



# Prasanthi Council

P.O. Box 660995, Arcadia, CA 91066-0995, USA.

**Narendranath Reddy, M.D.**  
Chairman

email: [nreddysai@yahoo.com](mailto:nreddysai@yahoo.com)

4<sup>th</sup> August 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings of loving Sairam to all of you.

It is with great humility and joy that I have the opportunity to share events from the recent 2013 Guru Purnima celebrations glorifying our Lord, Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, our Guru and God. Bhagawan has said Guru is the one who reveals the guri (goal) to the disciple. Guri here refers to the goal of Athmic Principle. The term Guru means one who dispels the darkness of ignorance and gives the light of wisdom. “Gu” means one who is beyond attributes (gunas), and “ru” means one who is beyond forms (rupas). So when we hold on to Sai He helps us to cross the ocean of samsara and reach the supreme goal of attaining Brahman who is beyond name, form and attributes and transcends space, time and causation. Hence, on this auspicious day of Guru Purnima, spiritual seekers all over the world expressed their love, reverence and gratitude to Bhagawan for guiding them along the spiritual path.

The festival of Guru Purnima was celebrated in Puttaparthi over two weeks filled with inspiring talks by senior devotees, dramas and dances by the young adults and children in Sai Kulwant hall, music concerts by accomplished artists and inspiring service activities including medical camps and Narayana seva (food distribution). I presume that many of you witnessed the live programs from Prasanthi Nilayam via Radio Sai Global Harmony network.

From 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2013 an international conference with the theme “The Divine Legacy of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba” was conducted by Zone 4 (South East Asian countries). True to the conference’s title, many senior devotees shared their experiences and lessons learned at the divine lotus feet of Bhagawan. The program was uplifting and all the participants of the conference were filled with joy.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> July, the morning of Guru Purnima was heralded by a melodious musical offering by students of the SSSIHL. Sri Satyajit Salian, who is currently the head of the Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vahini Programme, then gave a detailed update of the progress of this Programme in spreading this unique model of education throughout India. Dr. Dalton de Souza Amorim, Professor, University of Sao Paulo and Chair of Zone 2B spoke on the importance of practicing His message in our lives . The morning programme ended with excerpts from Swami’s divine discourse on the Soham principle. In the evening, talks, a video presentation on Swami, and a Carnatic Musical offering by accomplished artiste Ms S Sowmya and bhajans concluded this year’s Guru Poornima day celebrations in Prasanthi Nilayam.

Guru Poornima 2013 marks the golden jubilee of the miraculous event when Bhagawan, in His sheer compassion and love for His devotees healed Himself of a paralytic stroke that He had taken upon Himself. Bhagawan subsequently made His historic declaration to the world; Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is the Paripurna Shiva-Shakti Avatar.

---

On July 23rd, the devotees from Bali presented a dance program entitled "Krishna & Gopalas," depicting Lord Krishna's playful pranks with His gopalas (cowherd girls). This was followed by a musical programme by the Mexican choir, which celebrated 40 years of the Sathya Sai Organisation of Mexico. The Mexican devotees offered a medley of Mexican Folk Songs followed by a bouquet of devotional songs.

The next evening on the 24<sup>th</sup> July, Sai Kulwant Hall reverberated to the voice of the Glendale Arcadia Sadhana Group along with the Glendale Balvikas group of Southern California, USA. They presented an assortment of songs and prayers from various religions. On 27<sup>th</sup> July, an international choir named "Sarvadharmā" from Zone 7 (region 73) European countries comprised of Poland, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia was led by Maria Quoos, central coordinator of region 73. The choir harmoniously sang songs from various faiths, reflecting the theme that we all are members of the same family bound by the religion of love.

It was heartening to see hundreds of devotees from the Middle Eastern countries participating in the seminar, "From Theory to Practice" from 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> July. Senior devotees shared their beautiful and memorable experiences with Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. The devotees from the Middle East presented a cultural programme in Sai Kulwant hall on 30<sup>th</sup> July with a mixture of songs, commentary and narrations on Islamic culture and interactive dialogs explaining the essence of the Holy Month of Ramadan. Marking the end of the fortnight long Guru Purnima festivities, a group of musicians from the UK offered an instrumental medley on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013.

In addition, the officers of the International Sathya Sai Organisation from all zones had several meetings to discuss the plan for Bhagawan Baba's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations and the world youth festival in July 2015. Many pre-conferences are planned at the zonal level and national level. These meetings will enable all to participate and share Bhagawan's love. The zonal and national officers will be communicating periodically about these events.

During the Guru Purnima festival a group of international doctors and staff held a five day medical camp at Prasanthi Nilayam. They evaluated 1618 patients out of which 239 needed acute care treatments.

I have provided a brief overview of some of the highlights and programmes during this year's Guru Purnima festival. Bhagawan's grace and presence were keenly felt by those who participated and the devotees were filled with Ananda.

I thank the trustees of the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust and the ashram staff for providing full support for all of the International activities. I also thank the staff of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning and RadioSai Global harmony for supporting our programmes with wonderful speakers and for the latter providing coverage through their network all over the world. Finally I thank all the devotees of the International Organisation who worked hard to make every programme a worthy offering at the divine lotus feet of our beloved Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

Let us all rededicate our lives to our supreme Guru and pray for the strength to love Him and serve Him till our last breath. *Samastha Lokah Sukhino Bhavanthu.* May all the worlds be happy.

With loving regards,  
Dr. Narendranath Reddy