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Preface for this Edition

This edition of *Sandeha Nivarini* improves on the previous edition in several ways. Some grammatical errors and typos have been corrected, and several sentences have been rewritten to smooth and clarify the presentation —of course, without disturbing the original meaning. Some long paragraphs have been split in two where it made sense and provided easier reading.

Sanskrit words have been replaced by their English equivalents, to make *Sandeha Nivarini* more accessible to readers who do not know Sanskrit. However, most of the Sanskrit words have been retained (in parentheses, following their English replacements). Many Sanskrit words have no exact English equivalent, and retaining the Sanskrit keeps the edition accurate.

Some Sanskrit compounds have been hyphenated between their constituent words to aid those who like to analyze the meanings of the individual words.

Several Sanskrit words have made their way into the English language and can be found in most dictionaries —e.g. *dharma*, *guru*, *yoga*, and *moksha*. These words have generally been used without translation, although their meanings appear in the glossary at the end of the book.

Besides definitions of Sanskrit words used in *Sandeha Nivarini*, the Glossary contains descriptions of the people, places, and literature mentioned in the text.

Finally, this ebook edition allows you, the reader, to choose the point size and perhaps the font. Moreover, you can click on most place names, people, and Sanskrit words, which takes you directly to the glossary explanation; your ebook reader should have a back button to help you return to where you were reading.

With these changes, we hope that the revised *Sandeha Nivarini* will be of great benefit to earnest seekers in the spiritual realm.

Convenor

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Sri Sathya Sai Books and Publications Trust

Sandeha Nivarini Preface for this Edition

A Word to the Reader

"I am the Sai Baba of Shirdi come again; then, I was mostly engaged in preparing the meal; now I have come to feed you all with the strengthening, purifying repast," says Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. He announced thus, in his fourteenth year, while casting away his school books and addressing the first gathering of devotees in 1940. Ever since, Baba has been consoling, correcting, and curing, with His compassion and all-conquering love, an ever-increasing band of physical and spiritual sufferers and establishing the new Sai era of peace and joy.

As part of His mission of establishment of *dharma*, in February, 1956, Baba started a monthly magazine, which He named *Sanathana Sarathi* (Ancient Charioteer). Evidently, He meant to declare more clearly through that title that He is both Ancient and the Charioteer of all physically embodied beings. He announced that the *Sanathana Sarathi* is engaged in a campaign against falsehood of all types and varieties, as well as against the spirit of selfishness. This series of dialogues with Baba, published in the magazine originally in Telugu, unravels the mysteries of spiritual truth and lovingly removes the mist that hides the vision of aspirants. Perused with care and faith, these dialogues are bound to clarify, reinforce, and convince. May the perusal lead you nearer and nearer the goal.

N. Kasturi, M.A., B.L.

New Year, 1985

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Sandeha Nivarini A Word to the Reader