

Joint statement released by the
Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust,
Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of India, and
Sathya Sai International Organisation

Background

Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba was born in the small village of Puttaparthi in the Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh State in Southern India on 23.11.1926. Very early in his life, he demonstrated rare qualities of a Divine Being and in his 14th year, he declared that He had to come to redeem the world, that He was not a part of any family and that the whole world and all the beings in this world are indeed divine and constitute a speck of the universal Godhead.

His Message

He showed to humanity the royal path to realise one's divine nature, respecting the universal spiritual teachings common to all religions. The selfless and pristine love shown naturally and spontaneously by Sathya Sai Baba attracted thousands of people daily from all parts of the world. His greatest miracle, recognised by his followers, is the transformation of the human heart.

His Mission

His mission, while recognising the validity of all religious traditions, goes beyond all religions, and helps one realise his or her innate divinity, latent in every human being. It ensures that the values of Truth, Right Conduct, Peace, Love and Non- Violence are preserved and nurtured in every human relationship. This spiritual transformation results in the manifestation of greater love, peace, tolerance, harmony, honesty and righteousness in thought, word and action. His universal message has been conveyed directly through thousands of discourses and writings.

His Works

- **Free Healthcare:** Primary to tertiary, state-of-the-art, medical care is provided completely free of charge, to the needy with love and compassion. In addition, preventive healthcare and mobile health services are also provided. Based on these principles, a small general hospital started by Sathya Sai Baba in 1956, sprawled into a huge global healthcare system in many countries around the world.

- **Free education:** Sathya Sai Baba founded educational institutions where primary to doctoral level education is provided free of charge. In addition to secular education, spirituality and service to society is emphasised.

• **Free drinking water:** Pure drinking water is provided to millions of people in South India, where drinking water has always been in short supply. Inspired by this, similar projects have been commissioned in many parts of the world, including Africa, Indonesia, Nepal and El Salvador.

• **Free community services:** Sathya Sai Baba inspired millions of people around the world to serve society through many humanitarian projects, including free food, clothing, shelter, supplies and other services. In addition, volunteers participate in disaster relief efforts in many countries, including India, Fiji, Nepal, Philippines, Haiti and USA.

Many political and religious leaders, scientists, scholars, from all over the world sought advice from Sri Sathya Sai Baba on social, political and spiritual topics, and were inspired.

Bhagawan Baba unceasingly spoke and wrote throughout his sojourn in this world which lasted up to 24.04.2011. Baba spoke the universal language of love and impressed on his devotees that the only salvation is to “Love All and Serve All” and this was the means for spiritual advancement. He emphasized that the universal divine power would become apparent to those who practised “sadhana” or the spiritual pursuit by helping others and making their life better. He preached that we must always Help Ever and Hurt Never.

Sri Sathya Sai Organisations

Bhagawan Baba set up the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, a public charity, duly registered under the laws in India in the year 1973. This Trust was founded, nurtured and managed entirely by Bhagawan Baba and he was its sole Trustee till the year 2010 when he appointed four trustees.

In order to give effect to Baba's constant exhortation to do selfless service, Baba set up Sathya Sai Organisations, which are open to all human beings without any restrictions of religion, gender, country, language or State. These organisations are the Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of India and the Sathya Sai International Organisation. The Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of India is headed by the All India President and it has State Units, District Units and Samithis (Centres) located in all the States in India. The Sathya Sai International Organisation is headed by the Chairman of the Prasanthi Council set up by Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and has activities in over 120 countries in the world.

Both the Sai Organisations are well structured to carry out the teachings of Bhagawan Baba and guide and help devotees and seekers of higher truth. The path of service is the means to achieve fulfilment in life and ultimately to realise God.

Heart-to-Heart Connection

Though the devotees of Bhagawan Baba number several millions and are scattered all over the world, Baba had the unique ability to build a personal rapport and connection with all His devotees through his public appearances called “Darshan,” private interactions called “Interviews”, public discourses, private conversations and a large volume of writings on every conceivable facet of spirituality. Therefore, during the lifetime of Bhagawan Baba all devotees found fulfilment in coming to Him, seeing Him, sharing with Him their joys and sorrows and seeking His Divine Guidance and Blessings. It is astonishing that Bhagawan Baba was able to singlehandedly handle and steer the lives of millions of devotees, in person, and many times through his own means of communication.

Baba emphasized on more than one occasion in very categorical terms that His connection and relationship was heart to heart and love-to-love with all His devotees. **He declared “Our relationship is only heart to heart and love to love and nothing else.”**

Be Aware of Detractors & Frauds

He repeatedly asserted that the people who collected money using Swami's name were not authorized by Him and should not be encouraged. He even specifically advised that a set of people would try to trade on the faith of devotees by claiming that Baba was talking through them. He stated categorically that such persons should be treated as agents or brokers who were trying to cheat the devotees. He stated that the devotees who believed them would become accomplices in the process of cheating. **He warned: “Many people are collecting money in various places using my name for various purposes like arranging receptions, building temples, doing poojas etc. That is unauthorised and against my command. Do not yield to such requests and encourage this practice, which I condemn.”** He also explained that He does not speak through anyone, either in person or through dreams, and advised devotees to shun such people and not fall prey to them. He also clearly stated that when someone claimed that Baba was coming upon them or entered them, it would be totally false and deceitful. He cautioned devotees not to fall prey to such charlatans and be vigilant. **He declared: “There is another set of people who trade on your faith. They advertise that I am talking through a medium or some other thing. Treat all such people and their agents or brokers as you treat cheats”**

Background Information about Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust

One of the Trusts set up by Bhagawan Baba is called Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust. A small society called Loka Seva Vrinda was running two schools in the State of Karnataka. In the year 1978 the Founder of the schools passed away and the society, which owned the schools, prayed to Baba to take over the schools and run

them, as they were not financially capable to manage these schools. Bhagawan Baba in his munificence acceded to their prayer and out of His compassion for the students who were studying in these schools, Bhagawan Baba agreed to become the Sole Trustee of the Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust which was formed in 1978. In that capacity the two schools in Alike and Muddenahalli were managed, developed and improved by Bhagawan Baba's efforts and thousands of students got education of a high order in these two schools, both situated in rural areas of the Karnataka State.

In the year 2008, Bhagawan Baba decided to amend the Deed of Trust of the Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust thereby conferring upon the Trustees of the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust the power to appoint the Trustees of the Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust after the lifetime of Bhagawan Baba. Accordingly, in the year 2011 just after the Maha Samadhi, the Trustees of the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust consulted with persons running the schools and appointed three persons namely Sri U Gangadhara Bhat, Sri S S Naganand and Sri B R Vasuki as Trustees of the Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust. On a request made by the administrators of the schools, the number of Trustees was increased to five by the appointment of additional Trustees by the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust Sri BN Narasimha Murthy and Sri Iswara Bhat.

Illegal Activities of Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust

About one year after the Maha Samadhi, certain individuals started claiming that Bhagawan Baba was sending them “instructions” to start other Institutions. Such claims are fanciful and incredulous. An attempt was made to introduce a code of conduct for all Trustees of Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust. At this juncture, a group, headed by B.N. Narasimha Murthy who was then a Trustee of the Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust (earlier he was the warden of the boys hostel at the Brindavan Whitefield campus of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning which is a Deemed University set up by Bhagawan Baba) in cahoots with a few others, executed a Deed of Amendment to amend the Deed of the Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Trust to take away the power given by Bhagawan Baba to the Trustees of the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust. This action was deeply objectionable, apart from being illegal. Several attempts were made to impress upon the wrongdoers that their actions had to be retraced to restore harmony. The efforts went on, in vain, for two years but the position of the detractors was intractable, which led to the filing of a Civil Suit by the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust and its Trustees against those who had acted illegally. The main relief in the suit is to restore the Trust deed to its original position as documented by Bhagawan Baba in 2008. After an initial setback in the legal proceedings, the Appellate Court has held that the Suit was wrongly dismissed by the Trial Court and must be allowed to run its normal course.

Sacrilegious Behaviour of the Impostors

To right thinking devotees of Bhagawan Baba, the claims being made by one Sri Madhusudan Naidu, a former student of Sri Sathya Sai University (now known as

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning) and Sri Narasimha Murthy, a former hostel warden of its Brindavan campus, that Bhagawan Baba was in communication with them in a subtle form and progressively that Bhagawan Baba had entered the body of Madhusudan Naidu, who is now claimed to be Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba himself, is unacceptable. It is mind-boggling that such claims are supported by all their cohorts, by pretending reverence and bowing down to Madhusudan Naidu and even referring to him as “Swami.” To add colour and credence to these false claims, Madhusudan Naidu has now started donning ochre colour clothes and on the 23rd of November 2018, in a public function held at Muddenahalli, a declaration was made that Baba has entered the body of Madhusudan Naidu and he started taking his seat in Baba’s chair, which is reverentially placed in all congregations of devotees all over the world as well as in Prasanthi Nilayam. This has offended the sentiments of a large number of devotees.

Unethical and Adharmic Use of Sri Sathya Sai Baba’s Name

Understandably a well scripted and carefully planned media strategy has been put in place by the caucus at Muddenahalli, and every attempt is being made, to use Swami’s name and to give the impression that their activities are indeed the activities of the Trust set up by Bhagawan Baba. They have even gone to the extent of trying to set up a University called the Sri Sathya Sai University of Human Excellence by evidently misleading the Karnataka State Legislature, even though the applicable laws have not been fulfilled.

Apparent Abuse of Funds Donated by Innocent Devotees

An extravagant lifestyle which includes travel in luxury cars, business and first-class air travel and chartered flights, chartered helicopters and wide publicity to the presence of dignitaries who occupied high positions in life and who were devotees of Bhagawan Baba is scripted out in an attempt to create an aura of Swami’s presence. This is misleading devotees and is creating confusion. In many countries, attempts have been made to disrupt the Sathya Sai International Organisation – with limited success. In many families, husband and wife are torn apart and children are left confused as to where to go. All tenets propounded by Bhagawan Baba are violated with impunity. Open appeals are being made to devotees to contribute funds, which Bhagawan Baba never permitted. The caucus at Muddenahalli has also illegally occupied a property built by and belonging to the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust in Muddenahalli, which has been christened by them as “Sai Anandam,” which was built as the Chancellor’s residence by the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust for Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba when a campus of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning founded by Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, was built at Muddenahalli during the year 2010-11.

The misrepresentations are continuing unabated.

Cautionary Advice – Always Be Careful (ABC)

The above are true facts. This advisory is being issued by three major institutions, all founded and set up by Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba in order, to caution devotees not to be misled by Social Media, print and electronic media, public media and advertisements being issued by the caucus at Muddenahalli which now calls itself as “Sai Vrinda,” operating under their domain name as “saivrinda.org.” Devotees are cautioned, in their own interest, not to engage themselves with the caucus at Muddenahalli or be misled by any false claims being made by anyone that Bhagawan Baba is now living in the body of Madhusudan Naidu and that Madhusudan Naidu is the very embodiment of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

Lovingly in the Service of Sai

for and on behalf of The Trustees

GSRCV Prasada Rao

Member - Secretary

Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust

Nimish Pandya

All India President

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation of India

Dr. Narendranath Reddy

Chairman, Prasanthi Council

Sathya Sai International Organisation

Prasanthi Nilayam

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