

The following note is approved by the Board of Trustees of Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust

November 28, 2014

Cautionary Note to all members of the SSSSO

During the past few months, members of the SSSSO and devotees have been confronted with the developments in connection with the formation of some new Trusts by certain individuals who were formerly devotees proximate to Bhagavan Baba and the observance of events connected with Bhagavan's Mission at Muddenahalli, quite apart from the celebrations at Prashanti Nilayam.

To clear any confusion with regard to these developments and to make clear our position in these matters, this note is being issued. A note on "Excerpts from Bhagavan's Divine Discourses" on His not having any successor and the Heart to Heart relationship that He has with His devotees, with clear dates of these discourses, is also enclosed.

1. The SSSSO and the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust have no connection with Trusts like the Sri Sathya Sai Saraswathi Trust or the Institutions like the Hospital started under the name of Bhagavan at Raipur, Chhatisgarh.
2. In keeping with Bhagavan's own Discourses, we do not subscribe to the concept of Bhagavan appearing in a "Light Body" visible only to certain individuals nor do we accept the concept of His delivering discourses audible only to certain individuals and their interpretation of the same for the benefit of others.
3. No member of the SSSSO should have any connection with these Trusts and Institutions/Organisations started by them.
4. Sri Indulal Shah, Trustee of the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, has regrettably in his advancing years, made his own individual decision to be associated with functions organized by these other Institutions and Trusts. Though we continue to respect and revere him, his individual decision is of no relevance to the SSSSO and its members. No individual is indispensable to Bhagavan's Divine Mission.

The contents of this note should be brought to the attention of all the members of the SSSSO.

V. Srinivasan
All India President
SSSSO

EXCERPTS FROM DIVINE DISCOURSES on Bhagawan not having any successor

IN 2002

“Our relationship is only heart-to-heart and love-to-love, nothing else. Swami is love personified. Swami gives importance to love and nothing else. Do not give any value to mean and meaningless talk.”

-Excerpts from Discourse for American devotees on 27 July 2002 at Prashanthi Nilayam

Yet others, invoking the name of Swami and claiming that they have been endowed with miraculous powers by Swami Himself, are collecting money. There can be nothing more diabolical than this. This is a matter to which Swami has thus far never made even the slightest reference, to anyone and at any time. Sai’s name is being invoked and a bad name is being brought to Sai by people engaging in such foul actions. This is one of the ways in which Sai activities are being converted into business transactions.

-Excerpts from Discourse given on 22 July 2002 during International Seva Conference at Prashanthi Nilayam

IN 1999

“In foreign countries, some Indians are claiming themselves to be Swami’s devotees, and they are telling many lies using the name of Swami for Collecting money. Some claim they are constructing temples and schools for Swami, and they collect money. These are all blatant lies. Swami has not accepted any money for any purpose. So be careful, and keep those people at a distance who approach you for money in the name of Sai.”

-Excerpts from Discourse on 15th October 1999 at Prashanthi Nilayam

IN 1988

“Talking of faith, I must issue a warning. Many people are collecting money in various places using My Name for various purposes like arranging Receptions, building temples, doing Puja, etc. That is unauthorized and against my wish and command. Do not yield to such requests and encourage this practice, which I condemn.”

“There is another set of people who trade on your faith. They advertise that I am 'talking' through a medium or some other thing. Treat all such people and their agents or brokers as you treat cheats; if you do not treat them so, then you are also accomplices in the cheating process.”

“There are others who gather groups of followers and admirers and collect money. They even declare, ‘Baba sent me to you to take from you some money’ or ‘Baba has given me this’ or ‘Baba blessed me specially thus and thus’ and then ask for your help or your praise or your purse! I ask you to chastise all these types of men and turn them away, whoever they are.”

-Excerpts from Discourse on 21st November 1988 at Prashanthi Nilayam

IN 1970

“Utilize the chance of association with Me as much as possible, and endeavour as quickly and as best as you can, to follow the directions that I have been giving. Obeying my instructions is enough; it will benefit you more than the most rigorous asceticism. Practice Sathya, Dharma, Santhi and Prema, which are dear to Me; resolve to keep those ideals before you ever, in all your thoughts, words and deeds. That can confer on you the summum bonum of mergence in the Supreme Substance of divinity.”

-Excerpts from Discourse on 22nd November 1970 during All-India Conference of Workers of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations at Prashanthi Nilayam

IN 1968

“There are some people who are doing business in the Name of Sai. They are cheating others, pretending to be devotees of Sai. I do not approve of such behaviour. They are not devotees at all. They are going to different parts of the country and also abroad to make money in the name of Sai. It is a big crime. I do not ask for even a single paisa from others. I never approve of such business. Whoever it may be, if somebody approaches you with such a crass motive, tell him to get out at once. Do not allow business to enter the field of spirituality.”

-Excerpts from Discourse on 17 May 1968 during World Conference of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organizations at Mumbai

IN 1965

“There are quite a few who declare that I am coming "upon them," possessing them rather, and they sway, shake and shiver and say all kinds of things, claiming that I am speaking through them or that they are under My Influence. They answer questions and 'foretell' things and perform many tricks to collect money or things from people who do not know Me and My reality. All this is sheer deceit; it is a disease that is spreading. Do not encourage it; nip it whenever you see cases of people suffering from it.

Such people have agents and brokers; scotch them first and their puppets will disappear. They wear the dress of holiness, but their greed announces them as vile. People say 'Baba appeared to me in a dream and commanded me to do this and that, to you, to collect so much from you etc., etc. Do not give heed to such cheats; punish them in the way they deserve. That is the advice I have to give you.’”

-Excerpts from Discourse on 26 March 1965 at Kakinada

“In order to make known my majesty and my glory as the Divine that has incarnated, miraculous happenings of an amazing nature do take place in certain areas. Taking advantage of the attraction that those happenings draw upon them, many misuse them for personal propaganda and aggrandizement. They trade for money the Vibhuthi (sacred ash) that the pictures in their altars shower! They go about pretending that they are "superior devotees" of a higher order and conferring boons and blessings on the innocent folk whom they fleece. Others put forth false claims that vibhuthi is emanating from the pictures of Baba in their homes, that Amrith (nectar) is dripping from them or that material objects are falling from them, like written answers to questions. Samithis and other Units should have no contact with such cheats and crooks. Anyone who is attached to such or who encourages such can be immediately removed.

There are others who claim that I am speaking through them, and answering questions put to them. These people must be either insane or hysteria-affected or they are possessed by some ghost or by the greed to earn money thereby. I can only tell you that it is not I that speaks through them. I do not need media; nor do I need substitutes or subsidiaries or representatives.”

-Excerpts from Discourse on 3 March 1965 at Amalaapuram

IN 1964

“People say, ‘Baba appeared to me in a dream and commanded me to do this and that, to you, to collect so much from you etc.’, do not give heed to such cheats; punish them in the way they deserve. That is the advice I have to give you.”

“Do not believe if any one comes to you and declares, ‘Sathya Sai Baba came to me in my dream and commissioned me to do publicity for him. Please help me as far as you can’. I do not commission any one for such work, either in dream or while he is awake. Such men are cheats; treat them as such, without mercy”.

-Excerpts from Discourse on 15th October 1964 at Prashanthi Nilayam

IN 1962

“There are some who extol others for the absurd reason that Sai Baba speaks through them! How silly? It is all drama which cheats sick minds. Do not fall a prey to these. That is why I say, keep your devotion within yourself, under control, and not be led away by crooks and self-seekers. These lead you astray by giving you a wrong idea of the Lord's manifestation. They befoul the faith that their brothers and sisters repose in God.”

-Excerpts from Discourse on 25th November 1962 at Prashanthi Nilayam