



# Sathya Sai International Organisation

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## **Nature is the vesture of God**

Nature is a great gift of God to humanity, but even more important, it is the vesture of God. The ultimate truth is that Nature is the manifestation of God. Every cell, every atom, every moment in the universe is permeated by divinity, which is love itself. We owe our very existence to Nature. Like a compassionate mother, Nature nurtures us, sustains us, and protects us by giving us food, water, air, land and natural resources that often are taken for granted.

*Nature is your school, your laboratory, the gateway to liberation, and the panorama of God's majesty. Seek to know the lessons it is ready to teach.*

*Sathya Sai Baba, 4 October 1970*

*Nature is in essence, Divinity itself. All this is Divine. All this is God. So, tread softly, move reverentially, utilize gratefully.*

*Sathya Sai Baba, 15 October 1966*

## **Man's unbecoming conduct is causing havoc**

Man, in the past few decades, has been abusing the natural elements, polluting the air, water and soil without regard for their ill effects, extracting fossil fuels to satisfy his never-ending desires, destroying forests that support life itself, and eliminating the natural habitats of many species, to name a few. The consequences of these reckless actions are obvious and are being manifested in premature deaths, ravaging diseases, destruction of species and their natural habitat, as well as various natural disasters, including earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, typhoons, floods, droughts, forest fires and other calamities that are taking a heavy toll on humanity.

*Today, there is pollution in everything such as the air we breathe, the water we drink, the sounds that are jarring to the ears and the food we consume. Because of this all-round pollution, man's health is affected. Apart from this, man's mind is also polluted making him susceptible to diseases. Man should make an earnest endeavour to lead a serene and pure life. ... The observance of the three P's, namely, purity, patience, and perseverance, vouchsafes permanent happiness and good health, free from diseases.*

*Sathya Sai Baba, 21 January 1994*

## **How to re-establish balance between man and nature**

Sathya Sai Baba has said that pollution outside is a reflection of pollution inside our minds. The fundamental cause of our environmental problem is man's greed,



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selfishness and disregard of the laws of Nature, caused by excessive desires and neglect of the innate human values of Truth, Right Conduct, Peace, Love and Non-violence. The best way to address this problem is to practise placing a ceiling on our desires – such as reducing petroleum and energy consumption, plastic goods and water usage – along with other positive actions, so that we do not waste precious natural resources unnecessarily.

*The primary task is to purify the environment, which is affected by pollution of air, water and food. All the five elements are affected by pollution. People should therefore try to reduce the use of automobiles and control the emission of harmful industrial effluents.*

*Trees play a vital role in helping mankind to receive oxygen from the atmosphere while they absorb the carbon dioxide exhaled by human beings. Hence, the ancients favoured the growing of trees to control atmospheric pollution.*

*Sathya Sai Baba, 6 February 1993*

## **Implementation of Go Green Initiatives by the SSIO**

The SSIO has implemented many initiatives to instil love for Nature, the practice of ceiling on desires, and the practice of human values with respect to the environment. Many environmental projects have been and are being implemented in India and around the world, as part of the divine mission, such as the landmark solar project in Prasanthi Nilayam and in Thailand; planting trees for reforestation in Azerbaijan, Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Germany, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Moldova, New Zealand, Poland, South Africa and USA; and cleaning beaches and riverbanks in Canada, Dubai, Ghana, Mexico, India, Nepal and Russia – to name a few.

*Human life will find fulfilment only when ecological balance is maintained. Balance in human life and balance in nature, both are equally important.*

*Sathya Sai Baba, 25 September 2000*

*Cultivate the divine qualities of love, compassion, humility and reverence for all living beings, reverence towards the Earth and all the other elements. You can thus draw upon yourself the Grace of God and render your life beneficial and fruitful.*

*Sathya Sai Baba, 22 November 1978*

**Please view or download the SSIO Go Green Overview Video from:**

<https://sathyasai.org/environmental-sustainability>