

BHAGAVATHA VAHINI

(The Story of the Glory of the Lord)

by
Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba



PRASANTHI NILAYAM

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Dear Reader!

The Bhagavatha is a dialogue between a person under the sentence of death and a great saint, who prepared him to meet it. We are all under a sentence of death; our hearts, like muffled drums, are beating funeral marches to the grave. Some reach it late, some soon. We require the counsel of a great saint, to prepare us, too, for meeting Death and witness the horizon beyond.

The Bhagavatha is a Ganga, emerging from the Lord, and merging in Him, after a long journey through geographic descriptions, historic annals, philosophic disquisitions, hagiological narratives, epistemologic enquiries, and after fertilising the vast valleys of human minds with the pure pellucid waters of Krishna-episodes.

Bhagavan has come again as Sathya Sai for the revival of Dharma among men. One important aspect of that revival is the re-establishment of reverence for the ancient spiritual texts, like the Bible, the Quoran, the Zend Avesta, the Tripitaka, the Vedas and the Bhagavatha. Reverence can spring at the present time, only when the inner meaning of the statements and stories is explained in clear, simple, charming style, by the very Person who inspired the original Scripture.

Here, in this Book, we have His version of that voluminous textbook of *Bhakthi* (devotion), which Vyasa composed at the suggestion of the sage Narada, so that he may win peace and equanimity.

This is not just a book, dear Reader. It is a balm, a key, a *Mantra*—to soften, solve and save, to loosen the bonds, to liberate from grief and pain, thirst and tutelage.

Open it with humility, read it with diligence, revere it with devotion, observe its lessons with steadfastness and reach the Goal that Vyasa reached and Narada attained; that Suka taught and Parikshit learnt. What greater recompense can man hope for?

N. Kasturi
Prasanthi Nilayam
Guru Pournami
18-7-1970



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