

Hari OM

FAQ: Guruji, please explain if we can worship Gurus such as Sai Baba , GF, Kanchi Pamacharya or others as GOD; Can Hindus worship Baba?

No one has right to question the belief or proclivities of a devotee or an individual based on his or her perspective and conscience. As per the scriptures God or Bhagawan is someone who fulfils six qualities (complete splendour, virtue, glory, opulence, knowledge, dispassion) together known as bhaga:

aiśvaryaśya samagrasya dharmasya yaśasariśrayaḥ jñānavairāgyayoścaiva śaṅṅāṃ bhaga itīraṇā [VP - 6.5.74]

Meaning:

Complete splendor, virtue, glory, opulence, knowledge, dispassion - these six are known as bhaga.

So from scriptural point of view Sai baba or GF or Jesus or prophet may not be God themselves for some people but scriptures also say that Guru is God Himself. We all know this from Gurur Brahma Gurur Vishnu.. And as per the scriptures, the devotion, behaviour and respect towards guru should be exactly similar as one would respect, treat and behave towards God:

yaśya deve parā bhaktiḥ yathā deve tathā gurau [Sve. Up. - 6.26]

- One who has utmost devotion for God and as for God so also for the Guru.

And the scriptures also state that God realized souls who know Brahman become Brahman:

brahman vid brahmaiva bhavati [Mundaka Up. - 3.2.9] mayātma-bhūyāya ca kalpate vai [SB - 11.29.34]

Meaning:

Knower of Brahman becomes Brahman himself.

So by this definition, if someone is a God realized soul, then he is a God. But the Godly powers and opulence may not be there as it is only a definition basing upon the Godly bliss he experiences. (bhogamatra samlingyacha [BrSu - 4.4.21])

Bhishma said in Mahabharata Santi Parva Section 132 that a man

"is said to be conversant with duty, who knows duty as depending on all four foundations". These four foundations of duty are (1) as laid down in the Vedas, (2) as laid down in the Smritis, (3) as sanctioned by ancient usage and customs and (4) as approved by the heart or one's own conscience."

Thus whether a Hindu worships Sai baba or not is a matter of his conscience. Nobody can interfere in such a matter.

So even though one may not be God as per the first definition of Bhagavan above, he is certainly God for his followers and disciples. The power of the deity or a human comes from the belief, devotion and positive thought waves from devotees and the curing or healing powers of the Guru or a deity. A Guru or Acharya is a master who spreads wisdom and selfless love - the Divinity. A Sat Guru is an enlightened master who has become one with the source- the undifferentiated, self-effulgent, non-dual Brahman or the absolute consciousness.

While Purity, maturity and wisdom are common in all - Gurujis, Satgurus, Pujyas, Acharyas, Siddhas, Yogis and Swamijis , detachment is seen in Swamiji's and Satgurus. Enlightening mastery, healing or curing power can be seen only in a Satguru. This comes either by Divine Grace and / or through the efforts of the Satguru in several births to attain that state.

Also one should not waste his time in debating or arguing about his beliefs or forcing someone to accept his beliefs. Remember it is the nature and game of the Mayic mind with its intellect, always trying to drive us crazy to get into such wasteful and absurd debates , arguments and fights to depart from Wisdom and embrace grief of this Mayic world. We have to be very careful to avoid such thoughts, associations, talks or Dursanghs.

Also in Kaliyuga, to cross this ocean of turbulent material energy the easiest way is to hold the feet of a Sat Guru such as GF, Shirdi Baba, Ramana Maharishi and Sri Ramakrishna.

Sai Baba who lived 1838-1918, gave no distinction based on religion or caste. Sai Baba's teaching combined elements of Hinduism and Islam: he gave the Hindu name Dwarakamai to the mosque he lived in, practised Muslim rituals, taught using words and figures that drew from both traditions, and attained Samadhi at Shirdi. One of his well known epigrams, "Sabka Malik Ek" ("One God governs all"), is associated with Advaita Vedanta of Hinduism, philosophy of Islam and Sufism. He also said, "Trust in me and your prayer shall be answered". He always uttered "Allah Malik" ("God is King"). (.....from Wikipedia)

Religion is for the mind or Ego. Spirit is beyond that. Satgurus such as Sai Baba, GF, Ramanamaharishi and Sri Ramakrishna are beyond the reach of Human intellect and its limited capabilities - in understanding the inner and profound truth of scriptures.

An either-or approach to religion (you can worship this, but not that; you can be a follower of this god only if you stop following that god) is the farthest possible thing from Hindu way of doing things. It is within the folds of Hinduism that places, rivers, animals, elements of nature, sages, saints, and heroes find worship. The infinite variety of gods and deities in Hinduism is a point of pride for Hindus everywhere.

Do not get deluded by Ignorance by listening to any misinterpretation of scriptures.

**Religion is for those who are asleep
Spirituality is for those who are awake**

Hope it is clear.

Om Sri Gurubhyo Namah ||

Om Sri Sai Ram ||

GF Blessings. Om Tat Sat.



..... Guruji Dr. KV

GOD BLESS ALL

