

DIVINE GRACE



With Swami's grace and blessings, the Anderson Sai Center held its annual mini-retreat on August 20, 2016. Three long-standing devotees enthralled the attendees by narrating their journey with Sai. About 75 to 80 members from the neighboring centers and groups (Atlanta, Charleston, Charlotte, Clemson, Columbia, Augusta, Greenville, and Tallahassee) participated in the mini-retreat.

Ms. Suchismita Mahanty, an accomplished musician, was the first speaker who shared her Sai experiences. She was introduced to Swami and His teachings through her in-laws. Over the past decade, she developed a strong connection with her inner Sai through innumerable experiences with Swami. She stressed the need for such inner connections, and highlighted using wonderful analogies, anecdotes, and guided meditation on how one can establish the Divine connection.

Next, she was accompanied by her husband Mr. Sib Sankar Mahanty, and together they shared key experiences which inspired them into composing songs and bhajans in English, Hindi and Bengali languages. The audience enjoyed their soulful renditions, which were interspersed with a detailed explanation of the inner meaning of their compositions.

The speaker for the afternoon session was Dr. Ramgopal Satyanarayana Konanur. He came into Swami's fold through his service activities in the Department of Urology at the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Science (SSSIHMS), Puttaparthi. He shared many of his and his family's Sai experiences during their stay in India, Muscat and the USA. He also shared some of the guidance he received directly from Swami during his tenure at SSSIHMS.

Another highlight of the mini-retreat was a cultural program which the Mahantys put together involving the young adults and SSE children who attended the mini-retreat. This mini-retreat was all the more enjoyable when two rainbows manifested in the sky - one prior to the commencement and the other at the conclusion of the mini-retreat. Swami's presence was felt by one and all through this Sai-incidence.

Prior to the commencement of the mini-retreat



Cultural Program



At the end of the mini-retreat



-Jai Sai Ram-