

# *SAI CHRONICLE*



*Guru Poornima Issue-2015*

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## EDITOR'S DESK

*It was some time in the summer of 1992, when my parents first took me to a Sai Baba temple. The temple was in Lodhi Road, New Delhi. I was only 8 years old at that time. Today when I look back, it is difficult to believe that it has already been 23 years since Shri Shirdi Sai came into my life. During these years, I have seen many ups and downs in life. But there has not been even a single moment, where I felt that Baba was not with me.*

*In 2012, I moved to Germany to join a new job. I noticed that in Germany and generally in Europe, there are not many temples of Shri Sai. Although in some Hindu Temples, a small idol of Baba is there. To be honest, I started missing the experience of visiting Baba's temple. For many years, spending time in Baba's temple was an important part of my life. My desire to search for Baba in Europe connected me with some other devotees. I was surprised to know that whilst they enjoyed living here, like me, they were also missing Baba.*

*To provide a platform for devotees based in Europe to interact with each other, I created a group on Facebook - Shri Shirdi Sai Baba (Europe). The group is only 6-7 months old, but we already have more than 1200 members. Whilst some devotees are based in India, US, Canada and some other countries, most of the members are based in different parts of Europe.*

*Some of the devotees which I have interacted with are also Europeans. They are very curious to know more about Baba and ask me many questions relating to His life and teachings.*

*This year, we started the initiative of sending Baba's wall calendars and greeting cards as New Year gifts, to devotees based in Europe. With the blessings of Baba, we were able to send these gifts to the devotees based in more than 15 European countries.*

*We have also started organizing Sai Sandhyas across Europe, where we sing bhajans, read Shri Sai Satcharita, share our experiences, do aarati and have prasad. In the last 6 months, with His blessings, we have been able to organize*

*Sai Sandhyas in 6 European countries - Germany (Frankfurt, Hamburg), Finland (Helsinki), France (Paris), Sweden (Stockholm), Poland (Warsaw) and Belgium (Brussels). In August, we are also planning to have a Sai Sandhya in Switzerland.*

*I am fortunate to be able to attend Sai Sandhyas in different cities. Irrespective of the place, I think that the devotees are like a big family, bound together by one common thing - love for Baba.*

*I would like to thank Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy for taking out time from his busy schedule and writing his message on the auspicious occasion of Guru Poornima for our magazine. I am also grateful to all the devotees who have written articles, poems and drawn sketches for the inaugural edition of Sai Chronicle. Last but not the least, I thank Ankur, my friend, who has immensely helped me with the formatting and styling of this magazine.*

*'Sai Chronicle' for us is a medium through which devotees from across the world can share their experiences. This is the inaugural edition. We will release this magazine four times every year - Dussehra, New Year, Ram Navami and Guru Poornima. Suggestions and feedbacks are most welcome.*

*Abhijit Narayan, Germany*

## GURU POORNIMA MESSAGE

*Some people interpret God as the primordial nature of the cosmos or hold nature as the most vital aspect of God through which He manifests Himself. The cosmos and everything within it, seen-unseen and living-non living, is made of the elements of this primordial nature. All life forms on earth are nothing but different expressions of nature. The Hindu Vedic seers had gone a long way in explaining the relationship between God and universal nature. They had realised the importance of proper use, protection and growth of nature. They understood that if we don't take care of nature, nature cannot take care of us for the times to come. The organic life forms on earth like plants, animals, and human beings sustain and multiply under certain conditions. Any climatic and environmental change, whether natural or manmade, is bound to bring disaster to all the life forms on earth. So many hymns were composed by the Vedic saints to highlight this theme and prescribe methods for the protection of nature. Today, climate change and global warming have become global concerns. For example, Yajurveda (Y.V.13.37) mentions about the ill effects of cutting trees and the poisoning of atmosphere. It further discusses energy balance of the global ecosystem. It says, "no persons should kill animals helpful to air." All of us have to address this problem with all the seriousness that it deserves.*

*Earth is estimated to be 4.6 billion years old. In its nascent state, the earth was a fire ball full of volcanos and was incapable of generating and protecting life. Over a long period of time, the earth cooled down because of which a solid crust and a watery surface were created. Gradually, the various elements of nature like the chemicals and gasses favourable to life form were created. Between 3.8 to 4.1 billion years ago, the Earth was a planet with an atmosphere and an ocean. Life forms appeared on Earth 3.8 to 3.5 billion years ago. An evolutionary split known as Human-Chimpanzee divergence occurred about six million years ago. Thereafter, Homo Sapiens species—commonly known as human beings—came into existence 2.3 to 2.4 million years ago. Thus, it can be said that a certain ecological condition or favourable environment created different life forms on earth and sustained it.*

*There are certain factors that make our planet habitable. They are temperature (life on earth exists within a temperature range of minus 15 degree C to minus 115 degree C), energy (organisms use light and/or chemical energy), water (dissolves and transports chemicals and forms cells), atmosphere (traps heat,*

*shields earth's surface from harmful radiation and provides chemicals like Nitrogen and Carbon dioxide required to sustain life), and nutrients (essentially required to build and maintain an organic body).*

*These factors go through natural change. The human society is also responsible for certain adverse changes. Let us discuss about the human induced ecological imbalances that need to be checked. These are over-exploitation of natural resources leading to imbalance in the eco-system, habitat destruction, inappropriate use of agriculture and forestry, land and marine resources, organic and inorganic pollution, urban and industrial discharge, plastics and many more pollutants. Similarly bio-invasion, which is an intentional or unintentional act perpetrated by the human beings to introduce a species that is not native to a certain eco-system is also a matter of concern. It has been calculated that about 7000 species of marine life are transported every day. Finally, climate change is one of the major factors. Climate change on earth is calculated in the geological time scale. It generally means a change in the weather and temperature pattern of the earth. Growth of human population and rapid economic development have increased the emission of green house gases which include Carbon dioxide, Methane and Nitrous Oxide. Such gases cover the lower atmosphere and absorb the long-wave (Infra Red) radiation and do not allow it to escape. They result in the warming of the earth's surface and the atmosphere .*

*Presently, the human race is experiencing the adverse effects global warming and climatic change. For protection, it has to re-condition it's life style and reduce the exploitation and man-created pollution of nature. Each individual has to be fully aware about the future shape of things to come and contribute their best for maintaining the balance of nature. Human society needs to protect and nourish nature as the trustee of God . One can, therefore, say that service to nature is service to God.*

*May Shri Sai bless us.*

*Dr. C. B. Satpathy, New Delhi*

## FIRST INDIAN GUEST CHAPLAIN AT THE US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

On 24 June, 2015, Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy was invited by the Office of the Chaplain, US House of Representatives, Washington DC, to open the US House of Representatives with a prayer as the Guest Chaplain. Congressman Jim McDermott, who had, earlier, on 27th January, 2015, read out a citation in honour of Dr. Satpathy at the House, on the completion of 25 years of Global Sai Movement, was instrumental in the process of invitation.

Dr. Satpathy's prayer read thus:

*Om...*

*O lord, by your will we are born in different nations, speak different languages and follow different religions and cultures. Yet we are all your children and ever grateful for your love and protection. Evoke in us pious thoughts and feelings, to shun all hatred and violence and become worthy of your services. Bless our future generations. Bring by the spirit of love, sacrifice and cooperation. Guide us in following saints like shirdi sai baba who proclaimed in hindi, "sab ka malik ek" ... Meaning, god is the master of all. Inspire us, as your trustees, to nourish and protect the world around us, to sustain all life. Guide us along the ethical and holistic path of self-control, purity of purpose and dedication, enshrined in the shrimad bhagavat geeta. O lord, bless this august assembly and this nation in performing its national and global responsibilities towards furthering the cause of humanity.*

*Om...*

The prayer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by the Senators. Then Congressman Jim McDermott accorded a formal welcome to Dr. Satpathy and extended his gratitude to Dr. Satpathy for his presence at the House. He said:

*It is my privilege this morning to welcome our guest chaplain, Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy.*

*Dr. Satpathy deserves great credit for his earnest and humble leadership of the global Sai movement, which celebrates the teachings and ideals of Shirdi Sai Baba, the most respected of the Indian Perfect Masters and renowned for his teachings of compassion and acceptance. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the global Sai movement, and I can't think of a time when the values of peace, respect, and compassion are needed more here in our own country and in other parts of the world. Dr. Satpathy's moving invocation this morning serves as a motivation to each of us gathered here to always remember what ultimately unites us far outweighs what divides us, regardless of language, culture, or creed. Thank you, Dr. Satpathy, for being here today. Thank you for your exemplary leadership in the spirit of Sai Baba's teachings, and thank you for sharing your vision for a peaceful future.;*

The video of the prayer can be seen by clicking this link

<http://www.c-span.org/video/?c4541931/guru-jis-speech-guest-chaplain>





## Shirdi Sai Movement in Europe

*(i) Sai Sandhyas have been organized in Germany (Frankfurt, Hamburg), Finland (Helsinki), France (Paris), Sweden (Stockholm), Poland (Warsaw) and Belgium (Brussels). At all Sai Sandhyas, copies of Shri Sai Satcharita, magazines as Heritage of Shirdi Sai, lockets, photos, music CDs and Udi are distributed to the devotees.*

*The devotees participate in activities like reading of Shri Sai Satcharita, singing bhajans, sharing of experiences and singing Aarti. The devotees also offer Prasad to Shri Sai.*



*Hamburg, Germany*



*Frankfurt, Germany*



*Warsaw, Poland*



*Stockholm, Sweden*



*Helsinki, Finland*



*Brussels, Belgium*



*Paris, France*

*(ii) This year, we have distributed Shri Sai greeting cards and wall calendars to the devotees based in more than 15 European countries.*

*(iii) We had also collected some money which was sent to Nepal, to provide aid to those affected by the earthquake.*



## DEVOTEES' EXPERIENCES

### Baba pulled me like a sparrow with string

*The day I started believing in baba, I had a strong urge to visit Shirdi and seek His blessings for me and my family. Baba is omnipresent and not bound to time and place per se. But still the mere thought of touching the soil where He walked, to see the place where He sat and granted all the wishes of His followers, excited me. I had only heard about Shirdi but had never been there. I wanted to be in that place where Baba lived all His life and made the soil, air and water holy by His presence.*

*But like Baba said "It's not people who come to see me and follow me by being my devotees, it's me who choose souls and pull them to me like a sparrow tied to thread." I was waiting patiently for my past bad Karmas to end and for His call. Since we live in Germany, it is not easy to decide spontaneously to visit India considering our respective job responsibilities, our children and last but not least the convenience of flights. One has to plan months ahead for travelling (excluding the emergency conditions). In beginning of 2015 we had planned to go to India. I was so much excited to meet my family and also visit Shirdi. But due to one or the other reason, the trip kept on getting postponed and then at one time point it became clear that we cannot travel this year. I was really sad and thought may be Baba has not yet taken me under His fold.*

*But Baba is Baba. He knows how to strengthen His devotee's faith in Him. One day my father-in-law called us and said he was missing his grandchildren a lot and if it was possible for us to visit India in coming weeks? He wanted that his Grandson's mundan ceremony is done in India in a grand manner as this might be the last big family function for him. Mundan was only a few weeks away. We had arranged nearly everything at a local temple along with priest, prasadam etc. in Germany for our son's mundan ceremony considering our inability to visit India this year. But as soon as he asked us, things got themselves arranged so nicely and our India trip was ON! Now that the trip was on, I tried to book aarti in Samadhi mandir as we were travelling with our two small kids and standing in the line with them for hours together was just impossible. Booking was not easy, we tried for a few days and then by Baba's grace I was able to book Dhoop aarti on Thursday, Baba's day.*

*The feeling of being on the Shirdi soil is difficult to explain. Everything was so pure there. Baba blessed us with not only one but two consecutive aartis on Thursday. There was a lot of crowd and it was already much warm in the month of April (considering we have been in Germany close to a decade now, and our kids been born here). But Baba made sure that we had comfortable Darshan to our hearts content.*

*After aarti Baba made arrangements that when everyone was struggling to have even just a glimpse of Him, my son was the one and only who went up to Baba's samadhi and did a dandwat pranam (prostrate). He touched and prayed at (even on) Baba's samadhi from all sides before the priest asked me to get him down as they wanted to begin with the routine by closing the samadhi with the bars and start the darshan line. I felt so blessed with this experience that I cannot put it in any words.*

*Before we went to Shirdi I had so many prayers to make to Baba. I was in front of Him two times and I forgot everything each time. I was so mesmerized with His Idol, His samadhi and the divine aura there that I forgot everything. My mind was in complete Bliss and eyes full of tears. I felt as if He was telling me, "I know what you want. Have faith in me and I will provide you with what is the best for you".*

*Our visit to Shirdi has increased our faith in Him many folds. There are still many problems in day to day life. But faith in Him has given us the strength to bear them and wait patiently till He decides the best for us. Knowing Him has taken away all the negative energy from our lives. I pray to Baba that our faith and belief in Him shall increase with each passing moment. It is now difficult even to imagine my life without Him. My message to fellow devotees will be that let's be humble, meditate on Sai and surrender completely at His lotus feet.*

*Om Sai Ram!!*

*Anuradha Kaistha, Germany*

## Baba's Udi

*I have been a devotee of Sai Baba since 2004 and have been experiencing His presence in each and every situation of my life. I want to share the recent experience on how our beloved Sai helped me throughout my pregnancy in all aspects mentally and medically and blessed us with a healthy baby boy.*

*I was diagnosed with Gestational diabetes during the sixth month of pregnancy. Doctors had told us to get readings six times in a day for sugar to check the level of insulin to be injected. Doctors had also said that there are chances that baby might get diabetes. I cried in front of Baba and was upset for two days. Then I reassured myself by saying Baba wouldn't leave me and everything must be for good. I prayed and started to take the readings. I and my husband made a diet plan to avoid insulin. After 3 days we went to the doctor and he asked us to take reading for three more days and come back. By then, we checked on the internet about all foods that reduce sugar level, spoke with grandparents and got some ideas on reducing sugar level.*

*After three days, we went to the doctor again and he asked me to take readings for three times in a day. He also told insulin is not required as we know how to control with the help of diet. Things were going on in same way, with every two weeks visiting the doctor just for monitoring and control.*

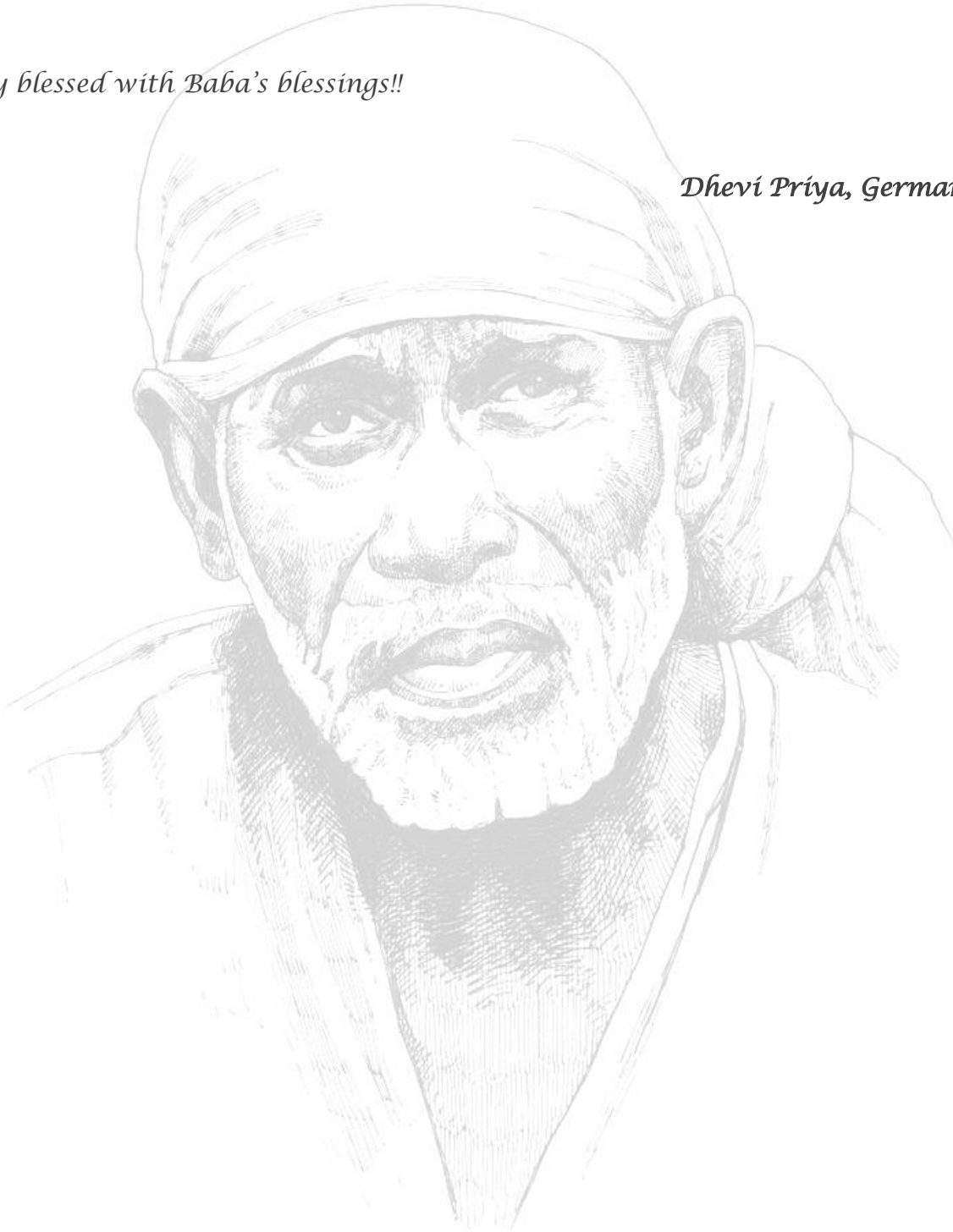
*I was running short of Udi and asked my friend (Abhijit) to get some Udi as he was in India. I met him in Frankfurt and got the Udi from him. From then on, till delivery I used to take Udi everyday along with water. On due date, I still did not get labour pains. I prayed to Baba and went to gynecologist for a checkup and doctor said to go to hospital as water level was less. We came home, packed things and had some Udi and took it along with me. There were some complications and doctor said it should be C-Section. I wasn't ready for C-Section and told my husband let's wait. But all I was doing was to pray to Baba for a normal delivery. After a few hours, things changed and we are blessed with baby boy and it was absolutely normal.*

*All these wouldn't have been possible without Baba. The doctors also checked baby's blood to see if he was diabetic. Again, with Baba's grace, his sugar levels were normal. Even my sugar levels were back to normal.*

*All we need is patience and faith to experience His presence. Not to mention every time I get scared or lose faith I see the Baba's picture in my desktop and in my mobile wallpaper - 'why fear when I am here'!*

*Stay blessed with Baba's blessings!!*

***Dhevi Priya, Germany***





## Sai Leela

*My first conscious Sai Leela occurred twelve years ago at Shirdi, His Holy place.*

*From childhood I am a devotee of Sai Baba, but twelve years ago, it took a new turn, when suddenly one night I decided to visit Shirdi and take darshan of Baba's Holy Feet. I set on journey from Hubli with my parents, sister and nephew. It was a direct KSRTC bus to Shirdi covering 618 kilometers from Hubli. I was really anxious to have Baba's darshan.*

*After twelve hours of bus journey, we reached Shirdi. We left the luggage with the security guard and rushed to take Baba's darshan at 9.30 pm but to our surprise it was too late. The door of Dwarkamai had been closed.*

*I was in tears and looking at the closed door I began to question Baba - How could you close the doors, when you knew I was coming and that whole of the journey I was wishing for your darshan when I reach Shirdi?*

*That's when a miracle happened! A 10 year-old boy patted my back holding Baba's murthi (idol) in his left hand close to his chest and asking me to buy it for 10 Rupees. I was in tears, my joy knew no bounds. We all had His darshan and I held the murthi very close to my heart.*

*Though Dwarkamai had closed the door, but Baba made sure that He gave a darshan as I wished. Even today Baba's murthi is worshipped at my parent's house.*

*Next day morning I rushed for Kakada (morning) aarthi with my parents, wearing blue salwar and to my surprise Sai baba greeted me by wearing blue colour dress. This happened for the next three days until I was in Shirdi. Till now when I visit Sai temple at Malleshwaram Bangalore, He greets me by wearing same colour dress that I wear. He knows that I am coming and He never disappoints His child.*

*Such is His leela, He always takes care and blesses His child with what a child needs rather than what child wants”.*

*Shilpa Jabin, Finland*



## A Prayer

*I would like to share my thoughts about Shri Sai Baba, who has blessed my life in various ways. This is just an expression of my gratitude to the divine and a means of communicating my feelings to Baba who resides in each and every one of us who have experienced His blessings.*

*Sai baba, I hereby present myself to you. Be my strength, be my guide, be my friend, be my courage, be my happiness, be a part of me in every deed I do, like always.*

*“A content life is more valuable than materialistic gain or success” Is all that you have made me believe in and you are well known to represent such values. Ups and downs in life are common but the belief that you are with me at every stage of my life gives me strength and motivation to lead my life in a positive frame of mind. Every morning the moment I take your name, Baba, I experience the tenderness of a mother’s care, the protective nature of a father, the warmth of a family, the innocence in a child’s smile.*

*The feeling that you are always with me gives me immense strength and brings joy into my life. Under your protection none shall experience the bitterness of life and problems, which may appear to be larger than life, but disappears as soon as your blessings are ushered upon.*

*The comfort and completeness which I experience whenever I take your name cannot be explained in words. I thank you for all your blessings and I hereby surrender myself completely to you and shall lead my life in accordance with the direction you show me.*

*May your grace, as always, be upon anyone who seeks your blessings.*

*Spurthishekar Ramakrishna, France*

## My First Encounter with Shri Sai

*When I first heard this name, I thought someone is dying as the word 'Sai' means "to die" in Kannada.*

*I remember when my neighbours used to call me to their apartment to attend the "Sai Bhajans" which I was never interested in. One day, a stranger knocked on my door and he wanted to tell something. My mother who was busy with the morning chores had no time to attend to him. But he insisted on talking just for a few moments. He started "You are very lucky, Baba likes you so much" and all that. My mother was really angry with his words thinking he is trying to steal something by telling these kind words. My mother asked him if he was telling this to every other person and convincing them to give money. He politely said that he was here to inform everyone about the big Sai bhajan event which would be happening shortly and not for money. He also added "A good thing will happen in this family within 15 days and then you all will be coming to Shirdi". My mother argued that Shirdi is very far and that we were not interested to travel. His answer was "Baba knows how to get you there" and he just left. My mother saw him disappearing into thin air which was a little shocking.*

*We narrated this incident to everyone in the family, but none believed until a miracle happened. In 15 days, my sister's wedding was fixed. She was soon getting engaged. What a miracle! My father who never believed in all these things, suddenly booked train tickets to Nasik. When we asked him why? His answer was "I feel like going to Shirdi and I feel someone is calling me and something is attracting me to go there". I thought it was a wrong decision to believe in these miracles until I got the same feeling. The whole family became so like-minded that we were enthusiastic and craving to travel to Shirdi. I was really surprised to feel the change which was happening in my mind. I also believe that the man who came home and vanished was none other than our beloved "SAI" in disguise*

*We happily went to Shirdi and from there onwards my spiritual Journey began..*

*"SAI SAI SMARAN KARO, GURU CHARANA KAMALA DHYAN KARO"*

*OM SAI RAM,*

*Sneha Rao, Germany*



## How did Shirdi Sai Baba come to my life?

*Sai Baba came to my life through my mother. Baba was in my life all along; however, it took me some time to realize it, maybe because I wasn't ready to realize or because it wasn't the right time yet.*

*About six years ago, I had heard some stories about Sai Baba through my mother and since then, I have always listened to them in awe. Through shared stories, I learned of Baba's unconditional love for all and through shared experiences, I had felt that Baba is indeed a living experience. I wholeheartedly believed everything I heard and appreciated the profound and simple beauty of His teachings. My mother also carries her life abiding by Baba's teachings. She loves all, helps all, serves all selflessly, and is a woman of good virtue. She was my connection to God, though she may not have known it at the time.*

*When I went to college, and was far away from my mother for the first time, I felt lost, alone, and out of touch with God because she was not physically with me. I later realized that God was always with me during those years, watching me, protecting me, and loving me just like how my mother had done. When I pray, I have often prayed that my Mama's prayers are heard. Growing up, I have seen the countless sacrifices she has made for me and my family. I have seen her unwavering devotion and undying love for Sai Baba— Sadguru and God. I have truly admired her for that. It is difficult to describe this feeling, but when I graduated from college and came back to live at home, I re-discovered my connection with God through my mother.*

*Recently, Dr. Chandra Bhanu Satpathy, an embodiment of Baba's teachings, came into both of our lives. I got to witness the fruits of my Mama's sincere faith in front of my eyes and was overwhelmed with joy, happiness, and love; I will cherish those precious feelings and experiences for not only this life but for many lives to come. In those moments under the guidance of Dr. Satpathy, a blindfold was lifted and I realized Baba was present in my life from the beginning through my mother's unconditional love for me and my utmost gratitude goes to her for my life's greatest blessing.*

*Today, my mother and I experience Baba's wonder together. I feel that Baba is with me through her and I am with Baba because of her.*

*Baba's love and care is often paralleled to that of a mother's affection as seen in the Shri Sai Satcharitra and now I know why. Like my mother holding my hand and teaching me how to walk and talk, Baba holds my hand and teaches me how to tread life and breathe His name. What more of a precious way could Sai Baba have come into my life? It is a blessing by Him to have bestowed His love and presence on me through her.*

*Shivani Mahapatro, USA*



## When Baba came to have food

*I really don't know from where should I start from, but I have realized that in almost every special moment Baba had been with me. However, I have been able to realize this only two years ago. I don't remember how and from whom I got Baba's pendant in my praying plate (Pooja's thali).*

*We normally eat only after offering food to Baba. One day, I was working at a bar and just before having my food, I called my husband to check whether food has been offered to Baba. Unfortunately, that day he forgot.*

*So, I just left my food and apologized to Baba and asked Him to accept my apologies. I also said that I won't eat as food has not been offered to Baba.*

*After some time a lady customer came and asked for something to eat. In the bar, we only had peanuts. But she was actually pointing towards my lunch box and requested me to give my food for her.*

*I offered my food to her. Even though she was a foreigner, she ate my food. Some other people at the bar offered her drinks. But she just ignored them and only ate my food. After finishing the food, she hugged and wished me and quietly left.*

*I believe that it was Baba who came that day and had food.*

*Om Shri Sachidanand Sadguru Sainath Maharaj Ki Jai!*

*Priya Bhaskar, Finland*



## My Experiences with Sai Baba

*I believe in Sai Baba very deeply since 1980s (don't know exactly the year) as my mother used to believe in Him and after that I started believing in Him. Now being a strong devotee of Him, not a day passes without thinking about Him.*

### *Experience 1:*

*My son was born in October 2008 in Rajasthan and a few days after his birth he was hospitalised for couple of days due to Jaundice (which is quite normal). As the hospital was not so clean, my son got infected and his condition started becoming worse. The doctor then took his blood sample and told us that we need to change his blood. At that time my son was just couple of days old. We were scared and wanted to shift the hospital in the midnight itself.*

*Next morning, one of my wife's uncles who is a Medical Representative and he took us to a child specialist. We were asked to take the blood sample again and then he did the same test which was done in the other hospital. We were then asked to admit my son in the other hospital where this child specialist works. At 10:00 pm the doctor came with the results (until that time my son was in incubator as he was very weak and infected) and to our surprise doctor told us that we need not change any blood as the infection is under control and we can manage with the injections.*

*We were very thankful to Sai Baba that He heard our prayers and stopped the disease immediately. I had also prayed to Him and said if He cures my son, I will come to Shirdi.*

*After this news the doctor told us that we should stay for one day in hospital and then we can go back to home. In the meantime, we found a doctor who could come every day to our house and give the medicine to my son. After eleven days, my son was totally fine. We thanked our savior Sri Shirdi Sai Baba. Without Him we are nothing. Even now everyday He is saving me and my family.*

### *Experience 2:*

*We are settled outside of India, but my son was born in India. After his birth we were required to apply for his passport to take him with us. We were thinking when and how to apply as I had very less time to return to the country where I was based. One day my father-in-law got a call from a travel agent on his mobile, who asked him if he wanted to make a passport. We were really surprised because none of us had discussed this with any travel agents or offices. We were all wondering how come they got the number of my father-in-law and also how did he know that we required help with the passport.*

*So my father-in-law asked me if I had given his number to any travel agent. I replied in negative. Anyway, we asked the agent to come to our house to talk with him the details and service charges. So he came and collected some documents and then I told him that my passport is from South India and my wife's passport is from North India and there is some confusion about place, address etc. So he told we need to do some paper work for this. But he also assured that there is no reason to worry and that we will get everything done in 10 days. We were quite happy as this is exactly what I wanted.*

*So we gave him all the documents. After 3-4 days, I tried to call him but he was not reachable. I also didn't get any response either from the travel agent or from his office. I got really stressed as I was running out of time and had no idea what to do.*

*I started inquiring about the process and documentation. Some people told me that as I am from South India but making passport of my son in North India and that as my wife's name was not in my passport, so I would need to change my passport and also I need some property documents etc. There was total chaos in those 3-4 days where the travel agent was missing.*

*I started preparing the documentation and suddenly one afternoon the called travel agent called me again and apologized for not being reachable (unfortunately his Grandma had expired, so he was busy with that). He again picked up my case and in three days he completed all the documentation. While completing the documentation we had to go to the Municipal Corporation to submit some documents for the Birth Certificate. When I submitted the application, the official saw my son's name (he has Sai as a part of his name) and asked us if we believe in Shirdi Sai Baba. We were shocked and I said that I am*

*also a believer of Baba. The official didn't even check the application, stamped on it and immediately gave it back to me.*

*After this we had an appointment at the Passport Office. The travel agent came at 9 am to my house and took us along with him. It was a very hot day. The travel agent even asked us to bring my son to the Passport office, so we took him.*

*After reaching the Passport Office, I saw a long queue of people waiting. I was worried for my son. But the agent told me that there is no need of waiting in this line and I could go directly to the man who is sitting just before the entrance. We did the same. To our surprise the official checked our application and told us that you can go directly to the counter and pay the money and with the receipt go to the Passport Officer.*

*Thereafter, we went upstairs and waited for a couple of minutes in the waiting room and then a boy came out and asked us to follow him to the official's room. Somebody was already sitting there, but the official asked us to sit. He then verified the application and signed on it. He also said that everything is fine and the passport will be sent to our home.*

*After one week I received the passport. Needless to say we were very happy. My conclusion is that without Sai Baba this would have not been possible.*

*Anonymous*

## When Baba helped me with my studies

*Baba, please give me the blessings and courage so that I can write the unbelievable miracle you did to me that changed my entire life. First of all I would like to thank you Baba from the bottom of my heart for all your love and affection towards me, and accepting me as your child. Dhanyawaad mere Sai Baba.*

*I would like to share the lovely experience of Baba that happened in my life in 2013. My husband and I were working in Bangalore, in two different Biotech companies. Life was really difficult as we were not getting enough time also to talk to each other as we had different timings and my husband's company was quite far from our home.*

*Financially, everything was okay, but we were really getting tired mentally and physically after so much of travelling and hectic schedule. We always wanted to do Ph.D. from a good university and my husband tried a lot, but he was not getting a good opportunity or call from any university. Sometimes we used to get really frustrated and disappointed.*

*One day, in my office, one of my colleagues told me about Shri Sai Satcharitra, and explained to me that if we are reading Baba's book with full devotion and dedication, then Baba will really help. She explained me to start Baba's book on Thursday and complete the entire book within a week's time and upon completion of the book, feed the needy people (which Baba is very much fond of) and visit Baba's temple.*

*I started reading Baba's book and during that one week period I always felt I am getting closer to Baba. After completion of the book I fed people and prayed deeply to my Baba. On the same night, in my dreams I saw Baba's photo next to my husband's bed side, in which he was in a posture of giving blessings to both of us. It was an incredible dream and I was very much thankful to Sai Baba.*

*Within two weeks' time, we received an email from one of our friends (who was in Germany) to apply for an open Ph.D. position in one German University. My husband applied for it and his application got selected and the Professor fixed a telephonic interview with him. We were really excited but never expected that*

*what all is happening is true as everything happened so fast. I got so emotionally attached to Baba and prayed for my husband's success. He gave the interview, and it went okay. Professor told he will let him know by email, if he will get selected. Then for fifteen days no email came from Professor and we really got disheartened. It was Sunday and I cried a lot in front of Baba that why is all this happening.*

*Can you imagine Baba's unconditional love and promises towards us, that my husband received an email on Sunday night at 10:00 pm, when you will least expect any email from a German Professor (on Sunday, which is not an official day, getting an email, was like Baba has made the Professor to write the acceptance email and send it to us). It was a dream coming true for us. That day I completely understood that Baba is the whole world to me and I surrendered myself completely to Him.*

*My husband left for Germany in a few months' time and I joined him after 3 months. I was happy and wanted to do Ph.D. in Germany. I prayed to Baba and told Him that you are the best decision maker of our lives and give what you think is the best for me.*

*Then, another amazing experience, which even today I cannot say firmly, that whether it was a dream or reality, happened with me. I was sleeping one night and what I saw (I truly don't know was it a dream or I really saw that), Baba coming out of his picture which was actually hung on the wall of our bedroom, he came near to me and then put his hand on my head, tears of joy were coming out of my eyes, and then he told me not to worry for anything. Everything will be fine, my blessings are with you. Baba was with me for quite a long period of time that night.*

*Next day when I got up, I told this unbelievable dream to my husband, thanked Baba in deep reverence, and I did not worry at all for anything after that. Within two months' time I got Ph.D. in the same University (in which my husband is) in a very nice project. All these were just like a dream or miracles for me then and now as well.*

*Baba loves His children more than a mother and He is everything to me. For me, He is the whole world and Baba; I surrender myself completely at Your Holy Feet. Be always with us, I cannot think of walking even a single step without You. I owe everything to you Baba.*

*Namaskaara Saashitaang Shri Sai Natha.*

*Neha Verma, Germany*

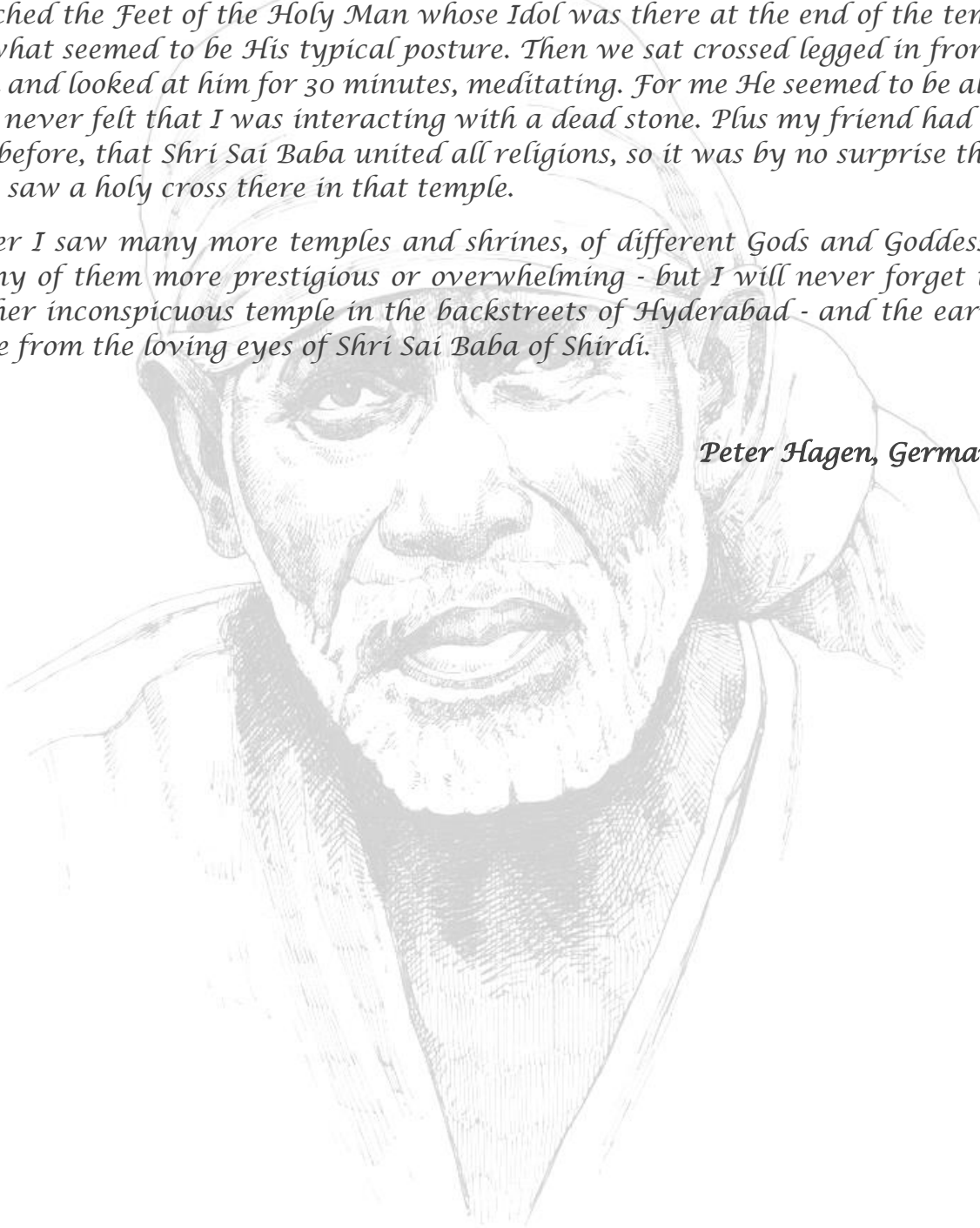


## Experience of a German national

*Last year in July I met my Indian friend in Hyderabad. On the first day of my stay, he took me to a Sai Baba Temple, where I had to learn to remove my shoes, which is - how I was about to find out soon - mandatory in Hindu temples. We touched the Feet of the Holy Man whose Idol was there at the end of the temple in what seemed to be His typical posture. Then we sat crossed legged in front of him and looked at him for 30 minutes, meditating. For me He seemed to be alive, as I never felt that I was interacting with a dead stone. Plus my friend had told me before, that Shri Sai Baba united all religions, so it was by no surprise that I also saw a holy cross there in that temple.*

*Later I saw many more temples and shrines, of different Gods and Goddesses - many of them more prestigious or overwhelming - but I will never forget that rather inconspicuous temple in the backstreets of Hyderabad - and the earnest gaze from the loving eyes of Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi.*

*Peter Hagen, Germany*



## How Sai helped me

*I am a travel agent by profession. Once I had a reservation of my client who was supposed to fly the very next day. By mistake I do not know how, may be in hurry, I cancelled his reservation as I got confused with another passenger with the same name who called to cancel his reservation as his plans were not finalized. Later when the client called me again to request for Asian vegetarian meal, I was shocked to see his reservation cancelled.*

*I got very nervous and tried to rebook him but the flight was already closed as it was peak season. I thought now I am gone. I had a photo of Sai baba on my desk. I looked into His eyes and asked him - *Baba please help me, I did this by mistake and if the passenger is unable to fly tomorrow it would be a big problem. Suddenly I felt as if baba blinked His eye positively. I thought maybe it was a hint from His side for me to try once again and look for the availability of seats on the flight. I tried but I still was not able to get the seats the next day, but only next to next day. I rebooked him for that day and started to think a plan to convince my client.**

*Suddenly my phone rang I could see his name on it. I was scared to attend to his call. I again looked into Baba's eyes and said - *please Baba, you take control of this call and I picked up the call. You will be surprised to hear what the client said to me! He said 'Hey Sunny could I ask you to please see if there is a possibility to change my flight to the day after tomorrow as I have an appointment at the Income tax department tomorrow and I cannot miss it.'**

*As soon as the call got disconnected I was so relieved and had a mixed feeling of love, trust, joy, that tears began to flow from my eyes and I again looked at Baba's photo and said 'thank you Baba'.*

*After this incident, I had complete faith and trust in Sai baba.*

*This is just one of the many miracles I have experienced in my life.*

*Jai Sai Ram !!*

*Sunny, Portugal*



## About Sai

*The word “Sai” always brings tears, happiness and peace to me. He means a lot in this journey of my life. As a person from being filled with ignorance, ego, pride, fear, extreme emotions, attached to materialistic things and running behind desires and passion, I have now realized and dwelled into the reality of the human existence. His infinite love was always showered (still continuing) in the form of comfortness and self-realization. During hardships, the true mantra that was always uttered by Baba “Shradha” (faith) and “Saburi” (patience) has played a significant role. For the first time in my life, I have been away from home and Baba has stood beside me at all times giving the motherly love. He taught me to adore and appreciate every form of life in this planet, let it be even a stone or a rock. Now, my life is completely blissful with the grace of Sai.*

*Even at this moment, I really don't know how to express my love, gratitude and devotion to Him in this short message. However, I certainly know that He is the reality and whoever turns to Him, will never be disappointed. It's for sure that you will definitely begin to experience and live a new life.*

*Jai Sai naath.*

*Priyadarshini Manoharan, Sweden*

## Help with job

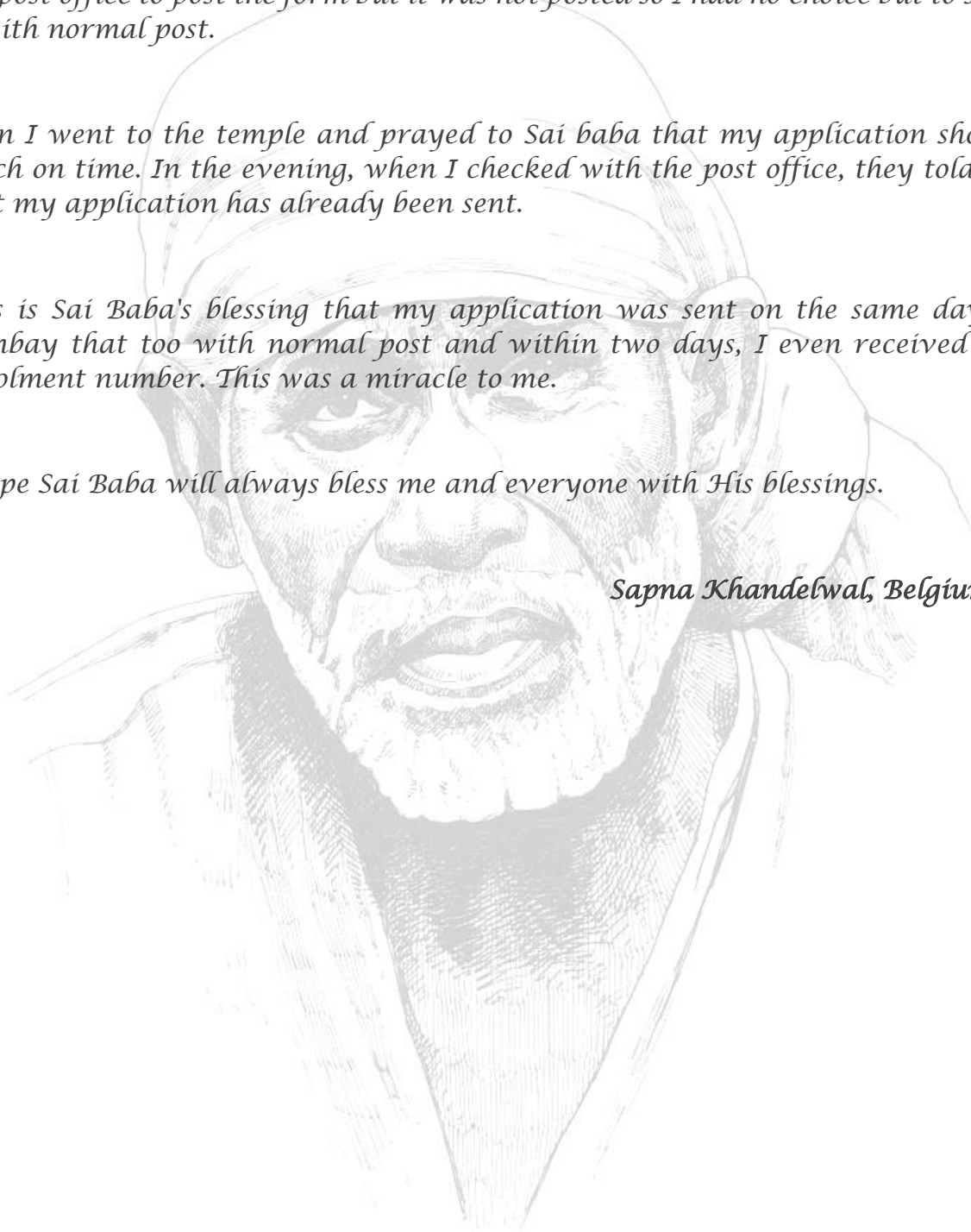
*Three years back, I decided to appear for a bank exam. Unfortunately, I forgot to submit my application form. It was the last date to submit the form. I ran to the post office to post the form but it was not posted so I had no choice but to send it with normal post.*

*Then I went to the temple and prayed to Sai baba that my application should reach on time. In the evening, when I checked with the post office, they told me that my application has already been sent.*

*This is Sai Baba's blessing that my application was sent on the same day to Bombay that too with normal post and within two days, I even received my enrolment number. This was a miracle to me.*

*I hope Sai Baba will always bless me and everyone with His blessings.*

*Sapna Khandelwal, Belgium*





It's you

*When I love you, you show me compassion!*

*When I need help, you lend me hands!*

*When I lose hope, you give me strength!*

*When I fail, you offer me new path!*

*When I am afraid, you give me hope!*

*When I am down, you lift me up!*

*When I am sick, you heal me!*

*When I leave you, you keep me closer!*

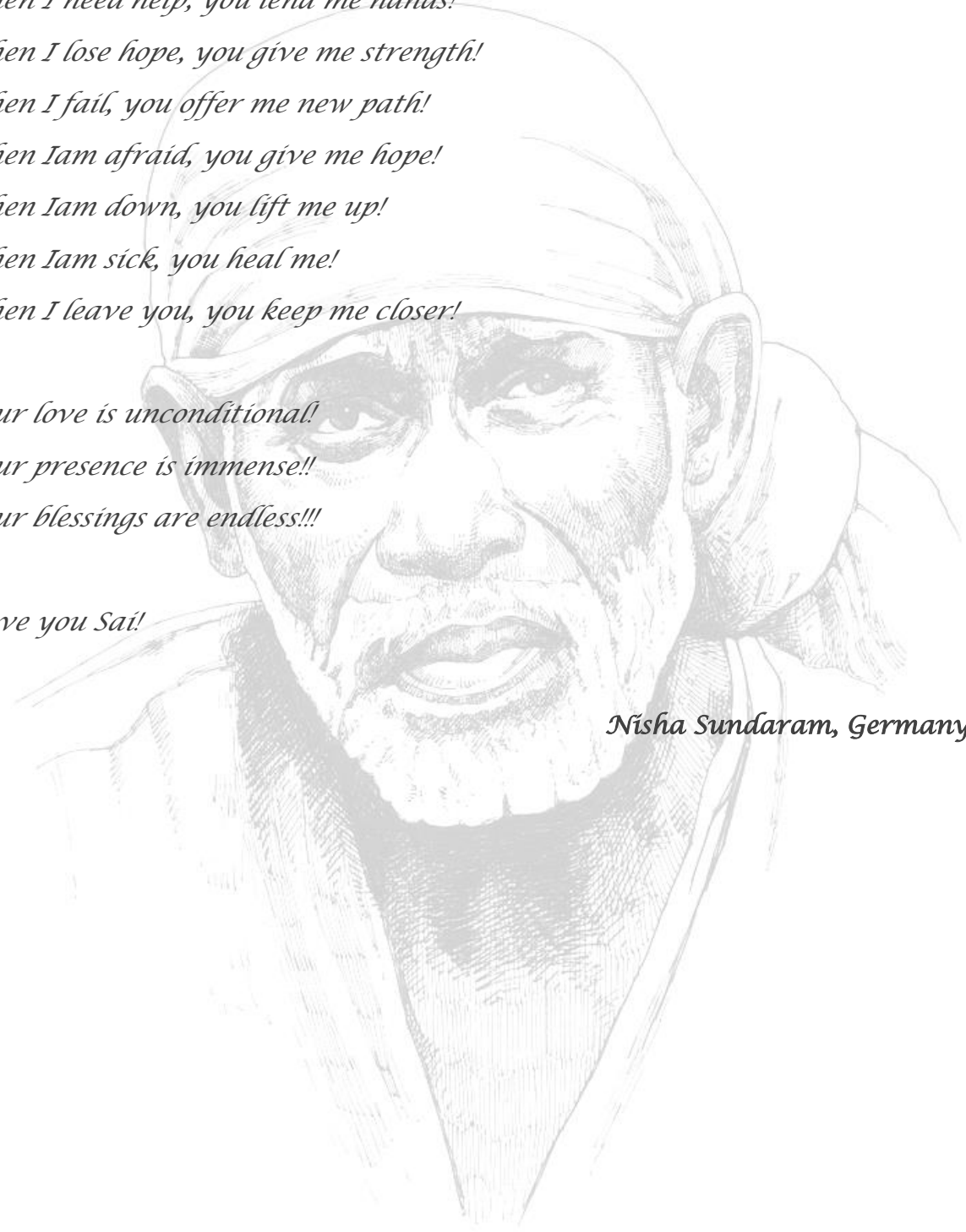
*Your love is unconditional!*

*Your presence is immense!!*

*Your blessings are endless!!!*

*Love you Sai!*

*Nisha Sundaram, Germany*



Om Sai Ram

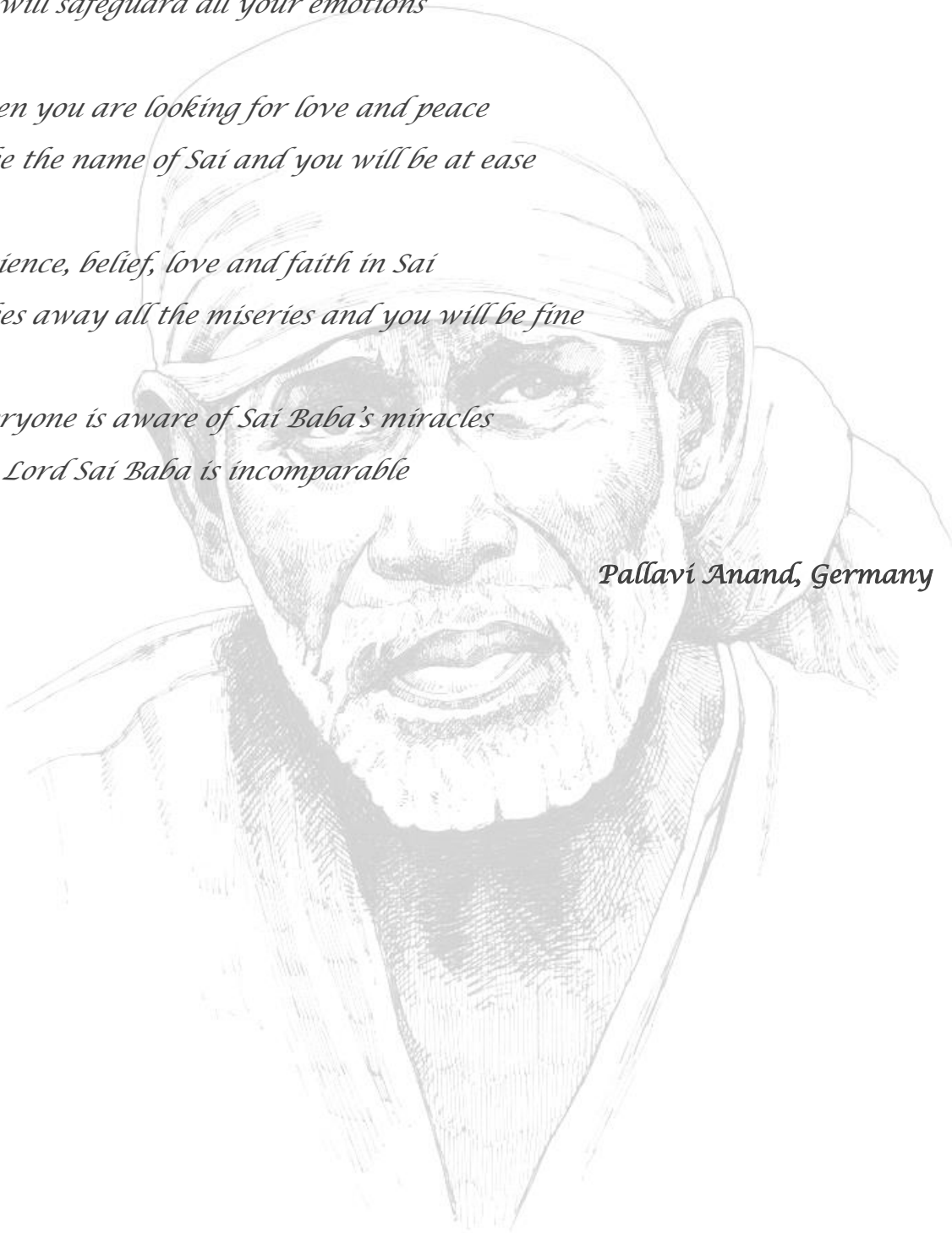
*Pray to Sai with all devotion  
Sai will safeguard all your emotions*

*When you are looking for love and peace  
Take the name of Sai and you will be at ease*

*Patience, belief, love and faith in Sai  
Takes away all the miseries and you will be fine*

*Everyone is aware of Sai Baba's miracles  
My Lord Sai Baba is incomparable*

*Pallavi Anand, Germany*



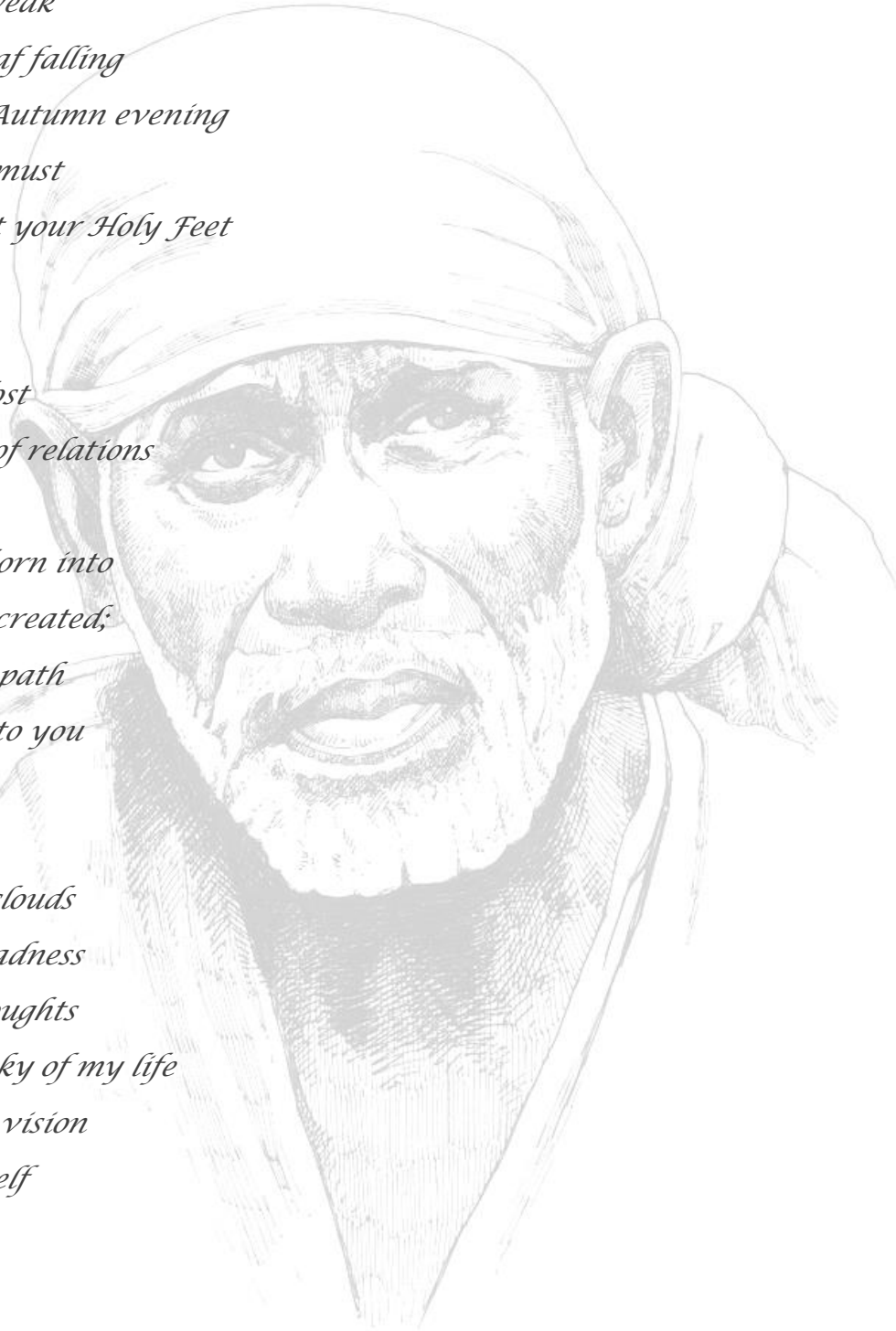
My Lord!

*Hold me  
When I am weak  
Like a dry leaf falling  
On a lonely Autumn evening  
And fall if I must  
Let me fall at your Holy Feet*

*Guide me  
When I am lost  
In the maze of relations  
Around me  
Some I was born into  
Some I have created;  
Towards the path  
Which leads to you*

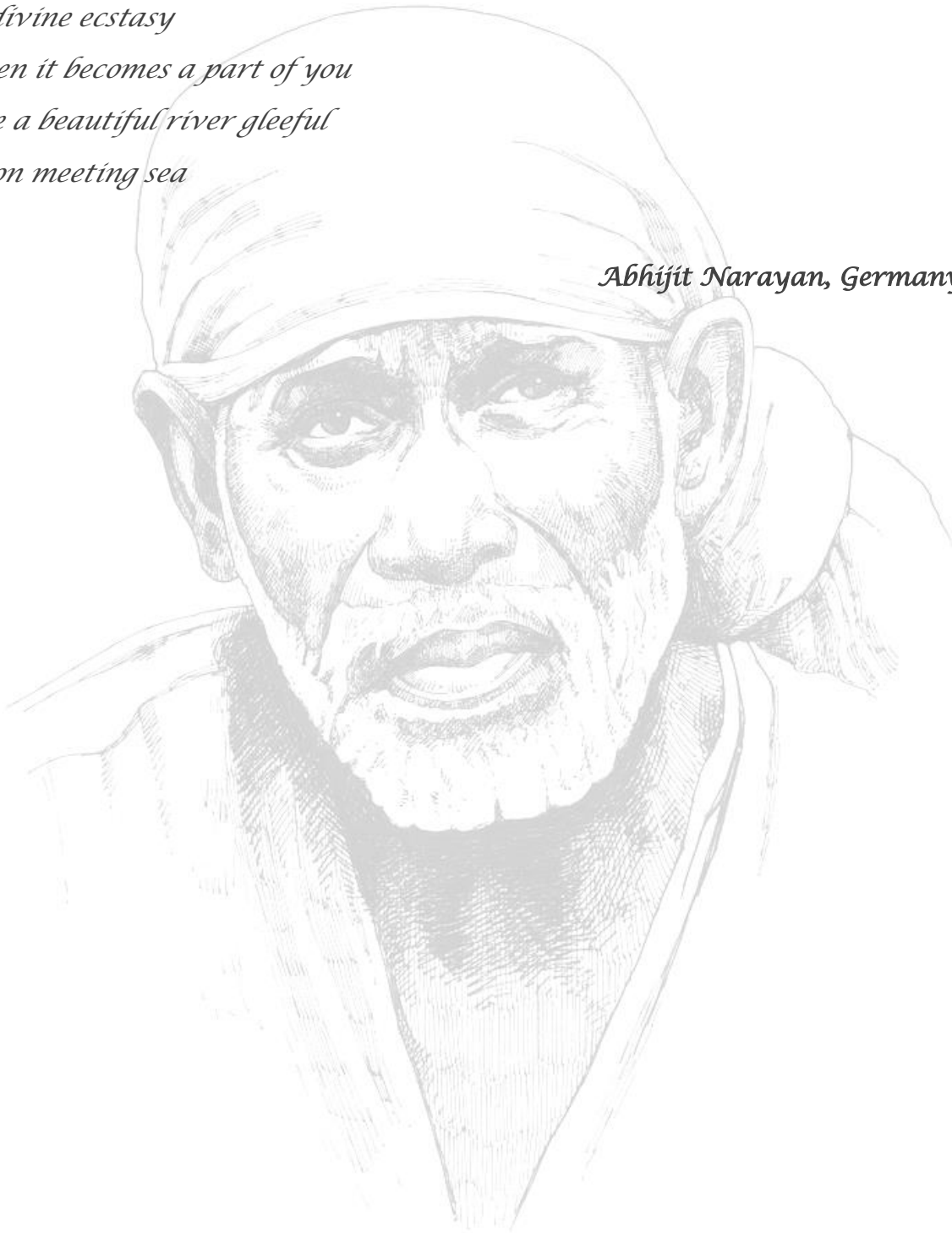
*Protect me  
When large clouds  
Of worries, sadness  
Negative thoughts  
Darken the sky of my life  
Blurring my vision  
Of thy holy self*

*Set me free  
From the endless cycle*



*Of life and death  
So that my soul  
Can finally dance  
In divine ecstasy  
When it becomes a part of you  
Like a beautiful river gleeful  
Upon meeting sea*

*Abhijit Narayan, Germany*







Dharsi Reddy, Germany



Pallavi Anand, Germany



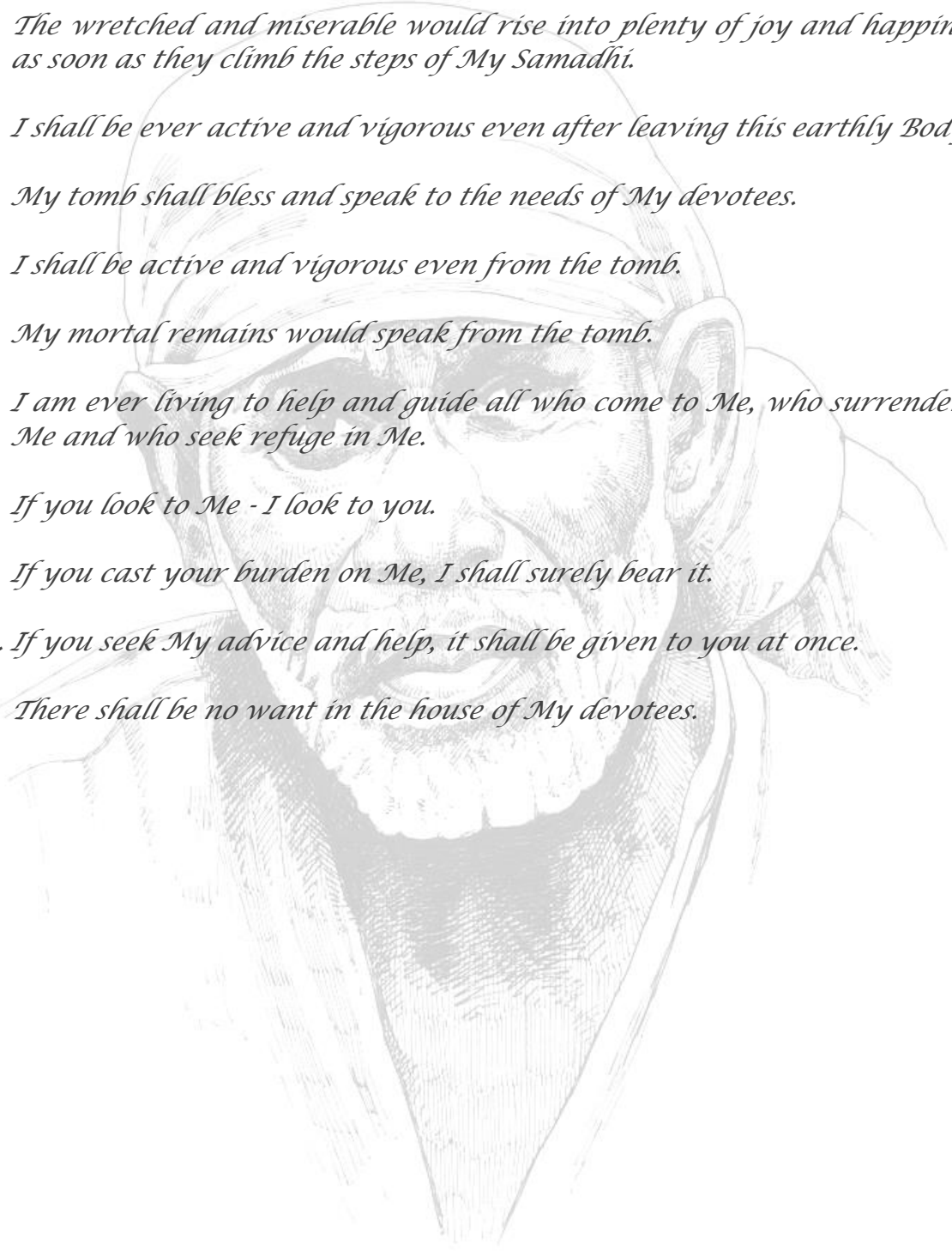


Ria Kanungo, France, Age – 6 years



## ELEVEN SAYINGS OF SHRI SAI BABA

1. *Whoever puts his feet on Shirdi soil, his sufferings would come to an end.*
2. *The wretched and miserable would rise into plenty of joy and happiness, as soon as they climb the steps of My Samadhi.*
3. *I shall be ever active and vigorous even after leaving this earthly Body.*
4. *My tomb shall bless and speak to the needs of My devotees.*
5. *I shall be active and vigorous even from the tomb.*
6. *My mortal remains would speak from the tomb.*
7. *I am ever living to help and guide all who come to Me, who surrender to Me and who seek refuge in Me.*
8. *If you look to Me - I look to you.*
9. *If you cast your burden on Me, I shall surely bear it.*
10. *If you seek My advice and help, it shall be given to you at once.*
11. *There shall be no want in the house of My devotees.*



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