



P1 / MOTHERS



P2 / DEVOTEE SPEAKS

P2 / MOTHERHOOD IN
PLANTS & ANIMALS

P4 / UNSCRAMBLE

Sai Dharmam

SRI SATHYA SAI BABA CENTRE OF COOKSVILLE



Kindness, love, forgiveness, and compassion are a few of the innate qualities associated with a mother. From a child's inception into this world, the mother nurtures and cares for her child, providing everything the child needs to grow and succeed. It is said there is no love greater than a mother's love. The comfort and warmth a mother provides her child is remarkably special and unique. As the child grows older, the mother is an unwavering source of unconditional love, guidance and support. A mother's love is both timeless and priceless.

Motherhood and its associated traits are not restricted to the physical relationship between a woman and her child. Just as a child recognizes the

mother and father at birth, Swami says, one must recognize the history and culture of their motherland. Swami says to love and serve your country. Just as the mother gives birth to the child, the land has given birth to its citizens. Swami says to have a sense of patriotism. Have trust and faith in your country. Do not bring grief or sorrow to it. There is no need to indulge in criticizing other countries or people. There is importance to having pride in your motherland.

In today's cultural mosaic, society is bursting with people of different cultures and ethnicities. A wide array of mother tongues and a plethora of motherlands exist. Amidst the vast assortment of cultural

backgrounds, there is one commonality. Mother Earth. Providing the roots of all life is Mother Earth. Mankind is able to grow, blossom and flourish due to the unconditional support of Mother Earth. Sunlight, fresh air, water are all products of this beautiful planet Earth.

Our dear Swami explains this in his simple yet eloquent words.

You see the effect, not the cause, when you observe Nature around you. The bungalow is seen, not the foundation under the earth; the tree is seen with all the crowning glory of leaf and blossom and fruit, but the roots that grip it and feed it are not

» CONT. PAGE THREE

Devotee Speaks



People come into Bhagavan's fold in different ways at different times. I believe our life is a divine drama which unfolds depending on the results of our past and present Karmic balances. My experience is an example of just that. Even though Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba came across my childhood in the early 1980's, my exposure to him stopped after attending a few Thursday Bhajans at a place nearynear by home in Sri Lanka. I still remember the vibrations of those Bhajan sessions to this day. They would start with Om Ennum Pranava Roopa Nayaka Umayavalin Balane Vinayaka. Back then, my understanding of Bhagavan was that he is just another Swami-ji in India. I did not make any efforts to find out more about him. Fast forward to the early 2000's in Canada, Bhagavan was kind enough to come across me through my wife again. However, this time, I believe my ego blinded me to believe that I was already praying to the Supreme God Shiva, so I do not need to pay attention to any other Swami-ji's teachings. However, in 2011, my wife convinced me to enroll my first son in SSE by bringing a few well-SSE students to my attention. Initially, we would simply drop them off at class and do our regular weekend errands. One day, I while dropping them off, I was forced to stay at EHV class. The instructor (who is now my Sai brother) asked me to check out the RadioSai web site. Upon browsing this website, I immediately became hooked onto the "Spiritual Questions and Answers" series by Professor G. Venkataraman. As I was going through each series, slowly I realized that my doubts were getting cleared one by one. More importantly, I came to know that Bhagavan is actually the Avatar of Shiva and Shakthi, and instantly, my heart was broken into pieces. I was broken because I realized that I did not hold enough good Karmic balance to get the Dharshan of our dear Bhagavan. I was extremely upset upon knowing that he did come across me twice in this lifetime when

he was in physical form, and I ignored both times. Until this day, I ask Him why he never gave me a chance to just get one glimpse of his form in presence. Last year on July 25, 2016, I had a dream that a few of our Sai Brothers informed me that Bhagavan scheduled to visit our house shortly. With much panic, Sai Brothers were helping my family decorate the house. Then suddenly our dear Lord walked into our house via front door. He gave Paada Namaskar and walked directly to the Family room and took a seat on the coffee table waiting for Aarati to start. We were not ready and scrambling to prepare for the Aarati. At this time, I woke up from the dream. I woke up in shock. I could not believe what I had just seen in the dream. Then, my ignorant mind started giving me doubts about this dream and I went to sleep again. Then on the morning of July 26th, after the morning prayers, I read Sathya Sai's Message for the Day, and stated "Dreams relating to God are real." These words instantly made all my doubts disappear and I happily enjoyed the thought of this dream once again. Bhagavan has said that if we take a hundred steps towards him he will take just one step towards us and I strongly feel this was a true example of that. Even though I still feel that I missed a chance to see Bhagavan in person, I do not feel as much pain as I did before. I thank you our dear Bhagavan for your unbounded kindness in trying to remove this burden from my heart. ✨

Motherhood in Plants & Animals



It is important to remember that not only our human mothers who take the extraordinary steps to take care of their loved ones but also one can find such kindness of love and protection is seen in plants and animals.

The animal kingdom is flush filled with moms mothers that take the time to teach their younglings how to obtain the basic necessities to live - babies to find food, water and shelter, and protect themselves.

The bond between an orangutan mother and her young ones are strongest in nature. During the first two years of life, the babies rely entirely on their mothers for food and transportation. The moms mothers stay with their young ones for six to seven years teaching them where to find food, what and how to eat and the technique for building a sleeping nest. Even polar bears teach survival skills in the cold climate to their cubs. The mother builds dens by digging into deep snow drifts creating a space, keeping the cubs healthy by using their body and milk. When it comes to African elephants, a new mom is not alone in guiding her young calf. They live in society, so

other females also show the baby calf how to nurse.

On the other side, if you look at the plant kingdom, plants also understand the language of love and compassion. It is said that plants are sentient beings that feel emotions, prefer classical music to rock and roll and can respond to the unspoken thoughts of humans. An American scientist, Luther Burbank once said, that "The secret of improved plant breeding apart from scientific knowledge is love". He conducted many experiments to make "spineless cacti". He often talked to the plants to create a "vibration of love. For instance, like he often said "You have nothing to fear. I would tell them.[...] You don't need your defensive thorns. I will protect you." Gradually the useful plant of the desert emerged in a thornless less variety.

In conclusion, we can say that animals and plant are much more intelligent and much more like us than most people think — capable of cognition, communication, information processing, computation and moreover more importantly, full of love and compassion. ✨

Mothers

» CONT. FROM PAGE ONE

visible. You cannot therefore deny them. So, too, for everything that can be seen, heard, smelt, tasted, and touched, God is the cause. Man is born as man because he is to realize this truth and feel the presence of God in all beings and things.

There is an underlying responsibility Swami alludes to regarding the need to live harmoniously with our dear Mother Earth by increasing our awareness of our surrounding environment.

Yad bhavam tad bhavati. As is the feeling, so is the result. Whatever actions you do, will come back to you as reaction, reflection and resound. It is essential to be conscientious of the impact one makes to the beloved Mother Earth, whom continuously provides unconditionally with bountiful resources to allow man to thrive. We should not take Mother Earth for granted. Hurting Mother Earth by means of polluting, harming

or disregarding plant and wildlife are direct means of hurting our surrounding environment. Instead, it is integral to be responsible and aware of our surroundings.

Motherhood is a testament to a lifestyle in which the comfort and well-being of others are placed before oneself. A mother's love attracts anyone and everyone. The Supreme Mother, a mother for all mothers. Our Dear Mother Sai, a beacon of love and grace, constantly showering each and everyone with love and blessings. The qualities of a mother are a mere introduction to the vast and expansive attributes our Mother Sai.

That which does not change is only one-- it is Love. All relationships come and go - all are passing clouds. Only one thing is permanent, and this is Divine Love. ✨



Unscramble Time!



- MTHEOR _____
- ESAMMAAWAR _____
- REAHT _____
- LANGUAEG _____
- RENPAT _____
- FTHERA _____
- FAYMIL _____
- GUIDED _____
- RLEWOF _____
- NRTUGRNUI _____
- ACISFICRE _____
- ILNVOG _____
- ARCE _____
- MTROEH TRNAUE _____
- NPEART _____



BHAJAN

Eswaramba Priya Nandana
 Sai Jaya Jaga Vandana
 Ratnakara Kula Bhooshana
 Rajeeva Nayana Narayana
 Narayana Sai Narayana(2)
 Narayana Hari Narayana
 Narayana Sathya Narayana

The darling Son of mother Eswaramba, Lord Sai, the victorious Lord whom the universe worships! The jewel of the Ratnakara Dynasty, O the lotus-eyed Lord Narayana! O Lord Sathya Sai Narayana!

Answer: Mother, Earth, Parent, Family, Caswaramma, Language, Father, Guide, Flower, Nurturing, Sacrifice, Loving, Care, Mother, Nature, Parent