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Jnana Vahini

Stream of Spiritual Wisdom



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Prasanthi Nilayam - 515134

Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh, India

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© Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Trust, Publications Division, Prasanthi Nilayam P.O. 515 134, Anantapur District, A.P. (India.)

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International Standard Book Number for the paper edition: 81-7208-296-7. ISBN for this new ebook edition to come later.

Revised Edition: 2014

Published by:

The Convener,

Sri Sathya Sai Sadhana Trust,

Publications Division

Prasanthi Nilayam, Pincode 515 134, India

STD: 08555 ISD: 91-8555 Phone: 287375 Fax: 287236

Foreword

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

The original version of *Jnana Vahini* had no chapter or section titles. We have inserted numbered subtitles in appropriate places.

Sanskrit words have been replaced by English equivalents, to make *Jnana Vahini* more accessible to non-Sanskrit readers. A few Sanskrit words have been retained (in parentheses, following their English replacements) to aid people in analyzing the meanings of the individual words and where Sathya Sai Baba made some play on Sanskrit words.

Several Sanskrit words that have made their way into the English language (e.g. *dharma*, *guru*, *yoga*, and *moksha*) are used without translation, but their meanings appear in the glossary at the end of the book. The glossary also contains people and places mentioned in this *Vahini*.

This edition of is done in .epub, .mobi, and interactive pdf formats so that it can be read easily on tablets such as the ipad, kindle, and nook. In these ebook versions, you generally get to choose the font and font size that best suit you. Clicking on most names of people and places and Sanskrit words will take you to the glossary for a definition or explanation. Your reader should then have a back button to take you back to where you were reading.

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

Convenor

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Devotion merges in spiritual wisdom and becomes identified with it. Devotion ripens into wisdom, so do not speak of them as different. At one stage it is called devotion; at a later stage we refer to it as wisdom. Once it is cane, later it is sugar.

Sathya Sai Baba

Preface

Before you read this Book ...

Dear Reader, this is not just another book on the nature of soul and the technique by which it discovers its Reality. When you turn over the pages, you are actually sitting at the feet of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, the *Avatar* of the age, come in answer to prayers of all virtuous people and spiritual aspirant to guide them and grant them peace and perfection. “Place all your burdens on Me,” He says. “Start on the spiritual pilgrimage this very day,” He exhorts. “Why fear, when I am here?” He asks.

His grace is omnipresent; His miraculous powers proclaim His omnipotence; His wisdom, His analysis of the ills of humanity, and His prescription for their cure reveal His omniscience.

You have the unique chance of meeting Him, at the Abode of Peace (Prasanthi Nilayam), and receiving from Him His blessings for the success of your spiritual pilgrimage. He will know and appreciate your earnestness and faith, and you can continue with greater confidence and courage, because He is certain to assure victory. He is the Eternal Teacher of the *Gita*, the Charioteer in your heart.

In the pages of the magazine, published with His Blessings, and named after Him as *Sanathana Sarathi*, He wrote, out of His overwhelming love toward humanity, caught in the meshes of cynicism and credal fanaticism, this series of articles, called *Stream of Spiritual Wisdom (Jnana Vahini)*. Month after month, thousands of readers awaited these articles (in the original Telugu as well as in the English translation), and when they received their copy, they perused it diligently and with reverential eagerness. These articles are now put together in book form for your guidance and inspiration.

—N. Kasturi

Editor, Sanathana Sarathi