

ALL WORK IS MY WORK

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Swami, my patient, my client, my customer

Last year I was attached to a uni clinic. I set time aside before each therapy session to pray for the client and for myself. Each time I entered the room I would do so with a heightened awareness of being just a mouthpiece and the person in front of me being Swami.



I went to work in the shop telling myself, "I am doing Love @Work" so mentally I greeted each customer with, "Sai Ram, Swami." I saw a customer in another aisle. I approached him thinking, "This person is Swami; how am I going to greet Him?" As I reached him I had to catch myself – I almost said "Sai Ram, Swami" out loud! That was a nice experience, to fully believe that the customer was Swami.



I was thinking on how I should see my patients. A vision came to mind: I am working with Swami and the wind is blowing His hair onto His face and I push it aside with my fingers. This is my Love @Work action. By constantly doing this I am becoming more aware of Him.



So long as you have a trace of ego in you, you cannot see the Lord clearly. Egoism will be destroyed if you constantly tell yourself, "It is He, not I." He is the Force, I am but the Instrument.

Keep His Name always on the tongue. Contemplate His Glory whenever you see or hear anything beautiful or grand. See in everyone, the Lord Himself moving in that form. Be humble, do not become proud of your wealth, status, authority, learning or caste. Dedicate all your physical possessions, mental skills, intellectual attainments, to the service of the Lord and to the Lord's many manifestations.

- Sai Inspires, 5th March 2009

My Sai

When I was in boarding school in Bangalore, India, a friend gave me a photo of Shirdi Sai Baba. I put it in my locker and forgot about it. After that we moved to Saudi Arabia, then to Fiji, Sydney, Townsville, back to Sydney... In total I have moved six times! Though I made no special effort to remember to pack it, the photo would turn up in my belongings. Even though I didn't know Swami well as a child, I feel that God has been with me all my life.



My mum used to say He was God and I just accepted it. As a child, your mind is not corrupted by logic and science so it was easy to go along with it. But it was a little later, in 2000, when His divinity hit me really hard. Now, I am doing PhD research that challenges me to question my beliefs on a daily basis, to reason and justify that what I believe is true. Interesting, isn't it?



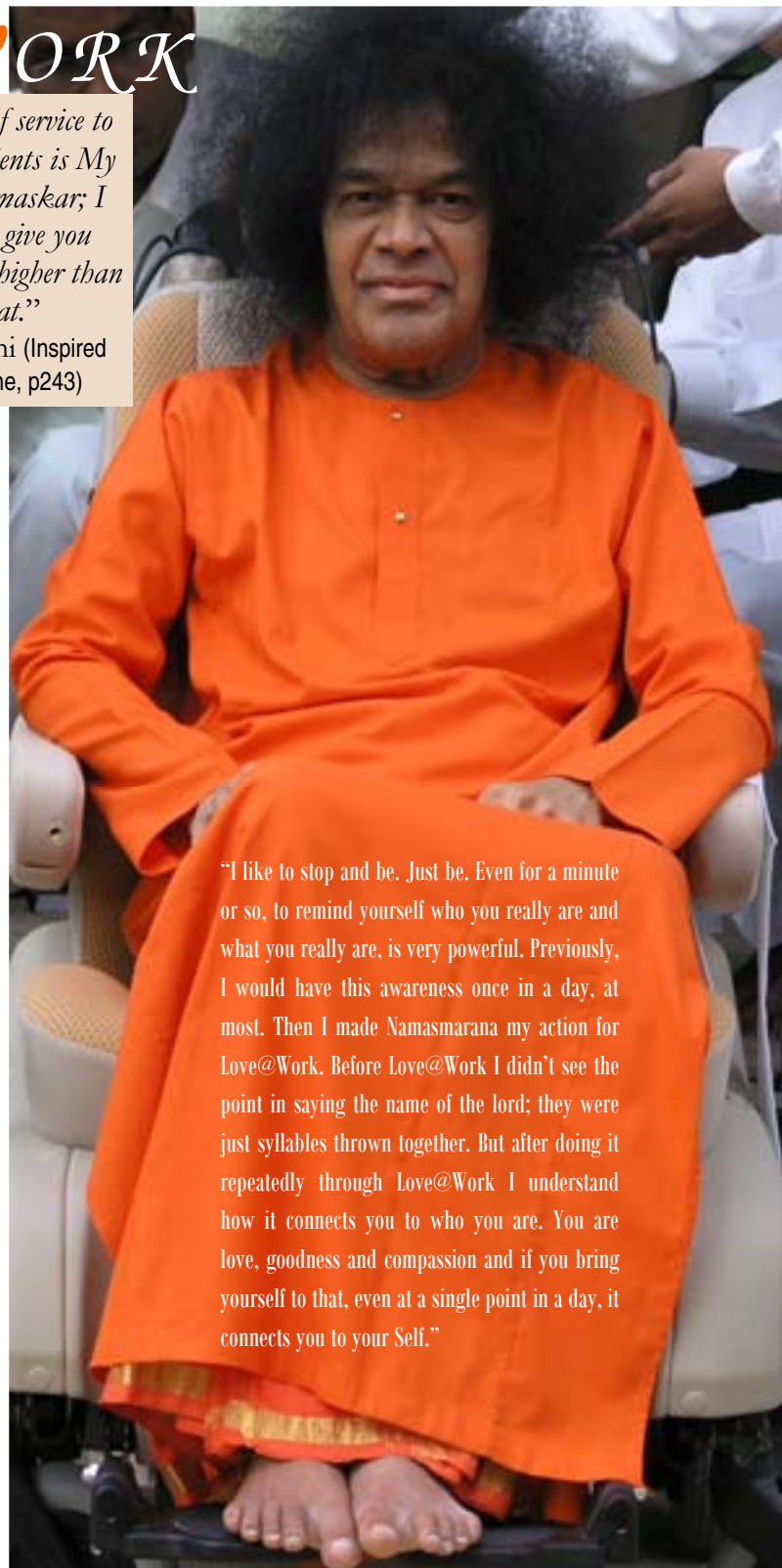
I was sitting in darshan and my mind started to take over. I said to Swami, "Do something now to acknowledge me!" and He moved His hand slowly. I thought that wasn't for me so I asked Him again. He moved His hand a second time. Still I was not convinced. Then He moved His hand again for the third time and I felt happy. Just then my eyes fell upon a book in front of me titled, *Master Your Mind, Be a Mastermind*.

"You are destined to your role because you are unique. And your birth has to have a meaning."

"I feel very inspired by the Love@Work programme undertaken by the Young Adults of Australia" - Dr. Joe Phaneuf, USA Youth Adults National Advisor, in his address to the Sai Youth of South East Queensland (21.2.09). We thank Dr. Joe for the main photograph of Swami.

"Being of service to your patients is My padanamaskar; I cannot give you anything higher than that."

~ Swami (Inspired Medicine, p243)



"I like to stop and be. Just be. Even for a minute or so, to remind yourself who you really are and what you really are, is very powerful. Previously, I would have this awareness once in a day, at most. Then I made Namasmarana my action for Love@Work. Before Love@Work I didn't see the point in saying the name of the lord; they were just syllables thrown together. But after doing it repeatedly through Love@Work I understand how it connects you to who you are. You are love, goodness and compassion and if you bring yourself to that, even at a single point in a day, it connects you to your Self."

"I was working in England in the middle of winter. We didn't have a car and I was on call for two hospitals over the weekend. On the Saturday I caught a bus to the first hospital, saw some patients, and then walked to the second hospital, in the freezing cold, to see other patients. Among the patients at the first hospital there was one man who was quite serious. As I was going home, I thought, "Swami, I really should see this man again tomorrow." Having to walk or take the bus again the next day in the cold was not a welcome prospect so I prayed desperately to Swami for help. When I arrived at the first hospital on Sunday morning, my sick patient was in the process of being transferred to the second hospital by ambulance. What's more, the ambulance is normally filled with transfers but on this occasion it only had this patient, so there was space for me to go with him in the ambulance if I wanted to. I gratefully accepted! Our compassionate Swami had arranged for me to see my patient and travel to the second hospital, warm and dry."