

# SRI SAI RAKSHA VRATHAM

A Divine Vratam Blessed by Sri Sai Baba Himself



Thimmaraju Viswapathi Rama Krishna Murthy



**Om Aathma Roopaaya Vidmahe  
Yogi Raajaaya Dhimahi  
Thanno Sai Prachodayaath**



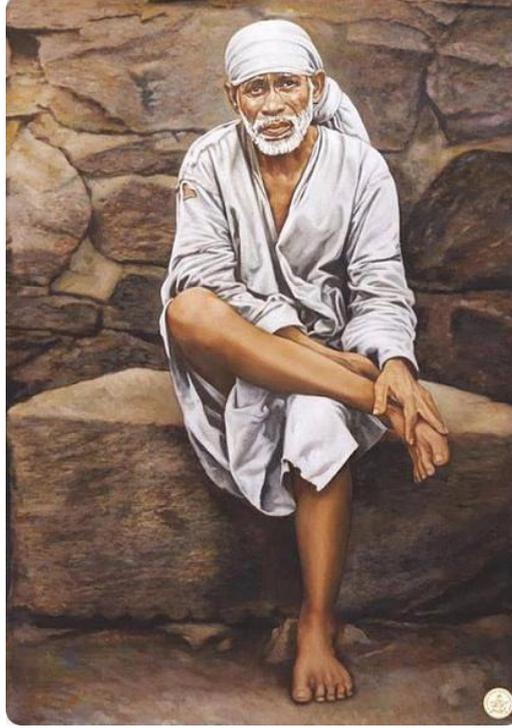
Srirasthu

Shubhamasthu

Avighnamasthu

## Sri Sai Raksha Vratam

Miraculous Vrata Kalpam specified with Divine Blessings by Sri Sai Baba



Written by  
Thimmaraju Viswapathi Rama Krishna Murthy  
(T.V.R.K. Murthy)

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Written by  
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## Foreword

### **Pratyaksha Dhaivam Prathibhandha Naasanam Sathya Roopam Sakalaarthi Naasanam Soukya Pradham Shaantha Manognaana Roopam Sainaadham Sadhgurum Charanam Namaami**

The benevolent Sai Baba took residence in Shirdi to bless and take care of His devotees. Those who completely surrender to Him would not face any adversity. They will attain success in whatever jobs they undertake. Their life will go on smoothly. Throughout the world, millions of people worship Him regularly and receive His blessings.

I finished my M.Tech in 1983 from Regional Engineering College, Warangal. I worked in Allwyn company till 1984 and then in M.V.S.R Engineering college till 1989. I got married to Chi.Sow. Venkata Rukmini Vaidhehi in 1983 and we have three children, Aanandi, Aamukta and Aaditya.

From 1998, I started giving consultation to business organizations by designing their logos and naming of companies based on Vedas and astrological charts of the business owners. Till now I have designed more than 6,000 logos for national and international companies. All these are due to blessing of Sri Venkateshwara Swamy. Due to the benediction of Sri Venkateshwara Swamy I could write Fifteen books about His leelas. It is only by his grace that these books are being read by devotees across the world. People are seeing miracles and receiving blessings upon reading these books. They are leading a satisfied life due to his grace. Among the books that I have written, Sri Venkateswara Vratha Kalpam, Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Vratha Kalpam, Sri Ananda Anjaneyam, Sri Maheswara Vratham and Sri Subramanya Vratham are more popularly followed. All these five Vrathams are observed by numerous devotees in their houses as well as in temples across the world. I feel really blessed for being able to write these Vrathams by the grace of Sri Venkateswara Swamy.

From a long time Sai devotees have been requesting me to write a simplified Vratham for Shiridi Sai. No one can write any devotional book without the blessing of that particular God or Goddess. There is always a personal experience behind every book that I have written. I received the permission to write this Vratham now. Before writing the Sai Vratham I observed a number of miracles. Continuously for five days Sai Baba's devotees came to me and asked when I would be writing the Sai Vratham. Within two days I started writing the Vratham. While writing this book, I felt as if Sai Nath was holding my hand and making me write. I could visualize everything. All these took the form of words in this book. Every word is a blessing of Sri Sainath. I strongly believe that whoever performs this Vratham will be blessed by Sri Sai Baba.

Sai Baba is benevolence personified. He knows our capabilities, problems and limitations and hence showed us mercy by giving us this Vratham. The Vratham is easy to perform, and can be done by anyone and anywhere to receive His blessing. I

strongly believe He has blessed us with this Vratam to show His mercy and benevolence on us.

I am thankful to Smt & Sri P. Jagadeesh of Sri Vasavi printers, for the DTP work. I pray that Sri Sai Baba should always bless them. I am thankful to those who helped in the first print of this book, especially my brother and his wife Smt and Sri Thimmaraju Ram Mohan. I believe all this is Lord's benevolence. I pray to Sri Sai Baba to bless them and their family.

I also implore Sai Baba to bless all those who directly or indirectly contributed to the publication of the book, devotees like you who are performing this Vratam or reading the stories and those who partake the prasadam should be blessed with health, wealth and prosperity.

**“Sarve Janaa Sukhino Bhavanthu”**

**“Sri Sainadha Kataaksha Siddhirasthu  
Samastha Sanmangalaani Bhavanthu”**

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## How to Perform this Vratham

- This book can be read by anyone, anytime. There is no limitation of age, caste or creed. It can be read by both men and women, in any month or any day.
- It is very auspicious to read on Ekadasi, or Pournami Tidhi. Reading on Thursday is much more auspicious. The bad deeds of previous births would be removed. One would be blessed with a lot of punyam.
- There is no need to observe any fast when doing this Vratham.
- Before starting the Vratham offer obeisance to Lord Ganapathi, Navagrahas and Astadikpalakas. After that one can state in their mind their name, names of their family members and gothram. Read the Astothram of Sri Sai Natha. This has to be followed by Adhanga puja and then the five stories of Bhagawan and finally offering any fruits as Naivedyam.
- There is no requirement for both husband and wife to do the Vratham together. Whenever husband or wife is free they can perform it. If both have time to perform together they can very well do so.
- Under unfortunate circumstances of being a widow or widower even they can, without hesitation, perform the Vratham. Those who perform would be blessed with peace of mind.
- Every Thursday if one reads the five stories, offer Banana or guava as neivedyam and later take this as prasadam, then all their health problems would be resolved. No harm would come to them. There would be no fear of death. Even if a relative reads the book then also they would get the maximum benefit.
- Every Thursday if the priests of the temple read the Vratham then that temple would attain divine powers and would be known as divine place. All the devotees who visit the temple, by Grace of Sri Sai Nath would live peacefully.
- Performing the Vratham in Shirdi or in any Baba temple would remove all the previous births bad deeds. As soon as one performs the Vratham all their health problems would be removed. Their body would shine with new radiance. They would be blessed with long life.
- Childless couple will be blessed with children if this Vratham is performed on Thursday in Baba's temple. Unmarried boys and girls would get married at the earliest.
- One can perform the Vratham or read the book for the benefit of one's children or relatives if they are unable to do so for any reason (out of country, health problem etc). One can perform or read the book Baba's temple or at one's house to obtain the blessings of Sri Sai Nath, be it for child, marriage, job, health etc.
- **One important thing Sainath loves His devotees very much. He has a lot of affection towards them. He considers all of us as His own children. He would always think of our needs. If one performs this Vratham with devotion He would definitely come to their house in any form to partake**

<http://achyuthan.com/vratams.html>

**the prasadam. He might come in the form of a relative, an unknown stranger, a dog, cat, any form of insects, or even a bird and would eat the prasadam. One need to meditate and perform the Vratham with devotion for Him to come to their house and eat the prasadam. This was said by Sainath Himself.**

- In this way one can perform the Sri Sai Baba Vratham in any way, on any day to receive the blessings of Bhagawan.

Thimmaraju Viswapathi Rama Krishna Murthy

## Sri Sai Astothara Shathanaamaavali

Om Sri Sai Naathaaya Namaha Om Lakshmi Naarayanaya Namaha Om Krishna Raama Shiva Maruthyaadhi Roopaaya Namaha Om Seshasaayine Namaha Om Godhavarithata Shiridivaasine Namaha Om Bhaktha Hrudayaalayaaya Namaha Om Sarva Hrudhvaasine Namaha Om Bhootha Vaasaaya Namaha Om Bhootha Bhavishyatha Bhaava Varjithaaya Namaha Om Kaalaa Theethaaya Namaha Om Kaalaaya Namaha Om Kaala Kaalaya Namaha Om Kaaladarpa dhamanaaya Namaha Om Mrutyunjayaaya Namaha Om Amarthyaaya Namaha Om Marthyaa Bhayapradhaaya Namaha Om Jeevadhaaraya Namaha Om Sarvadharaaya Namaha Om Bhakthavana Samarthaaya Namaha Om Bhakthavana Prathignaaya Namaha Om Anna Vasthra Dhaaya Namaha Om Aarogya Kshemadhaaya Namaha Om Dhana Maangalya Pradaaya Namaha Om Buddhi Siddhi Pradhaaya Namaha Om Puthra Mithra Kalathra Bandhudaaya Namaha Om Yogakshema Vahaaya Namaha Om Aapadbhaandhavaaya Namaha Om Maargabandhavee Namaha Om Bhukthi Mukthi Swarga pavargadaaya Namaha Om Priyaaya Namaha Om Preethi Vardhanaaya Namaha Om Antharyaamine Namaha Om Sachidaathmane Namaha Om Nithyanandaaya Namaha Om Parama Sukhadaaya Namaha Om Parameshwaraaya Namaha Om Parabrahmane Namaha Om Paramaatmane Namaha Om Gnaana Swaropine Namaha	Om Jagathah Pithre Namaha Om Bhaktanaam Maathru Daathru Pithaamahaaya Namaha Om Bhaktaabhaya Pradhaaya Namaha Om Bhaktha Vathsala Namaha Om Bhaktaanugraha Kaarakaaya Namaha Om Sharaanagatha Vathsalaaya Namaha Om Bhakti Shakti Pradaaya Namaha Om Gyaana Vyaraagya Daaya Namaha Om Preema Pradaaya Namaha Om Samkshaya Hrudaya Dhowrbhalyapaapakarma Vaasanaakshayakaarakaaya Namaha Om Hrudayagranthi Bhedhakaaya Namaha Om Karma Dhvamsine Namaha Om Shudda Sathyasthithaaya Namaha Om Gunaatheetha Gunaathmanee Namaha Om Anantha Kalyaana Gunaaya Namaha Om Amitha Parakramaaya Namaha Om Jayane Namaha Om Durdharsha Kshobhyaaya Namaha Om Aparajithaaya Namaha Om Thrilokeshha Adhipathaye Namaha Om Asakyaara Rahitaaya Namaha Om Sarva Shakti Murthayee Namaha Om Suroopa Sundaraaya Namaha Om Suloochanaaya Namaha Om Bahuroopa Vishwamurthayee Namaha Om Aroopa Vyakthaaya Namaha Om Aachintyaaya Namaha Om Sookshmaaya Namaha Om Sarvaantharyaminee Namaha Om Manoovaaga Theethaya Namaha Om Prema Murthayee Namaha Om Sulabha Durlabhaaya Namaha Om Asahaaya Sahaayaya Namaha Om Anatha Naatha Deenabaandhavee Namaha	Om Sarvabhaara Bhruthe Namaha Om Akarmaaneekarma Sukarmane Namaha Om Punyasravana Keerthanaaya Namaha Om Theerthaaya Namaha Om Vasudevaaya Namaha Om Sathanagathayee Namaha Om Satparaayanaaya Namaha Om Lokanaathaya Namaha Om Pavanaana Ghaaya Namaha Om Amruthamsavee Namaha Om Bhaskara Prabhaaya Namaha Om Bramacharya Tapascharyaadi Suvrathaaya Namaha Om Satyadharma Paraayanaya Namaha Om Siddhesvaraaya Namaha Om Siddha Sankalpaaya Namaha Om Yogeshwaraaya Namaha Om Bhaghathe Namaha Om Bhaktha Vashyaaya Namaha Om Sathpurushaaya Namaha Om Purushootthamaaya Namaha Om Satya Tathva Bodhakaaya Namaha Om Kaamaadishadvairi Dwamsine Namaha Om Abhedhaanandanu Bhava Pradhaaya Namaha Om Sarvamatha Sammataaya Namaha Om Sri Dakshinaa Moorthayee Namaha Om Sri Venkatesa Ramanaaya Namaha Om Adbhuthaanantha Charyaaya Namaha Om Prasannarthi Haraaya Namaha Om Samsaara Sarva Dukha Kshayakaraaya Namaha Om Sarva Vithsarvato Mukhaaya Namaha Om Sarvaantharbha sthithaaya Namaha Om Sarvamangala Karaaya Namaha Om Sarvaabheeshta Pradhaaya Namaha Om Samarasa Sanmaargasthaapanaaya Namaha Om Sri Samartha Sadhguru Sai Naathaaya Namaha
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Shri Shirdi Sai Astothara Shathanaamaavali Samaaptham

## ADHANGA PUJA

(Praying to all parts of body of Sai Baba)

Offer the Lord a flower, akshatha, or vibhudhi after saying each line

Om Teerthapaadaaya Namaha	Padau poojayaami
Om Balaaya Namaha	Janghe poojayaami
Om Adhaarabhoothaaya Namaha	Jaanuni poojayaami
Om Viswaprapoojitaaya Namaha	Uroo poojayaami
Om Jitendriyaaya Namaha	Guhyam poojayaami
Om Sthitapragnyaya Namaha	Katim poojayaami
Om Mithaashanaaya Namaha	Udharam poojayaami
Om Vishaala Vakshase Namaha	Vakshsthalam poojayaami
Om Shuddhahrudayaaya Namaha	Hrudayam poojayaami
Om Shishya Vathsaalaya Namaha	Skandau poojayaami
Om Athmoddharakaya Namaha	Bhujou poojayaami
Om Dhaanahasthaaya Namaha	Hashtao poojayaami
Om KambuKantaaya Namaha	Kantam poojayaami
Om Prasanna Vadanaaya Namaha	Mukham poojayaami
Om Mrudubhaashanaaya Namaha	Jihwam poojayaami
Om Karunaa Nidhaye Namaha	Nethre poojayaami
Om Shaastranusaarine Namaha	Shiraha poojayaami
Om Sarvagnaaya Namaha	Sarvinyamgaani poojayaami

# Sri Sai Raksha Vratam

## First Chapter

### Viswanatha Rao's Story

Once upon a time, there lived a cobbler named Viswanatha Rao, in a small village that was situated at a distance of forty miles from Ahmednagar. He lived in a small hut and spent the day mending footwear of the villagers, under an electric pole situated at the heart of the village. It was very difficult for him to support his wife and two daughters with the meagre earnings he made. Life wasn't easy for him as he did not get work in equal proportions on all days of the month.

Viswanatha Rao was a devotee of Sai Baba. He always meditated upon the Lord. He chanted the name of Baba all the time, hoping that someday Baba would come to his rescue and grant him and his family a better life. His day would start by praying to the small photograph of Sai Baba in his house. He would then leave for work by 10AM along with Baba's photograph. He would hang the picture to the electric pole and sit down leaning on to the pole for support. He would also carry a bag that served as his 'tool kit' for repairing footwear. He would work until 6 PM, pack his bag pray to Baba's picture with folded hands and return home.

This was more or less Viswanath Rao's routine. He used to buy the small things that his family needed on a day to day basis with his earnings for the day. He never used to demand a price for the repairs he did, but humbly accepted any amount that his customers gave him. Thus days passed by. One day there was a public announcement made to all the villagers by a government servant. It was regarding the distribution of free houses to the poor by the government. All those who registered their name and family details before the first of the next month, would be eligible for the same. Viswanatha Rao's joy knew no bounds. With Sai Baba's blessings, he dreamt of owning a humble dwelling for his family and thought of his good fortune. But that was not to be! In addition to the registration of personal details, one had to pay a fee of Rs.300--- the announcement continued. Viswanath Rao was disappointed. With great difficulty, he could make Rs. 2 a day, amounting to Rs.60 a month. How on earth could he pool Rs.300...Viswanath Rao was thoroughly frustrated.

After reaching home that evening, he told his wife about the government's announcement and the money required to pay for it. His wife, with undeterred faith in Sai Baba, comforted him by saying that since they had taken refuge in the Lord, He would definitely help them. They had only twenty days to go to collect the sum of Rs.300. Viswanatha Rao thought it was too less a time to arrange for the amount. Sai Baba alone should help him with a miracle.

Sai Baba always protects all His devotees who bestow their faith in Him. The merciful Sai never fails those who worship Him with honesty, sincerity and profound

devotion. He protects them and cares for them day in and day out. Baba, an embodiment of love, showers infinite compassion on those who believe in Him and surrender unto Him. With SAI's blessings, Viswanatha Rao got lot of work in the next few days. By the 28th of that month, with two days left, he made a sum of Rs.200. It was the first time that he had made such money in such a short time. He knew that Sai Baba was behind all this but he still had to make Rs.100 in two days. Unfortunately he could not get much work on these two days and made just ten rupees only.

On the scheduled day, Viswanath Rao realized that he had a sum of Rs.210 only with him. He reached the Revenue office early morning with the money. He asked one of the clerks there if he could pay the remaining amount later by paying Rs.210 that day. However the clerk denied him any concession and told him that only those who paid Rs.300 could register their details. Viswanath Rao was terribly disappointed. He loitered there for some time feeling very restless. He was completely desperate and could see the dream of owning a small tenement shatter. Thinking of Sai Baba in his mind, he enquired with two more people and was given the same reply as earlier that only those who paid Rs.300 by evening would be allotted houses in their names.

Viswanath Rao, not knowing what to do, tried relaxing with a cup of tea that he bought for ten paise at the small tea shop close by. In all earnestness, he closed his eyes and prayed to Sri Sai Baba---"O Swamy! Will I not have a house of my own?" he cried in his heart of hearts. An hour passed by. Hoping against hope, he decided to appeal this time to one of the officers there.

He entered the office room, greeted the officer there and introduced himself. The officer interrupted him half way and said that his father had come a short while ago, paid the sum of Rs.300 and registered the required details with them. Sooner or later, he would be allotted a house. Even before a bewildered Viswanath Rao could speak out, the officer not only showed him the form filled in with the cobbler's name but also the three hundred rupee notes that his father was supposed to have paid. Viswanath Rao was completely puzzled. While he wanted to continue the conversation with the officer, the peon asked him to leave and not waste the time of the officer by disturbing him further.

It slowly dawned upon Viswanath Rao that it was none other than the Lord who had paid the money and filled the form in the guise of his father. Once again his joy knew no bounds. He was moved to tears as he understood the Leela of Sai Baba --how Sai had rewarded him by fulfilling his wish of owning a house in return for the faith he had in Him. He shared his joy with his wife on reaching home and the whole family rejoiced together. He relived the experience of Baba's Leela again and again--how Baba had conferred on him the gift he desired for having unflinching faith and devotion towards Him. Soon, Viswanath Rao moved into his new house, allotted to him, on an auspicious day and lived in peace and contentment with his family, continuing to worship Sri Sainatha all his life.

Sainatha never fails any of His devotees. There is no dearth of anything in Baba's devotees' houses. One only has to tread the path of righteousness and realize Baba to be in the hearts of each and every other person, that Sai Baba will protect His devotees forever. One will be free from any untoward mishap/misery and lead a happy life. Sri Sainaatha will take care of his devotees wherever they are in this world.

|| End of First chapter ||

**Om Samartha Sadhguru Sainaathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sainaathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sai Devaaya Namaha**

# Sri Sai Raksha Vratam

## Second Chapter

### Bhanoji Rao's Story

Long ago there lived a brahmin, Bhanoji Rao, in a small village 50 miles from the town of Gulbarga. He was a purohit by profession. Once he went to perform Sri Satyanarayana Swamy Vratam at a villager's house and happened to see Sri Sai Baba's picture there. He was mesmerized by the picture and stood motionless, gazing at it. Seeing the purohit's state, the host gave him a similar picture of Sri Sai Baba.

Bhanoji had heard of Sri Sai's Leelas earlier but never got to see His picture. Bhanoji couldn't take his eyes off that picture as he noticed the compassion filled eyes of Baba. He felt as if Baba was looking at him lovingly. Therefore, he couldn't shift his gaze from the picture. He took the picture home and included Baba in his daily worship--- with the rest of the gods and goddesses. He had a strong desire to go to Shirdi and get Sri Sai's darshan.

Almost everyday, he heard stories of Sri Sai's miracles/Leelas through many devotees. Therefore, he was entranced by Sai Tatwa and always meditated upon Sainatha. Sri Sainatha is love personified. He safeguards the lives of all His devotees who believe in Him and worship Him, by showering His infinite compassion on them. With Sri Sainatha's Grace and blessings, Bhanoji lived a smooth and peaceful life. Bhanoji's wife and two daughters also worshipped Sri Sai Baba all through their lives.

One day Bhanoji suffered from severe stomach ache. The local doctor gave him a medicine but Bhanoji continued to suffer from(with) pain. He prayed to Sri Sai and asked Him to relieve him of the suffering. On the following day, as the pain increased, Bhanoji visited a senior doctor of the village named Ramanatham who ran a small hospital in the village. After examining Bhanoji, Ramanatham felt he had to be operated as soon as possible. However Dr. Ramanatham expressed his inability to do the same and said that he would call for one doctor named Palnetkar of Gulbarga on phone and request him to come within 3-4 hours to do the needful. He asked Bhanoji to lie down on the bed and await the doctor's arrival. Bhanoji was worried as to when the doctor would come from Gulbarga and perform the surgery.

Dr. Ramanatham then spoke to Dr. Palnetkar and confirmed to Bhanoji that he would arrive shortly and do the surgery. He told Bhanoji that he would make all the necessary preparations for the surgery and asked him not to worry. Bhanoji's pain kept on increasing and he feared that he wouldn't survive till the arrival of Dr. Palnetkar. His family too was quite worried and they became very restless. Two hours passed by with no respite to Bhanoji. He felt desperate and prayed to Sai Baba believing Him to be his only saviour. Four hours passed but there was no trace of Dr. Palnetkar from Gulbarga. Dr. Ramanatham also became restless and feared the worst for Bhanoji. He felt Bhanoji could be saved only if the surgery was performed in the next thirty minutes.

Suddenly a horse carriage (cart) stopped in front of the hospital and a person, shining in all radiance, alighted the carriage. He said he had been sent by Dr. Palnetkar of Gulbarga as the doctor had an urgent case (of surgery) to attend and hence couldn't come. He introduced himself as Dr. Krishna Rao and without wasting even a minute proceeded to the operation theatre. Bhanoji's family heaved a sigh of relief after the arrival of Dr. Krishna Rao. Within

the next twenty minutes, the surgery was completed successfully and all of them felt relieved. Dr. Krishna Rao left by the same carriage for Gulbarga soon after.

Dr. Ramanatham attributed everything to Sri Sainatha and told Bhanoji that he was saved in the nick of time and there was no reason for him to worry any longer. He repeated the same to Bhanoji's wife and daughters who thanked the Lord by meditating upon Him in their hearts. Dr. Ramanatham asked Bhanoji to take rest. An hour passed by and suddenly a man hurriedly entered the hospital with a bag in hand. He introduced himself as Dr. Palnetkar and said he had come from Gulbarga to perform the surgery. He added that the bus, in which he was travelling, met with an accident and therefore he got delayed. He expressed his anxiety over the patient concerned and said to Dr. Ramanatham to immediately lead him to the operation theatre.

Dr. Ramanatham expressed shock and told him about Dr. Krishna Rao. It was the turn of Dr. Palnetkar to be shocked. He then said that he didn't know of any doctor by that name and added that there was no one by that name in the town of Gulbarga. Finally, all of them concluded that Sri Sainatha had come in the guise of Dr. Krishna Rao to save His devotee Bhanoji who had reposed great faith in Him. The family was moved to tears as they realized the immense affection Baba had for His devotees.

From then on, every Thursday, Bhanoji and his family conducted Sai bhajan at home, typical of many Sai devotees. All through their lives, they continued to worship Sri Sai with the same spiritual fervour.

Sai Baba is an amazing ocean of compassion. Those who believe in Him are totally protected by Him. They are assured of hundred percent success in all their endeavours. Those who chant His name and always think of Sri Sai would lead a joyful life as they are in 'His Fold'. He is an embodiment of compassion.

|| End of Second Chapter ||

**Om Samartha Sadhguru Sainaathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sainaathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sai Devaaya Namaha**

# Sri Sai Raksha Vratam

## Third Chapter

### Story of Pandit Rama Sastry

Long ago, in Chitrapur which was 30 miles from the town of Bijapur, there lived a purohit, Pandit Rama Sastry. He was a man of principles and by profession a 'purohit' who attended to the religious events in and around Chitrapur. He would never demand money for providing his service as a purohit, from any devotee. He used to be contented with what they gave him voluntarily. His wife Rukmini was very supportive of her husband. They had been married for six years but were childless. This created a vacuum in their lives.

The couple performed all kinds of Vratams with the hope of being blessed with a child but in vain. They were dejected with the thought that they would remain childless for life. One day as Rama Sastry was heading to the neighbouring village on foot to perform some religious event, he came across a Fakir. The Fakir stopped him and suggested that he should perform Sri Sai Raksha Vratam in order to be blessed with a child. Rama Sastry was amazed as how the Fakir knew that he was childless. Immediately, he bowed to the Fakir and asked him to elaborate on the procedure of the Vratam. The Fakir at once obliged him and explained everything in detail. He said that it was very simple to perform and yielded positive results immediately. The Fakir also added that Sri Sainatha is very fond of all His devotees and loves them as His own children. His major concern is the wellbeing of all His devotees. If the Vratam is performed with a chaste mind, He is bound to come in some form to the house of the devotee and to partake the prasadam. He would either come as a relative, stranger or even as an animal--- a dog, cat, insect, bird or any other form to accept the prasadam. All one has to do is be sincere in one's efforts, while doing it and perform the Vratam with a clean mind and soul.

Rama Sastry greeted the sadhu with folded hands and proceeded on his assignment to the neighbouring village to preside and conduct a naming ceremony. He was rewarded with a relatively good sum of remuneration on that day. After going home, he narrated the details of his meeting with the Fakir and about Sri Sai Raksha Vratam to his wife Rukmini who was very happy. Both felt that Sri Sainatha had blessed them in the guise of the fakir. The next day, the couple performed Sri Sai Raksha Vratam with deep devotion and faith, meditating upon the Lord. They invited not only their close family but also the neighbourhood. As a result, Rukmini was blessed with a healthy male child in a year's time. As the child was born to them with Sri Sainatha's Grace, they named him Sairam. Sairam grew up in no time and was in class five.

Days passed by and one day Rama Sastry received a message that he would have to go to Bijapur the following Saturday to perform 'Annaprasana ceremony' at a rich man's house. In those days, one had to go to Bijapur by bus that would ply via Chitrapur at 6 AM every day. The same bus would return in the evening. On the scheduled day, Rama Sastry got up early in the morning, completed his daily rituals, took the necessary things for the ceremony and left home by 5 AM. The bus to Bijapur would stop on the main road that passes by the side of the village. It used to take thirty minutes to reach there from the village on foot. Rama Sastry walked briskly with a bag on his shoulder.

After going some distance, he came across the same sadhu whom he had met earlier. He immediately greeted the sadhu with folded hands and told him that he was blessed with a son after performing Sri Sai Raksha Vratham as per his advice. Soon after, he took leave of the sadhu and walked ahead. But the fakir stopped him again and posed a series of questions regarding the Vratham and his son---how had they performed the Vratham, were they continuing to do so every year, what name did they give their son, so on and so forth. Rama Sastry patiently answered all his questions though he was worried that he would miss the bus. He wanted to make it in time for the ceremony as he hoped to get a good amount of money for the same. However, the Fakir was bent upon detaining him. He wasn't done with his queries and went on and on. Rama Sastry got irritated as he had wasted twenty minutes talking to the Fakir. Finally, the Fakir smiled at Rama Sastry and left.

Rama Sastry hastily walked towards the main road in great speed. But it was of no use. As he was about to reach the main road he saw the bus leaving. He missed the bus in just a minute's time and saw it pass by. Rama Sastry was thoroughly disappointed. He was worried that he had missed the chance of going to the ceremony. He blamed the Fakir for having caused the delay. He was highly disappointed and sighed thinking of the amount that he had missed out by not attending the ceremony at the rich man's house on account of the Fakir. He reached home and narrated everything to his wife. It was 10 AM. Suddenly, they heard the neighbours crying loudly. The neighbour's son had been seriously injured and was taken to the hospital as the bus to Bijapur--- that Rama Sastry missed---- had fallen into a canal after leaving Chitrapur. Ten passengers had died instantly and many suffered severe injuries.

Rama Sastry clearly understood what had happened. He realized that Sri Sainatha had rescued him in the form of the Fakir. He had held him for so long, deliberately, to save him from the mishap, by preventing him from boarding the bus. Rama Sastry was apologetic for his behaviour towards the Fakir and realized the omniscience of Sai Baba and His unflinching compassion towards His devotees. He addressed Him in his heart of hearts and said, "You detained me to save my life and I was irritated with you. Please forgive me, Baba"; the couple was filled with remorse and repeatedly prayed to Sai Baba for mercy.

From then on, the couple performed Sri Sai Raksha Vratham every Thursday and spent their lives in Sai seva. They led a happy life and finally merged in Sai. Sai is thus compassion incarnate. Those who chant His name everyday need not worry about anything. They will never feel short for anything. Sai will bless them with all best things in life.

|| End of Third Chapter ||

**Om Samartha Sadhguru Sainaathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sainaathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sai Devaaya Namaha**

# Sri Sai Raksha Vratam

## Fourth Chapter

### Ananda Rao's Story

Long ago, there lived a weaver named Ananda Rao in a village forty miles away from Sholapur in Maharashtra. His wife, Sakku Bai also assisted him in his work. In fact Ananda Rao's brothers were also weavers by profession and all of them lived on the same street.

Though Ananda Rao's brothers were blessed with children, he didn't have one, even after nine years of marriage. But for this, he had no complaints in life. Both husband and wife performed many Vratams and pujas for begetting a child but in vain. Once, a merchant from Ahmednagar told them of Sri Sai Raksha Vratam. The couple performed the Vratam on the following Thursday without any delay. They prayed to Sri Sai for children and as per their wish, an ardent lover of all His devotees that Sri Sai is, He blessed them with a male child. Though their joy knew no bounds on having a son, they were shattered, as the child was dumb by birth.

They named their son as Sai Krishna. Six years passed by and Sai Krishna grew up like any other child but for the fact that he couldn't speak like them. This agonised his parents so much that the couple once again sought Sri Sai Baba's blessings and prayed to Him for granting speech to their son.

As days passed by, one morning Sai Krishna, who was playing with the other children, suddenly seemed to have disappeared and this worried Ananda Rao. A few hours passed but there was no news of his son Sai Krishna. He then searched for his son in the streets of the neighbourhood along with his brothers. There was no trace of Sai Krishna. This left all of them totally worried as they realized that he couldn't speak out even if he was in distress. By 2 P.M., they had searched for him all over the village but did not know of his whereabouts. His parents were very anxious about him as they felt he must have been starved by then, as he couldn't talk and ask for food. They spread word of his disappearance across the village to almost everybody known to them.

Suddenly, they saw a person holding the hand of their son and walking towards them at a distance. They ran and embraced their child. Ananda Rao then expressed his gratitude to the stranger who accompanied Sai Krishna and said that they were indebted to him for bringing back their dumb son safely, for whom they had been searching frantically the whole day. However, the stranger interrupted him and said that the child wasn't dumb and spoke very sweetly. He added that he was a clerk working with the neighbouring village zamindar who had performed Sri Sai Raksha Vratam on that day in a big way. He had met this child at the zamindar's house. The child also accepted the prasadam with everybody else and then told him of his particulars--- his name, his parents and the village he belonged to. Thus, the stranger had brought the child back to his parents. Ananda Rao and his wife were dumbfounded at the revelation.

Sai Krishna then told his father that there came a Fakir in the morning, while he was engaged in play. Something strongly pulled him to the Fakir and without any fear or hesitation, Sai Krishna went away with the Fakir who took him along. The Fakir dropped him at the house of the zamindar in the adjacent village and left. As he was looking for the Fakir, the zamindar's clerk distributed prasadam to everybody there and Sai Krishna also took it and ate it. The minute he consumed the prasadam, he started speaking. Ananda Rao and

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his wife realized that the Fakir was none other than Sri Sai Himself, who blessed them and their child by fulfilling their desire and granted speech to Sai Krishna. From then on, they made it a practice to perform Sri Sai Raksha Vratam every Thursday without fail all through their life and thus lived a happy life.

|| End of Fourth Chapter ||

**Om Samartha Sadhguru Sainaathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sainathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sai Devaaya Namaha**

# Sri Sai Raksha Vratam

## Fifth Chapter

### Beerappa's Story

Long ago there lived a shepherd named Beerappa in a village forty miles away from Bidar town. Although an illiterate, Beerappa had all the qualities of a gentleman, in terms of his behaviour and mind set. He used to take the goats of his employer to the pastures every day for rearing from dawn to dusk and then bring them back to their dwelling in the backyard of his master's house and then go home. This was his daily routine. Beerappa was not married and supported himself on the salary that his master, Govankar paid him.

Beerappa's master, Govankar had lots of businesses. He had earned a lot of money but was known to be a miser. He would think twice before sparing each of his servants even a meagre sum of two rupees during festival time. He would visit the Hanuman temple every Tuesday and perform Sri Sai bhajan on every Thursday along with his family. However, he would never invite anybody home to attend the same.

Days passed by and on one day, Beerappa saw a group of Sri Sai devotees bring a big portrait of Sai Baba and gift it to Govankar. Beerappa had seen Sri Sainatha's picture for the first time in his life. Beerappa was totally enchanted by Sai Baba's picture and the image of Baba's smiling face remained in his heart forever. He always meditated on this image of Baba.

Though Beerappa went about his routine, his mind was fixed on Sri Sainatha. Sri Shirdinatha has always charmed one and all and pulled everybody towards Him with His mystic force. Beerappa came to know more of Sai through his friends. Beerappa eventually became a Sai devotee. He meditated upon Lord Sai always. Once, after Beerappa returned with the goats in the evening, Govankar found one of them to be missing when he counted them---as he would every day. Govankar was furious with Beerappa and asked him to go in search of the goat.

Beerappa searched for the goat thoroughly throughout the night though it was pitch dark. As he couldn't see the path he was treading in the night, he suffered some injuries with thorns piercing his feet. He was afraid that his master wouldn't spare him, if he didn't go back with the missing goat. But his efforts were in vain. He went back to Govankar the next morning and reported that he had failed in spotting the lost goat. Govankar could not control his anger and not only beat up Beerappa but also dismissed him from his job. Beerappa wailed inconsolably and pleaded with his master for mercy, saying that he didn't know of any other job, but Govankar was not moved.

Beerappa went home with a heavy heart. He had lost his parents in his childhood and didn't really know any other work except rearing of goats. Who would come to his rescue and help him find a way to fend for himself? Beerappa then remembered Sainatha and prayed to Him immediately. An embodiment of compassion that Sri Sai is, He showered His mercy on Beerappa.

Govankar's business suffered from the next day onwards. In a month's time he incurred great losses. Govankar was puzzled and failed to understand the reason for the same. One day, he learnt from the villagers, that a sadhu who had come to the village, was not only able

to solve the different problems of people who approached him but also was known for his miracles. Govankar also followed suit. He met the sadhu and asked the reason for his downfall in just a month's time. The sadhu, closed his eyes in concentration, and then addressed Govankar---as if something flashed in his mind---"You took Beerappa to task and tortured him last month when one of your goats got lost. You dismissed him even though he was innocent. You found your goat in the next two days but you didn't disclose this to anyone. Beerappa is a great devotee of Sri Sainatha. You have been punished by Sri Sai Baba for troubling Beerappa. If you take back Beerappa to work, your problems will be solved."

Govankar was astounded by the sadhu's words. Other than himself no one knew that he had found his lost goat. He felt that the sadhu was no ordinary mortal. He went home and standing in front of Sainatha's photo, begged pardon of Sri Sai, for accusing His devotee. He not only sent word for Beerappa to resume his duties immediately but also doubled his salary. From then on, Govankar turned a new leaf and led a contented life in the seva of Sri Sai Baba and His devotees and attained moksha at the end.

Sri Sai loves His devotees like His own children. He will not spare anyone who annoys His devotees. Sai will punish them however big they are. He always takes care of His devotees. Sai blessed one of His devotees Sri Thimmaraju Viswapathi Ramakrishna Murthy with this vratha katha. Devotees who perform this vratham regularly will definitely get the blessings of Lord Sri Sainatha. Devotees can lead happy life by performing this vratham blessed by Sainatha Himself. He has blessed us with a simple vratham as He knows all our limitations and incapacibilities. Oh! Sai! How loving you are! Oh! Sai! Kindly accept our pranamams.

|| End of Fifth Chapter ||

**Om Samartha Sadhguru Sainaathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sainathaaya Namaha**  
**Om Sri Sai Devaaya Namaha**

**|| Sri Sai Raksha Vratham Samaptham ||**

## Sri Sai Baba Ashtakam

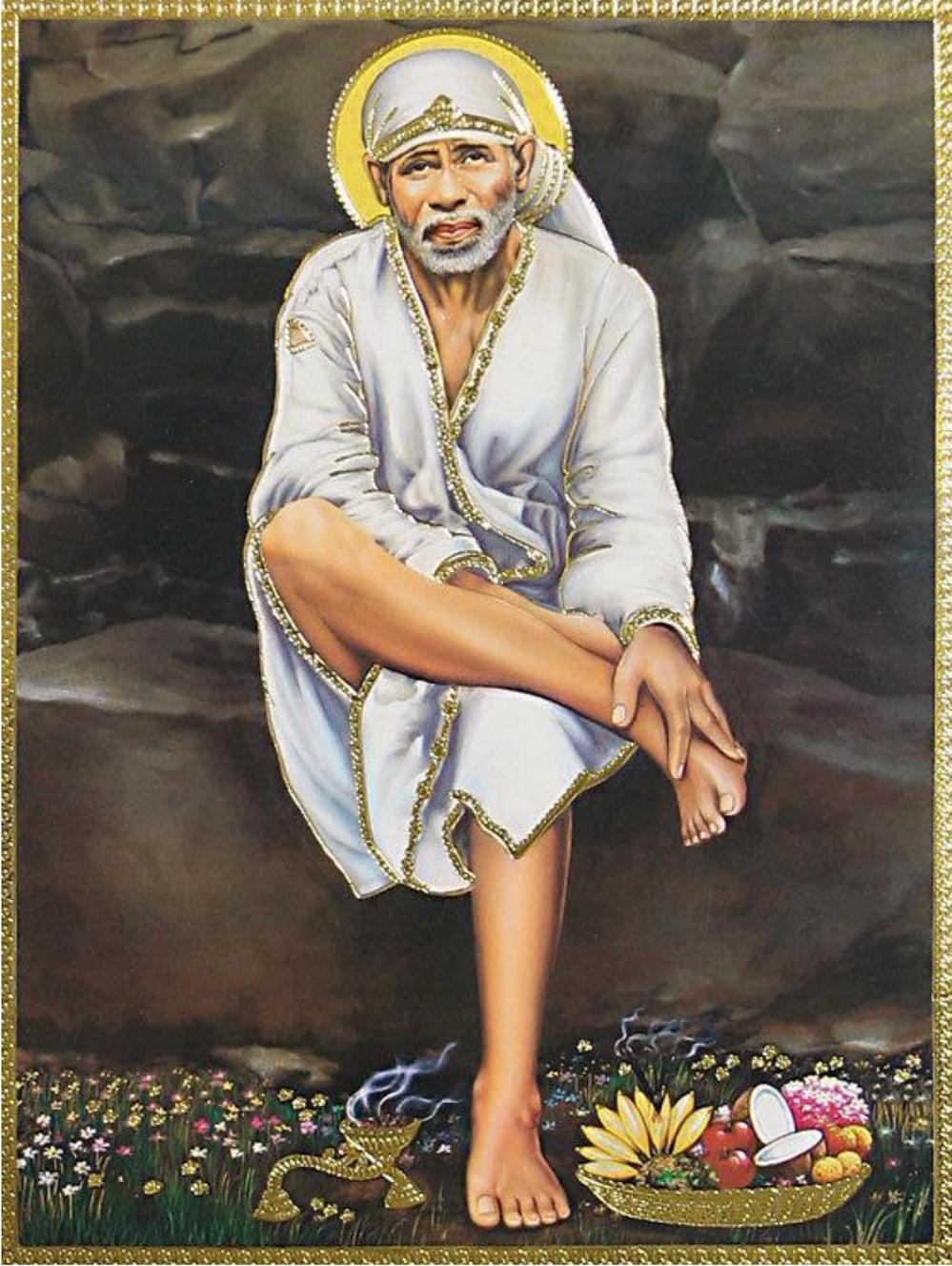
1. Pathri graama samudhbhootham dwarakamaayi vaasinam  
Bhaktha beeshta pratham devam Sai Naatham namamyaham
2. Mahonnatha kule jaatham ksheerambudhi samushubhe  
Dwijaraajam thamognam tham Sai Naatham namaamyaham
3. Jagadhodhaaranaartham yo nararopa dharo vibuhu  
Yoginamcha mahathmanam Sai Natham namaami tham
4. Saakshath kaaramchamo lebhe swaathmaaraamoror mukhaath  
Nirmamam mamagaathrancha Sai Naatham namaamyaham
5. Yasya darshana maathrena nashyanthi vyaadi kotayaha  
Sarve papah pranashyanthi Sai Naatham namamyaham
6. Narasimhaadhi sishyanaam dhadhau yonugraham guru  
Bhavabandhaani harthaaram Sai Naatham namaamyaham
7. Dhanadhaanyan dharidraanyamou samadrishtena pashyathi  
Karunaa saagaram devam Sai Natham namaamyaham
8. Saamadhistho piyo bhakthavanatheerdaartha daanathaha  
Achinthya mahimaanantham Sai Natham namasmyaham

Ithi Sai Baba Ashtakam Sampurnam

## **Sai Mangala Haarathi**

Swami Sai Nathaya Shirdi Kshetra Vaasaaya Mamaka Bheshtadaaya Mahitha Mangalam	Swamy
Loka Nathaya Bhakta Loka Samrakshakaaya Naaga Loka Sthuthyaaya Navya Mangalam	Swamy
Bhakta Brinda Vandithaya Brahma Swaroopaaya Mukthi Maarga Bodhakaaya Poojya Mangalam	Swamy
Satya Tatva Bhodhakaaya Saadhu Veshayathe Nithya Mangala Daayakaaya Nithya Mangalam	Swamy

"Shri Samartha Sadhguru Sachidaananda Sainath Maharaj Ki Jai"



**Om Sri Anantha Koti Akhanda Brahmanda Naayaka  
Raajaadhi Raja Yogi Raja Para Brahma  
Sri Sachidhaananda Samardha Sadhguru Sainath Maharaj Ki Jai**

**Om Sai Sri Sai Jaya Jaya Sai**

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**Sadhaa Kalpa Vrikshasya Thasyaadhi Moole  
Bhavadh Bhaava Budhya Saparyaadhi Sevam  
Nrinaam Kurvathaam Bhakthi Mukthi Pradhantham  
Namaami Eshwaram Sadhgurum Sainaatham!**

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