



### REWARD OF STUDY — FALA SHRUTI

Now a few words about the reward you get from a study of this work. After bathing in the sacred Godavari and after taking darshan of the Samadhi Mandir in Shirdi (even doing this mentally with reverence and devotion touches the heart of Baba), you should read or hear the *Satcharitra*.

1. If you do this all your threefold afflictions will vanish.
2. Casually thinking about the stories of Sai, you will unconsciously become interested in spiritual life.
3. If you continue reading this work with love, all your sins and karmas will be destroyed.
4. If you wish to get rid of the cycle of births and deaths, read Sai's stories and remember him always and be devoted to his feet.
5. If you dive into the sea of Sai's stories and give them out to others, you will get an ever-new flavor of them and save the hearers from suffering and torment.
6. If you go on meditating on Sai's form, in the course of time it will disappear and you will be led into self-realization.
7. It is very hard to know or realize the nature of the Self or Brahman, but if you approach through the saguna Brahman (Sai's form) your progress will be easy.
8. If the devotee completely surrenders himself to Baba, he will lose his individual ego and merge and become one with him, as the river merges into the sea.
9. If you become merged with him in any of the three states of waking, dream and sleep, the bondage of samsara will be destroyed.

10. If anyone reads it with love and faith after bathing and completes it within a week, his calamities will disappear.

11. Or if he hears or reads it daily and regularly all his dangers will be warded off.

12. By its study, a man wishing for wealth will get it and a pure devotee will get success in his life. He will get the reward according to his faith and devotion. Without these, there will be no experience of any kind.

13. If you read it respectfully, Sai will be pleased, and removing your ignorance and poverty, he will give you knowledge, wealth and prosperity.

14. With a concentrated mind, if you read a chapter daily, it will give you infinite happiness. One who has his welfare at heart should study it carefully, then he will always remember Sai gratefully and joyfully in birth after birth.

15. This work should be read at home especially on Guru Purnima (Full-Moon in July), Gokul Ashtami (Lord Krishna's birthday), Ramanavami (Lord Rama's birthday) and Vijayadasami (last day of Mother Divine festival; Baba's samadhi anniversary day).

16. If you study this one book carefully, all your desires will be satisfied and if you always remember Sai's feet in your heart, you will easily cross the Bhavasagara (ocean of worldly existence).

17. By its study, the diseased and sick will receive health, the poor will attain wealth, the mean and afflicted will prosper, and the mind will become quiet and steady. Dear good and devoted readers and listeners, we also bow to you all and make a special request of you. Never forget him whose stories you have read daily or month after month. The more fervently you read or listen to these stories, the more encouragement Sai gives us to serve you and be of use to you. Both the author and the readers must co-operate in this work, help each other and be happy.

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Excerpt from *Sri Sai Satcharitra*