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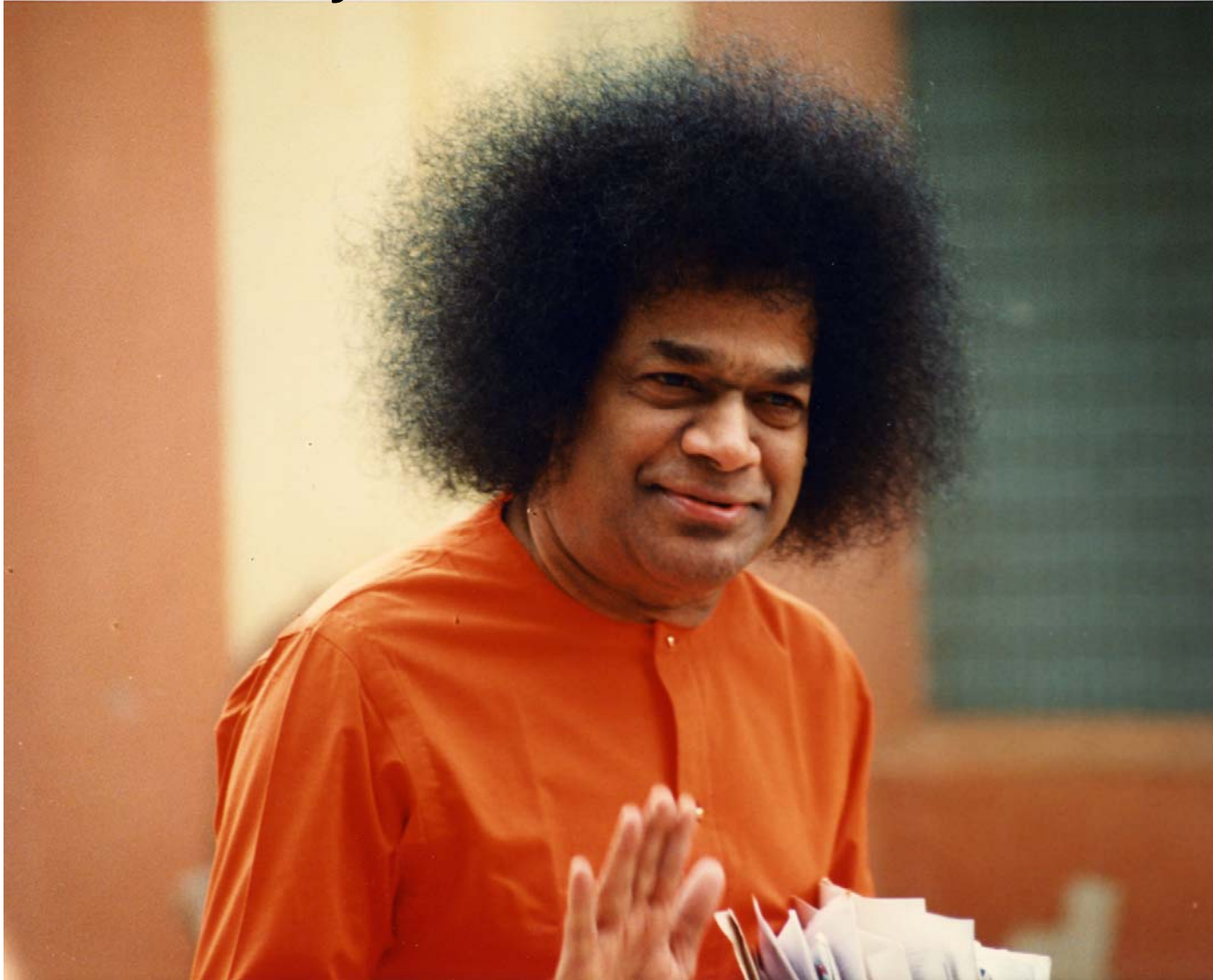


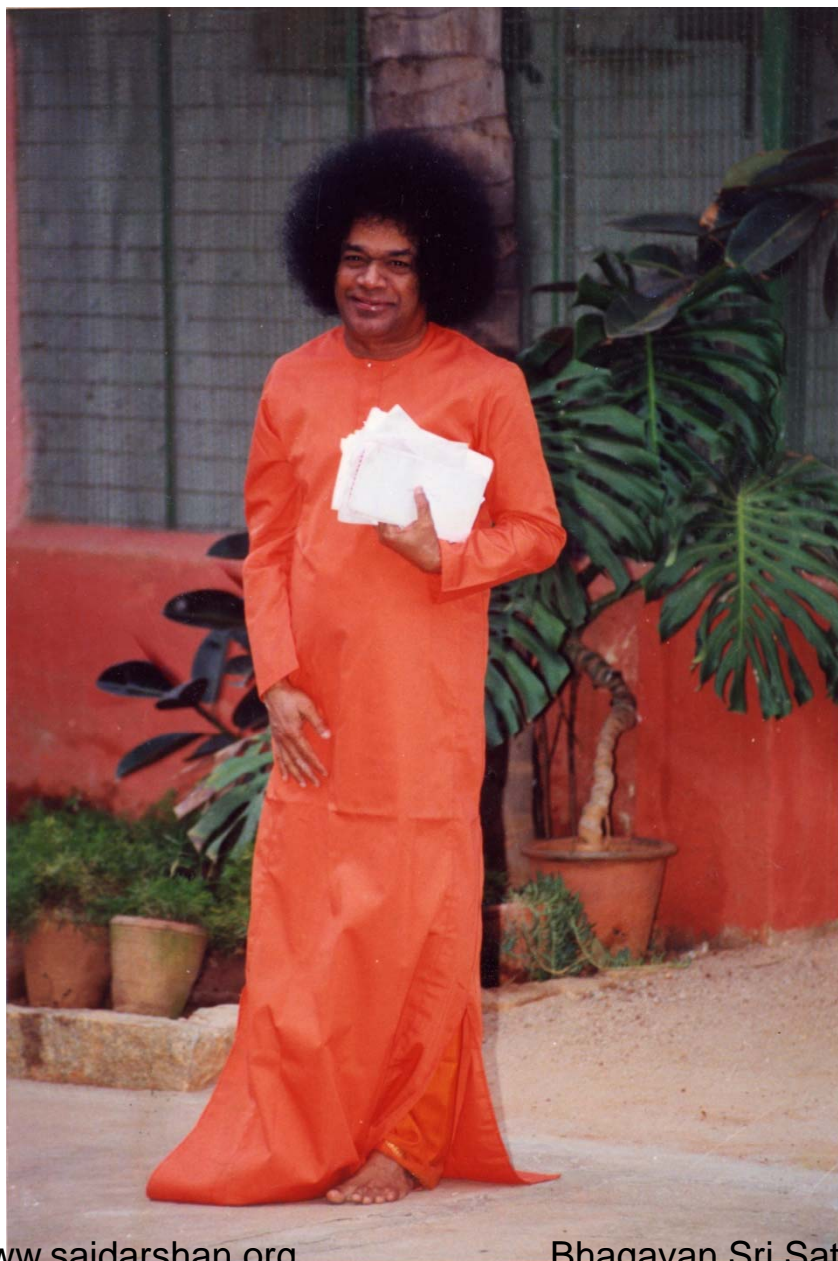
Humble Pranaams at the Divine Lotus Feet of the YugaAvataar Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

Swami's Farewell
Dear Father, we love you and miss you.



Why Fear When I Am Here!



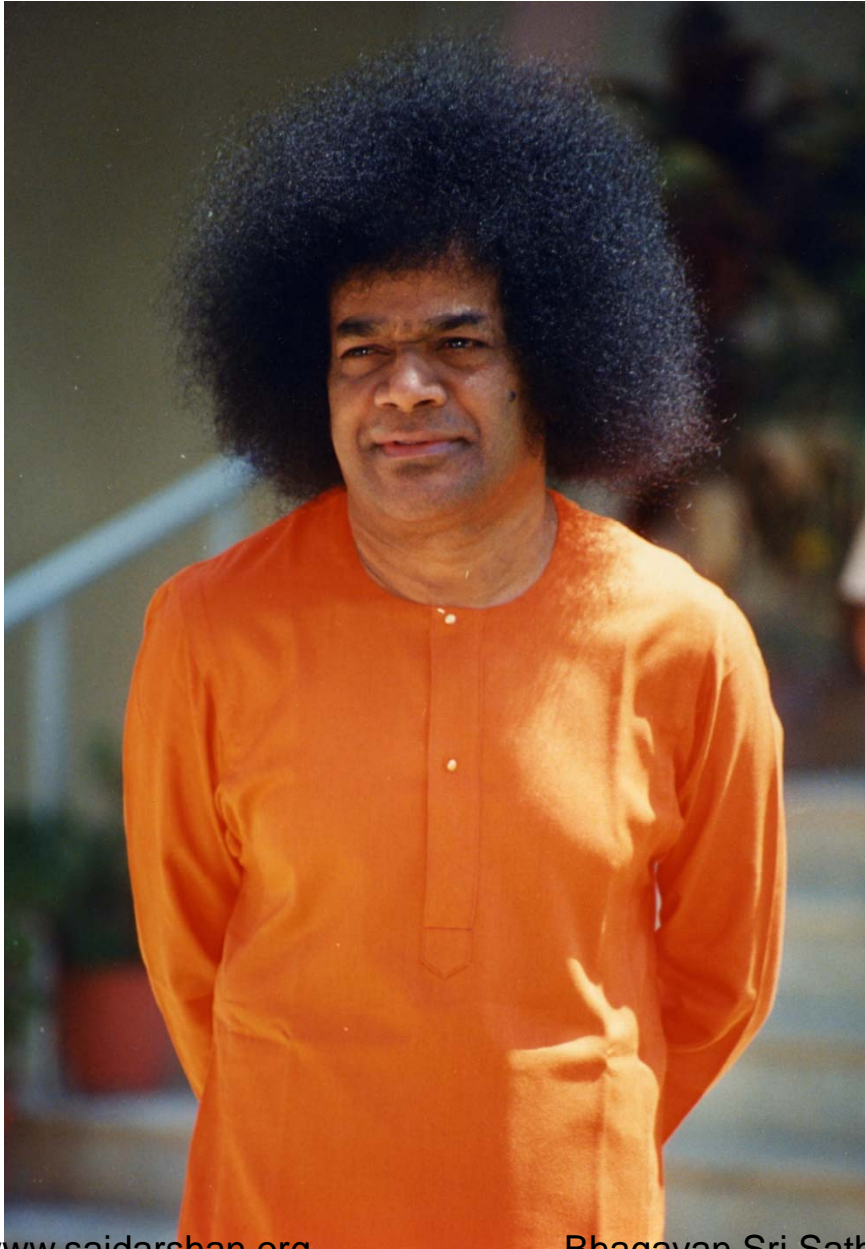


Why Fear When I Am Here!

But He is the *Paramaatma* (Supreme Soul) and has never left us, is always with us, our *Hrudayavaasi* (the Indweller of our Hearts). The Wondrous Lord who permeates the Universe.

The loving prayers of millions of devotees all over the world during His “Illness” and “Passing” has released tremendous vibrations and has given solace to us all.

**Treasure the good memories!
How fortunate we are!**



Why Fear When I Am Here!

The Universal Principles
He declared resound in our
hearts:

**Sathya, Dharma, Shanthi,
Prema, Ahimsa.**

Love All, Serve All.

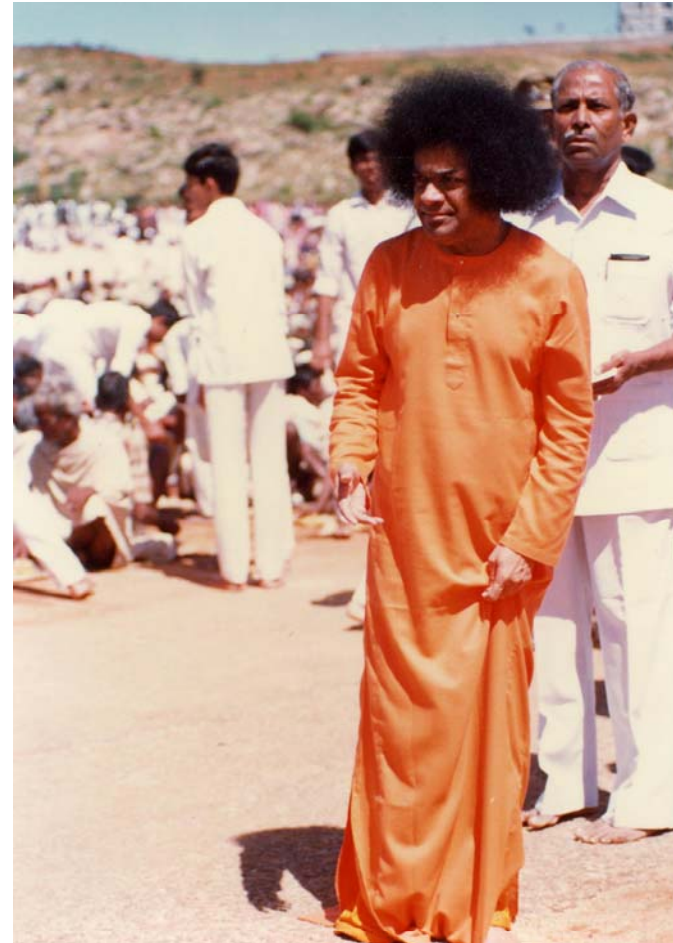
Help Ever, Hurt Never.

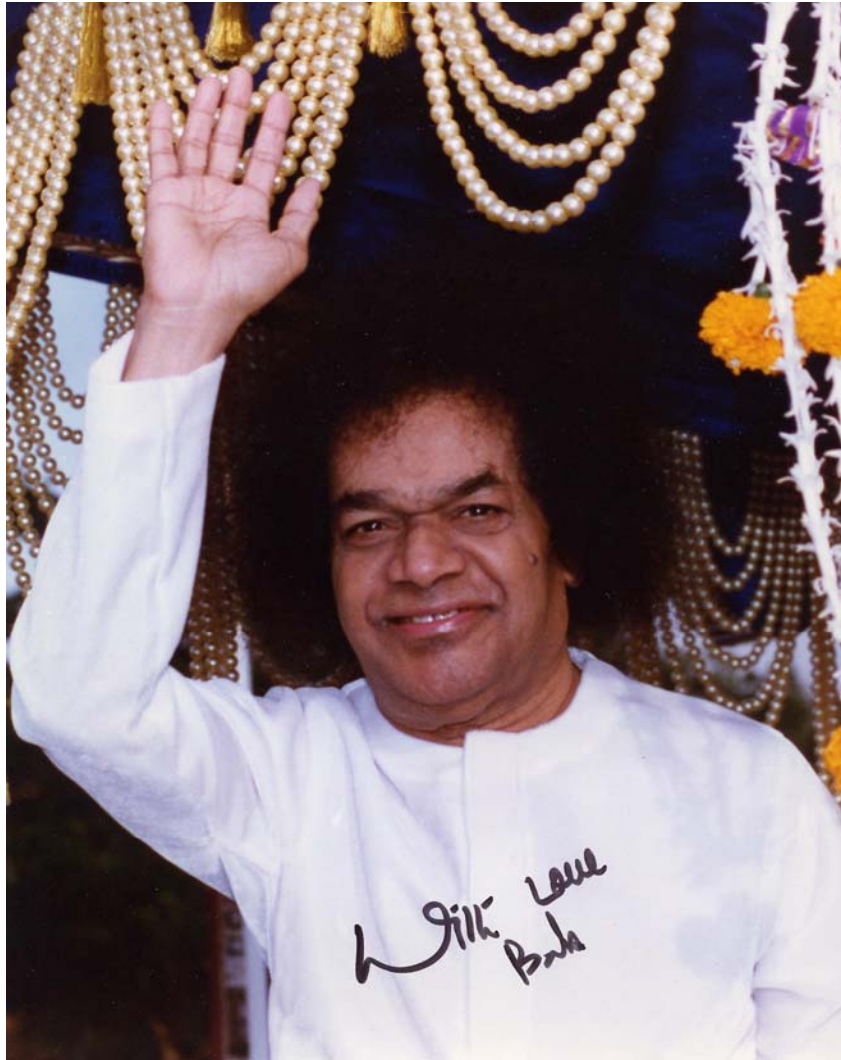
My Life...





**... Is My
Message**

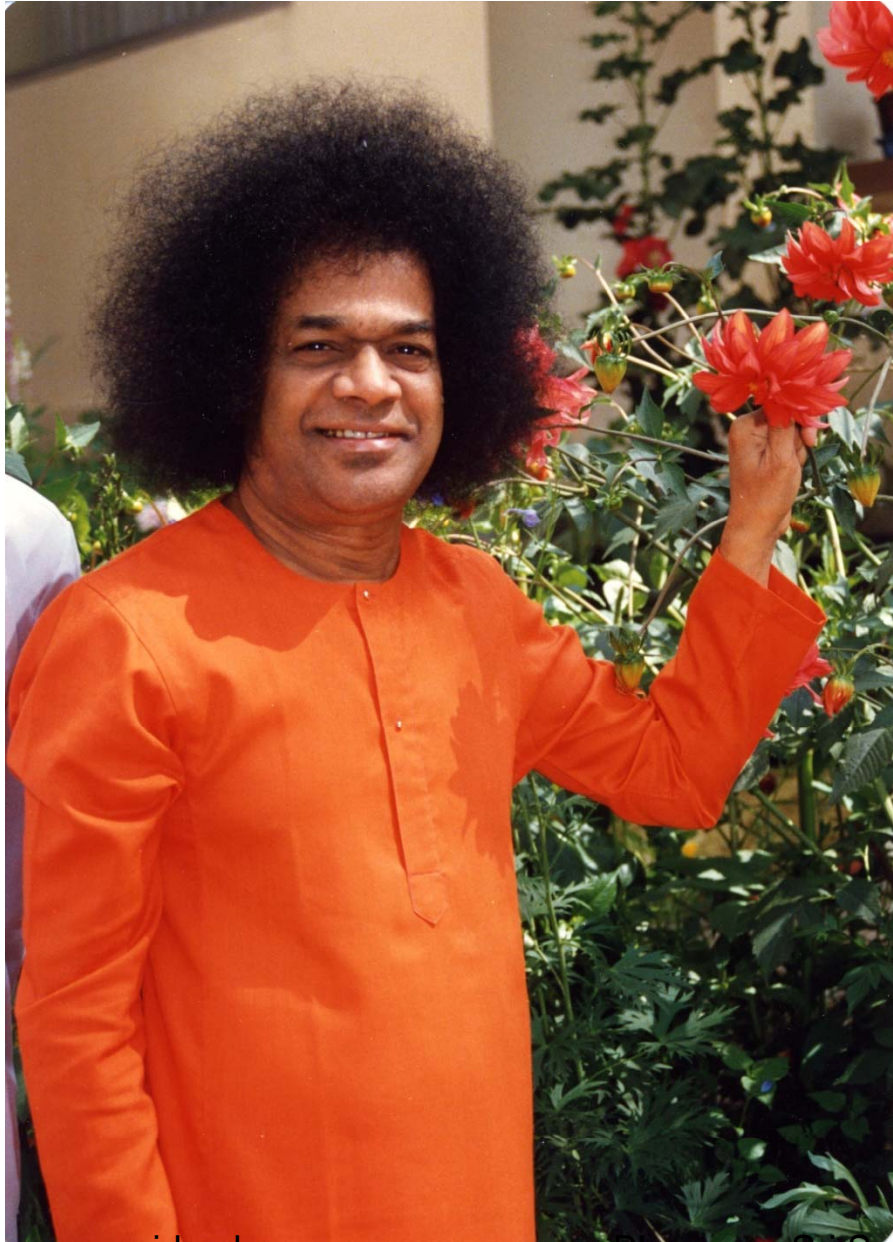




His Life is His message,
one of **constant and**
uninterrupted loving
service to All.

As His devotees we must
dedicate ourselves to:
transformation of our
Hearts,
service to the needy and
to better society.

Our lives are His
message.



Swami says “**Unity, Purity, Divinity**”.

We must be united as One World Family of Mankind in pure, loving, devotional service, the golden path to Divinity.

As the Avataar of Love, He has assured us that we will reach Him. Let us be steadfast in devotion.

Swami stated that He would live for 96 years.

When our grandfather B. Sri Ghandikota Subrahmanya Sastry gained merger with Bhagavan on the 1st day of Dasara, 1986, at the age of 93, Swami, in a discourse in Poornachandra Auditorium and when He came to our flat in Prasanthi Nilayam afterwards to console the family, stated that our grandfather was a maharishi and had reached the age of 100 years.

When we asked our father, B. Sri Ghandikota Subba Rao about this apparent discrepancy, he told us that Swami uses the traditional Indian lunar years, based on lunar months not adjusted for the solar years, in determining a person's lifespan. 12 lunar months make 1 lunar year. 100 such lunar years equaled 93 years for our grandfather

When Swami mentioned He would live for 96 years, if we take this as the age in traditional Lunar years, it would be - 85 solar years, according to the Western Calendar.

**Bhagavaan Sri Sri Sri Sathya Sai Baba is Truth incarnate.
The World is His Play. Let us pray, with unshakable faith in Him.
He is beyond the Body.**

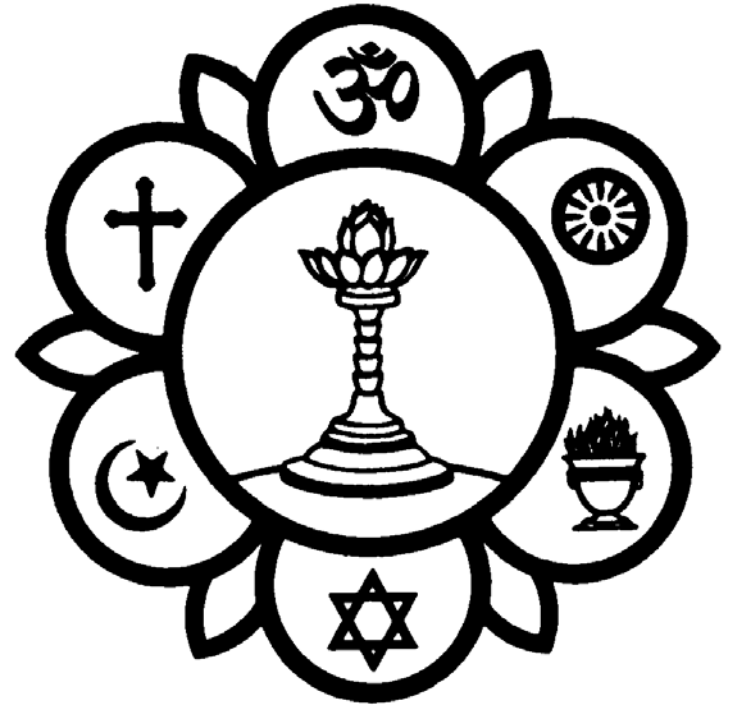
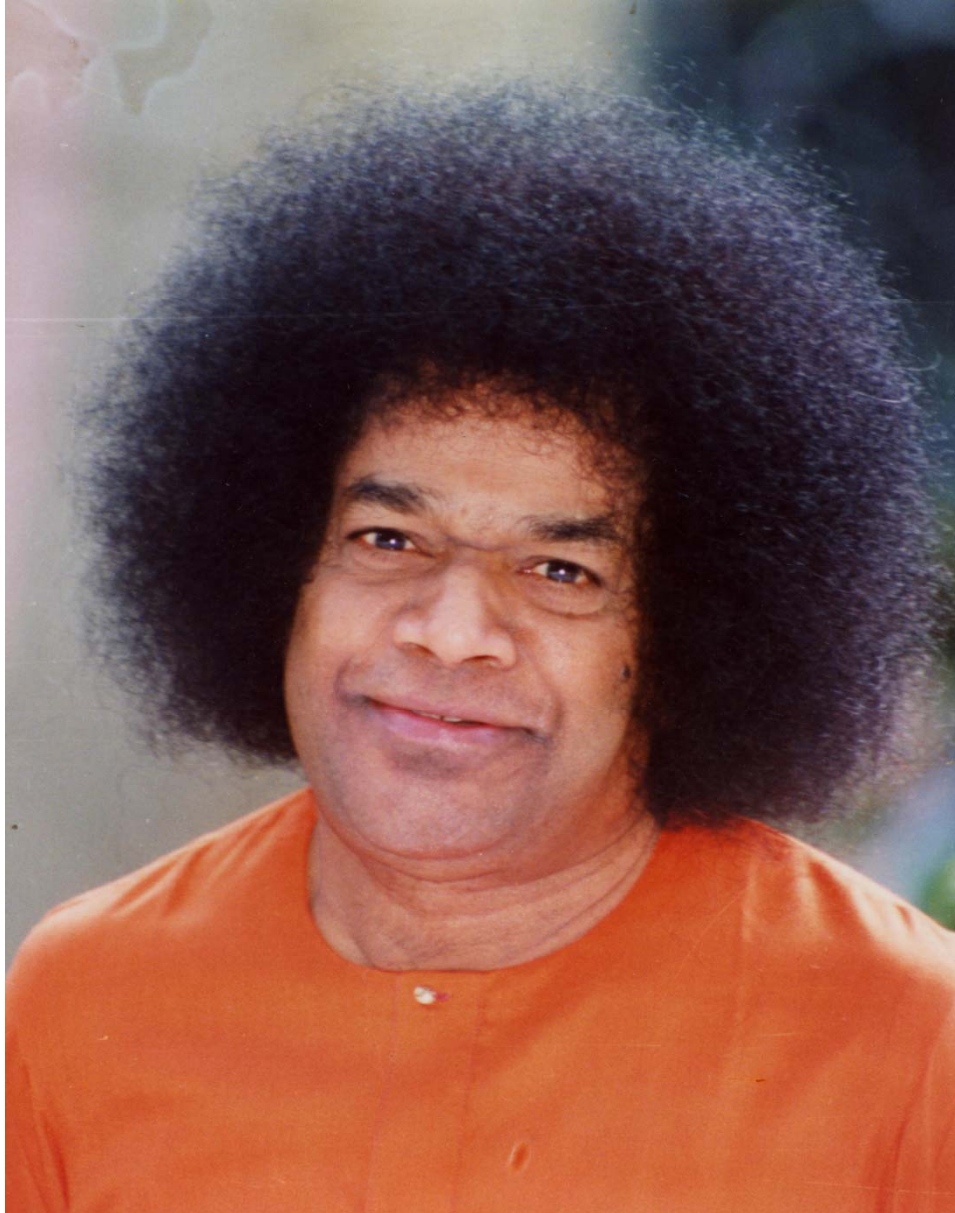
Maya, the Lord's cloak – the ways of the Lord are mysterious

God's actions can be described as leelas (play). No one can determine the nature of such leelas. It is also not possible to understand them. Only after the event has taken place can one realise its significance. Because such leelas are generally covered by Maya (Divine Veil), man is not able to recognise the Divinity that is responsible for them. Because of this maya alone, man again is not able to recognise the Divine connection between man and man...

Take the example of a cat. When it catches hold of its kitten, it does so to take it to a place of safety. On the other hand, when the same cat catches hold of a rat, it is for the purpose of killing the rat. **For those people who do not understand the aspect of Divinity, maya is like a cat catching the rat. For those who understand God, maya will be a great help like the cat which takes hold of the kitten.**

Maya is in fact a tool of God and therefore God is sometimes described as one who wears maya as His cloak. Maya is basically responsible for maintenance, dissolution and creation. At such times and such places, depending on the circumstances, the behaviour of maya will change.

Baba - Summer Showers in Brindavan 1978



Swami is -
Sarva Devata
Svarupa
- the Embodiment
of All Divinities.



Sri Sai Gayathree

**Om Saayeeshvaraaya
Vidmahe**

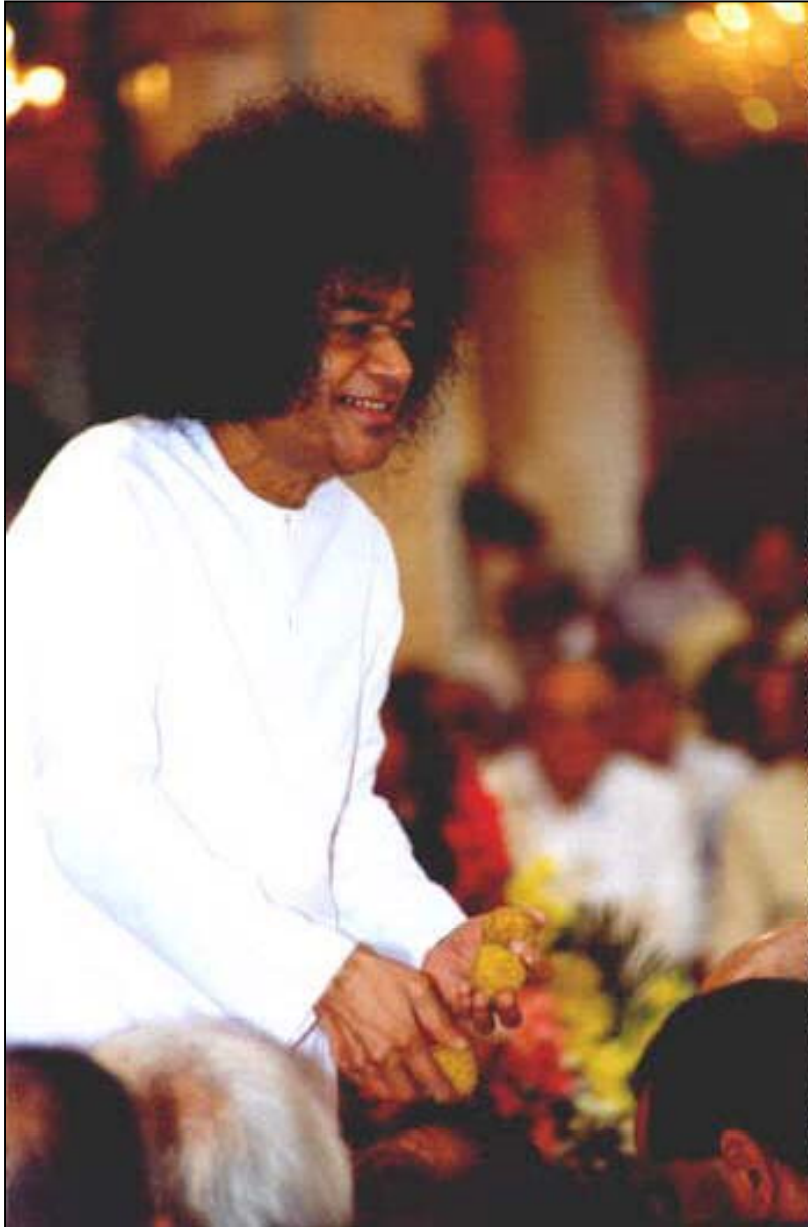
**Sathya Devaaya Dheemahi
Tannas Sarvah
Prachodayaat II**

**We know this Sayeeshvara is
Supreme Divinity incarnate.
We meditate on this God of
Truth.**

**May this Almighty
Personality lead us on the
path of total liberation.**



1981 Mandir interview room photo of Bhagavan Baba with Sri Ghandikota Subrahmanya Sastry, to whom the Sai Gaayathree was revealed.



**Love for God
must be
manifested as
love for man,
and love must
express itself as
service**

- Baba
Nov. 23, 1975

The Avatar As Liberator Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba



***Nishkriyo Nithyo Nirvikalpo Niranjanah
Nirvikaaro Niraakaaro Nithyamukthosmi
Nirmalah.***

*Actionless, ever abiding, free from delusions,
ever blissful,
unchanging, formless, ever liberated and untainted am I.*

God transcends the *Gunas* (attributes). He is without cause. He is without form and is unchanging. He is beyond all thoughts and fancies. He is eternal, pure, omniscient and infinite. The cosmos is the embodiment of the Divine. There is nothing, not even an atom, in the world without the Divine.

Baba, Divine Discourse, 9/9/1992

**Make the most of the blessed great good
fortune of knowing of the Avataar.**

“The success of the Task on which I have come will very soon reverberate throughout the world. To tell you the Truth, this Kali era is the most beneficent of the four. For, you have now amidst you, the Eternal Embodiment of Ananda in a Form which you can approach, adore and learn from.” – Baba

No Avatar has done like this before, going among the people, the masses, the millions, inspiring mankind from all over the world, healing them, guiding them, consoling them, uplifting them, directing them along the path of Sathya, Dharma, Shanti, Prema and Ahimsa (Truth, Right Conduct, Peace, Love and Nonviolence).

The way in which the Avatar has to be used for one's liberation and uplift is to watch His every step, observe His selfless actions and activities, and follow the guiding principles of which His Life is an Embodiment. Absorb His Love, His Compassion, His Wisdom, and try to bring them into your own daily life.

As you plan your worldly career, plan your life and earn liberation in this lifetime, with the Guidance and Grace of the Lord Himself.

The Formless descends as a Form (Avataar) for the ascent of Man to the Formless!

How fortunate we are!



The Jivi (the individual soul) can discard as many gross bodies in which it takes temporary residence as the number of times one pares one's nails. But the subtle body cannot be changed; it lasts and persists. This is the most secret doctrine of Bharathiya (Indian) spiritual thought. Going further along this line of discovery, it can be seen that a human being means a complex of the gross body, the subtle body and the Jivi. The Vedantic philosophy declares that the Jivi shares the quality of Nithya (Eternal, Unchanging, Everlastingness) with Brahman (Infinite Formless Lord)...

God is not responsible for the grief and the pain that one experiences... The Jivi is beginningless, that is to say, it has no birth; but it involves itself in incessant activity and so it has to go through the inevitable consequences of that activity. This is the unbreakable law of the objective world... When involvement happens, good will have to be experienced when good is done, and evil will have to be experienced when evil is done.

- Baba, Sathya Sai Vahini, Chap 8, "Bondage".

Ordinary Karma (action) done with attachment or desires causes bondage. Desireless, selfless action transforms normal activities to Karmayoga. - BABA

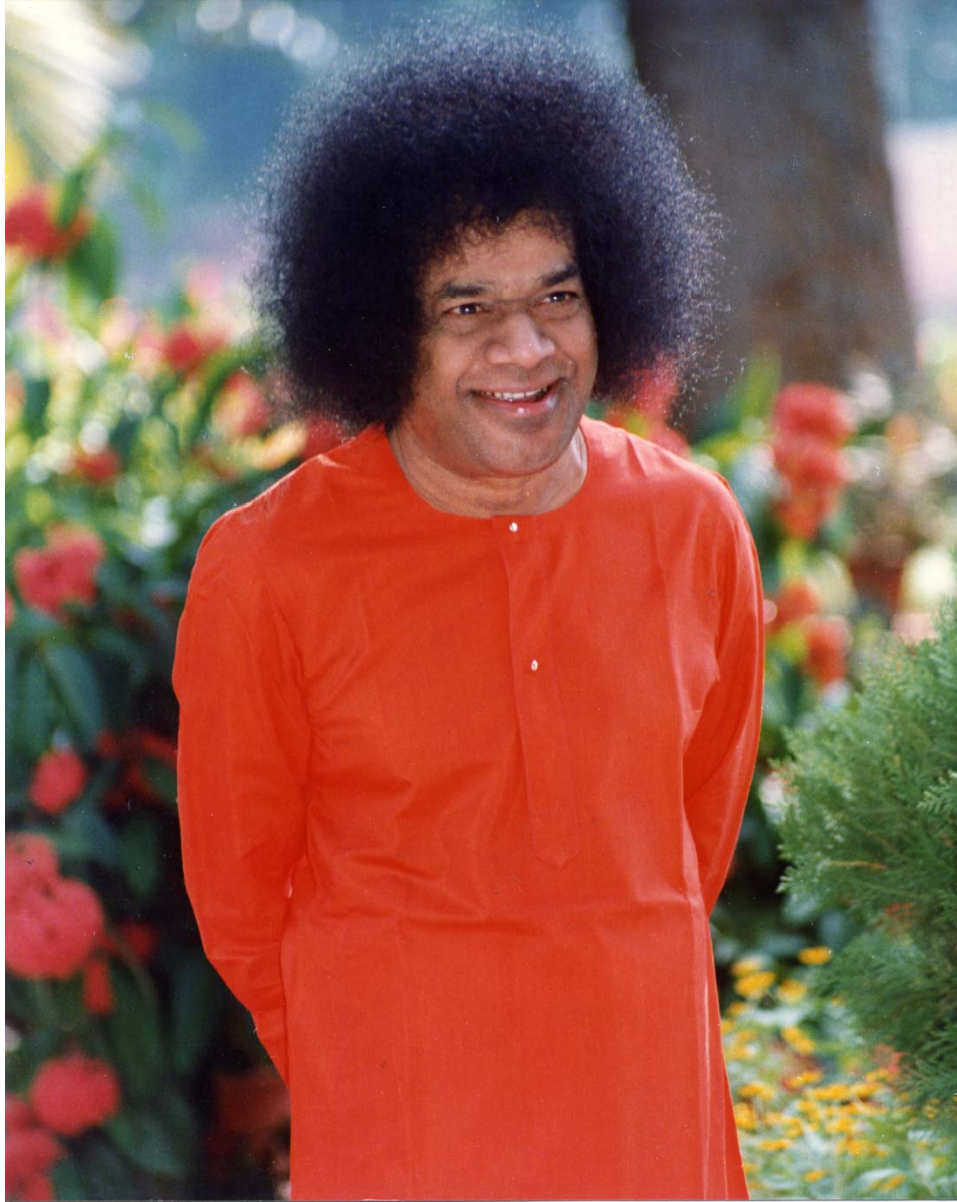
**Here is My
Visiting
Card...**



**...I am
Always
With You.**

Love All Serve All



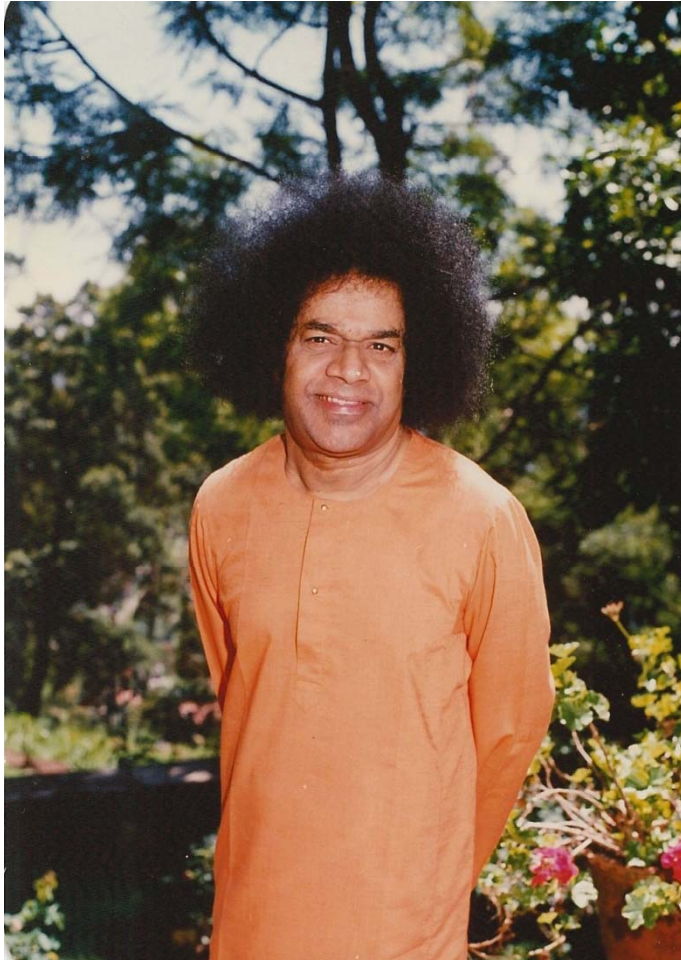


Namasmarana

**Constant
remembrance of
the sweet Name
and loving Form
of the Lord.**

**He will appear
in the form of
your choosing!**

DEVOTION



Accept my Love and Blessings. The object of devotion should be to realize God in your heart and allow Him to fill all parts of your being with His light and power. This done, your hearts will be overflowing with Divine Love towards all beings in the world. Your eyes will see only God everywhere. Your hands will work only for the good of everybody and you will ultimately become the very embodiments of God, filled with bliss and ever surcharged with ecstasy.

In this state, the difference between the Bhakta and Bhagavan will disappear. The Bhakta by constant remembrance and surrender to God becomes God Himself. - Baba

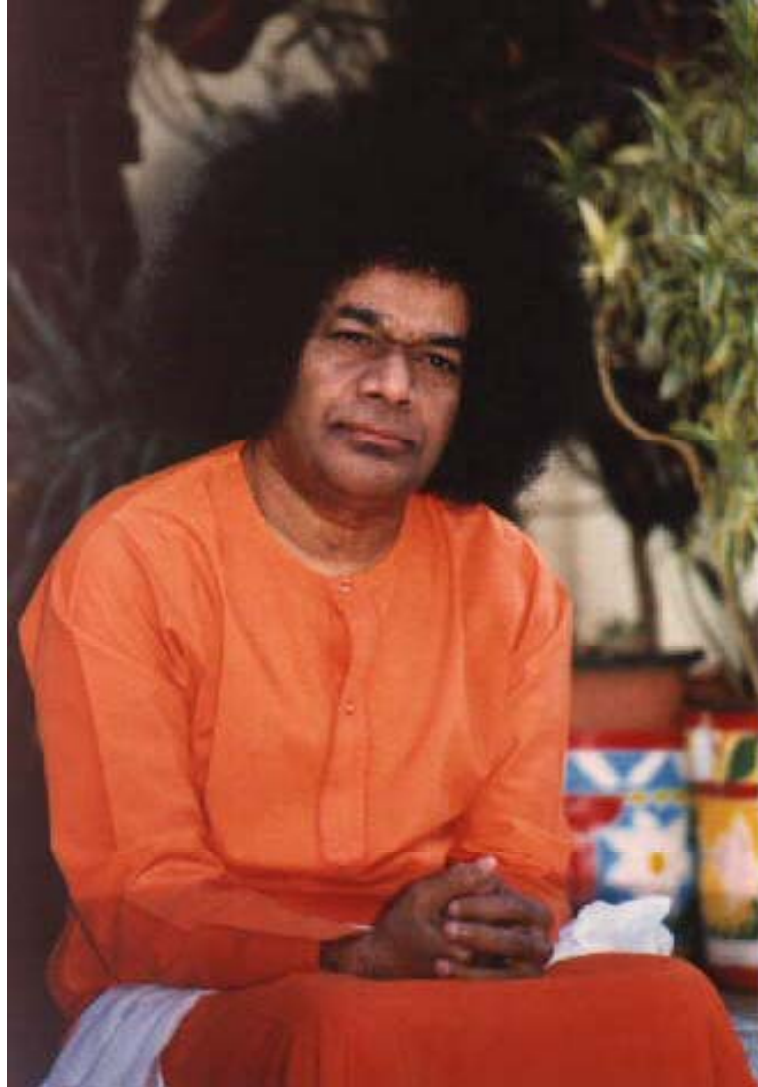
***From Prema Dhara,
a collection of Swami's letters to students***

**It is Man
that gives
value to a
diamond.**

**Therefore,
Man is more
valuable
than a
diamond.**

**Diamond =
“Die” Mind.**





**Loving service
to Man is
service to God.**

**To help the
helpless is the
only way to
please, follow,
and reach Him.**

- Baba

We have helped the helpless, so our path will be smooth and safe. We have uplifted the downtrodden, so we can avoid troubles on our path. We have busied ourselves in singing the Lord's Glory in chorus (bhajan), so we are sure of Heaven"— these are the calculations of some people who engage themselves in 'good acts'.

When such people give up their bodies, their soul reaches Chandra Loka (region of the Mind) as a Deva (angel). Residence in that Loka (region) is the reward they have secured for their good deeds in the past. When the joy emanating from the good deeds is experienced and finished, the balance of the consequences accumulated has to be suffered, and so the soul comes back to earth as a human.

Therefore, one has to engage in charitable acts and attain the highest good, cleansing one's heart in the process. Once this happens one reaches Brahma Loka (the bliss region of Brahma) from where there is no coming back. - Sathya Sai Vahini, Chap 8, "Bondage".



Love All Serve All



All living beings are actors on this stage. They make their exit when the curtain is rung down or when their part is over. On that stage, one may play the part of a thief, another may be cast as a king, a third may be a clown, and another a beggar. For all these characters in the play, there is only One who gives the cue! The prompter will not come upon the stage and give the cue in full view of all. If He does so, the drama will not interest anybody. Therefore, standing behind a screen at the back of the stage, He gives the cue to all the actors, regardless of their role — be it dialogue, speech, or song — just when each is in most need of help. In the same way, the Lord is behind the screen on the stage of Prakriti (Creation), giving the cue to all the actors for their various parts. — Dhyana Vahini, Chap 6: "Meditation reveals the Eternal and the Non-Eternal".

The Avataar came on the stage! Play your chosen role as best as you can!



Images of God

The word, Vishnu, means 'That which pervades everywhere', the Omnipresent. When people are told about an idol of Vishnu, they laugh and condemn it as foolish. But, when we desire to drink the ambrosia that the all-pervading Vishnu is, we require a spoon, a cup or a vessel.

The idol is only such a contrivance by which it is possible to consume the bliss. The cup can be of any shape or design; the joy consists in the nectar that it is able to convey to the person who is thirsty and anguished. *Raso vai sah---*God is ambrosia, sweet, sustaining, strength-giving. You can imbibe Him through a cup shaped as Nataraja, or Durga, or Krishna, or Linga, or Ganesha, or Christ or any other Form that will arouse the ardour and satisfy the agony.

Sri Sathya Sai, Prashaanthi Nilayam, 9/5/1984



Implicit Faith is the Road to Spiritual Success

Once Krishna and Arjuna were going together along the open road. Seeing a bird in the sky, Krishna asked Arjuna, "Is that a dove?"

Arjuna replied, "Yes it is a dove"

Krishna said, "No Arjuna, is it an eagle?"

Arjuna promptly replied "Yes, it is an eagle"

"No, Arjuna it looks like a crow to me. Is it not a crow?" asked Krishna.

Arjuna replied, "I am sorry, it is a crow beyond doubt."

Krishna laughed and chided him for his agreeing to whatever suggestion was given. But Arjuna said "For me, your words are far more weighty than the evidence of my eyes. You can make it, a crow, dove or an eagle and when you say it is a crow it must be one".

Swami is the Kali Yuga Avataar. In these troubled times, crows will caw and dogs will bark. Remain unaffected, with implicit faith, and reach the goal of Liberation in this lifetime!



Who is the successor to Bhagavan?

He is and We are! Never forget Swami's guiding principles!

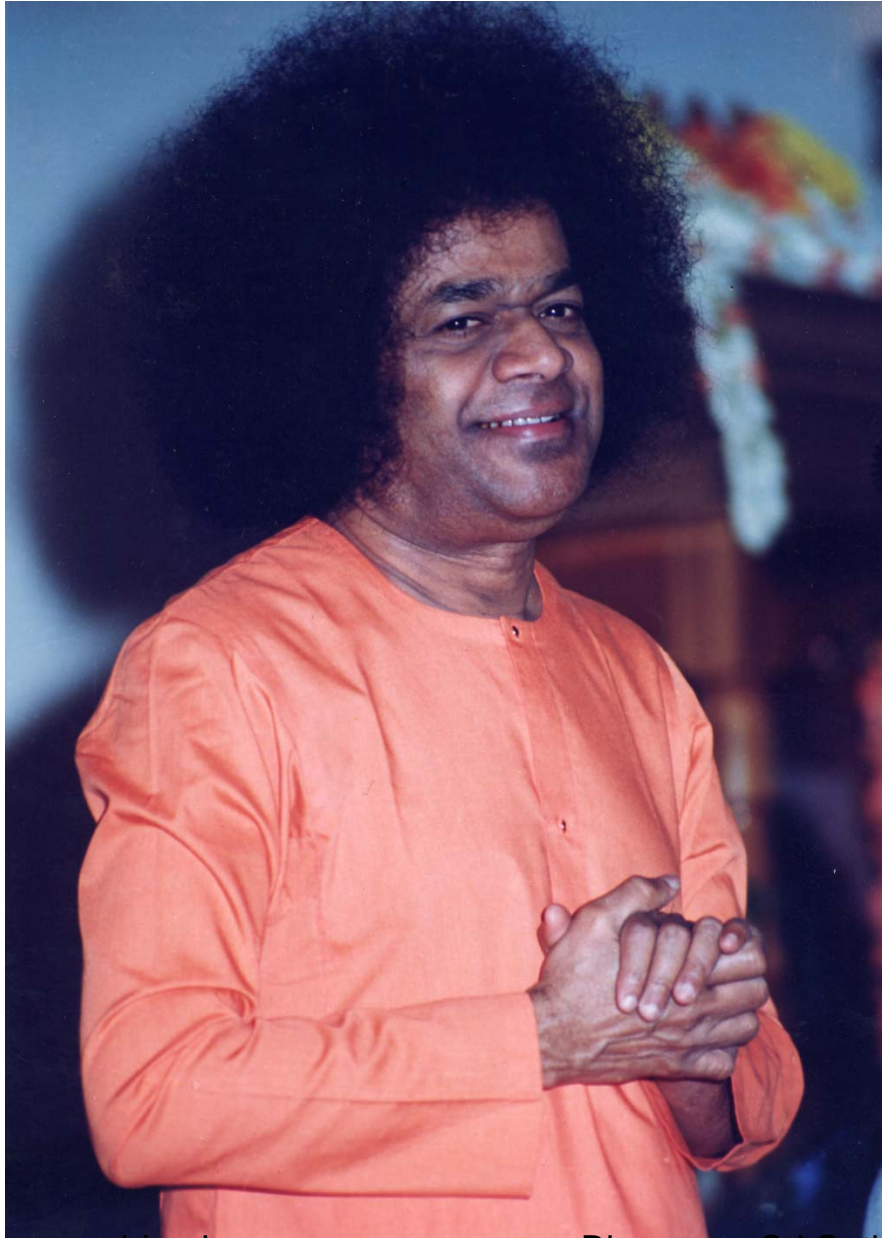
This is a challenge and test for every one of us to practice what Swami lived and preached:

- the Sai Organization leaders, appointed by Swami**
- Swami's students, who studied at His Feet**
- Swami's devotees, all over the world**

Live up to Swami's Ideals!

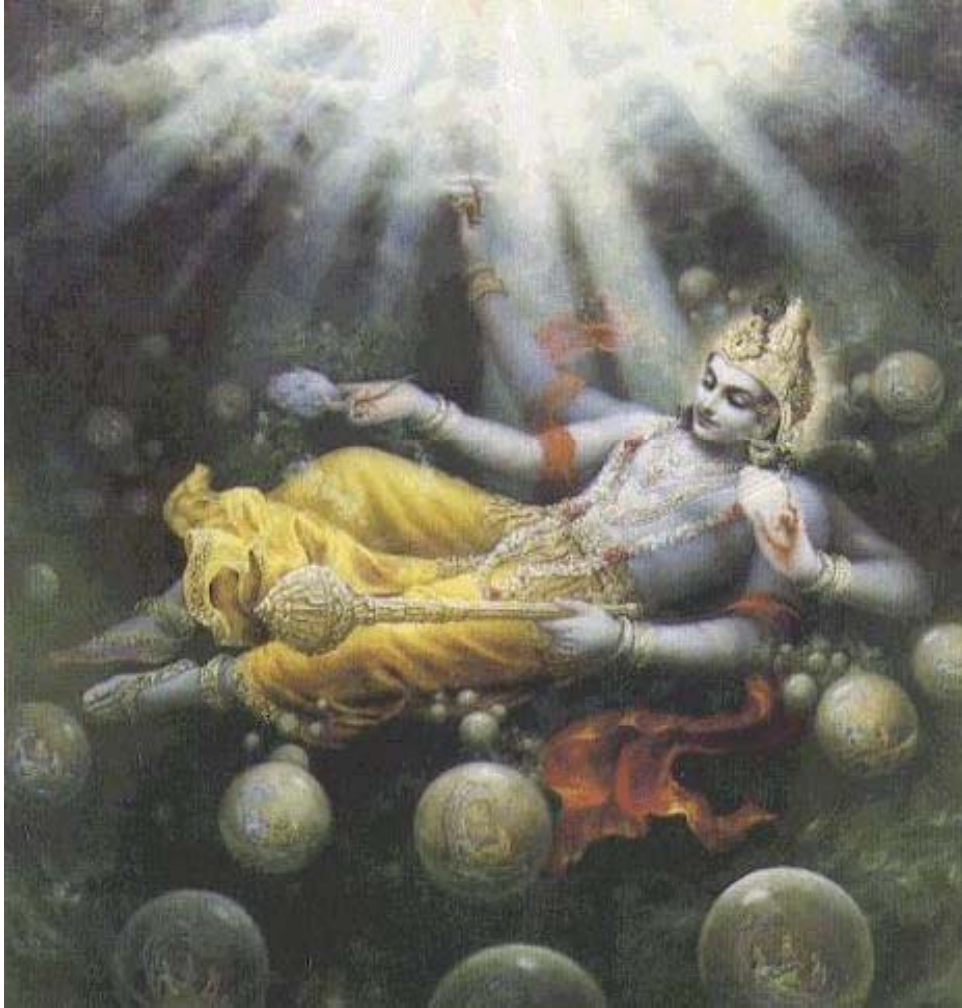
From those to whom much is given, much is expected. The hopes of the people and the nation rest on dedicated and incorruptible leaders and workers. There is so much service to be done!

Never forget that Swami is always watching us and guiding us!



Children of Immortality!
**Remember that You are created
in My Image and Likeness.**
Perfect.
**Live up to this Image in all
planes.**
Live like Masters!
**Walk this Earth with Your Heads
held high, Your Spirits soaring,
Your Hearts open to Love, and
believe in Yourself and GOD
with You. Then all will go well.**
**See Me everywhere, talk to Me
and Love Me who is in Each.**
**Then from Each I will respond
and bring You into Glory.**

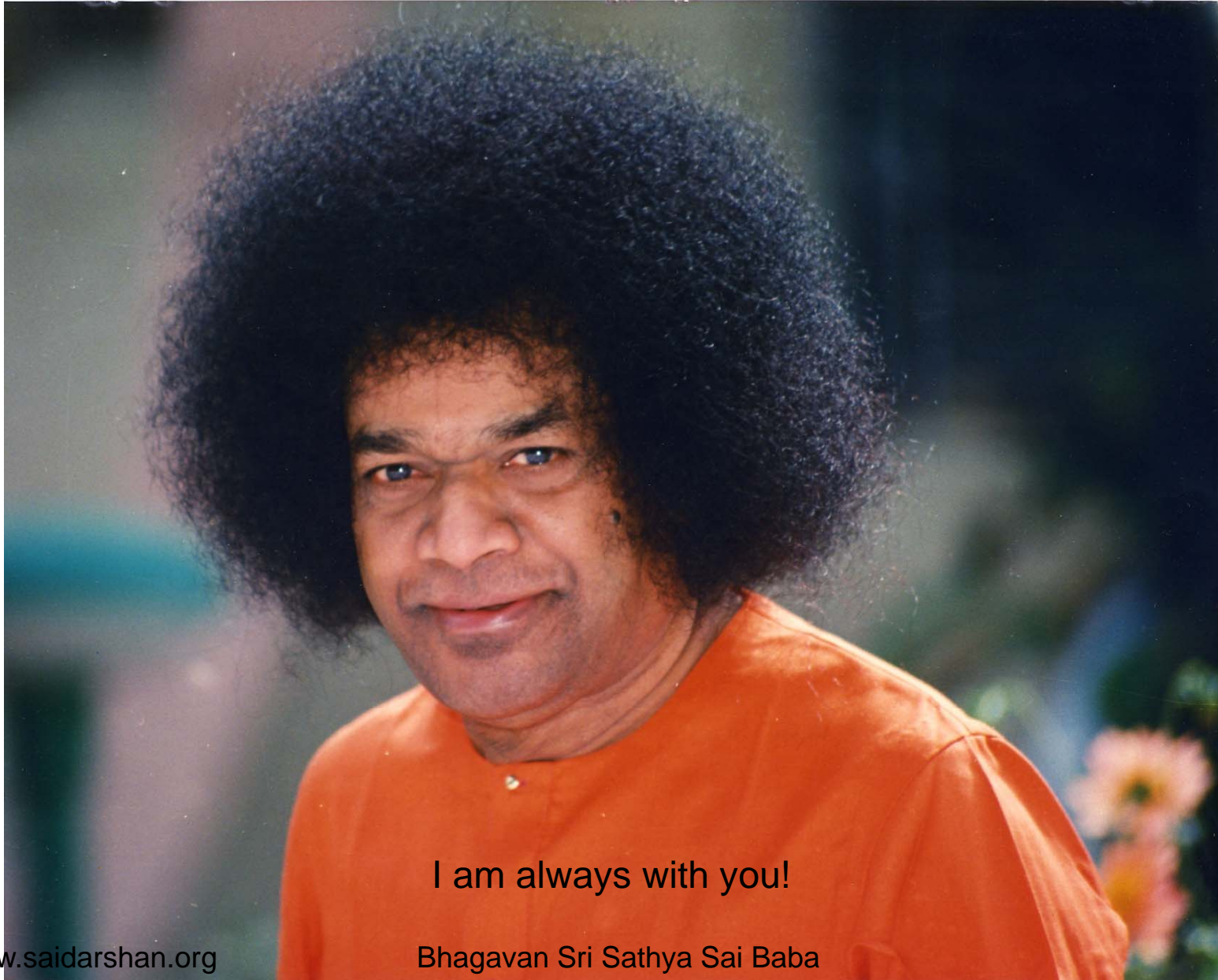
- Baba



Sri Maha Vishnu in Yoga,
permeating the Universes

The Cosmos does not exist. It is an illusion. It never is, has been or will be. The creation of the Cosmos, the dissolution of the Cosmos, these billions of individuals emerging and merging, all this is but a dream. There is no individualized Jivatma at all, no separated Atma. How can there be billions of Jivatmas? There is only ONE Indivisible Complete Absolute. Like the one sun reflected as a billion suns in a billion lakes, ponds, and drops of water, the Jivatmas (individual souls) are but reflections of the One in the minds that it shines upon. - Baba, Sathya Sai Vahini, Chap 9, "One with the One"

**All are One, be alike to everyone.
- Baba**



I am always with you!



Jai Sai Ram!

Talk by Ghandikota Aryama at Sri Sathya Sai Baba Center of Manhattan, NYC

on June 9, 2011, revised 6/27/2011.

Photos by Ghandikota Ravishankar.