



UNITY, PURITY, DIVINITY

By Samuel H. Sandweiss M.D.

I am particularly grateful for Sathya Sai Baba's teaching about the importance of using our buddhi, intellect, in choosing truth over non-truth on the path to unity, purity, and divinity.

In an interview with Swami at the time of his 75th birthday, and while thinking of Krishna killing demons to save the world – and Shiva purifying the ocean and holding poison in his blue throat, I asked – "Swami, are you stirring the world with more and more power to separate out the evil elements to overcome and destroy them?" With great love Swami replied, "It is not my power – it is my nature." It is his nature to stir us, separating the truth from the non-truth in order to establish purity through the application of buddhi, sacrifice, and love.

Swami gave me a miracle that has allowed me to keep him in mind and be happy. The miracle is about my young Western patient who had no prior knowledge of Sanskrit yet began to speak it fluently. She said that the messages came from Sai Baba, who identified Himself as Parabrahman: infinite consciousness. She wrote the words phonetically and translated them. I videoed and analyzed this miracle with the help of a highly respected cognitive scientist and two Sanskrit scholars. Our team has twice (2013 & 2015) presented the case at annual meetings of the American Psychiatric Association.

This case demonstrates that our limited personal consciousness can expand into a vast region of knowledge and wisdom beyond our life experience. This idea challenges science's basic assumption that consciousness comes from our physical brain and is limited to our life experience. The case suggests that creation emanates from pure consciousness, that we can tune in to the voice of God, and it prompts science to more seriously study the insights of saints and sages about the nature of consciousness.

For spiritual aspirants, the messages speak about and deepen our understanding of how consciousness moves from duality to non-duality – and how we are moving from, what Hindus call, the current Kali yuga (or dark age) to the enlightened Sathya yuga.

This case can also help us understand something about intermediaries and why Swami has cautioned us not to trust them. It shows why intermediaries can distract us from direct access to the **pure source** of love and wisdom that lead to unity and peace and protect us against the countless misguided, confused, and even destructive groups developing in this Kali Yuga.

The importance of purity was shown to me by Swami when, as a young devotee, I asked him if I could edit some of the Vahinis to make them more readable for a Western audience. He said “no” – the words were pure and should not be changed.

At another time someone in the United States claimed that he was receiving special messages from Swami to tell devotees. Swami directed me to tell the U.S. Sai Council and devotees in general that this was not the case – and to not believe in intermediaries. He said that if he has something to tell me he will come personally – he has no need for an intermediary. His connection with us is heart-to-heart and we will find him there when we look.

In 1983 when I asked Swami if the Sanskrit messages from my patient were coming from him, he did not answer directly, but said that the languages were not pure Sanskrit as they were spoken languages (which I later found to be true) – while Sanskrit, composed of mantras, is pure. Because the languages were not pure Sanskrit they would be considered "tainted." Was Swami talking about the languages – or the meaning of the messages? As I considered the messages to be like a Veda – how could they be tainted?

I have since found from studies about mediums, and a deeper understanding of my patient, that a medium's information can frequently be wrong, but also sometimes can be unique and profound – yet still be tainted by the way the medium uses the material – and that's to be expected when the information comes through one's ego and mind.

In the case of my patient, I am convinced that the messages were spoken by Swami, because of my direct interaction and conversation with Swami and because Swami received, accepted, and carried away with him the DVD that I had created about the messages. In addition, the messages were in languages that the patient had not known and therefore could not be manipulated — were not used for personal gain — were about core and profound spiritual concepts found in Eastern mystical traditions that were consistent with Swami's teachings — and addressed complicated problems that exist in our current time.

Even though the messages appeared pure I could see that my patient attempted to subtly manipulate me with them. This is an important distinction and should be kept in mind – the purity of the message versus the possible subtle manipulation of it by a human. Perhaps, because of the subtle manipulation by my patient – and because the messages were meant to be revealed sometime later in the future (like right now) Swami told me to stay somewhat distant – even though I could treat the patient – and to not get wrapped up in the phenomena at that time. Later, after my retirement and when I had time to decipher the messages, he accepted the revealing of the case by asking for and taking my DVD of the case.

Regarding purity, it is important to understand our mind's ability to deceive us – to create virtual realities, alternate and parallel dimensions, wishful thinking and even delusions. The creation of strange communities and cults in our time is testimony to the ease with which we can follow "tainted" thinking and behavior. We can hear of an unusual coincidence that in fact might have purity at its core, and based upon very little evidence, project our needs onto the situation, over generalize that we are

in touch with God, and become convinced that we have license to form a movement.

The retrieving of concepts, wordings, the play of words, the humor in words, wise words – can seem authentic. But we know from mediumship studies, from studies in psychology of people with multiple personalities, from hypnosis, and from the dream state that all this unusual material can come from one's own unconscious mind – or be transmitted to us by subtle “entities” in dimensions that we know nothing about. So, no matter how seemingly pure and convincing the information, it can still be tainted by the medium’s ego and mind and with serious consequences.

Crucial questions to consider about the purity of intermediaries include – does the information from an intermediary contain the depth of wisdom found in the vast treasure that Swami has given? Is the intermediary saying anything new? Are followers of the intermediary doing any harm to Swami's name – or to the official Sai organization? Are they promoting a splintering of our precious official Sai organization that Swami has repeatedly told us is our life breath — and causing confusion and conflict in the minds of devotees?

Devotees might say that their heart tells them that an intermediary or medium is pure. This is especially so since we are still mourning Swami leaving his physical body and are searching for something to lessen our loss. If an inner connection with Swami hasn’t been firmly established, then there will be a frantic search to find him in an outer form. Let us be aware of this, and caution ourselves not to jump too quickly away from the source organization, or be party to creating a schism. In Buddhism the splitting of the sacred Sangha is considered one of the highest sins. I consider this to be the case with the splitting of Swami’s sacred organization. We have a critical role in its protection by working for unity.

The purity of the messages from my Sanskrit speaking patient is singularly unique because 1) she was speaking languages that she had not previously known, thereby not being able to manipulate the words for her own gain

and 2) we can independently analyze the information for ourselves. Additionally 3) we have video evidence of her producing the messages and translating them, 4) Sanskrit scholars can analyze them independently, 5) Swami has actually and in the flesh commented on and accepted these messages which are consistent with his teachings, 6) and Swami has clearly said that the vibuthi ash which appears in the course of this unfolding drama was his. In addition 7) the messages do not result in a splitting of our organization, 8) but encourage unification. Of utmost important is 9) the fact that we can see and evaluate the messages for ourselves and do not have to depend fully on the interpretation by only one person who is able to see and translate hidden information.

Underscoring the importance of using our intellect, our buddhi, before making important decisions, Dr. G. Venkataraman, who oversaw Radiosai and Prasanthi digital studios quotes acclaimed physicist Victor Weisskopf -- “[Scientific] knowledge without compassion is inhuman while compassion without knowledge is ineffective.” Dr. G. Venkataraman and others cite from many Sai discourses the stark warnings about believing in intermediaries.

And so Swami stirs and churns – separating the real from the unreal – and challenging us to tell the difference and find unity. The mind is the cause of both bondage and liberation – the refining of our buddhi leads to liberation.

I hope I have not upset any of my dear brothers and sisters with my heartfelt remarks, which reflect my honest understanding. For Swami has reminded us that we don't always have to oblige, but we should speak obligingly. I pray that my words are understood as an expression of my deep love for Swami and for you. May all the beings of all the worlds be happy and dwell in Swami's pure love.

Jai Sai Ram

For more about the case described above click — goo.gl/3BWtSk