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“Satya Sai Baba 87th Birth Anniversary Message” 23 Nov, 2012

- Master K.Parvathi Kumar

On the celebrations of 87th birth anniversary of Bhagavan Sri Satya Sai Baba, my hearty fraternal greetings to all those who have gathered here.

The message of Sai would come out only when he graces all of us. It is due to his grace that I am sitting here and being a part of this grand celebrations. By listening to Baba's message, we will all be graced by his presence. I am just a medium for his message. I believed in the same principle from my childhood. The splendour is all due to the presence of the Lord and we are here to enjoy his presence.

It is said when Lord decides to grace "Even a dumb person speaks." The Lord gives his presence through a true Master. Just like electricity expressing itself through many instruments, the Lord gives his presences through different mediums who are the grand Masters we know. Such a medium of the Lord moved on this earth from 1926 till recently as Satya Sai Baba. We are lucky that we lived as contemporaries to him.

I came to know about Satya Sai Baba in 1972. My marriage happened in 1972. My wife is a devotee of Satya Sai Baba from her childhood and she used to visit Prasanthi Nilayam regularly. From then I came to know about Satya Sai Baba. From my childhood onwards, I had high inclination towards devotion. This devotion is what I liked the most in the path of Sai.

Today morning, I asked Sai what should I speak today. He told me to speak about the incidents that took place between me and him. Sri Ramana also asked me to speak about the incidents that took place between Sai and me. As I got the same instruction from both within and without, I will try to narrate the incidents that took place between me and Sai.

One year after my marriage, I went to Hyderabad on some professional work. But it got postponed due to some reason. I thought there must be some reason for my travel to hyderabad. I came to know that Sai was to visit hyderabad the next day, through a client. The next day, 4th of April, 1973, Sai was to inaugurate a building by name “Shivam” and to conduct Rama Navami Celebrations for 9 days. The next day, I was waiting for the arrival of Sai and when he arrived, a rose flower garland was put on him. He removed that garland and gave it to me and just look at me. I felt very happy and was almost in a trance. Then at lunch time, I was lucky to be seated beside Sai. A lot of items were put in him plate but took just 7 handfuls. He told me we should not eat more than that just because so much was arranged to eat. They arrange a lot out of love but we should take only what is to be taken. This is what Yogis generally do. They never take

more than what is to be taken. We stayed there for 9 days as a part of Rama Navami Celebrations and there were 5 instances of Sai close to me.

In the same year, on the occasion of Vijaya Dasami we went to Puttaparti to have darshan of Sai. We stayed for 3 days. There Sai inaugurated a bhavan named "Purnachandra".

In 1977, I went to see my brother, to anantapur, who used to be the collector of that place. My brother knew my interest and asked me if I would like to see Satya Sai Baba. So I went with my brother to Prasanthi Nilayam. After Swami's discourse in the evening, I and my brother visited Sai. My brother introduced me to Sai. Sai saw me for a while and told "We like people want to do good work but your brother like people cause hindrances to them." My brother asked Sai "Swami, did I cause hindrance to you work?" Swami replied "I did not mean you, I meant the government. The government in our country has to change." Then I said "Swami! What is the comparison between the work I do and you do? Your work is magnanimous and my work is very little." Swami replied by placing his hand on my shoulder "It is not the quantity that matters but the quality of work that matters." I took the blessings of Sai thrice by touching his feet, during that visit. From then on, I was having the grace of Sai on me all the time. I could not directly go and meet Sai as I was into intense activity under Master EK. After Master EK departed in 1984, my activities took to a new level and even more intense. So until 1994, I could not visit Puttaparti again. But everytime I used to travel to Europe, in the plane when I sleep, Sai used to give me his presence in my dream and blessed me.

Later in 1994, I travelled to Prasanthi Nilayam again by the virtue of my friend's daughter's message. I was invited to Puttaparti to attend that marriage and so I went there.

During that visit, Sai called me and my wife into his personal chamber and we conversed together for about an hour. He initially gave me a golden ring with OM symbol on it. He said to my wife "Your husband chants OM very well. Hence this ring has manifested." He himself put that ring on my finger and held on to my hand for sometime closing his eyes. After sometime he told my wife, your husband's mind has tuned into a divine mind and his previous mind died. So I will give him a diamond ring (die-mind) instead of this gold ring. He took back that golden ring and blew through it and it turned into a diamond ring. I wear that ring all that time. Generally, I do not talk about it much but it is but imminent to narrate this incident on this occasion. He hugged me thrice during the conversation.

Whenever we are blessed by an elder person or a Master, it means that our responsibility has increased and we should be more alert. We should not feel proud about it.

He asked me "You keep speaking many good things all over the world. Tell me something good." I replied "There is nothing like something. I can tell something only when specifically asked. What can we just say something about space?" He immediately hugged me and said "Very Good! You should tell anything only when one asks you to tell something specifically with ardent interest to know. I am happy that you did not tell even when I asked you to tell

something. Then tell me about the types of human beings." I replied "3 types." That's it, I told nothing more. Sai again asked "Briefly tell about them." I then gave details "There are one category of people who are body oriented. They live only for their body and anything they do is only for their body. They are like animals among human beings. Another category is humans among humans. They have a humane nature. They look for the welfare of the humanity. Another category is humans with divinity in them and you are one such." He felt very happy. He look at my wife and told again "Your husband is so clear in his thought and words. That is why anywhere he goes, his word will rule." Saying so, he hugged me again.

He then told me "What do you want? Ask Sai something." I replied " I do not want anything. I am happy with your presence." In that state of bliss, I was getting no thoughts. He told many times to ask something. Then I closed my eyes for sometime and prayed to the Lord and asked Swami "Please ensure that your grace remains on me forever, in the same manner." He touched my whole body from head to legs and told me "You have the grace of the divine completely."

So like that I was graced by Sai. From 1994, every alternate year I kept visiting Prasanti Nilayam and took the darshan of Sai. Everytime I conduct Gurupujas in our centres in Bellary and Anantapur, I visit Puttaparti without fail.

I am able to all these activities only due to the grace of Grand Masters like Sai, on me. All these activities just happened. I did not do them. Divine acts happen through you when you surrender yourself to the Lord.

Every Master stays in his physical for sometime giving his physical presence, teachings, healing touch to his followers and finally departs. Disappearance of a Mastter from physical is a significant incident for a disciple because only then a spur occurs and he is compelled to search for the Master within. When we keep seeing him outside, we want to see him only outside. But every Master wants his disciple to orient inward because a Master is always present within and only sometimes without. Apart from seeing the Master in physical, we should also also practice to see him within, in our heart centre. Otherwise, we will feel a void after the departure of Master. We should not feel so. A Son comes to know of his responsibilities only when his father departs. Similar is the case of a Master and a disciple. We should keep practicing to see his lotus feet in our heart centre and then slowly his complete body in the form of light. We should keep worshipping continuously with ardent devotion, within. This purifies our mind and this purity is carried onto the acts that we do.

In any activity between 2 persons, there is benefit to both. So in every act that you do, do not look for your own benefit but look for the benefit the other person is to receive. Then that actio becomes an act of sacrifice (Yagna). Swami demonstrated it to us. He does not need all these activities for his own benefit. He did this for the welfare of mankind. We should try to follow in his footsteps. Then what happens is an empty space is created within you and Master

consciousness slowly fills that space. If there is no space, the divine consciousness cannot descend into you.

We should also try to follow his instructions sincerely. This is very important. All his instructions are oriented towards the welfare of others. Same thing was told by Lord Krishna and for that matter all the Masters gave similar instructions. When we follow his instructions sincerely, the inner presence increases and slowly he gives instructions from within. Many secrets are revealed. Ramakrishna Paramahansa knew everything from within. He never studied anything but he knew everything. His presence in you increases and he will do everything through you. He chooses you as his disciple. We calling ourselves as a disciple to a Master is one aspect but when a Master chooses a person as his disciple, it is a completely different dimension.

The body should not become a hindrance to our work. That is what Sai demonstrated during the last few years in physical. Though his body did not support much during his last years, he did let it hinder his work. That is another important instruction to all of us.

Self study or self retrospection is another important aspect. It should happen everyday. I gave a bookmark yesterday - A life without self retrospection is useless. You should keep checking your thoughts, speech and actions. Is the quality of thought, speech and actions increasing or not? Everyone should question themselves. Only when a good change happens, your Master would be happy.

When you do the practice sincerely and follow the instructions of Master, you will slowly enter a state Buddhi from the state of mind. This is all done by the Master when you surrender yourself to him. So you should enter inside from outside. This is the most important event that should happen for every person.

Gradually, knowledge increases and it helps us in liberation. But knowledge may lead to pride as well. Pride can be neutralised by surrender to the Lord. Surrender yourself to the Lord/Master and he will lead you in the path of light.

Every Master stays in the physical for sometime and departs after that limited time. After his departure we should follow in the path prescribed by him and reach him within.

I thank all of you for patiently listening to my discourse. I hope you follow it to the possible extent with the grace of Sai.

- Swasthi