



## NEW YEAR MESSAGE 2002

All of us are searching for the correct path to carry on our mundane worldly existence, everyday and every moment. Each moment confronts us with a new question, a new problem whether regarding our duties, family, society, body or mind. Then we seek for an answer and a solution. No sooner than one problem is over, another unknown problem appears suddenly. The problems, the possibilities of which we are aware of, does not take us by surprise, but the ones that manifest suddenly are the ones about which we had not contemplated earlier. Then we try to find out if there exists any correlation between our actions and these problems, only to find that in certain cases there is none. Then we start blaming someone else or the circumstances, since we imagine ourselves as the victim of the problems rather than being the creators.

For example, a car comes and hits one when one is standing in the extreme corner of a street; or towards the end of one's life one has suffered form cancer inspite of all the precautions one had taken throughout one's life; one visits a temple in a religious mood and someone starts off a quarrel; or a Panditji starts his journey on a pilgrimage having evoked ganeshji, but unfortunately gets his bone fractured as his bus turtles in an accident. Such incidents lead one to an astrologer or others from whom some answer is expected. Yet one is never satisfied with the answers.

Such a situation evokes the thought that if in this life one has not done anything which could have been the cause of troubles, then why do such things happen? Some people even think that if one is conducting so many pujas in the temple and also feeding the poor then why is it that one's child fails in the examinations or one's wife falls sick? Unlimited numbers of such thoughts, like the waves of a sea, often arise in us and create mental turbulence. When one links devotional or religious activities, like visiting a temple with the failure of one's son or the sickness of one's wife so directly, it surely proves that prayers to the Deity or Guru are not with any other higher intention than simply to be saved from all the troubles and tribulations of life. Such limited type of devotion is an attempt to achieve desirable results and not spiritually experience the Deity or Guru. Such

people, at times, leave the path when their wishes are not fulfilled. They do not understand that the effects of the actions of the previous lives also manifest in this life. Sudden and unforeseen incidents particularly, are the results of the Prarabdha i.e. actions of the last lives. Unwise people do not want to accept the unhappy results of their own sinful actions. They aspire only for desirable and good results to all their actions, good or bad. When in distress, one feels miserable thinking that others are not facing the same troubles, but one forgets the brighter aspects of one's life with the sad aspects of the lives of others.

Unhappiness creates such illogical thoughts in the mind. Such limited thinking is like an attempt to stand on the Earth and calculate the number of hills on the Moon.

As written in Shri Sai Satcharitra, Baba has advised such people in the following manner:-

- "The reactions to the actions of past lives has to be tolerated in this life"
- "As you sow so you reap....."
- "You must surely tolerate the happy and unhappy results of your past actions. In case such reactions are not complete in one life, then rebirth will take place....."
- "I do every thing for one who remembers Me always with faith and patience....."

Sadguru Sai had also promised that "I shall help you to bear the reactions to all your past actions easily, if your faith and patience in Me is unflinching". Many such examples can be found in Shri Satcharitra.

Sadgurus do not break the laws of nature, but they manipulate the Natural Laws in such a manner, that their faithful devotees can face the ordeals of life rather easily.

**Therefore, let our New Year prayers to Baba be thus,**

"Oh Master, the ocean of compassion, we promise to destroy the results of our Prarabdha Karmas of the past lives by bearing them in this life, but we request You to control our inner thoughts in such a manner that, knowingly or unknowingly, we do not repeat those sinful activities. "