

SRI SATHYA SAI TRUST FOR
UNIVERSAL WELFARE



DIVYA
VAARADHI

ANNUAL SPECIAL EDITION -2021

LOKA HITAM MAMA KARANEYAM



EDITOR'S NOTE

'Divya Vaaradhi', translating to 'The Divine Bridge', is a monthly newsletter brought to you by Sri Sathya Sai Trust for Universal Welfare to share stories of unconditional love, selfless service in the form of love-in-action and other universal welfare activities, in order to place a smile on your face. Not just that, this is a platform for you and all your loved ones to make use of to make the world a better and loving place.

We invite you to share these positive stories to all your near and dear ones and thus spread positivity and love to them as well!

We thank Bhagawan Baba for the opportunity, and pray for Him to Bless one and all!

We also take this opportunity to thank the editorial team and volunteers for working hard in producing this newsletter every month.

With Love,
EDITORIAL TEAM



ABOUT THE TRUST

Sri Sathya Sai Trust for Universal Welfare (SSSTFUW) is a Public charitable trust headquartered in Hyderabad, Telangana, India.



Founded drawing inspiration from Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, with a clear vision to Serve the Needy and Create Livelihoods, the Trust enterprises in the fields of Health, education, Hunger Alleviation and other permanent and sustainable service projects.

SSSTFUW includes like-minded individuals in partnership with enabled individual and corporates for the betterment of the society

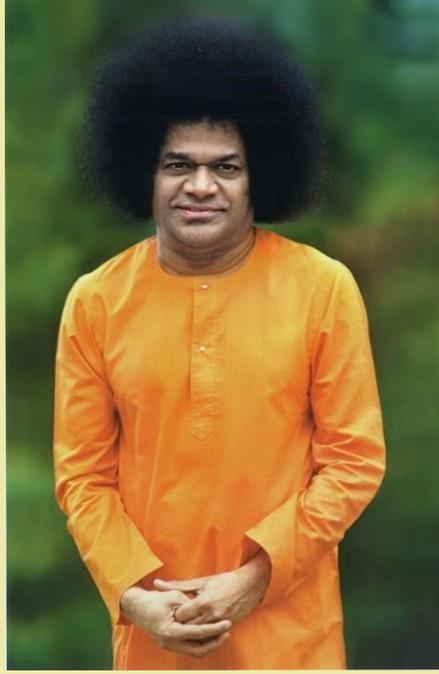


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THUS SPAKE THE LORD



" manasā satatam smaraṇīyam
vacasā satatam vadanīyam
lokaḥitam mama karaṇīyam "

The essential meaning of this stanza is “Our duty is to do good to humanity. We should always preach the same”. One should serve and do only good to humanity under all circumstances. He went on to mention that devotees often ask HIM, “What HE actually meant by always doing good”. Living without troubling, hurting, causing pain or creating hurdles for others itself is indeed doing good. One might assume that performing Narayana Seva by serving Swami’s Prasadam to needy people is good enough. However, avoiding improper behavior while serving is what is important and such a service alone is fit to be claimed as a good deed.



From the Desk of Secretary

Dear Patrons, Devotees, Volunteers and Well-Wishers !!!

Offering Our Collective Pranams at Bhagawan's Lotus Feet.

With the Almighty's Grace, Blessings and All Your support and Cooperation, we have succeeded in reaching thousands of needy people during this year 2021.

The trust is dedicated for the overall welfare of the Universe. Besides 'Serving the needy', the aspect of 'Creating Livelihood' is also being focused on constantly.

It is a matter of immense pleasure that Services activities performed through our trust are helping the needy by laying stress on quality over quantity through proper follow-up mechanisms, thus closing the loop starting from need identification, providing immediate solace and creating permanent solutions through livelihood generation.

I would like to share with full joy that we are working strategically for the welfare of the society in all aspects i.e. Health & Hygiene, Education, Food, Drinking Water, creating livelihood etc. Our strong volunteer team that understands and empathises the problems strive towards creating sustainable solutions.



Our dedicated and devoted team always tries to approach to see that divine smile on the face of the deprived people. As a team with all Unity we are reaching out to you all periodically with all the service opportunities available via Newsletters, Social Media posts, WhatsApp messages, Website updates etc., with an intention to share and spread the joy of sharing and caring.

On behalf of the Sri Sathya Sai Trust For Universal Welfare, I congratulate, thank and appreciate all the patrons, volunteers and devotees all around the world and invite them to join this journey that is characterized by life changing experiences through self-less service.

Thank You All from the bottom of My heart

Wish You all A Happy New Year 2022 - Stay Blessed

With Love & Gratitude

Dr Kalyan Sarvepalli
Secretary & Trustee
Sri Sathya Sai Trust For Universal Welfare



YEAR END
REVIEW

2021



JOURNEY OF LOVE

The year of 2021 is one that is characterized by rollercoaster rides that gave the patrons, partners, volunteers, trustees and devotees a prolonged thrill – the thrill of loving and serving selflessly. This year taught us that the sum of efforts of all hands is much higher than the sum of individual efforts.

With the Blessings of Bhagawan Baba, the activities of the trust kick-started in June this year. The projects might have been of varying duration and sizes, but the underlying love and the vision to bring about universal welfare has been the same!

1. A Massive humanitarian healthcare project was announced – Sri Sathya Sai Divyaamritam

On the occasion of the 96th Birthday of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, November 23rd, Swami, in the presence of dignitaries including Sri Indukuri Raghu Raju, YSRCP State Secretary and District Badminton Association Chairman, performed the Bhoomi Pooja of ‘Sri Sathya Sai Divyaamritam’ – a hospital that would provide free treatment and world class research facility for cancer related ailments. The goal of the hospital is to ensure zero death rate and complete recovery. The 5-acre land in Vizianagaram near Thatipudi reservoir that will house the hospital will also comprise a free dialysis center.





2. Housing for the Needy - Sri Sathya Sai Divya Praasadam

On Swami's Birthday, November 23rd, another heart-touching humanitarian project was launched. Called the 'Sri Sathya Sai Divya Praasadam (Divine Housing)', 12 needy families, who do not have a roof on their heads, will now be recipients of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba's Divine Protection. The 12 families, through this Divine Housing Project, will be provided with beautiful houses to stay. Ground work for 3 houses, within a month of launch of the programme, is in fast progress!

3. Mobile Medical Services – Sai Aarogya

Swami in His Infinite Compassion has dedicated a mobile medical van to ensure healthcare reaches the doorstep of all needy. This van, that will carry significant amount of healthcare facilities, will travel to needy rural areas to ensure the basic human right of good health to all!



4. Divya Prasada Seva

Food for needy at night clocked 100 consecutive days by Bhagawan's Grace and Blessings!



5.Sai Scholarships

Swami, through this initiative, has inspired us to reach out to underprivileged and economically backward students with scholarships to enable them to pursue their education uninterrupted. Some students were also provided with laptops to ensure they are fully armed with all the requirements for a successful career. More than 45 students have received Sai scholarships!



6.GRAMA SEVA

On the holy occasions of Navarathri as well as during the Birthday Celebrations of Bhagawan Baba, dry ration kits, new dresses including blankets etc. were provided to the needy people in the village of Kovvada Petta





7. Women Empowerment

Under this service activity Sewing Machines were provided to families of economically weaker section where the women are the main source of income for running their livelihood. This service activity was undertaken in L Kota Mandal in Vizianagaram and Malkapuram in Visakhapatnam.



8. Divine Marriages

With Blessings of Swami, two new brides belonging to economically backward families in L Kota & Pedagantyada mandal were gifted with Mangalasutram, sarees, bangles, utensils etc. which they received as a first gift from the Divine Mother Sai!



9. Spiritual Celebrations:

- a) The festivals of Guru Poornima, Sri Krishna Janmashtami, Varalakshmi Vratam, Navarathri, Deepavali, Christmas etc. were celebrated joyously! Also, Divine Prasadam was served for the needy.
- b) The Masa Shivarathri Rudrabhishekam is being conducted every month to invoke the Lord's Blessings for Universal Welfare.
- c) Recently, Narasimha Yagam was conducted. Everyone in the yagam prayed for Loka Kshemam i.e. peace and prosperity for the universe.

10. Restoration of Dilapidated Temples

As much as service activities for mankind's welfare are developing at a grand scale such as Divya Prasadam Seva (daily nutrition), Vidya (Education Scholarships), Vaidya (Cancer hospital and mobile van clinics), Divine Housing for the needy, Water (providing potable water) etc., Swami has likewise been very specific about ensuring spiritual restoration of the place to ensure a divine and peaceful environment.





11. COVID & CYCLONE RELIEF ACTIVITIES

Food was served to the needy and dry rations were provided to needy families during the covid induced lockdown.

During the flood like situation in urban as well as rural areas in Visakhapatnam, the team, with Swami's Blessings, rose to action to help needy families with cyclone relief.



12. SPOORTHY

Bhagawan Baba blessed 300 tribal youth who cleared the SSC GD examination conducted by Vishakapatnam district police as a part of Community Policing. These 300 youth are undergoing a training programme "SPOORTHY" for a month. In order to ensure that the candidates concentrate only on succeeding in their trainings and exams, Bhagawan Baba has graciously taken care of their food and basic needs by providing them with 3000kg Rice, 150L Oil, 50kg Dal, 100kg Rava, 50kg Jaggery, 300 Soaps and even fans!





13) DIVINE PILGRIMAGES

Swami took His dear devotees to Divine Places like Vrindavan, Kanchipuram etc. During one of the visits, Swami also ensured to visit the Meeras and Radhas in the form of selfless elderly women engrossed in Lord's Contemplation for decades and gifted them with sarees and food grains!

14) Birthday Celebrations of Bhagawan Baba

Bhagawan's Birthday was, in His Signature Style, marked by large humanitarian projects in healthcare, housing, alleviation of hunger etc. This apart, Pallaki Seva in the form of a beautiful procession of Swami's Altar was carried to bless all around! Grama Seva was conducted on a grand scale providing over 300 with sumptuous meals and 75 needy families with dry rations and new dresses to celebrate the holy occasion.





LOVE IN ACTION BEYOND BOUNDARIES

A photograph showing a person in a dark jacket and watch, likely a volunteer, working in a kitchen. They are standing behind a long stainless steel counter with several aluminum trays filled with food. The person is focused on preparing the food, possibly adding ingredients to one of the trays. The kitchen environment includes a sink, a stove, and various kitchen equipment in the background.

Sri Sathya Sai Baba tells us that Love has to express itself in the form of service, especially of the needy. Our volunteers in Scotland identified the needy during the pandemic lockdown times earlier this year, and reached out weekly to 100 needy people for a month. A variety of dishes including pasta was served to satiate the hunger of the needy in times of need!



SRI SATHYA SAI DIVYAAMRITAM

A Special Note on the free-of-cost Cancer Treatment Hospital

One of the key pillars of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba's Mission is 'Vaidya' – free healthcare. Swami has established a large number of hospitals across the country ensuring free and high quality healthcare becomes a basic right to one and all. In those lines, Swami made a grand declaration for building a cancer hospital.

On the occasion of the 96th Birthday of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, November 23rd, Swami, in the presence of dignitaries including Sri Indukuri Raghu Raju, YSRCP State Secretary and District Badminton Association Chairman, performed the Bhoomi Pooja of 'Sri Sathya Sai Divyaamritam' – a hospital that would provide free treatment and world class research facility for cancer related ailments. The goal of the hospital is to ensure zero death rate and complete recovery. The 5-acre land in Vizianagaram near Thatipudi reservoir that will house the hospital will also comprise a free dialysis center.



At a point of time when cancer treatment is unaffordable to a majority of the population, Sri Sathya Sai Divyaamritam that would be inaugurated in a year's time as commanded by Swami, would provide the much needed succour to poor and needy patients affected by cancer.



SAI SCHOLARSHIPS



NOTE OF GRATITUDE

I am Siva Shanmukh hailing from Marikavalasa, Visakhapatnam. I am Studying 6th class in Vidyalaya School. I am feeling blessed and honoured to receive the scholarship from SSSTFUW.

My parents are providing me with much care and to help me study well but their hands are tied as father's left eye is blind and my mother is deaf. With the inspiration of my gurus and well-wishers like you, I am feeling encouraged to achieve my goal of doing well academically.

I want to convey my humble salutations at Baba's Feet and my humble gratitude to the trustees. Thank you!





WILL PAY IT FORWARD!

I am Charishma Emandi. Studying in 6th class in one private school near by, I am a bright student with the intention of being a learned person in all subjects and want to study in the IITs in future.



But my parents are tied financially because of covid situation. We live in a small rented house and parents are always preparing me for the outer competitive world. Dreams are high, and at the same time Sri Sathya Sai Trust For Universal Welfare came forward to support my education with scholarship, so that my studies will continue.

Finally I am promising that I will educate more children in future and I am grateful to the donors, who are taking care of my education. Pranams to Swami and Respects to Trustees.



DECEMBER MONTH UPDATES

**The Month
of Giving**





SRI SATHYA SAI DIVYA PRAASADAM (DIVINE HOUSING PROJECT)

On Swami's Birthday, a heart-touching humanitarian project was launched. 12 needy families, will be recipients of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba's Divine Protection in the form of comfortable houses. The Lord is the Mother of all, and He directs His Infinite Love into Action through His massive humanitarian projects to ensure His children are all equally blessed to lead a content life!

Each house will have a hall, a bedroom and kitchen covering an area between 65 and 75 sq. yards. The 12 families, through the Divine Housing Project, will be able to lead respectable lives. The project that was ideated and launched by Swami on His 96th Birthday has been able to get Bhoomi Pooja performed and ground work initiated for as many as 3 Divine Houses in a short span of One month's time!



The first Divine House had the Bhoomi Pooja done in Enumalapalli village near PuttaParthi, and 2 more are being done at Vishakhapatnam on 29th December with Bhagawan's Grace and Blessings. The beneficiary families are from a needy background, and thus with Mother Sai's Grace will have a permanent roof of protection that will allow them to seek respectable livelihoods.



DIVYA PRASADA SEVA (DINNER FOR NEEDY)

Divya Prasada Seva refers to feeding the needy and homeless especially during the night, to ensure no one goes to sleep on an empty stomach. Divine food in the form of Dinner packets containing nutritious and tasty food are daily being provided to the needy to ensure they sleep with a filled stomach. This seva has now crossed 100 days, thanks to patrons, volunteers as well as beneficiaries.

The food prepared is pure as the Divine Naivedhyam that is distributed to the beneficiaries as Divya Prasadam, thereby ensuring Bhagawan's Grace to the beneficiaries.



CLOTHES FOR THE NEEDY

During this Season of Giving, the holy month of Christmas, the team got their act together to provide blankets and clothes for the needy. The warmth of Love through the clothes and blankets filled the volunteers' hearts with immense satisfaction.





SWAYAM PAKA SEVA

With Swami's Guidance and Blessings, Sai Swayam Paka sets in the form of groceries have been provided for needy temple priest families, who are unable to make their ends meet.

With this, the families are in a position to cook their own food for themselves, thereby feeling self-reliant in terms of quantity & quality!





CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

The Holy festival of Christmas was celebrated at Sai Kutir in the Divine Presence of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. The joyous celebrations included Vedam, bhajans, and Divine Prasadam for all. Bhagawan emphasized the need to live the message of Jesus Christ, that of Love and Service, on all days of the year.





DIVINE DISCOURSE

Bhagawan Baba, on the Holy occasion of Christmas 2021, lovingly granted us His Message:

Embodiments of Divine Atma!

Christmas is celebrated across the world to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ - an epitome of Love and sacrifice. The three royal wise men that were guided towards Bethlehem by the bright shining Star predicted the arrival of a Messenger of the God, a Messaiah, a great soul. Jesus was born on this day to his humble parents in a thatched cowshed used for stalling the sheep and cows. His parents brought him up with Love and great care. Between the age of 9-14 years

Jesus went missing and no one knew of his whereabouts. Where did he go? It remained a secret. During this period Jesus left to an unknown place in Himalayas in search of his Gurus who taught him Vedas. It was customary in the ancient Times that the holy were invoked into learning Vedas at this age. It was the same way at this very stage that Sri Rama and Sri Krishna were also imparted Teachings of Vedas by their Gurus Vasishta, Viswa Mitra and Sandeepa respectively.

The Study of Vedas is anybody's birth-right. They are the voice of the Paramatma, the Supreme Consciousness, the ONE without any name and form. It's sheer ignorance to tag Vedas with any particular caste, creed, community or religion. It is the Paramatma that willed and That Brahmamu, the ONE and the Supreme resolved, designed and became Many-Ekoham Bahusyam. The one became Ishwara the Almighty and assuming the role of Brahma became the One to create (Srishti), of Vishnu became the One to sustain, protect, preserve (Sthithi) and of Maheswara became the one to involute (Laya kaarakudu) all that evolved out of HIS WILL. The five elements were the first to emanate as the Jagat or Univese with the three qualities Sathwa, Rajo and Thamo gunas- the qualities of virtue, passion and inertness upon the Lord willing so.



The Vedas have described Eswara as Atma. It has proclaimed the identity of the heart with Eswara, Eswara Sarvabhootanam! Hence Eswara is described as Hridayeswara. The seat of Thoughts is the Mind. The mind has been described as symbolising the form of Vishnu. Vishnu means one who pervades everything. The Mind has the power to reach out for anything in the Universe. Hence the Cosmos is rooted in the Mind. The thoughts emanating in the Mind find expression in Vaak or speech. Thus the heart, the Mind and the speech together constitute humanness. Sanctifying these three has been described as Trikarana Suddhi.

When Jesus returned to the land of his birth he addressed himself to be 'the Son of the God' and manifested Trikarana Suddhi in whatever He did. Trikarana Suddhi is acting in unison with what one says that is said which in turn is in line with what one thinks. Today Man has degraded himself in pursuit of the worldly desires. What One thinks is not uttered and what one does differs from what one says. It is this Trikarana Suddhi, the unity of thought word and deed that has endowed Jesus with purity that enabled Him to manifest Divinity in his Living. It is this purity that has bestowed Jesus of the uniqueness of manifesting LOVE to one and all without any distinction based on whether they were his well wishers or enemies. His Love for the fellow men was so intense that he was ready to sacrifice even his life forgiving even those who plotted against Him while pretending to be his men. It was at this stage that Jesus claimed "I and my father are ONE."

Embodiments of Divine Atma, Christmas is not an occasion to be celebrated in fun and frolic pursuing worldly pleasures. It is to be sanctified in the sacred thoughts of emulating the Lives led by holy men in the path of Love. Next Christmas we shall all be gathering at our DIVYAAMRITAM to commemorate the birth of Jesus.

Blessing each and everyone of you present here and also all those elsewhere who could not be here but mentally present here that you shall all sanctify your lives in Love and Selless Service to the Humanity



FOOD FOR SOUL

It was a Monday morning and I was driving to my office with the usual accompaniment of soothing chants. While waiting for the signal to turn green, I noticed a few young girls and some women waiting at the junction with books in their hands. One of them approached our car and started tapping on the window. I looked around curiously, found the rest of the girls organizing themselves through the congested vehicles without missing an opportunity. They were utilizing those ticking few seconds before the world moves on. Another distracting thwack on the glass brought me out of my thoughts. This time I respected her conscientiously, realized she was wearing a school dress and had reasonably tidied hair. Meanwhile, the vehicle behind started honking anxiously stimulating me to race ahead.

My thoughts continued. Images of those women carrying tender babies seeking alms, an old mother hand holding her young son with gloomy eyes gesturing expectantly and a grandmother reaching out with the same intention kept flashing in my mind. Though this is the same vista on the streets daily and there was nothing unusual, I started to wonder as to why I was unable to settle down my thoughts. I started mentally listing the options that I have, to see how I can help these people.

I could lower the window glass and pass on a few bucks. Although considered culturally a good deed, the rational part in me echoed that it would send a wrong signal to the child encouraging and supporting her to continue begging.

Alternately, I could reach my office and lament with my colleagues about the ladies' plight for a few minutes over coffee, and conveniently forget and continue my day.



A third option would have been to Initiate a discussion to understand the background of their problem and extend possible support individually. Again, realistically speaking, I reckoned that am not equipped enough to address their problem end to end.

I then felt my fourth option would be to pick up my mobile and dial the child helpline 1098. Yet again grasped it will need support from the traffic police and relevant authorities. Nevertheless it was a good option to pursue.

And then I realized, it could be a good idea to coordinate with an NGO and volunteer along with them during weekends.

While these were all long term solutions, I reflected upon my heart to do my bit immediately wishing for an enduring solution. I filled my car boot with a few biscuit packets and started distributing them to balance my mind and heart instead of giving away money which could have been misused. I started sensitizing my friends, relatives and in fact everyone whom I would meet day-in and day-out.

Believe me it requires a bit of personal sacrifice here but the returns are guaranteed in the form of joy. Let us all pledge to play our humble roles in bettering the society in the little ways we feel equipped with.

The writer of this article is our volunteer, who works for an MNC.

KEY TO LORD'S HEART

Swami always spends a lot of time with children as they are like wet clay who can be cast into wonderful beings. A lot can be learnt from them. In fact, it is said that for one to be spiritually elevated, the child's innocence in one has to be awakened!

Here is a beautiful illustration of how the Lord runs to listen to the prayers of children - the prayers which are naturally selfless and has no conditions. The cute child seen in the picture recently had a strong but selfless command for the Lord! And to invoke Swami, she went to the altar and started chanting the alphabets from A to Z. Being a tiny tot, she was not aware of how to pray or chant certain mantras. But her heart devised a mantra using the letters A to Z that she learnt.

The Lord listened to her prayers!
When the parents, who were not aware of this incident, went to take Swami's Darshan a few days later, Swami announced to them that their girl prayed to Him using the letters A - to - Z. And what did she pray for?
A hospital that can cure big diseases!

Well, the Lord is easily bound tightly by sincere and selfless prayers that are for universal welfare. And in a short span, He announced the Sri Sathya Sai Divyaamritam - the temple of healing that would provide free-of-cost treatment for the cure of cancer for one and all!





SRI SATHYA SAI TRUST FOR
UNIVERSAL WELFARE

wishes you and your family a

**HAPPY NEW YEAR
2022**



*Let us take a resolution to bring smiles
and happiness
in the lives of the needy*

LOKA HITAM MAMA KARANEYAM
It's our duty to do good to the world!





GET INVOLVED

Mobile: +91 8143632270

Mail: ssstfuw@gmail.com

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And spread the good word!

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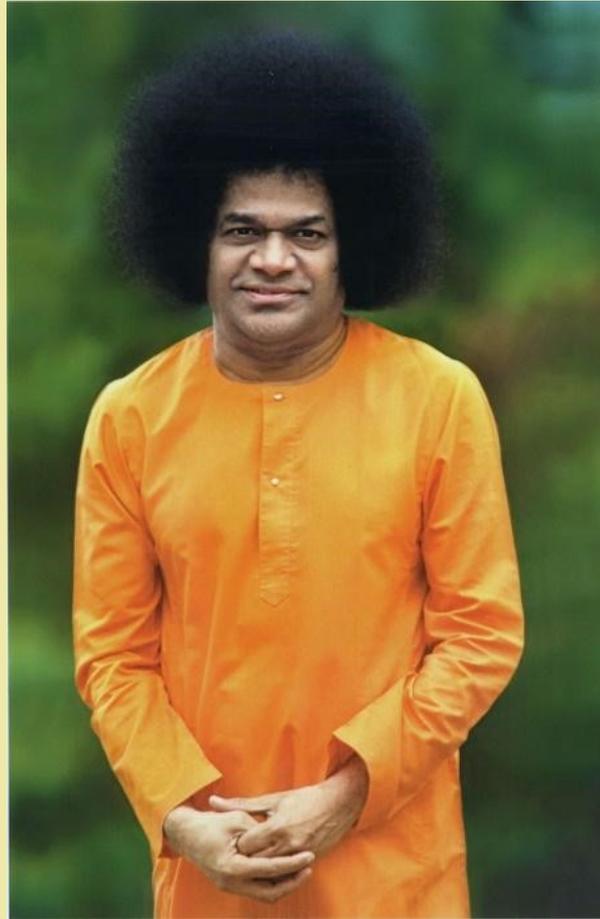
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THANK YOU
FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!



**WE PRAY TO BHAGAWAN TO
BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!**

SAMASTHA LOKAH SUKHINO BHAVANTHU

STAY SAFE | STAY BLESSED