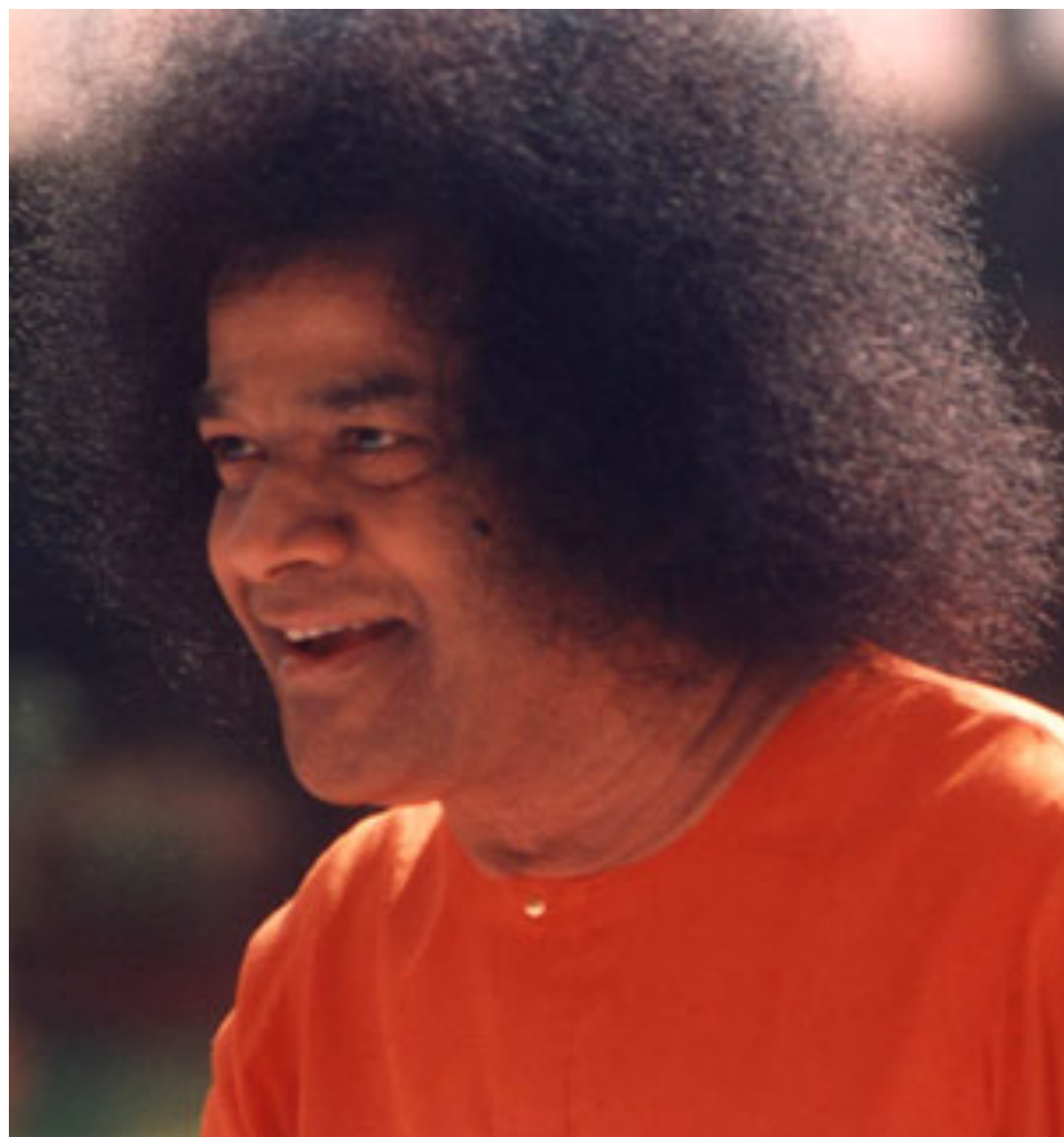




30th August 2012

To,

**The Office Bearers of Sri Sathya Sai Institutions and Organisations –
Devotees of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.**

Dear brothers and sisters,

Sairam!

Invoking the blessing of my Beloved Swami, I write to you all, as a loyal servant of the Lord, with a heart full of joy over the privilege of sharing a beautiful document that Bhagawan had entrusted to me more than a decade back

First and foremost, this letter is regarding an important document that was signed by our Beloved Swami. Secondly, it is an attempt to rectify a lot of misinformation that is being spread regarding this document.

A Declaration on Stamp Paper:

In **Annexure A** of this letter, you will find the scanned copy of the **Original Document of Declaration** that was signed by Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba on the 23rd of March 1967. Please take your time to look at the document with love and reverence. I am inspired no end just looking at the document and visualizing Swami dictating the contents of the document to Sri Indulal Shah garu. The young and robust Swami, right in the mid-point of His Avataric Mission, had taken time out to chalk out his Vision for Mankind and spell out His Mission in this sojourn on Earth. I am touched by the Humility of the Lord who deems it fit to chalk out His life story on a stamp paper for the sake of His devotees.

But most importantly, I am inspired and fired by the declaration that the Lord makes:

- *That He has dedicated His life for the spread of Sanathana Dharma*
- *That He has left His parents' house to take up religious order with saffron dress*
- *That He has no intention to revert back*
- *That He has relinquished everything.*

Our Beloved Swami had led His life, every moment, living up to these declarations. We have always heard Him refer to the Mother Eashwaramma as Griham Ammai (the lady of the house!) – no acknowledgement of direct bodily relationship yet deep love and

gratitude for her Motherhood! We have witnessed His disinterest in all things material, when He readily gave up Brindavan (His home) as collateral to borrow funds to complete the water supply project for the villages of Anantapur. He would jokingly tell His students and devotees that Sai Baba has no pockets – pointing to His robe! He had relinquished everything. He had no personal possessions. Everything was held in Trust for His devotees.

To read those very declarations with His signature affixed on a Legal Stamp Paper has a way of making my hair stand on end and send a thrill of exhilaration down my spine. It is a constant reminder of the focussed life that Our Beloved Lord spent on this Earth. It is an inspiration to all, a call Divine for every one of us to follow on those footsteps that lead to detachment and Bliss.

The Story Behind the Document

The year was 1998. Bhagawan had appointed many of His well qualified children to the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust Office and was directly guiding and inspiring them to set up the procedures and update the finance and accounts records of the Trust; the Perfectionist that He always has been. Our Bhagawan was setting the foundation for a launch pad! That was the period when there was a manifold increase in the magnitude of activities of the Trust. As part of His continual process of training us all in professionally managing the office, He would personally supervise the inventorying of important documents that were kept in the Poornachandra Auditorium. These documents were being transferred to the Finance and Accounts Office of the Trust.

During the process of inventorying we brought this document, with Bhagawan's signature, to His notice for instructions on what needed to be done with it. He asked me to read out the document and I did so. I ventured to seek permission for this important document to be placed in the office safe along with other important documents that bear Bhagawan's signature – such as the original Deed of Formation of the Trusts etc.

However, what Bhagawan said, after a brief pause, reverberates in my ears even today. He gave three distinct instructions:

Office ki pampincha voddu.- Do not send it to the office

Bhadranga pettuko. - Keep it safely

Paniki vastundi. - It will be useful

And thus the document was kept in safe custody as per Divine Instructions, ever since.

After the Samadhi - Bringing the Document to Light

After the Samadhi, it was my responsibility to bring this document to light and the first step was to get the document attested by the sole surviving witness. It was none other than the Grand Old man of Sri Sathya Sai Institutions – Sri Indulal Shah garu.

During the run up the 86th Birthday of our Lord, I approached Sri Indulal Shah garu with a request that he should legally attest the original document as he was one of the witnesses. So it transpired that on the 21st of November 2011, a notary was called to Prasanthi Nilayam and Sri Indulal Shah garu attested the document as the original in the presence of two witnesses – Dr Naren Ramji, Registrar of the SSSIHL and Sri Sanjay Sahani Director of the Brindavan Campus of SSSIHL. It was a pleasure to look at Sri Indulal Shah garu fondly admiring the document. He lucidly recalled how Bhagawan had instructed him to prepare the document and how it was signed by the Lord in the presence of Mr Shukla and himself.

How can one forget an incident so memorable? We all felt blessed to be part of His memories of that memorable day.

The Affidavit of Declaration of Attestation signed by Sri Indulal Shah, attesting the validity of the original document is attached as **Annexure B**.

Tabling the document at Meeting of the Board of Trustees

On the 1st of July, 2012 – in the 17th meeting of the Board of Trustees, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, the document was tabled and brought up for discussion.

The next logical step after this is to share this document publicly in a dignified manner that would give this important document its due Reverence. And with that intent, I do hereby, share this document with its relevant annexures with you all.

May we all continue to be inspired by the Vision and extra-ordinary life of our Beloved Bhagawan! May this lead to a continuation of the Divine Love Story in millions of stories of lives lived in love, sacrifice and dedication.

May our Beloved Lord Bless us all.

Sairam and loving regards,

Satyajit

Prasanthi Nilayam.

Annexure A:

**The Scan of the Original document Signed
by our Beloved Swami**



304
GENERAL STAMP OFFICE,
BOMBAY No. 1. - 8 JUL 1965

Watermark is visible in the paper. The stamp is cancelled with a large 'X' and the words 'CANCELLED' and 'BOMBAY' are visible. There is also a small stamp that reads 'SOLICITORS' and 'BOMBAY'.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENT SHALL COME

OR

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL PEOPLE CONCERNED that

I, Sri Sathya Sai of Parshanthi Nilayam P.O. Indian Inhabitant hereby declare as follows:-

1) I was born in the village of Puthaparthi District Anantpur and am at present 44 years old. I joined the school and gave up studies and dedicted myself spread Sanatan Dharma. I am unmarried and I left my parents house at the age of Twelve and have taken up religious order with saffron dress and I have no wordly and/or family attachments. I declare that when I left my parents' place permanently and adopted Holy order with no intention to revert back. I relinquished all my right title and interest in the family property movable and/or immovable whatsoever and wherever they may be and that I do not owe and possess any personal property, wealth or estate.

- 2 -
Sri Sathya Sai



8 JUL 1967 - 2 -

Whatever is given to me by my devotees is under my management, supervision and control as a Trustee to be used for public charitable purposes. This declaration I am making so that nobody can claim under or through me in the family properties, if any.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENT SHALL COME

Dated this 23rd day of march 1967.

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL THAT I HAVE SIGNED THAT

witness I, Sri Satya Sai of Parashanti Nilayam P.O.

I hereby declare as follows:

I was born in the village of [unclear] District [unclear] and am at present [unclear] I joined the [unclear] school and gave up studies [unclear] spread [unclear] I am [unclear] my parents [unclear] 23rd March 1967

house at the age of twelve and have taken up religious order with saffron dress and I have no worldly and/or family attachments. I declare that when I left my parents' place permanently and adopted Holy order with no intention to revert back, I relinquished all my right title and interest in the family property movable and/or immovable whatsoever and wherever they may be and that I do not owe and possess any personal property, wealth or estate.

- 2 -
22 JUL 1967

Annexure B:

**Statement of Attestation Signed by Sri Indulal
Shah who is the sole surviving witness of the
Signing of the Original Document**



ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ ఆంధ్ర ప్రదేశ్ ANDHRA PRADESH

3355 16/11/11 100 - 0

శ్రీ సత్య శాస్త్రి స/ం శ్రీ హిరల శాస్త్రి

సంఖ్య - 21/11/2011

R. Nageswara Rao
AC 891063

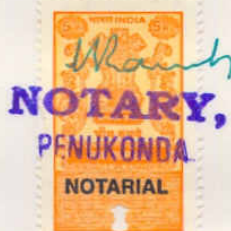
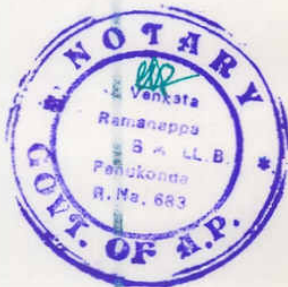
R. NAGESWARA RAO
STAMP VENDOR

Lic. No. 2/1997 R.L. 9/2011
BUKKAPATNAM
Cell-8374418682

AFFIDAVIT OF DECLARATION OF ATTESTATION

I, Indulal H Shah son of Sri Hiralal Shah,
residing at Sai Darsan, 9th Road, Khar, Mumbai -
400052 do hereby state on Solemn Oath and
Declare as under:

1. I State that I am an Attesting Witness to
the Execution of the Document by Sri Satya
Sai, formerly known as Sri



Indulal H Shah

Page 1 of 5

Mar 21/11/2011
C. Venkata Ramanappa
NOTARY, PENUKONDA

Satyanarayana Raju also known as Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, being document of his declaration of dedication to spread sanatan dharma, taking up religious order, renunciation of worldly and/or family attachments, adoption of holy order with no intention to revert back, and further declaration that Whatever is given to him by his devotees, is under his management, supervision and control as a Trustee, Executed by the said Sri Satya Sai, formerly known as Sri Satyanarayana Raju also known as Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba on 23rd March 1967.

2.I Declare that I was approached by the said Sri Satya Sai, formerly known as Sri Satyanarayana Raju also known as Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and asked to attest the Execution of the said Document, and the said Sri Satya Sai, formerly known as Sri



[Signature]

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March 21/11/2017
C. Venkara Ramanappa
NOTARY, BALLARI
PENUKONDA

Satyanarayana Raju also known as Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba signed the said Document in my Presence and in the Presence of Shri T I Shukla, Solicitor and Advocate, High Court Bombay and upon the request of Sri Satya Sai, formerly known as Sri Satyanarayana Raju also known as Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, I and Shri T. I. Shukla put our Signatures as attesting Witnesses.

3.I State that the Original of the said Document dated 23rd March, 1967 referred to above is shown to me today and I Identify the said Original Document as the one Executed in my Presence and as the One I have attested to and I Identify the Signature of Sri Satya Sai, formerly known as Sri Satyanarayana Raju also known as Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, as well as I Identify my Signature on the said Document dated 23rd March 1967 referred to above and

Page 3 of 5



[Signature]
21/11/2011
B. Venkara Ramanappa
NOTARY, PENUKONDA

the Signature of Shri T I Shukla, and I State that the Said Document was Duly Executed in my Presence by the said Sri Satya Sai, formerly known as Sri Satyanarayana Raju also known as Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba voluntarily and out of his own Free Will on 23rd March 1967. A Photocopy of the Original Document dated 23rd March, 1967 referred to above is annexed herewith for Identification.

4.I State that the present Declaration is made by me Voluntarily and in a State of Sound mind and that a Certificate of Dr. Rangasamy Varadachari, MD, MS as to my Fitness to Declare is also Annexed herewith.

5.I further State that the present Declaration is made *ante litem motam* ie. before the beginning of any Controversy, as the said Document is a reduction to Writing by the said Sri Satya Sai formerly known as Sri

Page 4 of 5



In witness
March 21/11/2011
C. Venkara Ramanappa
NOTARY, BALLARI
PENUKONDA

Satyanarayana Raju also known as Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba of a Fact that is otherwise a well documented, widely known way of life adhered to by him by his words and Actions, that is till date not disputed by any person Claiming any Interest through him.

Solemnly Declared at Prasanthi Nilayam on this the 21st day of November, 2011.

The Deponent is Identified by
Us and Declaration is made in
Our Presence:

1. Naren Ramji
2. Sanjay Sahni

Dr. NAREN RAMJI, Registrar, SSSIHL, Prasanthi Nilayam

(Name of No. 1)

Sri SANJAY SAHNI, Director, SSSIHL,

(Name of No. 2)

Brindavan
Campus,
Bangalore

Sanjay Sahni
DEPONENT —

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21/11/2011
C. Venkara Ramanappa
NOTARY, B.L.B.
PENUKONDA

R. Varadachari

M.D., M.S.(ortho), F.A.A.O.S, F.I.C.S

Chairman, Department of Orthopaedics,

SSSIHMS, Prasanthigram

CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS OF THE DECLARANT

I have examined Mr. Indulal H Shah at W-7, A-11, Prasanthi Nilayam on this the Twenty First day of November, 2011, and I Certify that he appears to be of sound mind and sound mental health at the time of making the AFFIDAVIT OF DECLARATION OF ATTESTATION.

I Certify him to be capable to Understand the Contents of the said Declaration and Competent Medically to Depose on Oath..

Place: W-7, A-11, Prasanthi Nilayam, Puttaparthi

Date: 21/11/2011

Time: 16:00 hrs



[Dr. Ranganatha Varadachari]