

Sathya Sai International Organization – USA



Sairam Regional Presidents and National Officers,

In a discourse to Western devotees on August 21st, 1984, Swami asked, “What is the purpose of coming to Prasanthi Nilayam?”.

“All of you are coming here spending a lot of money. Why are you coming? Are you regarding this as a picnic, or a holiday? Or are you regarding it as a tourist attraction? No! No! You have come to broaden your hearts. You must confirm the principle of Love. It is not a love based on selfishness. This is love, which is combined with Divinity. We must make a firm resolve to pursue the spiritual path. You must journey from the starting point of "my" and "mine" to "we" and ours." You must come to understand why you have come. You come after spending a lot of money, yet you are wasting your time strolling about and engaging in unnecessary and useless talk.”

For those inclined to seek the spiritual home, a visit to Prasanthi Nilayam, abode of Supreme Peace, is the ultimate goal and destination. As of March 28th, there are over 220 devotees registered for the Spiritual Homecoming National pilgrimage. Devotees planning to attend the pilgrimage are requested to register earliest at [this link](#).

Registration deadline has been extended to April 30th, 2017.

In order to continue to prepare us, the 3rd step of the Sadhana of Love program is being launched for the month of April. The next step, self-sacrifice, builds on the prior steps of Self-Confidence and Self-Satisfaction. What is it that must be sacrificed? Sathya Sai Baba explains:

“Our brain stores millions of thoughts. Among them only a few are really useful and valuable. As a result of this indiscriminate acquisition, concentration on any beneficial idea becomes difficult. Many people come to me and mourn, "Swami! I am practicing meditation for ten years or twenty years, but, alas, I have not had the vision of God even for a second." I ask them, "But what are you meditating on, all these years? When your mind is contemplating all kinds of irrelevant objects, how can God find a place therein? Again, have you cultivated love? Have you developed compassion? These are the temples where God loves to install Himself. Instead, you have grown in selfishness and so, the vision of God has become unavailable to you." ... Renouncing the bitter gourd at one holy spot and the sour berry at another is not commendable as sacrifice. At sacred places, the pilgrim must renounce his evil habits and bad tendencies and attitudes. Then only can the pilgrimage be beneficial.” SSS (15,29)

Page 19 of Sadhana of Love provides a summary of eighteen ways to practice self-sacrifice with details being covered on pages 57-78. Select the one that connects with your heart and practice it this month.

[Link to Sadhana of Love](#)

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We pray to our Lord for His continued guidance and offer our efforts at His lotus feet.

Lovingly in Sai Service

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