

God's Child -Ruchir Desai

A heart that beat only for the Lord...



*A compilation of heartfelt messages exchanged in the
WhatsApp group - Global Alumni Forum recollecting the
phenomenon that was Ruchir Desai Sir...*

A teacher, a mentor, a guide, a brother...

MAY 17, 2021

Mohan Kumar H G



08:31

S Kumar

May be Swami's 55th birthday celebrations - word conference mentioned behind - Hirok and seniors will know

08:56

Ramakrishna I. S



17:12

S Kumar



08:50

V Praveen (B'lore Super)

Sairam Brothers Ruchir Sir has merged into Divine Lotus Feet. Prayers to Bhagawan to bless his soul and give solace to grieving family

18:11

Dr. B Raghavendra Prasad

We used meet very frequently on his passionate project in Brindavan. Just cannot believe that. Sai bless him with eternal peace.

18:25

Amar Vivek

My dear brothers
Just a thought
Let us believe
Ruchir Sir Lived a great fulfilling life
He merged in Divine
Yes his earthly sojourn was brief
So let us not moan over
Instead so many of us can recount

Amar Vivek

innumerable episodes of Ruchir Sir with Bhagawan
Can we narrate those Sai Puraan Kathas
Humble suggestion

18:28

Amar Vivek

Indeed i have tears in my eyes
But I don't want to grieve for such a Punyatma

18:37

Subramaniam sir



18:56

N. Sai Krishna (Radosai)



19:01

N. Sai Krishna (Radosai)



19:01

Prakash Srin

What was his pet project brother, just curious... might be related to Swami...

19:01

Aruno

Sairam Brother... Let Ruchir's words speak for itself. Here is original email:

On Jun 7, 2020, at 11:12 AM, Ruchir Desai wrote:

Sairam Aruno,
It was nice speaking to you today after a long time. Thank you for agreeing to help us with content on this project.

I have forwarded the museum presentation to you separately by We Transfer as it is a very large file and cannot come as attachment or through whatsapp. The idea is to have a space which will tell the story of Swami's life, work and message using technology so that it is contemporary and appeals to the younger generation.

The presentation is only to give you a macro view of the project. We hope that once we are able to recommence work after this lockdown, we should be able to complete it in about 4 months.

With warm regards
Ruchir

19:07

Dinesh Periwal

Words fall short to describe the relationship generations of students shared with Sir. V all may have forgotten things over the Years ... But Ruchir Sir and his classes remain evergreen in the minds of his students. A very much loved faculty. Hope Sai Maa gives refuge to this great noble soul at his lotus feet. 🙏

19:16

Rengarajan Sir

We have lost a most noble soul, a wonderful and most able instrument of our beloved Bhagawan, a solid pillar of our University and of our Campus, the soul of the Department of Commerce, an elder brother, a friend, a philosopher, a guide, and so much more. Swami, please let him merge in your Lotus Feet. Let him be one with You in eternal

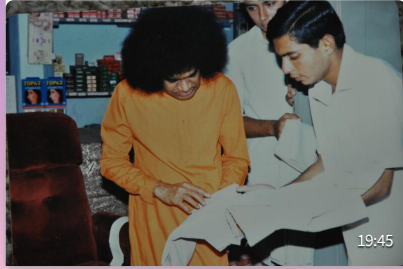
Rengarajan Sir

peace. Please take care of his dear Mother. An irreplaceable loss 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏 Our world is definitely poorer without you my dear Ruchir Sir...you will remain imprinted in our hearts forever....Finding it so hard to reconcile with this happening 😞😞😞 19:30

Nagesh Babu

Noble soul dedicated his life to swami's mission. Eitome of Charm, intellect & knowledge as a combination. Swami gave his students such gurus as wonderful gifts. We are indebted for lives. 19:32

Ramakrishna I. S



Ramakrishna I. S



Raghavendra



Ramakrishna I. S



Ramakrishna I. S



Ramakrishna I. S



Ramakrishna I. S



Mohan Kumar H G

Sri Ruchir K Desai 'Star in the Divine Galaxy of Swami'

Sri Ruchir K Desai, Associate Professor, Department of Management and Commerce, Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Vrundavan Campus, Whitefield, attains the Divine Lotus Feet of Swami.

Sri Ruchir K Desai, Associate Professor, Department of Management and Commerce, Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Vrundavan Campus, Whitefield, attained the Divine Lotus Feet of Swami, in early evening hours on Monday, 17 May 2021, Skand Shashti and Jagadguru Sri Adi Shankaracharya Jayanti. He struggled for over a week and was on life-support system at the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences (Super Speciality Hospital), Whitefield, Bengaluru.

Born in 1964, Sri Ruchir Desai (M.Com., FCMA), his area of expertise was in the field of Finance and Accounting and the subjects covered by him were Financial Accounting, Cost Accounting, Taxation, Investment Analysis.

A fellow Member of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of India, he graduated with a B.Com., securing the Gold Medal for his degree in 1984 and then he went on to complete his Masters in Commerce from Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning in 1986, again securing the Gold Medal and had thereafter been teaching at the Department to students of the B.Com. (Hons.) programme, since the last 3 decades or even more.

Mohan Kumar H G

In 2012, he was awarded the Sai Krushna award for Best Teacher in the Sri Sathya Sai System of Value-based Integral Education.

His research interests were in the field of Accounting and Investment. He had guided many on the projects in these areas and had done extensive work in the field of Financial Management.

He had got seat in Indian Institute of Management which he tore it away and said "I would rather wash dishes in SIC near Swami rather than go away from Him and join IIM. He had done proof reading of the famous R L Gupta and Radhaswami Accountancy Book, which is followed across Bharat.

He was an eloquent speaker and delivered a number of talks in the immediate Divine Presence of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba in Prashanti Nilayam, Trayee Vrundavan and to the forums of Sai Devotees.

He was one of the few chosen students and staff, to be with Bhagavan during His Divine Visits to Kodaikanal.

He successfully managed and administered Students' Cooperative Stores inside Trayee Vrundavan Campus.

He is survived by his mother Smt. Tarubahen K Desai, former Principal of Lady Visanji School in Andheri, Mumbai and currently the resident in Puttaparti.

Let us all join and offer our sincere condolences to Smt. Tarubahen and heartfelt prayers to Swami to grant Eternal Peace to the holy soul of Sri Ruchir. We never know, what our Swami has in His plans.

Links to some of the videos of his talks are:

1. Samarpan talk by Sri Ruchir Desai – 29.8.2017 at Dharmakshetra, Mumbai.
<https://youtu.be/HsykdZHGjIE>
Video: Sai Shruti Studio Dharmakshetra

2. Don't Judge with Money - By Sri Ruchir Desai - Excerpts from Samarpan Talk
In this video, Sri Ruchir Desai narrates a beautiful incident that took place in

Mohan Kumar H G

Kodaikanal. This incident teaches us to learn to judge things never in terms of money. Watch the full video and enjoy the story.
<https://youtu.be/bbC9UEPVZSs>
Video: Sri Sathya Sai Legacy - Abitha Roy

3. Sri Ruchir Desai sharing his experience with Swami on the occasion of 49th anniversary celebration of Sri Sathya Sai Study circle.
<https://youtu.be/3dSCdDid604>
Video: Sri R Somanathan Nair

4. Love All, Serve All - By Sri Ruchir Desai - Excerpts from Samarpan Talk
<https://youtu.be/XA2lQxYtmpE>
Video: Sri Sathya Sai Legacy - Abitha Roy

Re-produced below is an article written by him in Sai Vandana, 65th Birthday offering.

My Swami
SWAMI! This is the way in which all devotees of Bhagavan commonly address Him. The word Swami is a term with which all Hindus would be familiar. It is not a name for Him or a title bestowed on Him. The word Swami literally means Master. When I call Him Master, I am subjugating myself to Him. It is an expression of complete surrender and identification with Him.

I, like millions of His other devotees, accept and worship my Master as GOD. I believe, and my Master has illustrated time and again, that He is Omnipresent, Omniscient and Omnipotent. Devotees all over the world have an ever-fascinating array of experiences which would leave a new and uninitiated person awestricken. Through His Omniscience, He knows me through and through. He says, "I know your past, present and your future. I know your suffering, and why you suffer and when that suffering will end". However, what mystifies me is not His Omniscience - nor His Omnipresence and Omnipotence — these are necessary qualities of the Divine and have been the cause of bringing and binding many a devotee to His Lotus Feet. What mystifies me is the Love and Compassion that my Master shows when he accepts me and allows me to sit at His Lotus Feet after knowing the who, how and what about me.

Mohan Kumar H G

It is an index of the Love of my Master for His creatures that makes Him rush to the aid of His devotees. His Will does not brook any barriers of time or space. Like Sri Krishna rushing to the aid of Draupadi, my Master is always at the back and call of His true devotees. He is ready to help His devotees at the time of any tragedy and protect them. He suspends the ticks of the clock and the lines on the map to give those whom He loves a further lease of life. My Master has the power to transcend the laws that we live by, the steps that we climb by, stages that we grow by and even the end that we see approaching us. Volumes have been written by grateful devotees describing the numerous ways in which and the countless occasions on which He has rushed to the call of His devotees.

These are only some facets of my Master's Divine Personage. I can only sum up the rest by saying that my master represents everything Great, Grand and Godly in this Universe of His. He is Sat-Chit-Anand- Truth, Wisdom and Beauty — all rolled into one. He is the great Architect and Designer, not only of this vast and beautiful cosmos, but of the fact and fortune of every being within it. My master is the ultimate in human perfection. He says: "My life is my message." Through every act of His, He instructs and inspires, He enlightens and enlivens. My master is the sum and substance of all forms of knowledge. He is Infinity itself. Once the late Prof. Sri N Kasturi described Him thus:

"What He does not know is not knowledge; what He does not approve is not Dharma; what He does not affirm is not Truth; what He does not accept is not Love; what He does not bestow is not Peace."

Yet, for all these benefits, my Master is a hard task-master. He expects perfection — another hallmark of the Divine. He does not compromise or condone. Whoever the culprit and however insignificant the fault, castigation descends promptly. But even this is, more often than not, clothed in a vesture of Love and accompanied by that sweet and charming smile to which you cannot but yield. My Master often fondles people by

Mohan Kumar H G

using the word Bangaroo. In doing so, He expects us to transform the lead that we are into Bangaroo or Gold. In order to do this, He melts us in the crucible of life, and draws out all dregs, making us fit for His purpose.

My Master does not preach any new religion or profound any new ideas. He brings home to us the same age-old truths with an ease and simplicity to which there is no parallel. His treatment of all the scriptural texts and other religious works would leave none in doubt about their true authorship. His philosophy of life is simple and practical. Yet, His teachings contain a measure of profundity which is unmatched. His message is for people from all walks, of all ages gone and for all ages to come.

What more can one ask for? I am spending the most precious years of my life at His Lotus Feet and I am grateful that He has allowed me to call Him, my SWAMI.

Posted by: Sudhir Joshi

19:45

Ramakrishna I. S



Hari Shankar

When my mother passed away I was in Brindavan. Swami spoke to me and asked me to go to Parthi. At that time it was Ruchir sir who arranged the taxi for me and paid the money for it

19:50

Krishna Reddy

Om Shathi 🙏

May his connect, continue to make a positive difference for all the lives he has touched.

Jai Sairam 🙏

19:58

Arnel Ramdath



Arnel Ramdath



Aravind Y

🙏🙏 Gone too soon Ruchir sir! Swami is preparing you for His Next Mission. Jai Sairam!

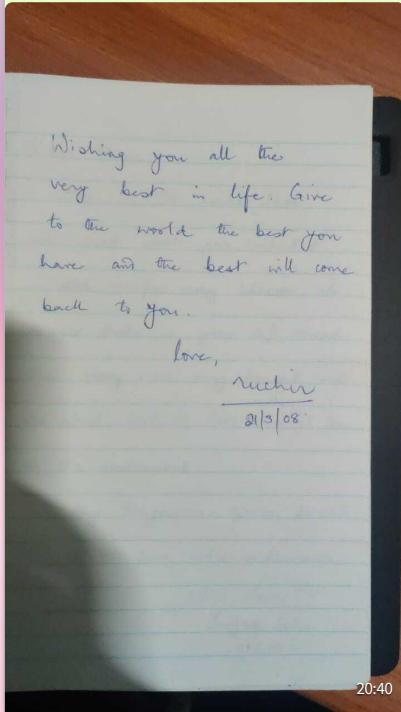
20:07

Vinod Cartic

Loving respects and gratitude to Ruchir Sir- an outstanding teacher, brilliant student, wonderful human being and ardent devotee. It's been an honour to know him in person. He was always willing to go out of the way for any seva activity.. .a huge supporter of alumni seva activities. In fact last year he helped a lot during the tough times with some of our requirements from Brindavan. The best homage would be to try and emulate his devotion in action. Thanks for being such an ideal Sir. 🙏🙏

20:27

Dinesh Talreja



Arul Selvanathan

Thanks and Sairam

20:44

Ghandikota Ravishankar



Arul Selvanathan

Sairam GV Ravi,
You were a class mate and colleague of Ruchir. Can you please share something with us, on Ruchir.

20:44

Ghandikota Ravishankar



Ghandikota Ravishankar

Sai Ram. Am really saddened that Ruchir has left us. No more suffering for him, but he left too soon. However, he is in SWAMI's embrace now after a life of dedicated service to Swami.

We were classmates in MCom and we both started teaching in Brindavan together when Swami sent us there in 1986. Gem of a man . Was brilliant in his profession, had immense love and faith in Swami and was so involved in Swami's mission. A true karma yogi in service of the Divine, always staying in the background. Praying for Swami to give his mother strength to bear this. 🙏

20:44

Satyajit

Feels like I have lost an elder brother. In this journey of life, we create memorable moments - moments that are shared by our near and dear ones. And every memory is relived when those who have experienced it together relive it together. And when one of them passes away, a part of you is lost with them. There is no witness, no residual memory of those moments of your life left. With Ruchir sir, I have so many moments spent on planning and executing - things we



Satyajit

have done together with the sole aim of making Swami happy, making Swami a wee bit more comfortable by anticipating His needs, by anticipating what He would need to make the boys happy - in Kodai, during Sportsmeet, during other events.

And with him goes that bouquet of special memories. Goes the opportunity to reminisce and laugh and cherish together.

But what remains is the fragrance of a life well led. Of a life lived with love burning tender and idealism burning fierce in the heart. Of a life spent in relentless action - anticipating and serving the needs of others. Of a life spent in internalising the Ideals of the Beloved Master and igniting young minds with it.

Yes, we will miss you Ruchir sir, but because we have known you, the love in our hearts burn a little more tenderly and the idealism in the hearts burn a little more fiercely.

From a younger brother and friend bidding adieu.

21:02

Ghandikota Ravishankar

Sai Ram. I recall the day in June 1986. Institute Classes had already begun for the semester and we had completed our MCom in April. Swami had instructed our other classmates on the next steps in their lives and Ruchir and I were waiting in the veranda for SWAMI's next instructions for us. Swami had been seeing us for many days but didn't mention anything until one morning he came out of the interview room and gave us a simple instruction - "Go to Brindavan and teach". We were grateful for the opportunity to continue in His Divine presence, and asked when we should go. Swami said we should go immediately and so we got up and left after taking namaskar. My father arranged a taxi for us and by late afternoon/evening we were in Brindavan and started teaching the next day. As they say, the rest is history - Ruchir positively impacted the lives of so many students, myself, and others he came into contact with. Whatever he did was done with excellence, and as an offering to Swami - An important lesson for all. We stayed in touch regularly over the years and I always remember him taking on new projects or doing more and more to serve Swami. Always

Ghandikota Ravishankar

dynamic.

I'm grateful to Swami for the opportunity he gave me know him and to be able to call Ruchir my brother 🙏

21:12

T N. Giridhar

They came as our teachers, and they had a special role in the divine mission of Swami; in guiding and nurturing all of us, several batches of students. What they taught in accounts or sciences or any of the subject was probably not so much the reason Swami put them there. There is so much more we learnt from each of our teachers. Life lessons. In that sense, it is not just a loss to those who were with Ruchir sir, or those who were his students, but also for the students to come. A life spent at the Divine Lotus Feet, always thinking of Him, always trying to make Him happy 🙏

21:14

S Kumar

Ruchir was one of the jewels of our batch who in spite of shining in academics with all gold medals, topper in Quiz teams, topper to the best our institute would have seen, he maintained the attitude required to show that He stood for Swami's students in so many avenues of work areas be it Hostel, or Mandir or the Institute - whenever I met him at Parthi he would enquire how I was doing etc.

A shining star 🌟 indeed
Truly we will miss him.

21:27

Arul Selvanathan

Thank you Ravi 🙏
I also heard that Ruchir was fortunate to be part of every Kodai trip, as Swami used to send him 10 days ahead to prepare. They had organized a MS Team session to pay respects to Ruchir and there were 544 boys one time - that speaks of the love and bond he has created with Swami's students.



21:33

Venkatesh Prasad

Just as a Tribute to Ruchir Sir based on First letters of his name

21:36

Renouncing an IIM seat
Undertaking Swami's
Mission
Calculating par excellence
Hopping Happily
Inspiring Batches after
Batches
Returning to God's abode so
soon, so early

21:36

Sainath M

Sairam! This evening has been dealing one crushing blow after another. The shocking news of Ruchir Sir's death has hit us badly and taken some time to come out of. I was always wondering whether to call him 'Sir' or 'bhayya'. He had that kind of relation with many of us. In particular with me - those Dussera sessions, sports meet sessions, summer course planning, grama seva planning - there were many occasions where we frequently met and interacted. Often trading notes on our speeches, Swami's instructions and guidance and feedback. Ruchir brother was one of the pillars on which the Brindavan campus was supported - it is going to be very difficult to imagine that his physical presence is no longer going to be there. One incident definitely stands out in my interaction with him. When I was praising him one day about how his students admired the way he taught accountancy, he smiled in his usual way and said, "Arey bhai what is there in these calculations? The ultimate calculation is always with respect to how much good we have done. All other accounts are only incidental. The ultimate calculation is how to reach Swami." I guess he finally made that calculation and found his way to Swami. Rest in peace with our Lord Ruchir brother. We definitely will miss you - but we are also going to reconcile to the fact that you finally reached Swami and will rest in peace there! 🙏

21:53

Prem (Radiosai)

A mail Ruchir sir sent me 10 years ago when I joined Radio Sai. Can't thank Swami enough for such teachers who always reminded us how to live life with the right focus:

22:03

Sairam Prem,
It was your own tenacity and determination backed by faith that made you wait so long

for a chance to be a part of Swami's mission. Each person is a creation of his own thoughts and efforts. Your journey has not ended. The job in Radio Sai is just the beginning. Hope it will be a fulfilling journey - and remember that while on this journey you do not lose sight (as many others who have left or are still here have done) of the objectives for which you doggedly held on and finally were rewarded.

Love and best wishes
Ruchir

22:04

Answer scripts in hand, the professor walked into the class. A hushed silence descended. The anxiety was palpable.

Characteristically, the professor had arranged the sheets from the lowest scores to the highest. As he distributed the sheets, a curious onlooker could make out the thinly veiled glee on some faces, while others sulked in shame.

"Those who scored 40% or below, stand up", said the professor.

The scarce sporadic dispersion of the bottom-of-the-pyramid in the class stood up slowly, in shame.

"80% or above, stand up", he directed. This time the respondents were more willing.

We all know the drill. The weak clap for the toppers.

And then something happened. The professor said: "Look around you. Spot your friend, someone you have dinner with, play with, someone you call your brother who miserably failed the test.

You have definitely done well. But did you take time out to help your friend in need? Worse if you didn't even know he was in need? So in the test of life, did you do well?"

By the next evening, many small study help-groups blossomed in the college quadrangle. Hardly anyone was struggling alone.

Prof. Ruchir Desai of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, was a man of few words but great influences. #COVID-19 took him. But he lives on in our will to help.

#RestInPeaceSir
From Shreejith Nair's post on FB

22:10

Aravind Y

Just yesterday I was reading The Prophet by Khalil Gibran. Did not know that God would test so soon...

When love beckons to you follow him,
Though his ways are hard and steep. And
when his wings enfold you yield to him,
Though the sword hidden among his pinions
may wound you. And when he speaks to you
believe in him, Though his voice may shatter
your dreams as the north wind lays waste the
garden. For even as love crowns you so shall
he crucify you. Even as he is for your growth
so is he for your pruning. Even as he ascends
to your height and caresses your tenderest
branches that quiver in the sun, So shall he
descend to your roots and shake them in their
clinging to the earth.....

But if in your fear you would seek only love's
peace and love's pleasure, Then it is better
for you that you cover your nakedness and
pass out of love's threshing-floor, Into the
seasonless world where you shall laugh, but
not all of your laughter, and weep, but not all
of your tears. Love gives naught but itself and
takes naught but from itself.

Love possesses not nor would it be possessed;
For love is sufficient unto love. And think not
you can direct the course of love, if it finds
you worthy, directs your course. Love has no
other desire but to fulfil itself."

But if you love and must needs have desires,
let these be your desires: To melt and be like a
running brook that sings its melody to the
night. To know the pain of too much
tenderness. To be wounded by your own
understanding of love; And to bleed willingly
and joyfully.

Khalil Gibran

22:31

Ranganatha Raju

This message was deleted

22:32

Ruchir sir, I have 8 translated Telugu files in my gmail drafts to be shot across to you regarding the museum... I remember you telling me on phone, "hey don't worry I will come back quickly from hospital and we will work upon this" ... don't know sir, why you

have broken your word of not turning up in hostel again.. I am not able to hold back my tears.

I can delete the files but not the memories. I was the one whom you banged most in stores. But every evening after that taunt, you would give me a chocolate and share a nice incident related to the Lord.. years later you told me "every evening I slapped you, I skipped my dinner". Don't know, how to reconcile with your loss.

22:33

Aravind

He was the first to encourage me into writing. I would just gather my thoughts after darshan and send emails to about 15-20 people in 2007-08. Then, I saw that Radiosai was doing the reporting and stopped. He wrote to me

Dear Arvind,

Miss your updates and reports. Reading the reports on heart to heart or elsewhere is not the same.

love and best wishes

ruchir

I replied saying that I was thrilled that someone as accomplished as him 'missed' my writing and would write a report just for his sake. I added that I would not be able to do a comprehensive job without images and details. He replied

Thanks. But you don't need to do it, especially if it creates problems or involves extra work. As far as images go, your description is very graphic.

love

ruchir

When I look at the 14 years since, so much has happened. He had so much love for me and always encouraged me. He always told me of my strengths and involved me in many brainstorming sessions... Am still crying. I'll miss him for sure. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

22:50

Dr. T Jagannadha Pawan



• **Ruchir** •



At Rest
At HIS
Lotus Feet 22:50

Aravind Y

To My Beloved Teachers,
Sairam 🙏

In stoic silence you stand,
His Children, Our Brothers,
Pain hidden, behind obsidian visages,
All out of Love for Him.

That His mission must go on,
That His Love be shared,
That His message be our lives,
Oh! The Sacrifices you make.

How can we express our Gratitude?
How can there be redress?
The pain shared is not ephemeral,
But Born of His Divine Love.

Teacher, Guide, Mentor, Brother,
You are all and more,
For He has brought us to Him,
All for Him and Him for all!

Born for a cause and live with purpose,
That is your way, the chosen ones,
Touching and transforming lives, always,
The 'Streetlamps' on the path to God.

One lamp has returned to its Master,
To be remade, reborn to glow again,
It has fulfilled His Divine Purpose,
Lighting thousands more for a better World.

A time to grieve, a time to celebrate,
A time to reminisce, a time to reaffirm
A time to pray to keep the Faith,
A time to believe in His Divine Love

Thank you for being His wonderful
instruments, Thank you for changing our

Aravind Y

lives, Thank you for being our brothers,
Thank you for just being there for us...
teachers, guides, mentors... Brothers!

Sairam 🙏❤️🕉️

22:54

Bisweswar Prusty

Ruchir Sir,
Just recently when you came to know I need
to go to Brindavan, you gladly welcomed me
to come in your car and all through the
journey we were talking only about the Sai
Mission.

Sir, you agreed that after we complete the
Brindavan museum, we will revamp
Chaitanya Jyothi and make it one of its kind
in the whole world - a spectacular offering
leading to the 100th birthday.

How will we do this Sir?

Without you it is not possible Sir... there is
nobody who thinks big and can also make it
happen like you can do it so brilliantly...
Sir, every stone and tree of Brindavan is
crying...
Every wall of the campus is trembling in
sorrow...
All of us who have been touched, shaped and
loved by you are unable to stop our tears...
You cannot leave us like this Sir...

Dearest Swami,
For the Prem Sai mission, you can create at
Your will as many souls you want...
Please please do not take away the pillars of
the Sathya Sai Mission...

As it is You are not here with us in physical
form, if all those whom You have specially
shaped to be Your reflections for us, also
leave... we will be completely rudderless,
clueless...

When people like Ruchir Sir also are not
needed for this world, then definitely my
existence is absolutely meaningless... 23:00

Ranganatha Raju

Sairam Respects, What a Mother, Brave Bold

Ranganatha Raju

Maa of Prof. Ruchirsir 🙏. Her devotion to Swami and her detachment is beyond LOVE, and is seen to be belived!!! 🙏. When the divine merger of her only son Ruchir with Baba is conveyed to her this evening....,this noble 91 year elderly Maa ,chanted Sai Gayathri with deep feeling , and asked to have a Bhajan Session and she led the Bhajans with Omkarams and she herself led the Bhajans with Mansabhajre Guru Chranam , with tears of pure love welling up, in a choking melodious voice 🙏. The fragile mother smiled and told us how proud she is, that her SUN , had the rare opportunity to serve His beloved students in Brindavan 🙏. She translated 27 Books of Swami's litt into Gujarathi, including Sathyam Sivam Sundaram series. She asserts that Swami Himself would from now be her Son , and He will take care of her 🙏

23:39

Satyajit

As I try to lull my crying heart to hush, and my busy memory-grabbing mind to shush, I can only steady my breathing and sift out steady images and movies. There's knock on the PC door.

Swami looks up from the letter.
Shourie sir slowly opens the door and steps out
He returns and reports “*Alexander aaya hai*”
Swami's eyes widen
All our eyes widen and eyebrows reach for the ceiling
Swami looks at Sainath
He steps out to solve the puzzle.

_ Ruchir sir outside sees Sainath, first curious, then controlling his mirth and retreating without a word_
Sainath returns and does a fabulous job of reporting without too much of a smile that actually “Ruchir vacciunnadu, Swami”
And then we all explode.

_ Ruchir sir, outside, hears laughter - then the door opens and a teary eyed red faced Sainath emerges and invites him inside. _
Poor Ruchir sir comes in and sees all faces red with attempts to controlled laughter. And

Satyajit

Swami wiping tears from His eyes.

In spite of all enquiries over the mirthful few minutes, even Swami is unable to decipher why Shourie sir got the name mixed up. After all ‘Ruchir’ and ‘Alexander’ are not so similar !

I can only smile and imagine Shourie sir announcing Alexander to Swami at the Doors of Eternity.

I am sure that Ruchir sir would enter and find a place like in Kodai on the threshold of the drawing room and the dining room. Eager to be part of the philosophical exchanges and yet prepared to jump to duty as Swami indicates that boys are hungry.

And may that wonderment forever be frozen in the clouds of Eternity.

Till we meet again on that threshold and analyse and laugh at the Alexander incident once again, dear brother, Adieu.

23:56

Satyajit



MAY 18, 2021

S Kumar

We are blessed to read such anecdotes from you Sathyajit. Alexander the Great was a title we knew from history, Ruchir the great was one who we lived with 🙏

01:30

G V Sanjay

Sai Ram. Really words can't express the sadness we feel with brother Ruchir passing. We can only take solace in the fact that he is with Swami. I had the good fortune of knowing Ruchir under the auspices of Our Beloved Bhagavan and the Institute. However, because he was a classmate of my brother Ravi, I got to know him more. A wonderful person, role model and true Sai sevak who dedicated his life to service. Did so many things silently for the benefit of all. He

G V Sanjay

was also brilliant in his field. I had a chance to interact with Ruchir whenever Ravi and I would visit Brindavan and I was always better for it. Grateful to know him and a real brother in the truest sense. Praying to Bhagavan for strength for his mother. Sai Ram. 🙏

01:49

V Praveen (B'lore Super)

I was in WhatsApp call with her. We were wondering how to break the news to her. She was very poised and said it is Swami's wish. She just wanted to see him once. There was a whatsapp call from ICU.. She saw and said Sairam and ended the call. What a noble soul with absolute detachment

06:38

Kiron Vaghela

Dear Brothers,

I knew Ruchir and his parents prior to joining Brindavan as our mothers worked together in the Sai Organization in Mumbai.

He always had the smarts of his mother (a school Principal) and the quiet composure of his dad.

Ruchir and I joined Brindavan at the same time in B.Com. and 1st PUC respectively.

He shone in his academics scoring more marks than Anoop Jhalani a senior who had the distinction of being a gold medalist throughout his stay in Brindavan (BCom & MCom). This was when Sathya Sai College was affiliated to Bangalore University and Swami's students were competing with lacs of external students.

By the end of his first year Ruchir had read most of Swami's literature in our hostel library. His humility was genuine and he never let his fellow students feel uneasy that he had scored better marks. Sudarshan our warden in those days had a very positive effect on us. Ruchir seems to have imbibed a lot from him eg. Excellent language, audition, detail and depth with firm discipline while following Swami's teachings.

Kiron Vaghela

He went out of his way to speak with alumni that visited the ashram even though sadly others did not especially in the early days. Along with you all I feel his loss. However he lived his life in a manner that he will be remembered fondly. It was a privilege to know him.

07:20

Death is not extinguishing the light; it is only putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.

Rabindranath Tagore



07:20

Ruchir followed Swami's wishes in his class. In 1980 our Sathya Sai College won all 22 gold medals of the Bangalore university. During the morning darshan in the old bungalow Swami was very happy about this. By evening Swami asked the toppers that "you all got medals but you left your brothers behind, you must help them". After that the effort in the hostel was to coach everyone to get at least a 1st class.

07:24

Ramnaresh

That tradition of helping our fellow brothers continues forever in our college room only because of the teachers like Ruchir sir lived it and ensure that we live and make it our life mission to bring everyone up to the same mark

07:27

Vineet Basotia

Beautiful depiction of what Sir embodied ❤️

07:34

Subramaniam sir

Tribute to a "110%" perfect person, Sri Ruchir Desai:

He led his life with a silent efficiency, akin to Swami's.

He did his job with a silent efficiency in timing, quality and quantity

He spoke his thoughts with a silent efficiency in tone, tenor and text

He ate his food with a silent efficiency in speed, movement and taste

Subramaniam sir

He dealt with people with a silent efficiency in smile, frown or sternness

He "dealt" with Swami with a silent efficiency in quality, quantum and quantity

He took up projects with a silent efficiency in secrecy, thoroughness and speciality

He gave his love to people with a silent efficiency in necessity, relevance and propriety

He gave his life to Swami with silent efficiency in regularity, punctuality and quality

Till the very end!

08:03

Ghandikota Ravishankar

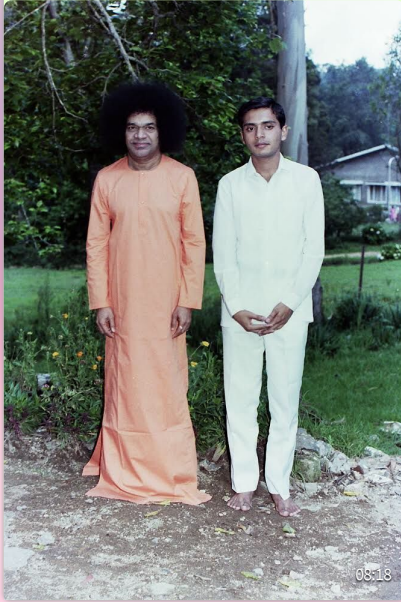


Ghandikota Ravishankar

👉 Kodaikanal 1988

08:18

Ghandikota Ravishankar



Prem (Radosai)



Aravind

Dear Sai Family,
Yesterday, a bright shining star of the Sai firmament made his way back to the Lotus Feet. Ruchir sir has led a life of light, love and laughter moulding students in the same way as Swami moulded him.
Today, 18 May 2021, at 10:30 am IST, we shall

Aravind

all gather to offer our respects and remembrances to sir. Please join in at the link below.

https://youtu.be/S3S949iu_Ow

08:41



Harish Mirpuri

Never ever saw that before...Ruchir sir with cricket 🙏

09:06

Amitabh Dasgupta (Dasta)

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/subashcv_ruchirdesai-activity-6800242649384271872-drxB

Subash CV

'Who will cry when you die' Robin Sharma.
How many hearts weep when you die is a proof of your legacy.

Today hundreds of hearts cry for a departed soul, Mr Ruchir Desai.

One of the brightest students, he 'rejected' his admission to IIM, to serve in the ashram. His Master knew, asked him to teach. He went on to touch lives of students for over 3 decades, contributed to some of the best books & research in his area, even ran a store for students & staff, and most importantly inspired students at a Being level, by just demonstrating and not telling!

Among all the jobs, teaching is the highest. Above even healthcare, taking into account these days. In the end, only 3 things matter: how much you loved, how gently you lived, and how gracefully you let go.

Blessed are the souls like Ruchir sir who dedicated his life to serve his Guru - teaching, mentoring, guiding, inspiring.

09:08

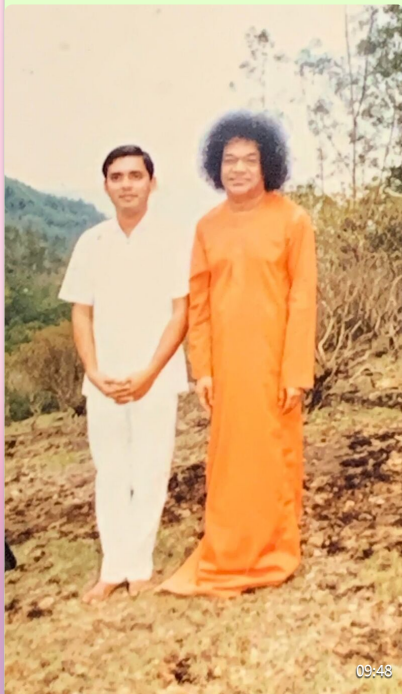


Aravind

I think this is such a Powerful question that sorts priorities in life

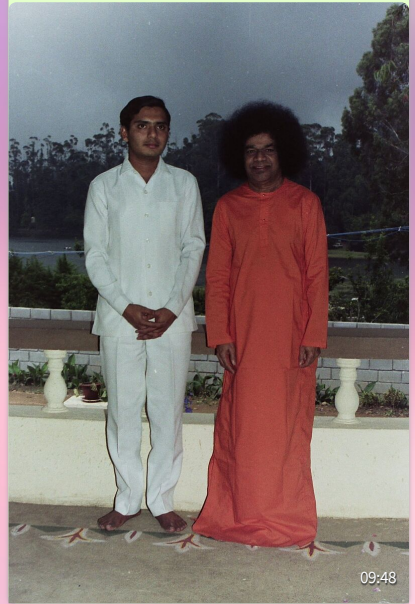
09:28

Ghandikota Ravishankar



09:48

Ghandikota Ravishankar



09:48

Ghandikota Ravishankar



Sathyanarayana Raju Kalluri • 2nd

Scientist at ISRO - Indian Space Research Orga...
21m

I remember once during my second UG I happened to go late for dinner where counters are closed and I went inside kitchen to pick food, I saw ruchir sir also there... He saw me and silently dropped one chapati from his plate back to vessel and when I went that was last chapati.. I being from Science stream didn't get to learn from his classes but hostel has given me that opportunity to learn beautiful lessons of life. Sir we really miss you.

09:48

+91 98948 88323

Sairam brothers. Just wanted to share a tribute from a visiting faculty in Dubai Shri Shankar Ramaswamy, Chief Risk Officer China Construction Bank and a close Sai Brother who was regularly in touch with Ruchir Sir and during Ruchir Sir's visit to Dubai

Below is the tribute

Om Sri Sairam

+91 98948 88323

Three experiences with Ruchir Desai Sir stand out and in them I find some jewels of Swamy's teachings

My first presentation in Brindavan at the behest of Ruchir Sir was to speak about role of Fintech in modern financial services among other. One of the highlights of Fintech is mobile connectivity which significantly boosts the number of individuals who access the service and improve the adeptness and convenience of transactions. I gave examples of Fintech applications which facilitated as a single stop platform for payment services and productivity enhancements thus marrying the advantages and offerings of multiple service providers. Bang came Ruchir Sirs observation "Advaita Darshanam Jnanam-Unity in Diversity- Unity is Divinity- as Swamy would say" I never looked at the benefits of Fintech this way and, funnily today, more and more organizational products and service providers are using this 'single stop platform offering' as their unique selling propositions.

As Sai Devotees and for Swamy's organization, this message of Advaita Darshanam Jnanam- Unity could not be more relevant at any time more than today.

When He was in Dubai on a Holiday, I had an opportunity to speak to him multiple times and I took him out for lunch at a fine dining vegetarian oriental restaurant called Tum Tum Asia. Normally when one goes to any Chinese or Japanese diners, one is very wary of the "pure vegetarian nature" of the offerings- in this restaurant there was no such concerns.

Ruchir Sir had a free hand in choosing the cuisine and enjoyed everything from Maki Sushi Fillings to Cantonese Stew to Pad Thai Noodles to Nasi Goreng, Indonesian Fried Rice- all vegetarian. When the food arrived, I as a host offered to serve him first- Immediately he said "Members of the Swamy's organisation should do things by themselves; they should not depend on others. If you wish to be of service to society, serve yourself first." He made me serve the

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dishes to myself first as a host and then sought permission to serve himself on his own. I remembered the Oxygen Mask dictum in airline flights- the oxygen reference again very relevant in current times- Put on your masks first before you help others in putting their masks. Ironical as it may seem, bringing reference to Covid in the context of Ruchir Sir's recent experience, in these times, self reliance is very important- If we do not take precautions ourselves first, we cannot be of service in helping others take their precautions.

As we finished the lunch- Ruchir Sir thanked me and said- "I was all the while wondering- why am I here savouring these delicacies which I would not think of having otherwise. Perhaps, even in cuisines that are not usually palatable (for vegetarians), there is something delectable that can be found. Swamy would say- in the eye of a storm, there is peace- the midst of all turbulences of life- you will find God there. Perhaps this is the lesson Swamy wanted me to learn at this fine dining restaurant. Thank You Brother"

Advaita Darshanam- Unity, Self Reliance- Serve yourself first and See God's Hand in all turbulent experiences- the highest of Swamy's spiritual teachings revealed through Ruchir Sir which are unforgettable for me!

Shankar Ramaswamy
Dubai, SSSE Guru and Visiting SSSIHL
Speaker

10:02

Satyajit

Loved the articulation of Nandagopal sir about Ruchir sir sending out the boys from the class and he advising the boys about the value of the distilled knowledge that they can get from the the class, requesting sir to take them back and send them back to the class.

How well they have learnt from Swami! I am sure they have learnt all these from the drama that Swami and Mrs Ratanlal Amma would create in Kodai almost every year. 10:59

Dinesh Talreja

1200 users on the channel at such a short notice is the impact he had across the batches since 86. Infact sir was teaching from his PG days

11:04

Satyajit

Thank you Rangarajan sir for bringing out the so many of the brilliant features of Ruchir sir's life.

11:27

Ramesh Agraharam

Heartening to hear the best of Ruchir Sirs life. He will remain in our hearts forever...his ever loving smile on his face always is unforgettable. Pray may his soul rest in peace at the divine lotus feet of our most Beloved Swami.Sairam 🙏🙏🙏

11:50

Sunam Gyamtso Tenzin

A befitting and touching tribute dear brother. Jai Sai Ram. We don't need to weep for Alexander for sure enough He is cozily resting at the Feet of Beloved Bhagawan. But I will definitely miss him whenever I am in Brindavan.

Tomorrow's students will miss the enlightened lectures of an exemplary teacher. People like Ruchir never die - they live forever. And my loving homage to his angel mother. Jai Sai Ram 🙏

12:33

Dilip KVS

I was lost in thoughts from yesterday and was feeling very nostalgic. Wrote a few lines remembering Ruchir sir.

****Even the ocean thirsts...****

It was the Dasara festival in 2005 and I was sitting with the drama team ready to present. Ruchir sir was the headline speaker that day and opened his speech with the line - Even the ocean thirsts... Even the Lord has needs. Maybe, that is why the Lord called His child too soon. It is heartbreaking that he left us so soon, and at the same time our hearts know that he has joined Him.

Dilip KVS

I was a science student so did not 'learn' directly from him, but that did not stop him from teaching me. In my first 2 years at Brindavan, Ruchir sir always rejected me from the elocution prelims. I decided not to participate to save getting rejected. He forced me to apply again for prelims telling that failing is fine but not trying is unforgivable. (I got rejected in the 3rd year too.)

His tough love and unrestrained feedback helped me (and in fact all of us) improve. He used to tease me a lot for my monotone voice. In quite a few of the Trayee sessions, we found ourselves next to each other almost at the back. (Once when Swami was picking people to sing songs, he asked me to sit straight, so that he could hide behind me.) Once Swami was showing us a movie, and Swami said that He is seeing it for the first time. I asked Ruchir sir about it and he said that Swami has seen this movie atleast 20 times. Yet He can show excitement as if it is the first time. He then said - Shouldn't we all approach life this way - always excited and never take it for granted?

Ruchir sir, you have led the best life possible - excited to serve the Lord. We have a lot to learn from you and will cherish the moments we spend with you.

12:47

Ranganatha Raju

I remember reading about a particular episode where Swami got the final procession for Kasturi Garu organised saying," he is a famous personality".

So many covid affected thousands are being cremated in non descript ways. In all isolation. But here is a dear child of Lord, who was paid homage by people across ages, countries and fraternities. Neither barriers of lockdowns nor the challenges of covid protocols could stop this outpouring. In lesser than 2 hours from 6.30am to 8.30am this morning, everyone came together and every detail miraculously fell in place. A homage painted by feelings , memories, music and prayer emerged from nothing. To top it, the body is consumed by flames just as

Ranganatha Raju

the Arati began!!

Even through these final moments Lord spoke to all of us of his love for this beloved child called Ruchir.

12:50

Prem (Radosai)

Reminded of a beautiful episode Ruchir sir once shared. Swami had not spoken to him for a few months and sir was beginning to feel the pain of being ignored. The distance He chose to keep, was beginning to hurt.

Then one day Swami suddenly looked at him and asked, "What is the distance between there and here", pointing to where Ruchir sir was standing and where He was seated. Sir replied, "Three feet Swami."

Swami asked, "Three feet?"

Sir thought a little and said, "Swami three or maybe four feet."

Then Swami asked, "What is the distance between here and there", again pointing to the distance between Him and where sir stood.

He folded his hands and said, "Must be the same Swami." Swami reiterated, "The distance between here and there is also 3 feet, the distance from there to here also 3 feet."

Driving home the lesson Swami said, "The distance between you and Me, is the distance between Me and you. If you think I am far, I am far, if you think I am near, I am near."

The distance has vanished now. What more to say 🙏

12:56

Dr. B Raghavendra Prasad

The prayer meeting was befitting the noble soul. I was recollecting our interactions in Brindavan and in particular first few days at hostel. We were room mates at Brindavan. Rest in peace brother.

13:08

Dil

When Bhagawan addressed him as - Ruchir sir..

Early 1990s. Prashanthinilayam.

Close to Bhagawan's birthday, one afternoon, I heard a gentle knock on the mandir interview room. When I opened it, Ruchir sir was standing with rolls of safari cloth in his hand. He whispered, "please tell Swami that, I have brought the safari cloth bundles from Brindavan." Bhagawan was sitting in the seating room, just above the Interview room with Karunyananda Swami.

I ran up and told Bhagwan that Ruchir sir had come with the cloth bundles. Bhagwan looked amused and asked "who has come?"

I responded, "Ruchir sir".

Bhagawan - "Who"

Me - "Ruchir sir"

Bhagawan - "Oh Ruchir. Why are you saying sir?"

Me - "Swami he was my teacher"

Bhagawan - "So?"

As my mind was making sense of Bhagawan's words, to stir up my confusion more, Swami Karunyananda who was pressing Bhagawan's feet turned towards me and said, "Bhagawan is our only teacher. In Bhagawan's presence, you should not be calling anyone else sir. Just call by the first name."

I was in a dilemma. My parents and all through in Balvikas I had been taught to give respects to elders while addressing. Am I to call my teacher by his name and not address as 'sir' and give him the respect he deserves? As was my practice when confronted with such dilemma between the Lord without and Lord within, I prayed to the Lord within to help me and these were my thoughts. "Bhagawan for you he may be Ruchir, but for me he will always be Ruchir sir."

Dil

Bhagawan instantly read my thoughts and and smiled. He asked, "where is your Ruchir (a long pause) ...sir?"

Hearing Bhagawan calling him "Ruchir sir", I had got my answer from Bhagawan to the dilemma.

I responded – "Ruchir sir is waiting outside the interview room Swami."

Bhagawan asked me to call him upstairs.

Ruchir sir and I took the clothes bundle upstairs. Bhagawan had told him in the morning darshan at Parthi to bring the cloths that were available in Brindavan and here he was by afternoon ready with the clothes by traveling to and fro from Brindavan to Parthi. Bhagawan was happy.

Just before going into HIS room, Bhagawan turned to me and said "give tiffin to your Ruchir (a long pause) sir"

After Bhagwan retired, Ruchir sir turned to me quizzically because he was puzzled by the long pause Bhagawan gave between the name "Ruchir" and the word "Sir". He was curious to know what had transpired!

I narrated the incident and Ruchir sir told me, "it is OK to call me Ruchir"

Years went by. However, each time the topic of Ruchir sir came between Bhagawan and myself, HE would take the name of Ruchir and give a long pause and end it with "sir" looking at me. For me, for HIM and all of us he was "Ruchir sir".

God bless and rest in HIM Ruchir sir. 🙏 13:26

Excerpts from the narration of My classmate Siddharth Nayak rephrased.

My classmate Siddharth Nayak was blessed to serve Swami by holding Bhagwan's divine hands to walk and to push his wheel sofa.

One morning after darshan, Swami had retired inside Trayee and was

seated in the Jhoola hall. Rajkumar Jain sir and Siddharth Nayak were with Swami. Swami asked them to open the windows in jhoola hall and was watching the trees outside taking small walks inside the Jhoola hall. The Lord also could not have his privacy. He had to contain himself inside his residence for his physical needs, for we know there will be big crowd of he chooses to go for his walk in the lawns.

It is to note that Rajkumar Jain sir and Ruchir sir were close friends and batchmates blessed to serve Swami in close quarters.

Just then Ruchir sir was walking inside Trayee compund in the Lawn road inside Trayee Brindavan. Clearly visible to Swami but little did Ruchir sir know that he was being watched from inside (Yes He was always being watched by Bhagwan from inside).

Swami with a twinkle in His eye, remarked to Jain sir, "Dekho tumhara wife aaya hai" and gave a big smile indicating that their friendship was known to him. All had a hearty laugh looking at the sheepish shy smile from jain sir.

Also Swami to top the laughter imitated the unique style of Ruchir sir walking in his usual hasty manner with his head tilted to one side and the heels not touching the ground while walking. There were peals of laughter inside when the lord himself imitated his Ruchir. Swami had a great laugh along with Sid and Jain sir.

His imitating Ruchir sir showed that even at the Physical level Swami had observed him so much to get Ruchir sir's walking style perfect. (Needless to mention that Bhagwan is the perfectionist).

Ruchir sir was in the divine radar all the time watched by HIM. He may have left physically but Let's not forget that He's with HIS master in the divine plane.

Love you Swami ❤️❤️
Love you Ruchir sir ❤️

Written by R.Saicharan B.Com, MBA

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning Mourns the Loss of a Very Valued Faculty and Alumnus-Sri Ruchir Desai (1964 -2021)

The Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning expresses its' heartfelt condolences on the unexpected demise of a valued member Sri Ruchir Desai, Associate Professor, Department of Management and Commerce, Brindavan campus.

Ruchir, merged in the Lotus Feet of our Beloved Bhagawan Baba at 5.55 pm on Tuesday,17 May 2021 after a brief illness.

A distinguished alumnus of the Institute (1981-1986) and a teacher par excellence, Sri Ruchir Desai was appointed by Bhagawan as a teacher in the Brindavan Campus in 1986. A serious academician with a bias for academic rigour, Ruchir was one of the finest accounting faculty the Institute has seen.

Over the decades, he has been a great inspiration not just to hundreds of his students, but to one and all who have known him.

In short video messages, the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar, and the Controller of Examinations, SSSIHL, expressed their deepest condolences, heartfelt prayers, and thoughts on this bright son of Mother Sai.

Video messages by -


1. Chancellor
2. Vice-Chancellor
3. Registrar
4. Controller of Examinations

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