

## Aum Sri Sai Ram

Guidelines for planting the Divine saplings of Holy VataVruksha:

### ***“AUM SRI SAI SADHAKANUGRAHA VATAVRUKSHA PRATISTHAPAKAYA NAMAH”***

Every Act of the Avatar is predetermined with the goal fixed and unshakable. Our loving Lord Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba took a small step in the year 1959 on 29<sup>th</sup> of June, planting a Banyan sapling on the hill top placing underneath a Yantra created by Him from thin air. This grew into a massive meditation tree giving solace to numerous Sadhakas in the past years and continue to help devotees connecting Swami even today. But this was not just the end of His Leela as we see things unfolding in a miraculous way whereby by around 5000 saplings made out of the sacred tree are going to be planted in the nook and corner of the world. These saplings in turn will grow into vast meditation trees in the future and will stand as a testimony to the Divine Legacy of the Avatar.

It is in this context that we are to prepare ourselves for the dawn of a new era and plant the saplings in various centers /locations of our states with utmost devotion and care. The following points may be looked into while undertaking this Seva to maintain the sanctity and uniformity.

1. The plants should be carried from the Prasanthi authorities in a ceremonial manner with collective chanting of Sai Gayatri.
2. It was advised by the All India President, to carry the saplings from Prasanthi Nilayam before the 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba so as to plant them as part of 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations.
3. While placing indent for the saplings care should be taken to ensure that the place of plantation is located in our centre precincts, the property is not encroached one or subject to eviction by the authorities in future, the place is serene and not a crowded one Etc.
4. The devotees of our states should be encouraged to do Likhita Japam with added vigour. These books will be placed under the saplings in a big pit.
5. An auspicious date and time should be decided in advance for the plantation ceremony uniformly across the state.
6. A small Homam may be organized with the Sai Gayatri chanted by the devotees continuously.
7. A name plate 2'x1' made up of tin should be prepared with the name 'DHYANA VRUKSHA' and be dug near the tree.
8. The Likhita Japam books should be bound in a red cloth of 20 books each in one cover and the bundles should be placed neatly in the pit amidst chant of Sai Gayatri
9. Vibhuti, Turmeric, Kumkum Etc. should be spread over those books. Then the pit should be covered.
10. Similarly with Bhajan and chanting going on the saplings should be brought from the sanctum sanctorum and be planted putting Vibhuti and sprinkling water on them.
11. Proper arrangement must be made to save the sapling from cows and goats.
12. One responsible devotee should be in charge of taking care of the sapling.
13. Once the sapling grows into a sizeable tree, a circular 'mandapam' may be made to enable the devotees to sit comfortably and do Dhyana.
14. The State Organisation will keep a record of all the trees planted at different locations and monitor their growth.

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