

Annam Brhameti

The aroma of slow burning wood in the atmosphere was making villagers to walk toward Dwarkamai. It was getting dark and everyone was tired from their daily routine activities. Their bodies were ready for sleep, but mind was eager to join others to get drenched in that bliss, satchitanand. At Dwarakamai, in a big pot, He was cooking khichadi for His children, his devotees. Water was continuously boiling and each rice and dal grain was waiting for its turn to cook. He leaned over the



pot, it's still not ready. He looks at the tired faces around Him. Even though none of them was complaining, He couldn't see the wait in their eye. He rolled up the sleeves of His kafni up and put His both hands inside the hot pot!!! What just happened? He put His bare hands inside the hot cooking pot to stir the khichadi. His face had no sign of pain, but was radiating His same love towards His children.

Did you see that sparkle in His eyes? He had that when He fed, gave annam to His children. No wonder they called Him Baba, who is their father, giver, care-taker, up-lifter. This is the story of our beloved Sai Baba. He is our Sai Baba!!!!

“Annam Brhameti” In Taittiriya Upanishad it is said that Anna or Food is Brahma or God. Annadan or giving food is recommended in this Kaliyuga because in Sanskrit it is said that AnnadanamMahapunyam, which means giving food to the hungry is the best charity. Our Sai Baba use to prepare food himself and feed the poor. Sai Baba had two handis (pots), one small and one big one. In the small handi, He used to cook food for 50 people and in the big handi, He used to cook food for 100 people. Baba used to go to the market and get all ingredients from market by Himself. He always made sure that recipe was always perfect by choosing the right ingredients, in right proportions. He had a unique way of stirring and mixing the food. He used to roll sleeves of His kafani (robe) and put His hand inside the hot handi to mix the food. Then, He would serve the food to His devotees with His own hands. Blessed are those devotees who were fed by our Baba!

“Give food to the hungry, water to the thirsty, and clothes to the naked. Then God will be pleased.”