



Sai Newsletter

Sri Sathya Sai Baba
Centre of Toronto - York

**"A pure heart is the inner purpose of all discipline"
- Baba**

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From the Editor

As noted in previous issues. The newsletter can only exist with your contributions. For those who have never contributed yet, we look forward to your participation in **your** newsletter. For those who have contributed, please continue to do so.

When submitting articles, please ensure that you respect the deadlines.

We sincerely thank all the authors including children for sending their articles. We sincerely thank all Gurus who motivated children to show their creativity through our Newsletter.

All contributions must be submitted to the Editor, Dr. Venkata R. Neralla, via e-mail (neralla@sympatico.ca) or in his absence, to Paul Urbani at purbani@sympatico.ca in Word format.

Again, please ensure that the contributions are sent on time.

- *Paul Urbani for Dr.
Venkata Neralla*

ACQUIRE THE POWER TO ENCOUNTER TRIBULATIONS

There will be several trials and tribulations in the journey of life. One has to acquire the power by which he can courageously encounter them. That is the power of spirituality. One should not become diffident and withdraw from his effort in the middle.

The purpose of human birth is not to be born again and again from the womb of the mother, spend the life aimlessly and finally depart from this world. There is a specific purpose why one is born in this world. Therefore, one has to realise the purpose and sanctify his life. Our education, our work and the money we earn, all these must be spent in a purposeful way.

Extract from Swami's 79th Birthday Discourse

**"It's not the mountains we conquer, but ourselves"
- Sir Edmund Hillary**

Krishna Janmashtami

(September 6 2004)

I bow at the lotus feet of my Father, Mother Sai who enfolds us in His arms of divine Love. Krishna is the symbol of Divine Love embodied. Krishna Janmashtami commemorates the auspicious day when Lord Krishna was born a long time ago.



In chapter 4 verse 7 of the Bhagavad Gita Lord Krishna says "Whenever virtue declines and unrighteousness rises, I manifest Myself as an embodied Being, I am born."

Most of us know the circumstances of Krishna's birth. In ancient India, Devaki, the niece of the king of Mathura, was married to a nobleman, Vasudeva.

Kamsa, the king's son had been warned by a celestial voice " Beware, Devaki's 8th child will bring about your destruction." Kamsa first set out to kill Devaki but Vasudeva pleaded for her life. Devaki's life was spared but Vasudeva had to promise to hand over all of Devaki's children to Kamsa. So Kamsa imprisoned the couple and mercilessly killed the first six children as soon as they were born. The seventh child Balarama, who was an incarnation of Sheshanaga (an aspect of Lord Vishnu), through Maya Shakti was transferred from Devaki's womb to Rohini's womb.

When the birth of the 8th child drew near, the entire atmosphere was charged with auspiciousness and delight. Krishna was born at midnight. The child assumed a shining effulgent form of Lord Vishnu. The entire room was filled with light. The parents realized that God himself had incarnated. Then Vishnu withdrew His divine form and appeared as the baby again. The entire prison turned pitch black and torrents

of rain poured. The guards fell into a deep sleep, the fetters or chains fell off Vasudeva's hands and feet and the prison doors magically opened. Sheshanaga secretly sheltered them from the pouring rain as Vasudeva with the baby made his way to the home of Yashoda and Nanda. The Yamuna river had swollen and flooded but as Vasudeva approached, the waters receded for them to cross over. Yashoda had also just given birth to a baby girl who was an incarnation of Maya Shakti. By Divine influence they were all asleep as in a trance. Vasudeva secretly exchanged baby Krishna for Yashoda's baby daughter. When he got back to the prison the doors locked automatically, the fetters magically chained him again and the guards woke up. When Kamsa came to kill the baby girl, Maya Shakti rose from the baby and laughed. She told Kamsa "Beware Kamsa, Devaki's baby is indeed safe and one day He will destroy you." That is the story of Lord Krishna's birth.

But what is the true inner meaning of Krishna's birth? Who is Krishna? Krishna said, " I exist in the heart of every human being". Krishna exists in us as our own True Self. To become aware of this and recognize the Sai Krishna in all beings - that is true Krishna Consciousness. That is the birth of Krishna in our hearts.

This is an excerpt from The Glory of Lord Krishna by Swami Jyotimayananda: "The chariot is your personality. Two important aspects are: 1) the Jiva, or individual soul, and it is represented by Vasudeva and 2) the intellect, and it is represented by Devaki. In the state of ignorance the chariot is driven by the ego (the I, I me, me). As a result of countless good deeds done in past lives, Krishna is born in the heart of the individual as aspiration (desire) for God-realization. Even in the presence of countless obstacles and adversities, the child or the aspiration grows, undaunted by the relentless effort of Kamsa (the little ego backed by ignorance) to destroy him. Just as

Krishna incarnates in a prison with darkness all around, God manifests deep within your heart, deep in the unconscious, to remove the obstacles and lead you to enlightenment."

End of quote

Whenever our thoughts, words and deeds are in harmony and whenever our will is aligned with the Divine will, Krishna is playing his divine flute in our hearts - the divine music of bliss in a beautiful garden that wafts the fragrance of the beautiful flowers of Love and Peace in all hues, colours and shapes. All of us could be those flowers. If only we have the eyes and vision to see. The trees bear the sweet fruits of Divine Grace.

Here is an excerpt from our beloved Swami's discourse on Krishnajanmastami, Aug 12 1963:

"Concentration on the Name and Form of Krishna tends to calm the waves of Vritti (agitation). When E.M. Foster came to India, he was for some time with the Thakore of Rajkot and when he found the Thakor engaged in Dhyanam before the image of Radha-Shyam, he wondered at first what it was all for! 'Why?' he asked. He replied that Krishna was the embodiment of Prema, Soundarya, and Anandam, and so when he meditated on that Form he was filled with LOVE, Beauty, and Joy. The senses, intellect and emotions, all get purified and clarified by dwelling on the pure and the splendid. Foster was induced to try the first steps and though he found it rather difficult at first, the thrill engendered by the strange calm moved him on to persist. He found Dhyanam good and useful.

Krishna was only a few weeks old, when a certain ascetic came into the house of Nanda; Yasoda was having the baby in her lap. Of course this is an incident not found in any book: I have Myself to tell you this. The maids ran in, for they were afraid the child might start weeping at the sight of the uncouth individual. He walked in nevertheless, and Yasoda

found that when he was sent away, the baby raised a cry; not when he was approaching! The ascetic also announced himself as having come to see Krishnaparamaatma, a name that was new to the entire family. No wonder, the baby cried when that distinguished visitor was asked to go! Devaki had been given the vision of Krishna being the Lord Himself, but this Muni (ascetic) had discovered the arrival of the Avathar, by the Grace of the Almighty." It was Baba who had invited the Muni for the Darshan.

Compiled by Baktawar Mehta

SSE Graduation - Alumni Speech

My humble pranams at the Lotus Feet of my beloved Lord. Respected elders, uncles, aunties, brothers, sisters and fellow graduates - our heroes of this evening - Aum Sri Sai Ram.

I feel privileged and honoured to be here amongst you. It's been 4 years since I graduated from the SSE Program. I joined the group 1 class in 1990 and finished Group 3 in June 2000.

Today, standing in front of you as a product of this program, my memories go back to those good old days. Though it was not a choice for me to join the classes, today I am very proud to have done that and my sincere gratitude goes to my parents who have been instrumental in bringing me to the classes.

No doubt we all enjoyed the little stories and activities we had in the classes, but what stands out for me today in my student life in the university, work environment and friend circle is the values that were behind those stories and activities. All the morals hidden in those stories and activities have made me a better person.

It has provided me with the tools such as five human values (truth, right conduct,

peace, love, and non-violence), the importance of respecting parents, prayers/bhajans, knowledge about religions around the world, Seva, and the list goes on and on. While it is important to know about these skills, the program has taught us to practice them in our daily lives.

Initially, when I was forced by my parents to go to Narayan Seva, I didn't realize its purpose. Slowly as years went by, I have begun to appreciate the importance of serving food to the less fortunate. I might not have changed the life of those people drastically but it has definitely made an impact in my life. It has been an eye-opener for me that a lot of people in Toronto can't afford the basic necessities of life. Now, whenever I have a chance to go, I thoroughly enjoy it and thank Bhagawan for giving me more than enough food everyday.

In school, these tools have greatly contributed to my success. Examples such as going to class on time, doing homework, respect for teachers/peers, staying in good company have helped me to achieve my goals and all around development.

Now, I would like to share how this program has helped in the workplace. This program taught me to treat everyone as God, no matter how the person is. Baba says, "*You cannot always oblige, but you can always speak obligingly*". These skills have contributed to my success in the workplace. Interpersonal skills are one of the most important attributes all the employers look for.

Swami says "*The End of Education is Character*". The SSE Program completes this statement very well. It is important for everyone to have both the academic and spiritual components of education. The academic component is needed for a career and the spiritual to become a better person.

Fellow Graduates, you have graduated from a program that has been founded by none other than Bhagawan Himself.

Apply what you have learned in your SSE classes in order to benefit. The more you practice, the bigger the gain. You yourself will see its benefits in coming years. The tools you have gained in these years are immeasurable. Study hard, enjoy your life and be happy and proud in whatever career path you chose.

On behalf all alumni of the SSE program of this centre, I would like to thank all the gurus, parents, and the centre for providing all of us this great opportunity. Without them, I would not be standing in front of you, today. Jai Sai Ram.

Karun Goyal

**"Nothing great was ever
achieved without enthusiasm"
– Ralph Waldo Emerson**

Birthday Celebration Reading

In this Kali age, when darkness is surrounding the mind of man, any little lamp that can light the steps is most welcome. That is why I advise you to resort to good deeds and conduct, good attitudes and outlook, so that you may be established in the constant presence of the Lord. You must also strive to hear elevating words, and think about these promptings of the spirit, and then, when the validity is recognized, you then meditate on it, in profound reverence. This day there is a Solar eclipse and many people wondered whether the Birthday festival will be celebrated or postponed. When the shadow of the moon casts itself upon the sun, it is not a calamity that people should fear - when the shadow of maya falls upon the intelligence - this is the eclipse that has to be treated as a bad omen. The mind is the moon, the intelligence is the sun; see that they do not suffer from the eclipse. Do not worry when something happens in the outer sky - worry when the shadow of

some dark desire or negative action, casts an evil gloom over your inner sky. See that the splendor of the Lord and the cool rays of His Grace, are not dimmed within your heart.

Take the first step today, in this long pilgrimage. Give up, in order to gain - restrain, in order to receive - become blind to the external view, in order to see more clearly the inner vision.

Every man is engaged in searching for something lost. Life is the chance offered to him to recover the peace and the joy that he has lost. If he recovers them now, he need not come again. But, he loses them through ignorance of their value and of the means of retaining them. Man must demonstrate his superiority over the animal, by conquest over the senses. He must wriggle out of his animal shackles and assert his "humanity", which is essentially "divinity". Divinity can be grasped only through Love, Faith and Spiritual Discipline, surcharged with Universal Love. Purity of the heart and mastery over the senses - if you have these 2 credentials - Grace is your right. If every person observes 3 things, he will be one with Swami. You will experience the Divine in you, as the following 3 are in Me: Purity, Patience and Perseverance.

The wise man is he who keeps his reason sharp and clear, and sees things as they really are: He listens to the advice: Life is a challenge - meet it. Life is Love - share it - Life is a dream - realize it - Life is a Game - play it. This is the pilgrim's progress. Life sweeps along like a whirlwind; the years melt away like snow before the sun. But, man wastes the precious change, and strays into folly and frivolity.

Of what use is it to honor the Avatar and celebrate his Birthday, when the message is neglected? The message must be born, become alive, must grow in you and in your heart.

Then you can be happy that you have given Swami a proper gift, for I

consider the day, when Purity and Divinity blossoms in your heart, as my birthday. Plant the seeds of love in your heart, let them grow into trees of service - to bear the sweet fruits of Ananda. Share this bliss with all. This is the proper way to celebrate the Birthday of the Avatar!

Prepared by Indi Lochan from excerpts from the book " Birthday Blessings of Bhagavan"



Birthday Celebration Report

Another memorable Birthday Program was held on November 21st 2004. This year all joined together in the celebration. Audience and participants became one. The SSE children were beautiful as they always have been, the youth were role-models at their best as they always are, and the parents were shining lights with their participation as they forever will be with Swami's grace.

As always, we were graced with the participation of youth and adults from other Sai families. To all of you, **you** are our teachers. Not to forget those from the Centre who worked so hard. Though you may not always be mentioned, you are **never** forgotten.

"There are two things you must forget - the good you do to others and the wrong others do to you"

- Sathya Sai Baba

Santa's Wish



On Christmas Eve,
a young boy with light in his eyes,
Looked deep into Santa's, to Santa's
surprise,
And said as he nestled on Santa's
broad knee,
"I want your secret, tell it to me."
He leaned up & whispered in
Santa's good ear,
"How do you do it, year after year?"
"I want to know how, as you travel
about,
Giving gifts here & there, you never
run out.
How is it, dear Santa, that in your
pack of toys,
You have plenty for all of the
world's girls & boys?
Stays so full, never empties as you
make your way
From rooftop to rooftop, to homes
large & small,
From nation to nation, reaching
them all?
And Santa smiled kindly & said to
the boy,
"Don't ask me hard questions.
Don't you want a toy?"
But the child shook his head, and
Santa could see
That he needed the answer. "Now
listen to me,"
He told the small boy with the light
in his eyes,
"My secret will make you sadder &
wise.
"The truth is that my sack is magic.
Inside
It holds millions of toys for my
Christmas Eve ride.
But although I do visit each girl &
each boy
I don't always leave them a gaily
wrapped toy.
Some homes are hungry, some
homes are sad.

Some homes are desperate, some
homes are bad.
Some homes are broken, & children
there grieve.
Those homes I visit, but what
should I leave?
"My sleigh is filled with the
happiest stuff,
But for homes where despair lives,
toys aren't enough.
So I tiptoe in, kiss each girl & boy,
And pray with them that they'll be
given the joy
Of the spirit of Christmas, the spirit
that lives
In the heart of the dear child who
gets not, but gives.
If only God hears me & answers my
prayer,
When I visit next year, what I will
find there
Are homes filled with peace,
and with giving, and love
And boys and girls gifted with light
from above.
It's a very hard task, my smart little
brother,
To give toys to some,
and to give prayers to others.
But the prayers are the best gifts,
the best gifts indeed,
For God has a way of meeting each
need.
"That's part of the answer.
The rest, my dear youth,
Is that my sack is magic, And that is
the truth.
In my sack I carry on Christmas Eve
day
More love than a Santa could e'er
give away.
The sack never empties of love, or
of joys
'Cause inside it are prayers, and
hopes.
Not just toys.
The more that I give, the fuller it
seems,
Because giving is my way of
fulfilling dreams.

"And do you know something?
You've got a sack, too.
It's as magic as mine, and it's inside
of you.
It never gets empty, it's full from the
start.
It's the centre of lights, and of love.
It's your heart.
And if on this Christmas you want
to help me,
Don't be so concerned with your
gifts 'neath your tree.
Open that sack, called your heart, &
share
Your joy, your friendship, your
wealth, your care."
The light in the small boy's eyes was
glowing.
"Thanks for the secret. I've got to be
going."
"Wait, little boy," said Santa "don't
go.
Will you share? Will you help?
Will you use what you know?"
And just for a moment the small boy
stood still,
Touched his heart with his small
hand & whispered,

"I will."

Author Unknown

**"This Christmas when you
celebrate the birth of Christ,
resolve to lead the lives of
Loving Service to the weak,
the helpless, the distressed,
the disconsolate."**

- Sathya Sai Baba

FROM WINGS

We regret to say that no contributions
were received from the Wings for this
issue.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

TWINKLE



Sai Ram and neighs to you all!

It is almost Christmas! I am so excited! I wonder if I will get carrots, apples, and sugar for Christmas! (Oh! How I wish! Please, Santa, please, Santa, give me some!) Anyway, back to business. I have come a long way as far as becoming a better pony (yuppee). I hope you also have improved spiritually. Just two months ago, a very interesting incident took place. I shall now narrate it to you.

I was living at Miss O'Teel's pony farm in a large pasture that I shared with five other ponies (Fun! Fun!), which was beside a small road (It is so fun! I run to meet every person that passes by! Will I get a hug, a kiss, or a treat? I hope so!).

One day, someone was strolling along by my pasture, someone I had never seen before. (A lady was pushing a very strange object and there was a living creature in it!) When the person stopped, I cantered over to them and stuck my head over the fence. (That object was a rolling chair and there was a girl in it!) The little girl's eyes brightened and a smile lit up her face when she saw me!

"Mommy! Mommy! Lift me up! I want to pet the pony! Pony!" the girl cried in delight.

Her mother lifted her and she gave my face many soft strokes. (How good it felt!) I gave her my full attention and let her scratch me all over and hug and kiss me too!

"Annie, it is time to go," her mother said, since Annie would not stop stroking me.

"Mommy! No! Can I pet him forever?" Annie asked.

"I don't think so, Annie," her mother said with a chuckle.

Annie's face fell; she did not want to leave me. Just then, Miss O'Teel walked into my pasture with lots of hay! (Mmmm) I was tempted to run to the hay, but my heart told me to stay with the little girl.

"Welcome!" Miss O'Teel greeted the mother and Annie. "You can come any time to see the ponies! They just love attention!" (Too true)

Annie clapped her hands in delight and they left. Day after day, they returned to see me. (Yuppee! It is so much fun!)

One day, Annie asked her mother, "Mommy! Could I ride him?"

Her mother thought for a moment, trying to find a way to tell Annie that she would be unable to ride because of her condition; she could not even walk.

"I don't think so, Annie," her mother said.

"Please? Mommy, please?" Annie begged.

"I'll see," she replied.

I grew excited as I listened to this conversation. How I wanted to be ridden by my little friend! I listened as the mother talked to Miss O'Teel.

"You know, that pony has been like a star in Annie's life. She has never been so happy before!" the mother explained.

"How ironic! That pony's name is Twinkle!" Miss O'Teel said as they both laughed.

"Annie really wants to ride Twinkle, is that actually possible?" she asked.

"Of course!" Miss O'Teel replied, "Horses are often used for therapy and don't worry, Twinkle will take care of her,"

With great excitement, Annie got ready to ride me! (Ooooooh! I felt honoured to carry such a precious bundle!) When she got on my back, I felt her insecurity and lack of ability to stay centered and balanced. Therefore, I moved very carefully and made sure she was comfortable and safe on my back.

Day after day, Annie came and rode me. Slowly, a very special bond developed between us; we learned to trust each other. (We were best friends) I took very special care of her when she was on or around me. In return, she told me many fascinating secrets and always gave me lots of kisses and hugs. Soon, Annie could ride me all on her own. (I am so proud of her!)

One day, I overheard a conversation between the mother and Miss O'Teel.

"Twinkle is amazing! Not only does he give Annie joy, but he is her true best friend. He is always there for her to receive her love and listen to her," the mother began.

Miss O'Teel nodded.

"He has given her wings. With him, she can run, play, and have all the fun normal children have. He has made her feel more equal to everyone else around her and has given her independence and self-confidence."

Miss O'Teel smiled.

"Also, Twinkle takes extremely good care of Annie; he protects her and patiently teaches her. Twinkle is someone Annie could always trust and

go to when she needs help, comfort and love. Thanks for giving her such an opportunity.”

“You’re welcome, but you must thank Twinkle,” Miss O’Teel responded.

After two months of being with Annie, I sensed great change. (And I also felt like a king!) One day, as Annie was riding me, I noticed a change in her initial riding ability. She felt secure and balanced on my back! I did not feel as if she would fall off! What happened? After she rode me and then dismounted, she did not ask to go back to her rolling chair. She did something that surprised me and her mother. Holding on to my neck, she took a few wobbly steps towards my head. I gently nuzzled her and let her pet my face. Together, we walked to her mother, who was standing with her mouth open.

Annie whispered in my ear, “You gave me the wings to fly and the feet to walk.”

“And now guess what?” her mother said to herself, “Twinkle also taught Annie how to walk. What next?”

There was a moment of silence.

“From the horse,” the mother began softly, “We can learn how to care and protect one another. We can also learn the values of true friendship, love, support, comfort, patience, joy, and trust.”

As I overheard this, I felt wonderful to know that I had helped Annie. I quietly thanked Baba for giving me this opportunity to be of service. (Let me get my community service hour sheet signed! Just joking, it was something I heard a visitor say!) As I stood by Annie, her mother, and Miss O’Teel, I heard Baba’s voice within me say,

“Whatever talents a person may possess, they must be dedicated to the service of humanity, indeed of all living beings. Therein lies life’s fulfillment. All men are kin, moulded out of the same

five elements, with the same divine essence residing in everyone. Service to your fellowmen will help your divinity to blossom, for service to man is service to God. God resides in the heart of every man and every living being, in every stone and stump. Let every act be a flower to be offered at the feet of God, free from the creeping worms of envy and egoism and full of the fragrance of love and sacrifice.”

Sai Ram and neighs to you all!

P.S. Wait for me in the next issue, and I hope to be of service again!

- Francesca and Emmanuela

Sathya Sai School News

Students cheer Kennedy Lodge Seniors with Christmas Carols

On Wednesday, December 8th, the Grade 2s and 3’s, brought cheer to the Seniors at Kennedy Lodge, where the staff once again acknowledged our students as their favourites. This time it was the opportunity for Danousha from Grade 3 to charm the Seniors with her eloquent introduction of the school and its choir. Accompanied by Mrs. Jayanthi Balachandran on the keyboard, the students then sang a medley of Christmas songs and carols to the appreciative seniors. As the students mingled and chatted freely with their adopted grandmothers and grandfathers, while handing out gifts made by the Grade 1’s and 4’s, it was obvious that they had grown in confidence as a result of their several visits in the past. Sanjana Kamath from Grade 3 in particular religiously followed the advice of her teacher Miss Sahni by asking each senior she visited three questions: How are you? How will you be spending Christmas? Will it be with family? Mr. Pillay reported to the rest of the school that he was very pleased with student efforts to interact with the seniors.

As in the past, the staff of Kennedy Lodge reciprocated by treating our students with cookies and juice. In return, Miss Poddar and her Grade 1 students will be presenting Kennedy Lodge with a hand-sewn wall-hanging quilt in appreciation of our long association with them.

From Sathya Sai School Parent Newsletter, Dec. 14 2004

"Love All Serve All"

Dr. Goldstein on the Sai Organisation

As members of a spiritual organisation, actually a spiritual movement, we must ask ourselves, are we creating the kinetic energy of selfless love? Is there spiritual synergism in our collective actions? If not, it is better that we have no organisation rather than demean the sacred name of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

The Sai Spiritual Centre is the nucleus of the international organisation that Swami has so graciously permitted us to form in His name. The Sai Centre is a sacred place, not a business place. The Sai Centre is a sacred place, not a social place. The Sai Centre is a spiritual place, a universal place, not a religious or philosophical place. As Sai devotees, as spiritual aspirants, we have embarked on this monumental campaign to realise our divine heritage, yet we ourselves present the greatest obstacle to our spiritual progress.

I am happy to report to you that Swami had so very graciously given His guidance to the overseas Sri Sathya Sai Organisation and we will begin very soon, to put into practice the treasures that He has so generously bestowed upon us. We will restore the profound spiritual depth of the Organisation that

bears the name of Divinity Incarnate Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. We will reinvigorate the great spiritual dedication, commitment and great enthusiasm that have been responsible for the advent of the spiritual movement and unprecedented widespread worldly growth.

While each of us must take that solitary walk alone within ourselves, we visit with each other during our spiritual journey, reinforcing each other, encouraging each other, selflessly loving each other. This is the substance of our Sai Organisation, our Sai spiritual movement, our Sai Satsang.

Regarding our mission, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba demonstrates divinity and inspires us to seek spiritual transformation. As the Divine Exemplar, His divine message instructs in the nature and ways of Divinity and inspires us to consider the purpose of life, spiritual transformation, and how we can apply ourselves to accomplish this purpose of our lives.

In our Sai Organisation now, we are becoming embroiled with cultural issues, social issues, financial issues, project issues, organisational issues, "etc etc" issues. Many issues are brought forth from the world outside ourselves. Swami has been saying repeatedly that there is only one issue. The transformation of each and every one of us that will result in embracing wholeheartedly His Divine teachings. All the rest will follow, all the rest will unfold as it should, all the rest will be God's will because as a result of embracing the divine teachings we will surrender. As a result of our surrender we will be transformed, as a result of our spiritual transformation, our actions will reflect Dharma and raise God-consciousness in the world. To raise God-consciousness in the world is seva.

Our organisation is a spiritual movement, comprised of sincere spiritual aspirants who have faith in the omnipresent divinity. The Sai Organisation must be a spiritual

movement, not a political interaction. We must not neutralise or compromise our philosophical differences through negotiation. Let us not trivialise divinity. Let us find unity by transcending our differences through inspiration. The Sai Organisation must be an instrument of His Love that uplifts us all, and all who behold us, so that everyone comes closer to the realisation of their own divinity.

Excerpts from a discourse given by Dr. Goldstein on May 29th 2004



On The Life Of Jesus

Jesus was a noble soul. He declared that he was the son of God, but he never said that he was God. When Jesus was born, three royal wise men from the east were guided by a star to a cowshed in Bethlehem where the baby Jesus lay in a manger. He was radiating divine effulgence. The first of them said, "This child will love God." The second said, "He will be loved by God." The third said, "He will love one and all. He is not different from God." The one who loves God is the messenger of God; the one whom God loves is the son of God; the one who understands the principle of unity becomes one with God. This is the inner meaning of the statements given in the Bible. The one you think you are; the one others think you are and the one you really are. You should understand the import of these statements.

The child was brought up by mother Mary and his father was working as a carpenter. It was the time of a festival in Jerusalem and the child Jesus was taken there along with his parents. They lost the child in the crowd and could not find him anywhere. Mother Mary naturally was very much worried. Finally, they went to the temple to pray. To their astonishment, they found young Jesus

coming out of the temple. All the while the child had been in the temple, listening to the holy discourse of the Rabbi (Jewish Priest) of the temple. The anxious mother took hold of her child and started asking him several questions as to what he was doing all the while. The child replied, "Mother, why were you afraid? All the while I was in the hands of God. I have been listening to the words of God expounded by the Rabbi in the temple." Thus, the child was God-minded from a very young age.

After some time, father Joseph passed away. Mary told her son, "Now that your father passed away; you should continue your father's profession, so that we may earn our livelihood." But the boy was not inclined to continue in his father's profession. The mother was also not interested to oppose the natural inclinations of young Jesus. One day, young Jesus went to a lonely hilltop. The mother was very much worried, nay, depressed due to the absence of her son. Jesus was sitting and meditating on God all the while. After some time, he returned. As he was returning, he ran into a group of worried men on the coast of the sea of Galilee. When young Jesus enquired from them the cause of their worry, they said that they were fishermen and that for quite some time past, they were not able to catch any fish in their nets. Jesus said, "Follow me; are there any waters that do not have fish?" He took them along with him in their boats to the middle of the sea and asked them to cast their nets at a particular spot. To their utter astonishment and great joy, the fishermen found that their nets were full with fish. This event created a lot of faith in the minds of the fishermen. Therefore, faith is indispensable for humanity.

**Where there is faith, there is love;
Where there is love, there is truth;
Where there is truth, there is peace;
Where there is peace, there is bliss;
Where there is bliss, there is God.**

Extract from Sai Baba's Christmas
Discourse 2002

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Upcoming Events

Date: 25 December 2004
Event: Christmas Day

Date: 14 January 2005
Event: Makara Sankranthi

Date: 9 March 2005
Event: Mahasivarathri

Note: December 26th & 31st
Sathsangs will be held at the Sivajis'
residence. Please call to confirm.

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