for the purpose of propagating the teachings and mission of Sai Baba. In 1961, the site held by Sri V. S. Sastri, in trust was gifted to the Centre, on the auspicious day of Guru Poonima. Through Baba's Grace, a Gujarati businessman by name Sri Bhai Patel met Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji and helped financially in constructing the building structure. Impressed by the activities of Sai Spiritual Centre

under the able guidance of Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji, Sri Sastri, had also collected and raised some funds. Then Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji had to speed up the foundation work for the prayer hall with two rooms. Funds for constructing a building on the site voluntarily came from several devotees from all over the country without any efforts.

During 1965, formal opening of the building was done by Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji. On April 27, 1967 a magnificent life size colour portrait of Sri Sai Baba donated by Sri S. Doraiswamy was unveiled in the main hall by Smt. Saraswati Bai Giri in the presence of H.E V. V. Giri, the then Governor of Karnataka State. "Sri Sai Spiritual Centre" was registered during 1979 under the Mysore Societies Registration Act. An exquisite idol of Sri Radhakrishna donated by Sri Harshad Patel was installed in the premises by Radhakrishna Swamiji during 1972. During 1978 in the Silver Jubilee year of the Centre, the life size marble statue of Sri Sai Baba was installed on the 60th Mahasamadhi anniversary of Sri Sai Baba.

Sri Narasimha Swamiji attained Mahasamadhi on 19.10.1956 and on that Poornima Day, transferred all his Spiritual Powers to Radhakrishna Swamiji for continuing the same mission with added vigour.

From 1970 Radhakrishna Swamiji was looking after All India Sai Samaj, Madras as President and also Thyagarajanagar Mandir, Bangalore. On the occasions of Guru Poornima, Mahasamadhi day and other important festival days, he used to shuttle between Madras and Bangalore on the same festive day in order to be present in both the Mandirs and for this purpose, he used to travel by car and by air. As President of All India Sai Samaj, Madras, he was instrumental in opening of many Baba temples in and around Madras and also in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. An All India Sai Devotees Convention was held successfully under his leadership in Poona in 1978.

Swamiji was instrumental in the construction of Sri Narasimha Swamiji's cottage in the All India Sai Samaj premises, as a tribute and homage to Swamiji during his birth centenary year.

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji felt that "Nama Japa" (continuous chanting of God's name) and the recitation of Vishnu Sahasranamam were the panacea for everything and they should be repeated any number of times every day so that the chanting would show the way for solving all our problems. Swamiji advised the devotees to cultivate the habit of reading a chapter a day from Bhagavad Gita. He was also a prolific writer. He wrote a book on the life of Sri Narasimha Swamiji who did wonderful service to Baba by contacting the ankita devotees of Baba who were then living during 1936 and collected all their experiences with Baba by meeting them and published several books about Baba and was also instrumental in making several people across the country familiar with Baba's life, mission and miracles. Sri Narasimha Swamiji went to the extent of learning Marathi in order to gain first hand information about Baba by reading himself the original books in Marathi written on Baba.

After Bhajan or after the recitation of Sahasranama in the Mandir, there used to be a benediction every night which he composed during his visit to Dwaraka in Gujarat under the spell of a divine inspiration. The text of the benediction is given below.

- May the wicked turn good;
- May the good attain peace;
- May the peaceful be freed from all bondage
- May the liberated redeem others.
- May everybody be happy;
- May everybody be free from disease;
- May everybody have good luck;
- May none fall on evil days.
- May everybody surmount difficulties;

May everybody have good fortune;  
May everybody realize his ambitions;  
May everybody rejoice everywhere.

Swamiji lived a full and active life. He was constantly travelling and propagating Baba's mission. He was in continuous communion with Baba and his actions were in response as a sequel to Baba's inspiration. In one of his visits to Shirdi, he was asked by Baba to live for some more years to complete the remaining portion of his mission for the welfare of the general public.

Swamiji conducted Satsangh where Gita Parayana was recited daily in the Sai Spiritual Centre in Bangalore. He was also fond of reciting verses from the Gita and used to translate them for the benefit of the devotees. Swamiji also explained to the devotees about the Rama Mantra and its potency. Rama Mantra is called "Taraka" as its chanting would enable one to cross the barriers in life of sansara. There were several instances where Swamiji showered grace on his devotees. His profile was low, but his bestowal of Grace on the devotees was very effective and powerful.

Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji suffered from a rare disease fungal in origin – 'Moniliasis of the throat'. He could not eat for two months. He was also hospitalized. Both doctors and devotees knew that he had made up his mind to merge in Sai Baba on the day of 'Sankranthi'. As Bhishma in Mahabharata waited for 'Uttarayana' to dawn, Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji as Bhishmacharya of Kali yuga waited for 'Sankranthi' in 1980.

Swamiji was waiting for "Uttarayana" auspicious days to leave his body and merge with Baba. January 14, 1980 was the day he had fixed for merging with Baba. On that day, he had joined devotees in chanting "Sri Vishnu Sahasranamam" and, "Om Namo Narayanaya". He was conscious till the last moment and left his mortal coil in the night on January 14, 1980. Cremation took place the next day with full honours amidst chanting of Vedic Hymns.

Devotees of Swamiji had experienced his Grace, spiritually and temporally. The devotees continue to receive them even after he left his mortal coil. Although he is not present in flesh and blood, his devotees have felt his spiritual presence and his guidance, in times of distress and need. Swamiji appeared in the dreams of many devotees, advising them on their problems and encouraging them spiritually. His guiding hand and loving eyes hover over every home of his devotees reminding us of Baba's Words: "Why fear when I am here".

MAY THE HOLY TRINITY, SRI SAI BABA, SRI  
NARASIMHA SWAMIJI AND SRI RADHAKRISHNA  
SWAMIJI BESTOW PEACE, STRENGTH AND BLISS  
FOR ALL DEVOTEES.



# **SADHUS IN THE LIFE OF SRI RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI**

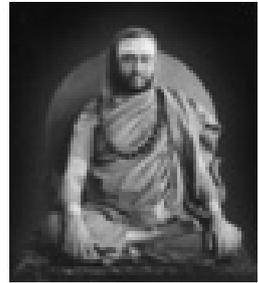


## **HH KANCHI MAHAPERIAVA OF KANCHI KAMOKOTI MUTT**

KANCHI ACHARYA HAD A GREAT INFLUENCE ON RADHAKRISHNAN'S PERSONALITY. HE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF VISITING JAGADGURUSHANKARACHARYA OF KANCHI KAMAKOTI PEETAM AND HAD MET THE SWAMIJI A NUMBER OF TIMES. SWAMIJI'S BROTHER USED TO WORK IN KANCHI MUTT. PARAMACHARYAL VISITED POYYAMANI HIS BIRTH PLACE DURING HIS YOUNGER DAYS.

## **HH CHANDRASEKAHRA BHARATHI SWAMIJI SRINGERI**

HIS HOLINESS GAVE KASHAYA VASTRA TO SWAMIJI, BUT HE NEVER WORE. HE KEPT IT AS HIS BLESSINGS, HIS HOLINESS VISITED POYYAMANI, RADHA KRISHNA SWAMIJIS BIRTH PLACE, DURING HIS YOUNGER DAYS.



## **NARAYAN MAHARAJ OF KHEDGAON**

RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI HE WAS INITIATED INTO DATTA MANTRA BY NARAYANA MAHARAJ OF KHEDGAON IN OOTY IN 1927.

**RAMANA MAHARISHI OF  
TRIUVANMALAI**

HE TOOK DARSHAN OF RAMANA  
BHAGAVAN.

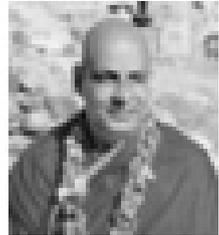


**SHESHADRI SWAMIGAL OF  
TRIUANNAMALAI**

MET RAMANA MAHARSHI AND SESHADRI  
SWAMIGAL AT THIRUVANNAMALAI. THE  
LATTER GAVE RADHAKRISHNAN THREE  
STONES AND ASKED HIM TO COOK AND EAT  
THEM. THE FORMER INTERPRETED THIS THAT  
HE SHOULD GO BEYOND THE REALMS OF "SATTVA", "RAJAS" AND  
"TAMAS", TO BECOME A "GUNATHEETHA".

**SWAMI SHIVANANDA OF DIVINE  
LIFE SOCIETY RISIKESH**

SWAMI SIVANANDA LIKED RADHAKRISHNA  
SWAMIJI SO MUCH THAT IN 1950 HE  
REQUESTED NARISMIHA SWAMIJI TO SPARE  
HIS SERVICES TO DIVINE LIFE SOCIETY.



**GUBBI CHIDAMBARA SWAMIJI AT  
GUBBI KARNATAKA**

GUBBI CHDAMBARA SWAMY HAD GREAT  
REGARDS TO SWAMIJI. IN 1956 SWAMIJI PRAYED  
FOR AN EXTENSION OF GUBBI SWAMIJI'S LIFE  
AND HE LIVED UP TO 1967.



### **ANANDA MAYIMA OF KOLKATA**

SWAMIJI MET ANANDA MAYIMA DURING HIS SAI PRACHAR. MATAJI ALSO VISITED HIM IN 1979. THIS WAS HER LAST VISIT TO BANGALORE.

### **SRI SRIDHAR SWAMIJI OF SHIMOGA KARNATAKA**

SRIDHAR SWAMIJI NEVER USED TO STAY IN ANY PLACE FOR MORE THAN 2 DAYS, DURING HIS SEVERAL WANDERINGS TO BENGALURU – N.R. COLONY, VASANTHAPURA SRI RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI USED TO MEET HIM. SRIDHARA SWAMIJI ATTAINED NIRYAN IN 1973.



### **SADHU VASWANI OF PUNE**

RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI, THROUGH HIS PUNE CONNECTIONS, WAS COLSELY ASSOCIATED WITH VASWANI MISSION.



**SHIVA BALA YOGI OF BANGALORE.** RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI HAD FREQUENT INTERACTIONS WITH SIVABALA YOGI IN HIS BENGALURU ASHRAM.



### **RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI WITH HIS**

### **GURU NARASIMHA SWAMIJI**



IN 1942, HE MET SRI B.V. NARASIMHA SWAMIJI IN UNEXPECTED CIRCUMSTANCES AND HIS SEARCH FOR THE "GURU" CAME TO AN END AT THAT POINT. HE BECAME A STAUNCH DEVOTEE OF BABA AND LATER BECAME A SPIRITUAL HEIR TO SRI NARASIMHA SWAMIJI



## **SIR NARASIMHA SWAMIJI**

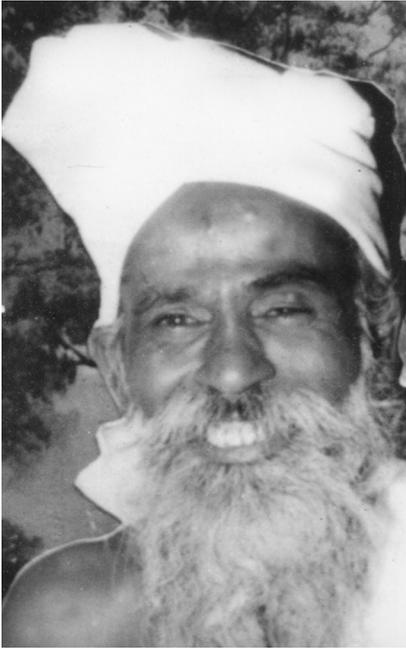
RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI AFTER MEETING HIS GURU NARISIMHA SWAMIJI TOOK UP SAI PRACHAR WORK IMMENSLY. HE WAS MADE VICE PRESIDENT OF ALL INDIA SAI SAMAJ, THIS WORK CONTIUNED TILL HIS NIRVANA.



# SRI SIVANESAN SWAMIJI

## A PROFILE

Sivnesan Swamiji's last destination was Shirdi; he never left Shirdi, lived their for 40 years and served Baba at Gurusthan, Dwarakamayi, Chavdhi, and was instrumental



in bringing up Sai temples worldwide. Started Nam saptha, encouraged aspirants to write books, transalte books to various languages, do pradakshina around Nanda Deep, Gurusthan. Encouraged various Sai temples to build Dhuni. Swamiji used to

sing Bhajans in Chavdhi daily around 8 PM, till time he was body in form. He used to do Dhuni pooja by offering coconut at Dwarakamayi and used to do Pradakshina at Gurusthan and Lendi Baugh, used to distribute food coupons to the needy.

He breathed his last at 00.10 hrs on Monday, February 12, 1996, at Shirdi and merged with Saibaba; many believe that the swinging of the lantern in the Dwarakamayi indicated this merger. He was given agni by Mani who was his close associate, in the land of Zarine at Pimpalwadi road and a asti kalash of Swamiji kept there for worship. During last rites, the Sansthan adorned him with shawl and sprayed the holy water of Baba with his silver zari. Also they adorned him with garland brought from samadhi mandir after offering to Baba. Baba himself adorned him in his last journey. Siyaram, another close associate of Swamiji (who hailed from MP), stayed the full night at Pimpalwadi near the place where Swamiji was cremeated, while all had left.

# SRI SIVANESAN SWAMIJI

(1927 April 27 - 1996 february 12)

## Originator of Sai Nama Japa

*He introduced Nama Japa by chanting "Om Sai Sri Sai Jaya Jaya Sai" by groups. He advised the devotees about 'Pradakshina' [circumambulation] around the Gurusthan, Nanda Deep and Dutta Mandir for their good. During the four and a half decades, approximately that Swamiji spent in Shirdi, he became the best apostle of Sai Baba.*

Sivnesan Swamiji's last destination was Shirdi. He never left Shirdi. He lived there for 40 years and served Baba at Gurusthan, Dwarakamayi and Chavdi. He was instrumental in bringing up Sai temples worldwide, started Nam Saptha and encouraged aspirants to write books, translate books to various languages. He initiated Pradakshina around Nanda Deep, and Gurusthan and encouraged various Sai temples to build Dhuni Sri Sivnesan Swamiji used to sing Bhajans in Chavdi daily by around 8 pm. This practice went on as long as he was physically capable. He used to do Dhuni Pooja by offering coconut at Dwarakamayi and used to do Pradakshina at Gurusthan and Lendi Baugh. He used to distribute food coupons to the needy.

Sree Sivanesan Swamiji was born as the third and last child of Smt. Alamelu and Shri. Muthaiah on April 12, 1927 on the

holy day of Ramnavami in Nayakkan Palayam in Coimbatore District Tamilnadu.

He was born with the blessings of Lord Ram. At the time of his birth, the child had already two front teeth and a 'jata' (a small tuft of hair at the back of the head) and the astrologers foretold that he would not lead the life of a householder but would become an ascetic or sanyasi. From his early childhood, he started withdrawing from the worldly matters and used to be alone, calm and meditative and sometimes used to forget about his food. He was fond of loneliness.

He had very fond memories of his maternal grandmother at whose home he spent lot of time happily and was also liking his paternal uncle who had a good collection of books which he greatly loved. He had formal education only up to the eighth standard but did not like further studies, even though he belonged to a family of good standing with comfortable means. He had a wonderful memory. He was originally an atheist and later became a devotee of Baba.

Later on, he worked as a Record Room Assistant in the High Court in Madras on a temporary basis for a short time. He also worked as a helper in the Electricity Department on daily wages in Coimbatore for some time at a very young age and actually he was not eligible to work based on his age and used to hide himself in the nearby fields when the inspecting officials were visiting the Department. He also worked as a sales assistant in a bookshop which he liked very much because he loved reading books. But as he showed more interest in reading the books than in selling them, he was removed from the job.

After the death of his mother, he left his home and did not return to his native place. He had developed lot of interest towards spiritual learning. He reached Bombay in his wanderings during 1944 at 17 years of age. He did many sundry jobs for his livelihood. He also worked as a railway porter at a railway station. He was fond of

meditating and was also meditating in the seashore area.

Later he met Muthaiah Swamiji, who also hailed from Coimbatore District; though he was a householder, he considered Swamiji as his GURU and achieved some spiritual progress from his guidance and learnt about meditation and vedanta. For some time, he stayed in Bombay and then moved to the 'mutt' of Sree Nityanand Swamiji at Vajreshwari where he had achieved much spiritual progress. Then he moved to Tryambakeshwar, in Nasik District and was with Mauni Baba in that place. And then he finally left for Shirdi in 1953.

Finally he made Shirdi his home. But in Shirdi, there was no place for him to stay and sleep and no scope for him to get food. He was sleeping here and there, living on a cup of tea and some times was eating some flowers and many times starved himself. With Baba's Grace, he got some shelter and was getting some food daily. When he arrived at Shirdi, he brought with him some books which he considered as his treasure as he liked the books and was interested in reading them. He was spending his time in Shirdi by doing services to all the temples in Shirdi, including at Dwarakamai, Chavadi and Lendi Baugh. He was utilising other hours in deep meditation.

During that time, Shirdi Sai Baba Sansthan was under the control of the Court Receiver who observed keenly his sincere and selfless services and felt happy and then entrusted some duties to him such as the work of lighting all the lamps in all the places, including Dwarakamai, Lendibagh and Chavadi and the number of such lamps were 13 in number. In those days, Chavadi was kept open for devotees only on Thursdays. In Dwarakamai, he meticulously cared for the Dhuni with great devotion and in the process his clothes got dirty due to soot, but he was not caring for his appearance. He became an adept in applying the sandalwood tilak on Baba's photos and similarly for many deities before the commencement of aratis and in the evenings also he was doing the work of lighting the lamps at various places. On being pleased with his dedicated

services, the Court Receiver allowed him to sleep in a room adjoining the Dwarakamayi. As he knew several languages, including English, Marathi and many South Indian languages, he was entrusted with the work of writing names and addresses on the envelopes used for sending udi as 'prasad' to the devotees who sent money orders to Shirdi. In return for these services, the Sansthan started paying him Rs.15 per month as honorarium. The honorarium money was utilized by him for the needs of the devotees and others. After some time, the Sansthan was also providing food for him. When the number of visiting devotees became more, then the Chavadi was kept open on all the days for the visit of the devotees. he was concentrating more on decorating the Chavadi especially for the 'Palki' procession from Dwarakamayi to Chavadi on Thursdays.

We were fortunate enough to meet Sree Sivanesan Swamiji during our visits to Shirdi. Swamiji also permitted us to take his photo.

He was keen in helping the devotees in the spiritual path and bought some books in different languages and presented them to the devotees. He taught by his example the importance of service to all especially to the sick, the lepers and the needy. He encouraged devotees to set up Sai Baba temples in their own towns and villages in India and abroad with dhuni with perpetual light and fire. He began to have a vast following because of his innate urge to serve people. He read the Sai Leela Magazines in Marathi in the Sansthan library. He also encouraged devotees to undertake translations from Marathi into English, Hindi, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and other languages so that Sai Baba's life, mission and the miracles would be known in every nook and corner of India and abroad. 'Satsang' was also conducted with various devotees in different languages at all hours, including night. Like this and in different ways, he spread Saibaba's messages to all the places. He was always distributing Udi and Tirth, to all the visiting devotees. When the devotees were about to leave Shirdi, he used to offer to them

some spiritual/bhajan books with Baba's photo. The practice of performing Akanda Nama Japa by chanting "Om Sai Sri Sai Jaya Jaya Sai", by groups of devotees was started by him. Thus he was also instrumental in spreading the messages of Baba to all the places.

His life was simple. His clothes consisted of cotton towel wrapped round his waist, a Maharastrian vestment with a pocket and half sleeves and a small towel wrapped round his head to cover his long hair as a turban as shown in his picture. All items of dress, dhotis, shawls and sweaters presented to him were not at all used by him, but distributed to the poor and needy. Even three days before his Mahasamadhi, he arranged distribution of the blankets and bed sheets, received during his short period of illness. He always slept on the floor, spreading a blanket and thick bedspread on the floor; his seat was a gunnysack, with a paper stuffed pillowcase as a bolster. He did not care for the scorching sun and the rain, and distributed the umbrellas he received. He did not wear any footwear during his entire stay in Shirdi and moved always with bare feet.

He ate less and was distributing to the devotees any fruits offered to him. He was singing in sweet voice several bhajans which he knew by heart, some of which he himself had composed and the devotees got some of these bhajans printed in booklets. He always led such bhajans and this practice was carried on for more than twenty years till his Mahasamadhi. He led the bhajans with correct words from memory.

He encouraged 'Pradakshina' (circumambulation) around the Gurusthan, Nanda Deep and Dutta Mandir in the Lendi Baugh. He advised the devotees to do pradakshina for their benefit and health. He was well versed in herbal medication and would promptly suggest to the afflicted devotees a course to follow, which would invariably cure them completely or at least give some immediate relief.

He believed and advised the devotees in Dhuni Puja and participation in Satyanarayana Puja for their good. His method

of teaching was simple and it was through allegoric stories and parables. He strongly advocated 'Annadana' (food distribution) as the best charitable deed.

He also advised the devotees about the greatness of saints like Devi Mayi Amma of Salem, Videhi Anusaya Mata of Padasinga, Ram Reddy Tatha of Kurnool, Nayampalli Baba of Hyderabad and others. Those who expressed desire to have "darshan" of such saints were encouraged to do so.

During the four and a half decades, approximately that Swamiji spent in Shirdi, he became a great apostle of Sai Baba. His 'seva' to Baba and Baba's devotees was sincere, wholehearted and selfless.

He breathed his last at 00.10 hrs on Monday, 12th February 1996, at Shirdi and merged with Saibaba; Many believe that the swinging of the lantern in the Dwarakamai indicated this merger. Sivanesan Swamiji's asti kalash is kept in Shirdi, off Pimpalwadi Road, two and a half kilometers away from the Sansthan's Prasadalya, by Smt. Zarine and her associates. He devoted his life in the propagation of Baba's messages and advised all the visiting devotees to build Saibaba temples, do service to Baba and propagate Baba's messages.

Swamiji often sang: "Haridwar, Mathura, Kashi Shirdi mein saba thirtha samaye hai, Sai Baba ke charano mein Charo dhama hamare hai." conveying the meaning that Shirdi is a pilgrimage place in which Haridwar, Mathura and Kashi are all embraced and encompassed. All the four great places of worship are found at Sai Baba's Holy Feet.



# **SADHUS IN THE LIFE OF SRI SIVANESAN SWAMIJI**



## **NITYANANDA SWAMI GANESPURI**

SHIVNESAN SWAMIJI STAYED IN GANESPURI  
HE WAS ASKED BY NITAYNADA BABA TO GO  
TO SHIRDI

## **SRI RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI.**

SRI RADHAKRISHNA SWAMIJI ADVISED SRI  
SHIVNESAN SWAMIJI NOT TO LEAVE SHIRDI,  
SIVNESAN SWAMIJI LIVED IN SHRIDHI TILL HIS  
NRIVAN.



## **GODAVARI MATAJI OF SAKORI DISCIPLE OF UPASANI BABA**

SWAMIJI USED TO ACCOMPANY GODAVARI  
MATAJI OF SAKORI TO SAMADHI MANDIR AT  
SHIRDHI WHENEVER SHE USED TO COME FOR  
DARSHAN TO SHIRDHI FROM SAKORI



## **MAYAMMA**

SHIVNESAN SWAMIJI USED TO ASK ALL SAI  
BANDHUS VISITING HIM TO VISIT AMMA WHEN  
SHE WAS ALIVE AND AFTER HER SAMADHI  
ALSO; HE HAD IN HIS ROOM PHOTOGRAPH OF  
AMMA.



## **SRI NAMPALLY BABA (HYDERABAD)**

SHIVNESAN SWAMIJI USED TO ASK SAI BANDHUS  
TO VISIT NAMPALLY BABA OF HYDERABAD.

## **ANUSUYAMATA OF PARAD SINGHA**

SIVNESAN SWAMIJI USED TO ASK GURUBANDHUS TO VISIT PARAD SINGHA AND HAVE DARSHAN OF AMMA, HE ALSO ARRANGED AMMA TO BE BROUGHT TO SHIRDI. HE HAD IN HIS ROOM PHOTOGRAPH OF ANUSUYA MATHA



## **RAM REDDY THATHA KURNOOL (HYD)**

SIVNESAN SWAMIJI USED TO ASK GURUBANDHUS TO VISIT RAM RADDY THATHA AND HAVE HIS DARSHAN. HE ARRANGED RAM REDDY THATHA TO BROUGHT SIRDHI HE WAS VERY FOND OF AVADHUTAS

## **DWARAKAMAYI**

SIVNESAN SWAMIJIS LAST DESTINATION WAS SHIRDI HE NEVER LEFT SHRIDI. LIVED THERE FOR 40 YEARS AND SERVED BABA AT GURUSTHAN, DWARAKAMAYI, AND CHAVDHI AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL, IN BRINGING UP SAI



TEMPLES WORLD WIDE, STARTED NAM SAPTHA, ENCOURAGED ASPIRANTS TO WRITE BOOKS, TRANSLATE BOOKS TO VARIOUS LANGUAGES, PRADAKSHINA AROUND NANDA DEEP, GURUSTHAN, ENCOURAGED VARIOUS SAI TEMPLE TO BUILD DHUNI.



## AT DWARAKAMAYI

SIVNESASN SWAMIJI INSIDE DWARAKAMAYI, AND THE SACRED DHUNI. NOW THE DHUNI IS FULLY COVERED. PREVIOUSLY COCONUT COULD BE OFFERED. NOW ALL THE OFFERING IS STOPPED. ONLY THE PUJARI OFFERS NAIVEDHYAM AND COCONUT IN THE MORNING.

## AT GURUSTHAN

A VIEW OF SACRED FIRE PALCE IN FRONT OF "GURUSTHAN, DEVOTEES BURN INCENSE STICKS AND LOBAN HERE SPECIALLY ON THURSDAYS AND FRIDAY'S. SIVNESAN SWAMIJI PRAYING NEAR THE SACRED FIRE AT GURUSTHAN



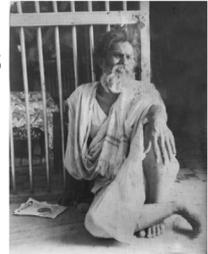
SHIVNESAN SWAMIJI INSIDE THE OLD GURUSTHAN WHICH WAS DEMOLISHED AND ONLY THE PHOTOGRAPH IS KEPT AT THAT PLACE AT PRESENT. THEY HAVE SHIFTED THE NEEM TREE BACKWARDS.



EVERY DAY SWAMIJI USED TO PERFORM BHAJANS EXACTLY AT 8 PM TILL THE SAMADHI



MANDIR MAIN ARATHI STARTS. HE DID THIS TILL HE WAS ALIVE.



## ◁AT CHAVADI▷



## **BABA'S 'ELDER BROTHER'**

SIVNESAN SWAMIJI HAVING DARSHAN AT HANUMAN MANDIR, SHIRDI. BABA USED TO CALL THIS HANUMAN BIG BROTHER. WHEN SAI BABA WAS ON ROUNDS HE USED TO STOP AND WAVE HIS

HAND TOWARDS THE HANUMAN MANDIR AND USED TO CALL HIM BIG BROTHER. SIVNESAN SWAMIJI LIVED IN HANUMAN MANDIR FOR FEW YEARS WHEN HE FIRST ARRIVED TO SHIRDI, ALSO HE STAYED IN KANIFNATH MANDIR AT SHIRDI.

## **PRADAKSHINAM**

HIS DAILY ROUTINE WAS TO DO PRADAKSHINA AT NANADA DEEP, DATTAMANDIR AT LENDI BAUGH AND GURUSTHAN TILL HIS DEMISE. GURUSTHAN PRADAKSHINA WAS STOPPED DUE TO THE RENOVATION OF THE NEW GURUSTHAN, AND HE USED TO DO PRADAKSHINA MORNING AND EVENING ALSO ADVISED SAI DEVOTEES TO DO PRADAKSHINA.



## **ASSOCIATES OF SIVNESAN SWAMIJI**

MOHAN BABA A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF SIVNESAN SWAMIJI, HAILED, FROM MANGALORE, KARNATAKA, LIVED IN SHIRDI AND USED TO ASSIST SWAMIJI AT CHAVDI, HE LEFT HIS MORTAL COIL AT SHIRDI. AFTER SWAMIJI'S DEMISE MOHAN BABA WAS TAKEN CARE BY SIYARAM ANOTHER CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF SIVNESAN SWAMIJI. MOHAN BABA WAS A VIGOROUS PRACTITIONER OF PRANAYAM. HE WOULD RECITE HANUMAN CHALISA BY HOLDING HIS BREATH FOR LONG TIME.





LATE MANI FROM TRIPUR WHO RAN A TAILORING SHOP AT MUMBAI MATUNGA RETIRED FROM HIS JOB AND SETTLED IN SHIRDHI WAS VERY CLOSE TO SHIVNESAN SWAMIJI AND HE PERFORMED THE LAST RITES OF SHIVNESAN SWAMIJI AND ALSO GAVE HIM AGNI.

SIAYRAM HAILED FROM MP. SETTLED DOWN IN SHIRDI. RAN A HOTEL. ON ADVISE OF SWAMIJI, HE USED TO FEED POOR PEOPLE, SADHUS AND FAKIRS WITHOUT LOOKING AT THE COMMERCIAL ANGLE. HE IS EXPERT IN DECORATING HANUMAN IDOLS. TILL NOW HE MUST HAVE DONE 1,000 HANUMAN



DECORATIONS IN VILLAGES AROUND SHIRDI AND NASHIK. HE DOES IT FREE OF COST. EVEN THOUGH NOT EDUCATED, HE KNOWS THE ARCHITECTURE OF DWARAKAMAYI, GURUSHTAN AND SAMADHI MANDIR. HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN BUILDING GURUSTHAN AT PERIYANAYAKAMPALAYAM AS PER OLD GURUSTHAN MODEL. SIMILARLY, DWARAKAMAYI AT KETOHALLI, BANGALORE AS PER THE OLD DWARAKAMAYI MODEL WAS HIS CONTRIBUTION.

## **Think Of Sai Baba All Day Long**



"OBSERVE YOUR BREATH. EVERYTIME YOU INHALE, CHANT "SA...", AND EVERYTIME YOU EXHALE, CHANT "YI...". IN A DAY YOU BREATH 26,300 TIMES, IS IT NOT SO? THUS, YOU WILL BE THINKING OF SAIBABA ALL THROUGH THE DAY. IF YOU PRACTICE THIS YOU CAN ATTAIN THE THING", SAYS SRI SIVANESAN SWAMIJI.



## **Dwarakamayi Sai Mandir at Kethuhalli**



A new Sai Mandir was inaugurated on 13th March 2016 at Kethuhally in the outskirts of Bengaluru. This Mandir is managed by Shirdi Dwarakamayi Charitable Trust founded by a few ardent devotees of the village. Kethuhalli is 3 km away from Ramohalli – the village of Big Banyan tree - on Kengeri - Nelamangala Road off Mysuru highway taking a right turn at Raja Rajeshwari Medical College.

This new temple resembles of Dwarakamayi at Shirdi in seventies with the sacred dhuni burning and all other articles of Sai Baba replicated therein. An added feature is a photograph of Sivanesan Swamiji popularly called Chavadi Swamiji.

### **SAI BABA'S DHUNI.**

After settling in Shirdi, Baba lit up a fire by his yogic powers. It is still kept burning. It is called Dhuni and the holy ashes emerging from it are called "udhi".

Baba gave medicines for several ailments and himself served the

patients. Later on, Baba gave his patients only the 'Udhi' for external use as well as for oral administration. Some wonderful stories of the use of Udhi are well known among Sai devotees. Appa Bhill supplied the fuel for Baba's dhuni. When he sold two stacks, he gave one for the dhuni.

From 1952 onwards, Sivanesan Swamiji settled down in Chavadi and was very fond of performing pooja to dhuni. Till 1984, he made devotees to perform pooja to dhuni. Subsequently as the Samsthan authorities objected, he stopped being proactive on dhuni pooja and made devotees to offer pooja themselves. Even this was discontinued by 2000. Now devotees can offer coconuts to dhuni which the Samsthan staff will offer later.

Sri Sivanesan Swamiji suggested to install dhuni whenever a new temple of Sai Baba was started. Thus he was responsible for starting of dhuni in almost all Sai Mandirs. Since a few are devotees of Sri Sivanesan Swamiji, we too installed dhuni in our new Mandir. We were fortunate to get the dhuni fire from Thyagarajanagar Sai Mandir sanctified by the blessings of Sai Baba and Sri Radhakrishna Swamiji.

Sai Baba maintained dhuni so that his devotees offer all their negative aspects and arishadwargas to it. Thereby they purify themselves and lead a Sai - entered life of purity and chastity.

Tajuddin Baba was a contemporary of Sai Baba. His mosque once caught fire. At the same time, Sai Baba in Shirdi, sitting before the Dhuni, made certain movements with his hands. People asked, "what happened Baba?" "There is a fire at Tajuddin's mosque. I am putting, it out," said Baba.

The next day, a word came from Tajuddin that a fire had broken out at the dargah, but as soon as he remembered Baba, the fire had subsided.

A blacksmith was an ardent devotee of Baba. Once Baba put both his hands in the burning dhuni and took them out as if 'rescuing' something. "Poor girl, if I had delayed a moment longer, she would have been burnt to death".

What had happened was that the blacksmith's daughter, while playing about, had run into the furnace and Baba 'seeing' it, had rescued her. Baba's hands were scalded, but the girl was saved.

Thus dhuni in Dwarakamayi is our universal mother. Baba used to chant 'Hari, Hari' while taking out udhi from dhuni. Thus dhuni is where we can meet Lord Vishnu in person and the udhi is the link with the grace of Hari. First udhi is a blessing. Secondly it is medical aid. Thirdly it is the symbol of love of Sai Baba. It is the talisman for protection.

Udhi shows that the material life of lusts and lures is transitory, illusory and momentary. The udhi for us is the pointer to the divine music of immortal life beyond physical death. Udhi is sacred, auspicious, protective, a token of divine compassion and ambrosial grace of God.

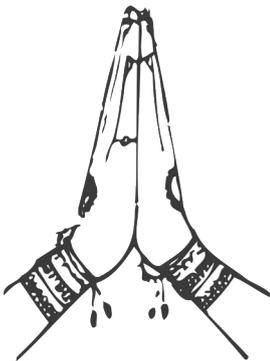
### **DEVOTEES, WELCOME!**

Beloved Guru Bandhus, please visit Sai's new abode at Kethuhalli and enjoy the bond of love of the Master as you offer everything to the dhuni. You merge your identity in Sai Baba.



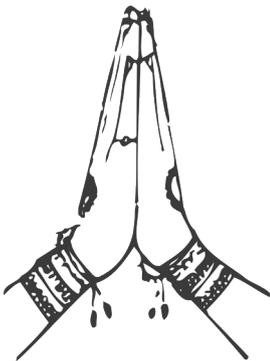
# Guidance to Sai Mandir Trustees

The responsibility of all those involved in Sai temples – President, General Secretary or Members of managing committee, as also persons who are engaged in any service in the temple including the Pujari - is very onerous. They must understand that they are the servants of the temple and not its masters. It is absolutely necessary for them to give equal importance to everyone who visits the temple. Whether it is a wealthy man or a man from the street, they should not make any difference in their approach. Neither should they run after anyone, nor should they ignore the poor. They should adopt the attitude of not showing any special concern for anyone nor disrespect to some. They should see the image of Sai in every person visiting the



temple and have the feeling of rendering service to him. One should have the attitude of a devotee, not of an official of the place.

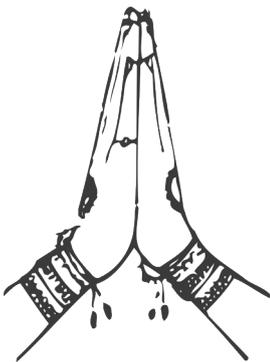
Everyone visiting the temple should be their honoured guest. They should throw away the countenance of hatred outside the temple and endeavour to generate the currents of love, fellow feeling, respect for all and oneness with each other before Baba. They should leave outside the temple their anger, hatred and disrespect. The vibrations of love and divinity arising in the temple should not be allowed to be polluted. Intemperate language used for a devotee should be construed to have been used for Baba. Getting respect, flowers and garlands in token of Prasad is the right of every devotee and he/she should get these from the temple. The persons in the management are first to become devotees themselves and later don the cloak of officialdom.



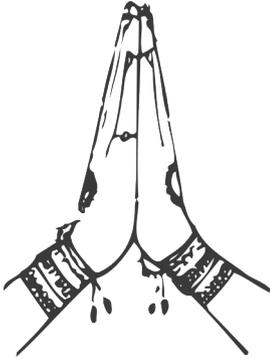
Our ego is the base which makes us feel pleasure and pain in our day to day life. The situation which meets our requirement of happiness provides us pleasure and that which hurts our ego gives us pain. They have no value of their own. That which exists today

will end tomorrow. Moreover, the situation which looks bad and gives us unhappiness today may turn out eventually to make our lives happy. This is our everyday experience. If we acquire firm faith in the changeability of the situation, we shall make our life happy.

A few researchers have done a commendable work and have gone deep into the life of Baba and have found facts contradictory to what is stated in Shri Sai Satcharita. We all know that Shri Sai Satcharita has acquired the sanctity of an epic like Ramayana, Mahabharata and Bible and the like for Sai devotees. The writing of this great work was started with the avowed concurrence and blessings of Baba and ever since its publication, has attained the position of Adi Granth for Sai devotees who may not like to hear or know any fact howsoever true it may be, the knowledge of which would strike at the very root of their Bhakti. Moreover, it is not understood what useful purpose would be served as to know that Baba was born in village 'X' instead of village 'Y'. I for one, would not like to know or hear any fact which might strike at the root of my Bhakti. Let us, for example, take Ram Charit



Manas written by Tulsidas in the 16th century. It has become the life blood of millions of devotees of Lord Ram who do its parayana everyday and draw inspiration from every word of it. Many facts contradictory to what has been stated in this rendering were discovered by researchers. But those who have faith in this Granth are not in the least bothered about them. We must therefore shun to bring out and express even the facts which spoil the Bhakti of a devotee and affect his faith.





## **ELEVEN SAYINGS OF SHRI SAI BABA**

1. Whoever puts his feet on Shirdi soil, his sufferings would come to an end.
2. The wretched and miserable would rise into plenty of joy and happiness as soon as they climb the steps of my Samadhi.
3. I shall be ever active and vigorous even after leaving this earthly body.
4. My tomb shall bless and speak to the needs of my devotees.
5. I shall be active and vigorous even from my tomb.
6. My mortal remains would speak from my tomb.
7. I am ever living to help and guide all who come to me, who surrender to me and seek refuge in me.
8. If you look to me - I look to you.
9. If you cast your burden on me, I shall surely bear it.
10. If you seek my advice and help, it shall be given to you at once.
11. There shall be no want in the house of my devotees.