

Talk by Mrs. Marianne Meyer, Member, Prasanthi Council, SSIO**Guru Poornima, July 5, 2020**

Loving Sai Rams to all of you on this very special day.

Guru Poornima day is sacred for many reasons.

It is a day where we may let go of false identification with the objective world.

It is a day where we may connect to the 'unseen motivator' from within.

It is a day where we may be inspired to seek fulfillment through walking the spiritual path.

But it is also a day where we honor the Divine Inspiration we received through Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. My journey started with reading an article about Him in 1978. One year later a Danish couple was interviewed in the Danish Radio about their experiences visiting Sathya Sai Baba. After listening to their stories, about His life – His work - His Institutions – my husband and I decided to go to India and experience ourselves.

This was the beginning of journey that completely changed my life - as well as my husband's.

From the first visit and onwards we were blessed with interviews and interaction with Swami. Through His loving interaction with us He gave us the inspiration to walk the spiritual path. Finally, He leads us to the point where we understood what He had really come to give us and why He came to this earth! He came to share His Selfless Love, and to inspire us to open our hearts and embrace this world through this Higher principle of Universal Love.

I still recall the many times He asked 'what do you want' - a simple question to make us aware - and maybe reflect on our desires and exceptions in life, - and eventually taking us even further - to realize our goal in life.

He redirected our focus from outside vision to inside vision. He told us that all what we see in the outside world is only a reflection of our inner state.

Looking at the current situation in the world today, we can see that it has had a great effect on all of us. It may have awakened our compassion and care for each other.

However, it may also have activated a lot of fear and worries. Personally, I feel that the current situation, we experience today is a wakeup call for all of us to rethink our

lives and make room for changes. The world is ready for a paradigm shift, but **we** are responsible for making it happen, as challenges are holding a potential.

Challenges are testing our discrimination and detachment and are pushing us to seek deeper and deeper clarity. They may wake us up - and experience things differently - and make us understand that what has to happen - it has to happen. Ultimately, we should see it as a gift from God to change our vision.

Because with the right attitude, we can change the moment - If we have trust in the process, trust in ourselves and trust in our Higher Consciousness.

We have a lot of unused potential inside us, which just have to be activated. I believe you all know the fairy-tail The Sleeping beauty. She had been in deep sleep for about 100 of years, waiting for the prince to come and give her the wake-up kiss. This is a very good metaphor for what is happening today. We are like the sleeping beauty, unaware of our great potentials. And now it is time to awaken this sleeping potential inside us.

Now is the time to bring out the Love and Light from within. We should not let circumstances blow it out. We should protect it by having a positive mind and attitude.

My heart is touched, when I see the many people, who has been inspired by Swami's universal message and are selflessly working to bring harmony and love to the society through their actions. Let us intensify this process.

Spirituality should be the inspiring momentum in whatever we do. It should allow us to live in peace and harmony with ourselves and our surroundings. To do that we need to change our vision - to start seeing opportunities instead of limitations and hindrances.

The possibilities in the current situation today can be used to raise our awareness about what is truly important, and we should not let this inspiration slip out of our hand.

What is truly important? I am sure that all of you will say LOVE. And I agree!

Swami says Life is a challenge meet it - and we will meet the challenges with Love and enthusiasm. He came with Love to inspire us to change and we will bring this message to the world through our example.

Our work in the Organisation can be used as a transformational tool to discover the true identity of the human being. Not only within ourselves - but to discover it in all

beings. To see their goodness, kindness, and love behind all the fear, frustration, and hopelessness they experience.

Look at others for what they really are. Let us care for each other and show compassion. We can show the world an example. We can do it - We should do. Whatever we do should be spiritual uplifting for all and this work is an opportunity to sanctify our lives and upgrade it to a new level of understanding

Let our inner awareness guide us through the day and make it meaningful through daily mindfulness. This attentive presence in the now is to recognize how the mind identifies itself with the past and by doing this we relive feelings associated with the past events. Or we project them into the future, and they create emotions like fear and unrealistic worries. With non-attachment we can get rid of such fear.

Self-inquiry can help us to observe ourselves: What do I think, how do I feel? How do I act (WATCH)? It is an important tool to lovingly identifying the weaknesses within ourselves and activate our discrimination, so we may raise above the emotional level and live in the present. To understand who we are will give us the ability to take control of our life - and stop being a victim of circumstances.

What we meet in life is our destiny - but how we meet is self-effort - it is said. Life is testing us to see if we are ready to move on.

So, let us move on and honor our great teacher and be the change, we would like to see in the world. To see a world that treat each individual with love and respect in spite of education, race, or faith.

Let us honor as His legacy and bring it further out into the society as a Guru
Poornima Gift to Him

Let us wrap this gift in love and understanding and respect for each individual to inspire them to open their hearts to the all-pervasive Universal Love energy.

Jai Sai Ram and Happy Guru Poornima.