

**SRI SATHYA SAI INTERNATIONAL
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Sri Sathya Sai Baba's Quotations on the Animal Kingdom - 2nd Part

65. "The purpose of human life does not lie in merely eating, drinking, sleeping and indulging in materialistic comforts. Even animals indulge in such activities. But unlike men animals do not possess the evil qualities of amassing, robbing and stealing"- 'Sathya Sai Speaks' - Vol. 34 P 104
66. "Man must demonstrate his superiority over the animal, by conquest over the senses. He must wriggle out of his animal shackles and assert his 'humanity' which is essentially 'divinity.'" - 'Sathya Sai Speaks' Vol. 5 P 135
67. "You take the example of trees which bear sweet fruits for others, but do not themselves eat them. Similarly, cows give milk to others, but they themselves do not taste even a drop; rivers provide copious supply of water for people, for animals and birds too; but they do not drink even a sip of it themselves." - 'I am Mother Earth.'
68. "If anyone has the capacity to change himself but does not use it, then he is much worse than an animal." - 'Sai Baba Gita' P 271
69. During a Medical Conference in 2011 in London, Dr. Narendra Reddy remembers Swami telling him, when presented with seva projects: "What about the animals? They need help too. My love embraces the animal kingdom too and so should yours. It should not be limited to humans alone."
70. "If anyone has the capacity to change himself but does not use it, then he is much worse than an animal." - 'Sai Baba Gita' P 27
71. "You must serve those who have no one to serve them. You must realize me in ALL. and serve ALL." - Sathya Sai Baba in the 1981 Charter of the S.S.I.O.
72. To Peter Roberts Baba once confirmed: "What you do for animals you do for me" "All are one family, so serve ALL." ~ Sathya Sai Baba to a group of Western devotees in Kodaikanal, Apr. 1983
73. "It is when you experience another's suffering as your own that your human values are manifested." ~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 9th Mar., 1986

74. "When you seek to assuage the suffering of others, it is really your own suffering that you mitigate ... it is truly you who feel the relief." ~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba - 'Thought for the day' as written at Prasanthi Nilayam - 10th Mar., 2007
75. "The appeasement of the dog's hunger is the same as Mine. The dog has got a soul; the creatures may be different, but the hunger of all is the same, though some speak and others are dumb. Know for certain, that he who feeds the hungry, really serves Me with food. Regard this as an axiomatic Truth." ~ Sai of Shirdi
76. "How should we do Seva for animals? We have Swami's small story or Chinna Katha on this subject: "A holy man was once passing by a village where a calf, had been caught in marshy land. It was struggling to get out of it and was not able to, and seeing that the village urchins were having a good laugh. This holy man saw all this and rushed into the marshy spot, picked up the calf and brought it to safe land. The village urchins were very annoyed with this man and they went and complained: 'Master, why have you robbed us of our entertainment?' And the holy man apologised saying: 'Please forgive me. When I saw that calf struggling, I was experiencing such acute, intense pain in my heart. To alleviate that pain, I went into that marshy area and rescued the calf. Now I am feeling better. It is to alleviate my pain that I have pulled the calf out of that marshy tract.'"
77. "To attain such a sacred birth is a great fortune indeed ... We have to see and understand the difference between birds and animals on the one hand and man on the other hand. Animals are born with cruelty as a nature and they also spend their lives with cruelty. We may give a lot of training to the animal but it is impossible to bring about a lasting change in its habits. It may conduct itself according to the training during the period of training, but it will not give up its cruelty. Man is not like that. Even though he may be born with cruelty, he can get rid of it by an attempt of sadhana. It becomes clear that what does not and cannot take refinement is an animal and what can take refinement is man." - 'Summer Showers in Brindavan' 1978 P 8
78. "Birds and beasts need no divine incarnation to guide them, for they have no inclination to stray away from their dharma (right living, self-disciplinary rules). Man alone forgets or ignores the goal of life."- 'The Embodiment of Love' ~ Peggy Mason/Ron Laing P 315
79. "In a letter written from a game park He visited in East Africa in 1968, Swami wrote: "We spend the night in the wooden houses over the trees. In that area were very big lions, cheetahs, zebras, bison, giraffes; and many other kinds of wild animals freely moving in thousands. The way in which these various animals were moving about with mutual cooperation and adjustability appears to suggest that they are better than human beings in

the present day world, where humanism and humanness are altogether dying out. The scenes where these wild animals were moving together, eating together, drinking together, and licking each other with friendly feelings appears to me to teach a lesson even to human beings. In all of them Godliness was clearly visible.” - ‘The Embodiment of Love’ ~ Peggy Mason/Ron Laing P 74

80. “I derive much bliss watching 'wild animals' in their own habitat. Their movements, their relations with others of their own kind, their free uninhibited lives are very attractive to behold. They do not grieve, lamenting their misfortune, comparing their fate with that of other denizens of the forest. They do not clamor for fame. They do not plan and prepare to earn positions of power and authority over other animals. They are not eager to accumulate possessions that are superfluous. When we consider these traits, we are led to conclude that they are leading lives of a higher grade than men. Men have the extra qualifications of education; they have the moral sense, and the capacity to judge and discriminate. But yet they are caught in the coils of greed. Greed is the seedbed of grief.” - ‘The Embodiment of Love’ ~ Peggy Mason/Ron Laing P 74
81. “Compassionate love is pure love, unselfish. In the animal there is love, but it is mixed with lust. But compassion is pure love. Only man has compassion. Through love he may realize the oneness of life, and in this way, by love, he will be one with God.” - ‘My Baba and I’ ~ Dr. John Hislop P 197
82. “The six inner enemies - desire, anger, greed, pride, infatuation and jealousy, are responsible for man’s bad conduct and suffering. These are animal qualities. If man behaves in the same way as animals, then in what way is he superior to them.” - ‘Sanathana Sarathi’ Feb. 2003
83. “When I went there, the devotees of East Africa arranged small airplanes. I went round the forest in one such plane. There were thousands of wild elephants in the Kampala forest. It looked as though the entire forest was full of elephants. I had taken bananas with Me and gave one each to some of them. All of them enjoyed eating it. Bisons were also seen in thousands. We saw lions lying on the road here and there. Even when we drove our jeep over their tails, they did not react. Even fierce animals will not harm us if our mind is good. They will attack us only when we try to harm them... When you approach them with the evil intention of harming or killing them, they will also try to kill you. We should never go to them with such wicked thoughts. In fact, we should not look at any being with evil intentions.” Divine Discourse, 6th May, 2007
84. “Learn lessons from every living being, everything that you find around you. Learn faithfulness and gratitude from the dog, patience and fortitude

from the donkey, perseverance from the spider, farsightedness from the ant, and monogamy from the owl.” - ‘Sathya Sai Speaks’ - Vol. 11 Ch. 20 P 117

85. “Creation is an expression of the will of God. Everyone has emerged out of creation and should have the qualities of the Divine. Can you expect a tiger to be born from the womb of an elephant? Or a deer to be born from the womb of a tiger? Impossible! Similarly, humanity which has emerged from Divinity should have only divine qualities, not demonic or animal qualities. Without compassion and love, you cannot be called a human being. So every human being is born to express his or her inherent Divinity.” - ‘Sathya Sai Newsletter’ Sum. 1995 P 27
86. “One animal which is viewed with contempt is the donkey. But there are quite a few virtues man can learn from the donkey. The quality of patience to be found in a donkey is not to be found even in man. Whatever burdens may be heaped on its back, it bears them all with forbearance. It puts up with any amount of beatings. Even when it is starved of food and water, it presents a calm face. Man has thus to learn the quality of forbearance from the donkey... The ant is one of the tiniest among insects. But there are many lessons to be learned from it. The ant has a capacity for foresight. With foreknowledge of the rainy season ahead, the ant starts storing food from three months in advance ... Then there is the spider, from which lessons can be learned. Determination is one of its traits. How many times its web may be destroyed or broken, the spider will go on remaking it with relentless determination ... Then there is the dog. The dog is treated with neglect and indifference. But the fidelity displayed by a dog is not found in any other creature. Getting a few morsels of food from a man, the dog shows its gratitude to him by following him and wagging its tail out of affection. But such gratitude is lacking among students who have been nourished, educated and placed comfortably in life (by their parents). Many do not have even a fraction of the gratitude displayed by dogs. Has their education or intelligence any meaning? ... Next take the example of the parrots. Conjugal fidelity is a supreme quality among parrots. The firm attachment to each other in a parrot couple is not to be found even among highly developed human beings. The story of how Valmiki was deeply moved when a hunter killed one of two birds who were a loving couple is well known. When one of the birds died, its mate followed suit, unable to bear the pangs of separation. Out of the intense sorrow and compassion of Valmiki, the first shloka emerged from his lips and that was the beginning of the great epic (Ramayana). When its mate dies, a bird will not seek another partner. It will starve itself to death. How many men care to follow the example of the birds in their devotion to monogamy? Many are ready to remarry after the loss of the first wife. ‘Thenathana’, supreme virtue of monogamy, is a quality man can learn from birds. Thus there are many useful lessons to be learned

from animals, birds and insects. Book knowledge alone is of little use.” -
‘Sanathana Sarathi’ March 1997

87. “From head to toe, man is filled with anger today. He has become like an animal. Even an animal is better than man. An animal has a reason and a season. Today man has no reason and no season.” - ‘Sanathana Sarathi’ July 2001 P 204

88. “In the background of mountains that bear sun and rain with equal unconcern, of the sea and sky that are unaffected by storms and clouds, it looks ridiculous that man alone is subject to anxiety and fear; in the company of birds and beasts that do not store food for another day, but are content to leave it to Providence to provide for them, it looks absurd that man alone should spend all his days, calculating and accumulating. No bird casts seed on land to grow food for itself; nor do beasts plow and enclose fields, claiming ‘this is mine, this is for my children and children’s children’... They sing and swim, they dance and dive, they talk and walk, they pray and pine, because they must; it is their nature to. They do not know what will happen; as a consequence, they do not care; they do not anticipate any result. They are just themselves, when they do these things. It is their innate nature, their inborn characteristic.” - ‘Sathya Sai Speaks’ - Vol. VI Ch. 60 P 314

89. “You should lead your life within limits. Not only that, but we should have discrimination. We should decide whether a thing is good or bad, whether it is right or wrong. This type of discrimination is not found in animals. Among all species, human life is rare. However, we enjoy eating the way animals do. Like any of us, animals have a connection with family. Like man, animals also enjoy sensual pleasure. Then what is the difference between a human and an animal? If you have the same qualities as an animal, then you are a two-legged animal. But, because you have the power of discrimination, you are a human being. You should have the appropriate behavior of a human being. Having been on the spiritual path, you should have sacredness and develop discrimination in all your habits.” - ‘Sathya Sai Newsletter’ Spring 1995 P 17

90. “Animals like cattle and birds cannot change the qualities which they acquire with their birth. The lion, for instance, is born as a cruel animal. It lives and dies as a cruel animal. The cat is born with the quality of trapping rats and killing them. It lives with these qualities. Try as they may, these animals cannot change their bad and cruel qualities. You can make a cat sit on the chair and give it good food like milk, curd and so on, and try to convert the cat, but the moment it sees a rat, it jumps to kill the rat. Thus the animal, which is born with cruel qualities, cannot change in spite of our best efforts. However, man is not like that.” - ‘Baba, the Breath of Sai’
~ Grace J. McMartin P 242

91. "God will lead us; He will help us. There is only one requirement - we must ask God for help; we must attune to His wave-length and be able to hear His answers. We must learn to be pliable and easily led from our own Inner Voice. These are mental attitudes, yet these are abilities which even the animals have." - 'Face to Face with God' ~ V.I.K. Sarin P 260
92. "Today animals also sustain themselves on food. They eat as much as is required to appease their hunger. Man, however, does not act this way. He has limitless desires. He wishes to accumulate riches to last for generations so that he may live in comfort." - 'Sanathana Sarathi' Nov., 1994
93. "If all the years between birth and death are frittered away in seeking food and shelter, comfort and pleasure as animals do, man is condemning himself to a further life-sentence." - 'Sathya Sai Speaks' Vol. VI P 183
94. "We should ask if we existed before the body was born and if we would exist after the body dies. It is only in the interval between the birth and death that the human body exists. What we have said applies to all that we see in the creation, including the hills, trees, animals and so on... These will all get merged with eternity in due course of time." - 'Baba, the Breath of Sai' ~ Grace J. McMartin P 116
95. "Some people, out of ignorance, comment upon the big animal form of this Master Deity and question how one with such a huge form can ride on a small mouse (Mooshika) which is depicted as His vehicle. 'Mooshika' is symbolic of the darkness of ignorance, while Ganesha signifies the effulgence of Wisdom that dispels the darkness of ignorance." - 'Sanathana Sarathi' Oct., 1994
96. "Your Reality is the Atma (God viewed as the particular), a wave of the Paramatma (God viewed as the Universal). The one object of this human existence is to visualize that Reality, that Atma, that relationship between the Wave and the Sea. All other activities are trivial; you share them with birds and beasts; but, this is a unique privilege of Man. He has clambered through all the levels of animality, all the steps in the ladder of evolution in order to inherit this high destiny. If his years between birth and death are frittered away in seeking food, shelter, comfort and pleasure as animals do, man is condemning himself to a further life sentence." - 'Sathya Sai Speaks' Vol IX Ch. 29 P183
97. "Prema makes you humble; it makes you bend and bow when you see greatness and glory. An unbending person is infected with the egoism of the worst type; remember man is the only animal that can recognize and revere

the great and glorious. Use that capacity and derive the best advantage out of it.” - Divine Discourse, 3rd March, 1958.

- 98. “Man has to lift himself from the animal level through his own Sadhana - spiritual discipline. There are three types of men: the animal type, the human type and the Divine type. Man has evolved from the stone through plant and tree, worm and insect, bird and mammal, but some are still groveling in the early stages, though they have achieved the human form.” - ‘Sathya Sai Speaks’ Vol. II Ch. 14 P 69“**
- 99. In the book Saicharitha, it is mentioned that Shirdi Sai Baba told that men are born as animals as a result of their sins, while telling the stories of the previous births of the snake, the frog and the two goats, one person was born as serpent as he was full of hatred at the time of his death. Another person was born as frog as he died in intense fear. The other two died while fighting and were born as goats.”**
- 100. “ Man is the most sacred of all the animals. To be born as a man is an extraordinary gift. Therefore, man must use this life of his in a purposeful manner.” - ‘Summer Showers in Brindavan’ 1972**
- 101. “Man is the only animal that can picture a previous existence and existences in a series, with impressions accumulating from one to the other.” ‘Thought for the Day’ PN, 10th July, 2002**
- 102. “God will lead us; He will help us. There is only one requirement - we must ask God for help; we must attune to His wave-length and be able to hear His answers. We must learn to be pliable and easily led from our own Inner Voice. These are mental attitudes, yet these are abilities which even the animals have.” ~ ‘Sathya Sai Newsletter’ Spring 1995 P 18**
- 103. “Man is many animals in one. He has the jackal, buffalo, the tiger, the elephant - all in him. Each of these incarnations has left a mark on his mental make-up, like a scar when a wound has healed. For example, the qualities of unsteadiness and waywardness are acquired from his previous life as a monkey, while the trait of foolishness is a relic of his existence as a sheep. The mind is the sacrificial post, and the animal instincts still resident in the human character are to be slaughtered on the altar of the mind.” - ‘Sanathana Sarathi’ - May 1996**
- 104. “Focus on the Atma which has neither name nor form. Everything has arisen out of Truth, to the Truth it will return. Truth is there everywhere - in the birds, animals and even the tiny insects.” - Divine Discourse, 4th June, 2009“**

105. It is qualities like kindness, compassion, forbearance and sympathy which differentiate human beings from animals. But man tends to forget these inherent qualities out of absorption in selfish, mundane desires. Those wearing the glass of selfishness can only see selfishness all around them. A defective vision produces an apparent defect in creation. There is nothing wrong with Creation. Every defect is related to defective vision.” ‘Sanathana Sarathi’ Dec. 1993 P 313
106. “Spirituality does not consist merely in offering worship, doing bhajans. It calls for elimination of the animal qualities in man and striving for the Realization of Oneness with the Divine.” - ‘Sanathana Sarathi’ Aug. 1993 P 203
107. “Baba has said He understands the language of animals, adding that “It is often far sweeter than that of humans.” - ‘Sai Baba: The Embodiment of Love’ ~ Peggy Mason
108. “All beings, men or women, trees and animals, worms, insects, all have to do Karma; everything in the Universe is bound by this law. There is no escaping this Nilayam, 16th Nov, 2002

“An insight into the mechanics of Ocean pollution was given by Swami in an interview in 1983. Swami spoke at length on the nuclear tests taking place in the Pacific Ocean affecting especially New Zealand. People who consume the animal products which form part of the cycle arising out of the polluted ocean products are afflicted by cancers of various parts of the body and by heart attacks. According to Baba 7 crores (70,000,000) tons of fish are being taken out of the oceans every year resulting in depletion of fish population leading in turn to inadequate cleansing of the ocean. This upsets the ocean and increases pollution.” ~ K. V. Natarajan and G. Sankara Kailasam in ‘Sathya Sai the Avatar of Love - A Collection of Articles by various Devotees.’ P 46

“Man is the initiating factor, to whom is committed the task of leading the animal kingdom towards liberation. Does he ever live up to this commitment? - ‘Sai Baba: The Embodiment of Love’ ~ Peggy Mason & Ron Laing.

“While our abuse and exploitation of animals continues on the grand scale that it does, mankind will never know peace and Baba has said we are creating an enormous karma in our mistreatment of the animal kingdom.” ~ Mercini Sherratt

“Some animals have so much love for their masters that they bypass human birth and go directly to God. Some Masters take birth as animals to teach humans how to deepen their love life.” ~ Ramana Maharshi

“We truly have reincarnated from them into the human form... Once to a student, Baba showed, in the palm of his hand, the photo of two dogs, who, in a past life, had been the student's brothers. In fact, Swami has stated that it is very rare for humans to take an animal form again - but occasionally it happens in order to learn something important.” ~ Mercini Sherratt.

N.B. quote 65: “But a little milk, butter and cheese are acceptable because no harm is done in obtaining them” - ‘Conversation with Sathya Sai Baba’ ~ Dr. John Hislop, P 20 (Written in 1978). Since then the conditions of dairy cows have deteriorated drastically. Following extract is taken from ‘Protect the Planet” Study Circle ~ Sathya Sai International Organization:

“As far as concerns dairy and non-vegetarianism, there is also the ethical impact to consider... agricultural farming practices have changed considerably towards intensive farming to meet with the growing demand for food, and animal farming is no exception to this change. The rearing of farm animals today is dominated by industrialized facilities known as confined animal feeding operations ... ‘factory farms’ maximize profits by treating animals not as sentient creatures, but as ‘production units’. In order to facilitate confinement of these animals in such stressful, crowded, unsanitary conditions, painful mutilations like cutting off the horns of cattle, cutting off the beaks of chickens (while male chicks are grinded) and docking the tails of sheep, pigs and dairy cattle are routinely performed. Cows for example are artificially inseminated to produce calves and aggressively milked after their calves are born.”

(N.B. Calves are all yanked away from their mothers, the females kept in small enclosures. They too, like their previous generations, to become ‘slaves’ for the dairy industry to meet the demands for dairy products. The males, instead, are to be raised for beef or slaughtered for veal at 16-18 weeks old. All calves would never have tested even a drop of their mother’s milk.)

“Extreme productivity means cows in dairy farms produce 20-50 litres a day compared to the 4-6 litres of milk a day they would naturally produce to feed their calves. As more and more people become aware of this, it is informing their choices of what to eat.”

*** Our Core Similarities Are Far Deeper Than Our Surface Differences ***

Sri Sathya Sai Baba has defined the Animals as our: - ‘Helpmates’ - ‘Companions of Man’ - ‘Collaborators’ - ‘Brothers’ - ‘Comrades’ - ‘Friends’ - ‘Teachers’ - ‘Sadhus’ - ‘Our Kith and Kin.’

“Knowing is not enough: we must apply. Willing is not enough: we must do.” ~ Von Goethe.

We are their Voice. Speak up and be heard. Their life is in our hands.

SRI SATHYA SAI BABA'S PROMISE

“When a devotee seeks with humility, and purity, to give Seva and Prema to My creatures, who are in need of such selfless service and sublime love; when he considers all creatures as My children, as the blessed manifestations of My Immanence, then, in fulfilment of my role as Sathya Sai, I descend to help, accompany and carry that Yogi. I am always near such a Yogi, to guide him, and to shower my love upon his life.” ‘My Baba and I’ ~ John Hislop, P 170

“I bless all of you and ask you to promote love, sympathy and compassion towards all beings. God is present in every one of them and it is your duty to revere God in each of them.” - ‘Sathya Sai Speaks’ Vol 3 P6 July 1975

JAI SAI RAM

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