



Module 5

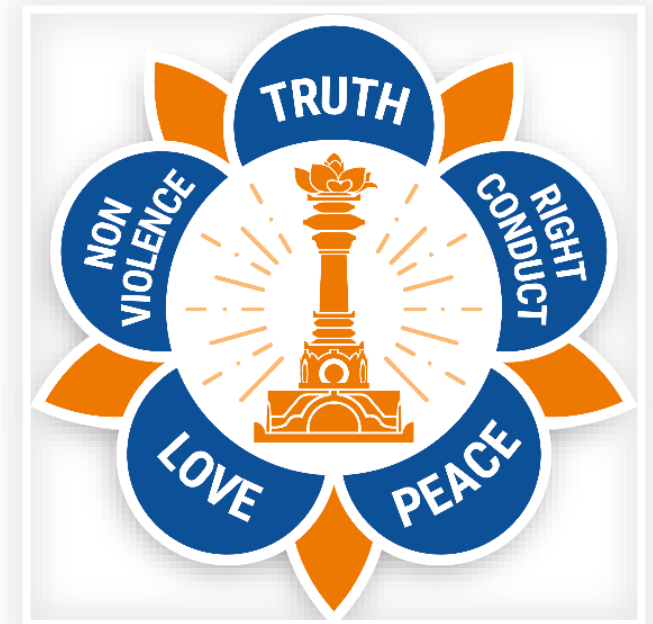
THE OFFICE BEARER

First Be, Then Do

ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR SSIO OFFICE BEARERS

Module 5 ~ General Outline

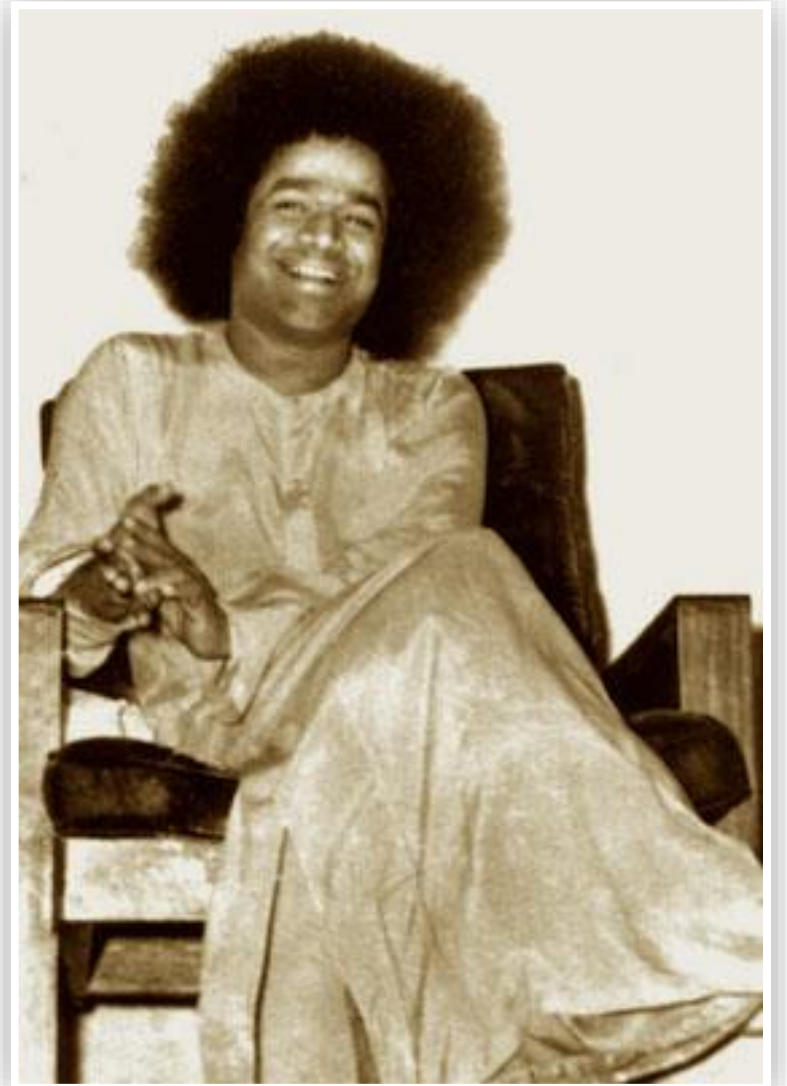
- The True Leader
- Being an Example of Good Character
- Doing Every Act as an Offering
- Undertaking Actions for Good of Society



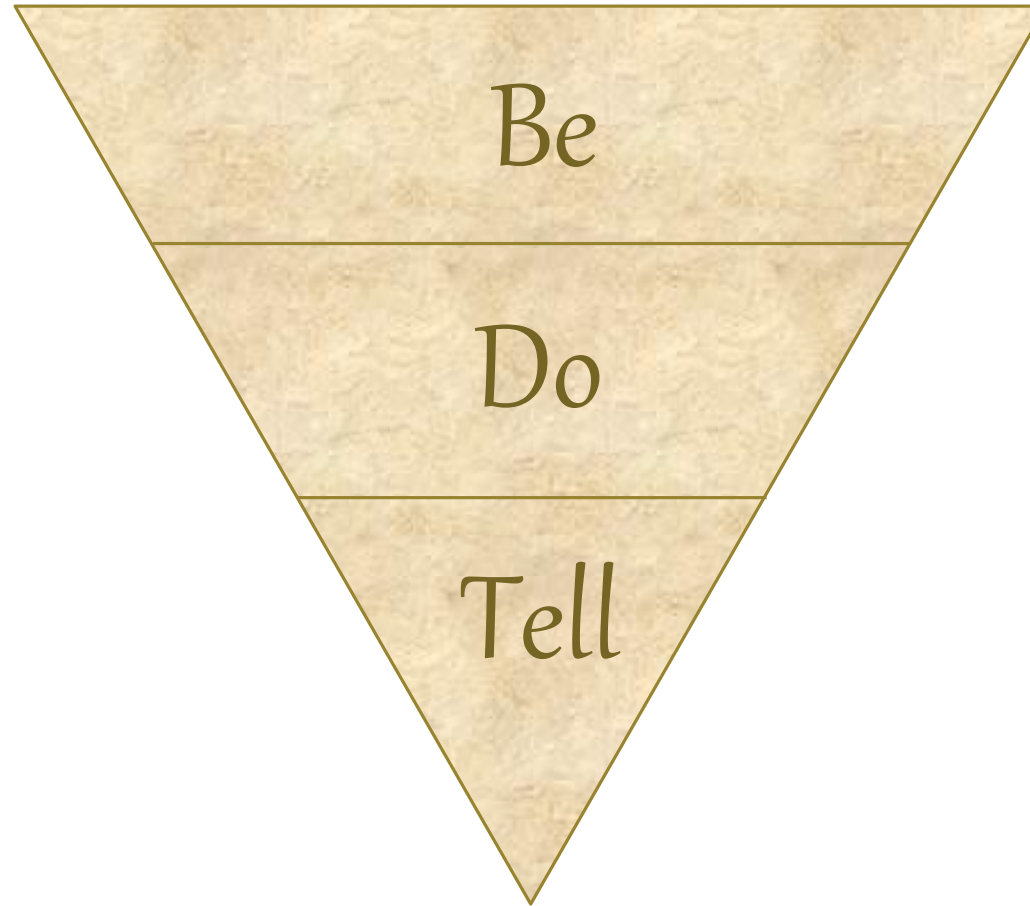
“To be is the very source of leadership, the aggregate of all there is in a person, the person’s values, qualities and knowledge, his or her total being.”

~ *Sathya Sai Baba*

(Sathya Sai Baba’s Mahavakya
on Leadership, pg. 17)

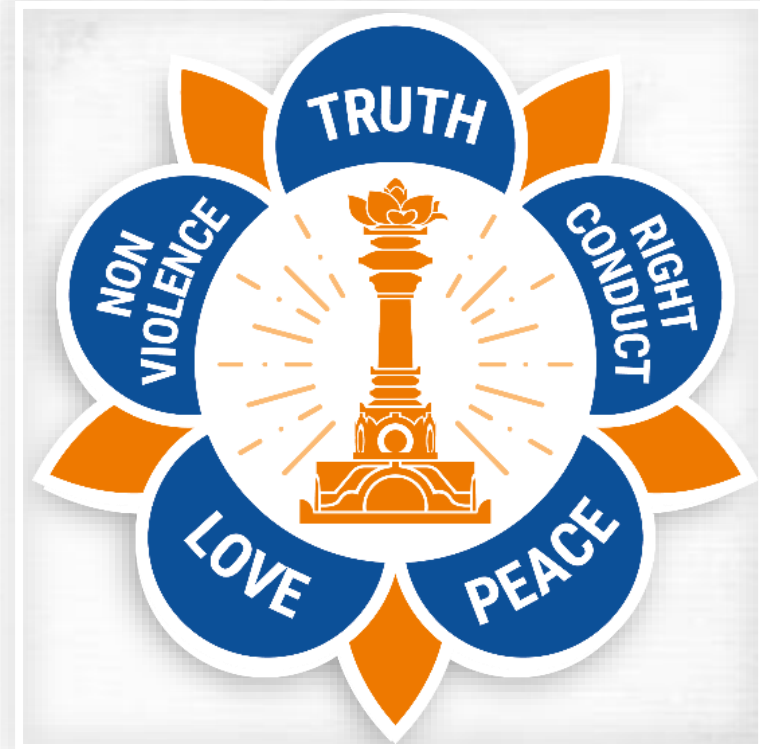


First Be, Then Do, Then Tell



“...of course they must be eager aspirants for spiritual progress. They must have full faith in the Name that the organisation bears, and in spreading the Name in the manner suited to its Message and Majesty. Besides, the member must have won recognition as a good person. That is all the qualification needed; nothing else counts.”

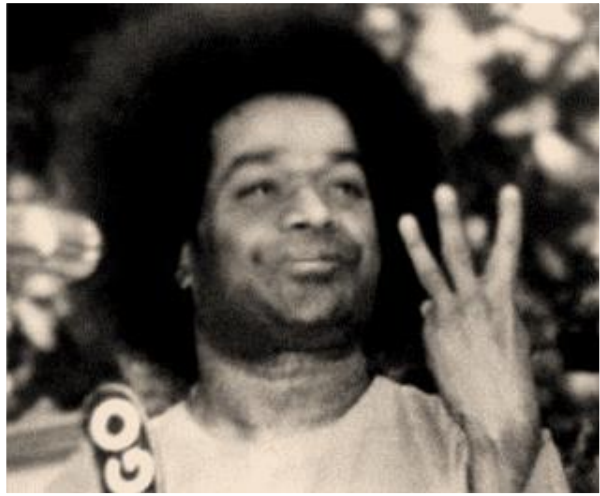
~ *Sathya Sai Baba* (April 1967)



The True Leader

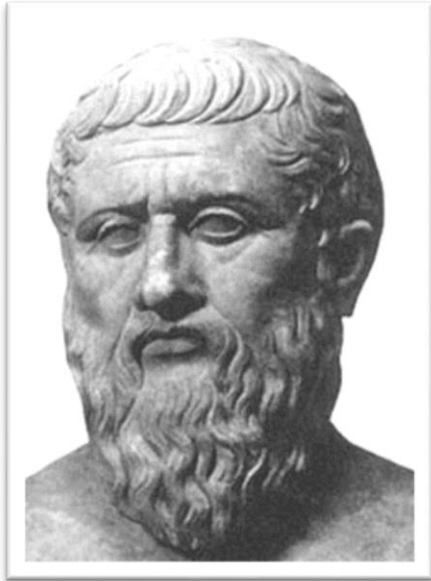


Who am I?



- The one you think you are (*body*)
- The one others think you are (*mind*)
- The one you really are (*Atma*)

The three aspects
of the individual

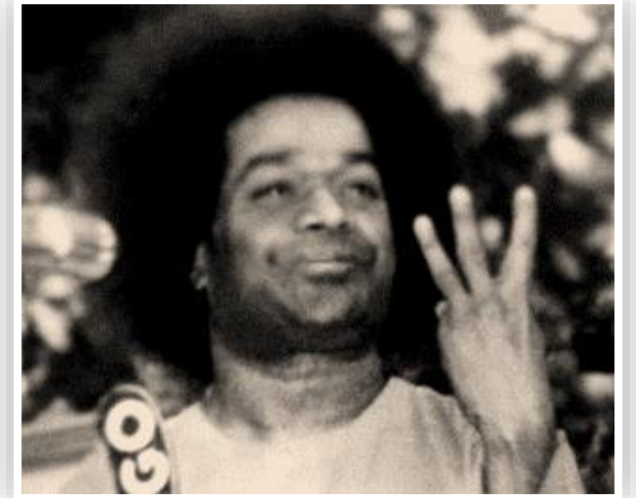


Spiritual
(*Conscience / Intellect / Heart*)

Feelings & Thoughts
(*Mind*)

Sense Organs of Perception
& Action (*Body*)

Who am I?



*“The body is like a water bubble.
The mind is like a mad monkey.
So, do not follow the body;
do not follow the mind.
Follow your conscience.
Your conscience is your master.”*

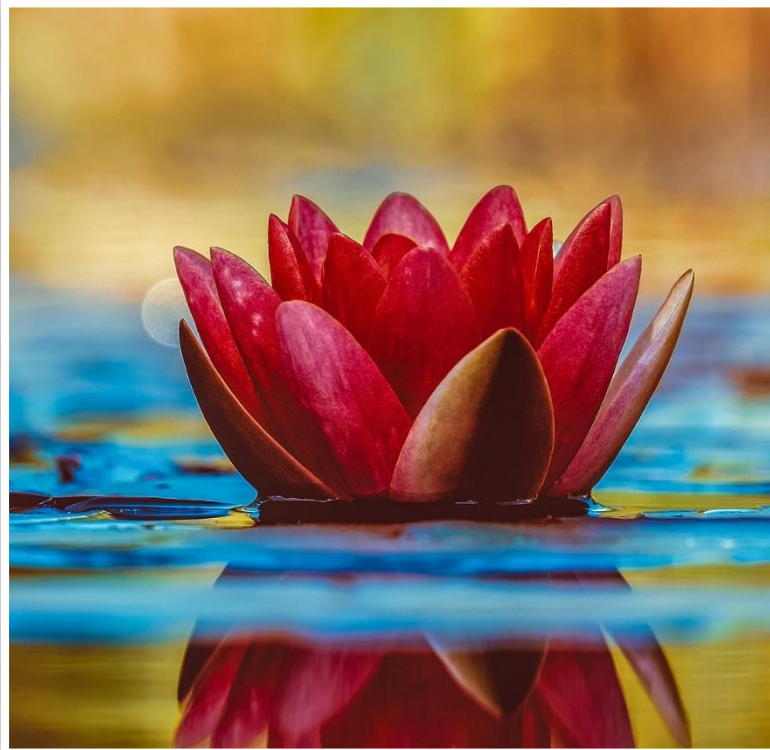
~ Sathya Sai Baba

(Summer Showers in Brindavan, 1971)



*Being an Example
of Good Character*





“Good character is the greatest wealth you can acquire. Good behaviour, good manners, good discipline and good actions together constitute character. Virtuous character is the very foundation of spiritual life.”

~ *Sathya Sai Baba* (11th December 1985)

Question for reflection...



What are the most important qualities of an exemplary office bearer or leader?

Sai Vowels (A - E - I - O - U)

- **4As** *Ability, Availability, Affability & Accountability*
- **5Es** *Equanimity, Empathy, Enthusiasm, Energy & Empower*
- **4Is** *Integrity, Intensity, Innovative & Inspire*
- **2Os** *Open-mindedness & Oneness*
- **2Us** *Unity & Understanding*

Other Essential Qualities

- *Love, Selflessness, Courage, Bravery, Will power, Humility, Determination, Initiative, Self-control, Temperance, Honesty, Knowledge of the task, Capacity of dealing with people, etc.*
- *“Be an example to others. Do not scatter advice without the authority born of practical experience. Love, cooperate, help, serve.” (Sathya Sai Speaks, Vol. 9, pg. 35, 1969)*

*Doing Every Act
as an Offering*



“Each office bearer must take an oath, from the very depths of their heart, before engaging themselves in the service activities. ‘Swami, bless me with the skill, intelligence and enthusiasm necessary for the task I am dedicating myself to carry out for my own upliftment. Guide me along the correct path; shower on me Your Grace so that I may earn a fair name in this attempt; guard me from temptation and wrong steps.’”

~ *Sathya Sai Baba* (April 1967)





“Be a servant, a servant of God. Then, all strength will be added onto you. Try to be a master; then, you will arouse envy, hatred, anger and greed in everyone around you. Feel that you are an instrument in His hand; let Him shape you and use you as He knows best.”

~ *Sathya Sai Baba* (SSS Vol. 8, pg. 44)

Who is the Real Doer?

“God is using your intelligence, mind, and body as His instruments for doing that particular work. You write with a pen or cut paper with scissors, but it is not those instruments that are doing the work; it is you who are using the instruments for the purpose of doing the work. Likewise, the instruments you call ‘yourself’ – intelligence, mind, and body – are used by God for His purpose.”

~ Sathya Sai Baba (SSS, Vol. 8, pg. 46)

Always Be Careful...



W

Words

A

Actions

T

your...

Thoughts

C

Character

H

Hear

Before Speaking or Acting...



T

T*True*

H

H*elpful*

I

Is it...?

I*nspiring*


N

N*ecessary*

K

K*ind*

A Good Leader...

- *Demonstrates harmony in thought, word and deed.*
- *Has a pure  and mind.*
- *Always keeps God and the practice of higher values at the forefront of their thinking.*

*Undertaking Actions
for the Good of Society*



“You should recognise that along with you as an individual, there is also the society and the community. We are not living solely for ourselves. We are not living solely for the sake of our family. We are living for the sake of the world. Having been born into the community, how can you go away from the community? This is the right opportunity for you to regard that service to the community is service to God.” ~ *Sathya Sai Baba* (Summer Showers, May 1977)



Service to Society



“...he or she must take part in social service as a preparation for leadership. Everyone should realise that his or her happiness is bound up with the happiness of society as a whole.”

~ *Sathya Sai Baba* (SSS, Vol. 26, pg. 35)

Question for reflection...



How can we demonstrate good examples of Sathya Sai Baba's teachings in society generally?

*Understand that
"Your Life is My Message"*





“I know you have the enthusiasm to carry My Message among the people of this country and other countries. Let me remind you that the best and the only successful way in which you can do it is to translate the message into your own lives. Your thoughts, words and deeds must be saturated with the Message. Then, they will spread effortlessly and efficiently, and the face of the whole world will be transformed.”

~ Sathya Sai Baba (SSS, Vol. 8, pg. 19)