



Sathya Sai Pre-World Conference

Love is the Source. Love is the Path. Love is the Goal

Introduction to Pre-World Conference

If one word could sum up the essence of Swami's life and teachings, that word would be "Love". Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba's life, His message, His ideals and His humanitarian works can all be enshrined in one word—Love. His life is His message and His message is love. He is truly the incarnation of love—Love walking on two legs. He says, "God is love; live in love", and exhorts us to "Start the day with love; fill the day with love; spend the day with love; end the day with love—this is the way to God".

Swami says, "Love is the source; love is the path; and love is the goal". So, when we live our lives saturated with love, our lives get sanctified. If one could master this single Divine Principle, the other four human values—Truth, Peace, Right Conduct and Nonviolence—would also, automatically, be mastered. Perfect mastery of love amounts to nothing less than Self-realisation.

Selfless service is perhaps the single, most efficient and universal tool for understanding, experiencing and expressing the Divine Principle of Love. Service is love in action. Swami says that the best way to love God is to love all; serve all. The main purpose of the Sathya Sai Organisation is to help one realise one's innate Divinity by the practice of Divine Love through selfless service. Swami has also made it clear that the quality of service is most important, not the quantity. The spirit or the motive behind service is the deciding factor. When we render service, we should feel that we are serving God. This is why He says, "Service to man is service to God", and when we realize this fact, we also experience the ultimate truth, "*Isa vasya idam sarvam*" (everything is pervaded by God). Service done in a pure, selfless manner then becomes yoga—leading to union with God.

The Pre-World Conference Programme

The programme is intended to bring together Sathya Sai devotees to discuss these profound truths in practical terms, learn from each other, energise ourselves, and move forward along the path laid out clearly by Bhagawan. Some highlights of the conference are noted below.

The first day of the conference is dedicated to in-depth discussions on Love. The senior leaders of SSIO, Prasanthi Council, and SSSWF will address the audience from the depths of their personal



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experiences, garnered at the lotus feet of Bhagawan Himself. The youth, who are very near and dear to our beloved Swami, will share their experiences on the first day. After lunch, the participants will form small study circles, and engage in round-table discussions – followed by reports by the moderators. We will also have the opportunity to listen to short, 5 to 10 minute personal anecdotal stories of transformations, through **Love**. The Sathya Sai Youth and Children will entertain us after dinner with uplifting cultural programmes that reflect their heritage and the theme of the conference.

The second day will focus on Service, as love in action. The agenda follows a similar format as the first day, with study circles, reports by moderators, and panel discussions on love and service. An interesting part of the afternoon programme is the briefing on Service Projects – specific to the countries in the zone. The youth will then present a programme of their choice consistent with the conference theme. After dinner, national and regional service coordinators will present personal experiences of transformation through **Service**.

The third day programme provides an opportunity for the youth to present their experiences of personal transformation, and other youth initiatives, including the Sathya Sai Youth Leadership Programme and 2016 International Youth Festival. Participants will have an opportunity to ask the Chairman, Prasanthi Council, questions related to the SSIO, and also clarify their understanding and knowledge about Love and Service in practical terms. The Zone Chairs will present the global initiatives of the SSIO.

We encourage all Sathya Sai devotees to participate in the Pre-World Conferences. The conferences provide chances to one and all to learn about the programmes, the mission and the vision of the SSIO. It also offers them a blessed opportunity to share Swami's message, His love, and His work. Swami has said that Unity is Divinity. This is a golden chance for us to experience that Unity.

Jai Sai Ram.