Yuga Yuga Ke Avatar - God of Ages

➤ Track 1 - Introduction

Aum Shri Sai Ram!
On this auspicious occasion of Krishna Janmashtami, we offer this musical presentation, “Yuga Yuga Ke Avatar”, at the beloved lotus feet of Bhagawan Shri Satya Sai Baba.

➤ Track 2 - Introduction

The Creation is nothing but a visible manifestation of God’s maya-shakthi. Everything in His creation has a role to play as part of His Divine Leela; nothing happens without a purpose - This, all merciful God out of His love for His creation incarnates from time-to-time in response to calls from His devotees. The Creator assumes a name and a form, the universal takes the form of a particular, to lead the humanity on the path of Dharma. There are many reasons and events that are beyond our comprehension that lead to His advent. One of those reasons is the need to fulfill promises made to those who yearn to serve Him. Lives of Divine Incarnations of Bhagawan Rama, Krishna and Sai are full of leelas that exemplify these principles.

Our musical presentation is based on leelas from the advents of Bhagawan Rama, Krishna, and our own Swami. Swami’s discourse during which He narrates details (that only He knew, until then) about these leelas reveal His Omniscience, Omnipresence and Omnipotence. The declaration came at the end of the discourse - that only He knows this detail, because he is the Self-same Rama and Self-same Krishna.

➤ Track 3 - Scene 1

Narrator: Once there was a boy named, Hu am I. Right from childhood, Hu am I was blessed with spiritual nature. He used to spend lots of time just contemplating about matters of spiritual matter. Soon, he started to become aware of an inner voice that identified itself as I am I. In the beginning I am I appeared at random times, or at least that’s what Hu Am I thought. But, later, Hu noticed that IamI invariably appeared in his consciousness in response to intense contemplation arising out of spiritual inquiries. Sometimes, I am I assumed the role of a great teacher and Hu am I became a disciple. Other times, they traveled through the vast expanses of the subtle space - where Hu found answers to many of his questions.

Most children of Hu’s age would dream of a genie or an angel, Hu had IamI and that was just fine!

[Hu enters the scene - intensely reading a book as he is walking. He stops at a bus station]

Today, Hu comes back from his class at the EHV school where he learns about a close devotee of Swami, Dr. John Hislop. Without wait, he went to the library and picked up one of his books called My Baba and I. He started reading as he walked to the bus stop and kept on reading and reading and reading ....
Track 4 - Scene 1

Narrator: Absorbed in reading, his mind journeys through time and space and becomes an actual witness to events described in the book. HuAml now finds himself in a new reality. In this state of mind, he no longer has body consciousness. Not being able to recognize the reality from a dream, he seeks out his ever friendly inner voice.

Hu: Where am I? What’s happening?

IamI: You were so deeply involved in reading this book, your mind has journeyed in time and space to Dharmakshetra in Mumbai. But, know that the real you is ever present and is all-knowing.

Darshan music in the background ...

HuAml: (emotional & excited) Oh, I see Swami coming out. I can clearly see Him.

Darshan music continues on ...

HuAml: Vision of Divine! Bhagawan, I want to hold You in my heart, like this, forever, all the time!

It looks like something special is happening today. Volunteers are quickly bringing boxes and boxes and laying them down on tables.

IamI: Well ... there are 100 boxes and they have saris inside. Today, Swami is planning to distribute saris to women volunteers who helped to build Sri Sathya Sai Ladies College in Anantapur.

Can you see Hislop sitting among some of Swami’s close devotees?

HuAml: Yes, yes .. and now Bhagawan is starting to distribute saris to women. Oh, these women feel so blessed and are in tears to be receiving gifts from their Dear Lord. Bhagawan always says that He only gives and gives and here is how HE shows it. Ladies are getting back a thousand times more than what they gave. Bhagawan is checking every sari before He hands them to the devotees.

Narrator: IamI continues to be immersed in watching this Lila unfold. He sees that Swami made sure that all volunteers received their saris. In the end, there still were four boxes left on the table. Swami is sitting on HIS chair surrounded by Hislop and other devotees. Suddenly, Hislop gets up on his knees and with his hands together, asks:

Hislop: Swami, why are these four saris wet? Just a few minutes ago, they were in a dry cardboard box. Now, the box is dripping with water, but there is no water around. There’s nothing on the table except for the box. I am confused.

Swami: These saris feel rejected because they did not have the opportunity to serve me. They weep in sorrow.
Hislop: Swami, saris are not like people. They don’t have feelings like us. So, how can they really express their emotions?

Swami: There is nothing in this world which does not have heart, which is incapable of feelings of joy, or grief. Only, one must have the eye to see, ear to listen and the heart to respond.

Scene ends here and there’s a pause and a change in instrumental music

Hu’s reading voice:
Can saris weep? Is it conceivable that saris, inanimate objects made of cloth, can weep, can shed tears as real as the tears that flow from one’s eyes? I don’t understand. Can objects really have feelings?

IamI: Yes, they can. Let us journey 10,000 years into the past to the Treta Yuga to witness another example. HuAml! Close your eyes and focus your attention to the core of your being, your spiritual heart. This is the seat of all powerful, always present and all-knowing ATMA. Let your mind merge in this awareness ...

Narrator: HuAml began to meditate and with ease, entered into deep state of contemplation, just as one enters from one dream to another. In this state of consciousness, HuAml and IamI traveled together to Treta Yuga to witness the epic episode staged by the advent of Shri Ram.

They arrive at the southern coast of India where Bhagwan Shri Ram is gathered together with leaders of HIS monkey army such as, Hanuman, Sugriv, Jambuvan and by HIS side is brother Laxman.

Hu: Oh - is this a dream or ... Sai Ram! Am I really blessed with a vision of the Divine form Shri Ram? What a majestic sight? This great army of monkeys and Bhagawan Ram with His great generals, Hanuman, Sugriv, Vibhishana, Jambuvana. And look, look, here is Lakshmana ... what a sight, indeed what a sight!!

Rama: We must cross this vast and mighty Ocean to reach Sita. Either the ocean makes way for us to cross, or we must build a bridge.

Vibhishana: My Lord! The Ocean owes its origin to Your forefathers. Bhagawan! If You resolve, he will make way and our army can reach Lanka.

Narrator: Rama fits an arrow to his bow and addresses the Ocean.

Rama: I am asking you to make way so that we can reach Lanka. This is My mission and it shall be completed. The Divine must conquer and wickedness must be punished. If you don’t respond to this soft request from Me, you do not deserve any mercy.

Narrator: He prepares to shoot the arrow.
Ocean: “Rama! There are two generals in your army, Nala and Nila, who received a curse from a sage; Anything they throw in the water will float in the same place. This can now be used as a blessing. Have Your name inscribed on every rock. Your name is Light - thus even large mountain thrown in the ocean with your name written, will float to form a bridge. I shall also contribute. For, when the search is for Truth, even the Nature must serve the seeker!

Sugriva: Come on everyone. Let’s spread out and gather hills and large boulders to build this bridge.

Narrator: Everyone spreads out and lifts hills and boulders as if they were small rocks. Nala and Nila toss them into the Ocean.

Narrator: Five days and five nights pass by before the bridge is completed.

Rama: The bridge is complete! Sugriva, send word to the rest of the army that no more hills or boulders are needed.

Sugriva: Yes, My Lord.

Narrator: Sugriva turns to the army and relays Rama’s orders. Meanwhile, Hanuman is near Brindawan lifting up a hill. Upon hearing Sugriva’s instructions, he sets the hill back down and is about to leave, when he hears weeping.

Hanuman: What is that sound? No one is here, but I hear someone weeping. It seems to be coming from this hill. O Hill, why are you crying?

Hill: Why me? Why was I removed from where I was and why am I now refused? Alas! I was elated that I was destined to serve a Divine Purpose; I didn’t ask to be famous as Mt. Everest … Nor did I seek to adorn this mother earth with natural beauty, like the great Alpine range.

All I wanted was to be part of this Divine Mission.

I was overjoyed that the armies of Rama and Rama Himself, would walk over me. Now, I am neither there nor where I was!

Hanuman: Ram, Ram, Ram! What a genuine prayer. I know our Bhagawan always listens to cries from the heart. I am sure of it … He even says that He resides in our hearts. Don’t worry. I will relay your message to Lord Rama. Have faith … soon His grace will shower on you.

Narrator: Thus saying, Hanuman takes one giant leap in the air and arrives at the Rama’s camp.

Hanuman is kneeling at Rama’s feet, waiting for Bhagawan to speak to him.

Rama: Hanuman, please tell me, what’s the matter?
Hanuman: Bhagawan! You know everything, but, I was bringing a large hill when I heard Sugriva’s instructions that the bridge was complete. Immediately, I put the hill down. But, something strange happened. The hill started weeping because it was not able to serve You. He is feeling dejected and discarded. Bhagawan … please show mercy and bless Him with Your grace.

Rama: So be it. I am not separate from my creation. This is all part of My Divine leela. Here is the promise. In my next incarnation, I will give the hill an opportunity to serve me. Hanuman, go now and convey My promise to him. I am the embodiment of Truth and My words will never fail to come true.

Hanuman: Victory to Shri Rama, Victory to Shri Rama, Victory to Shri Ram ….

Track 7 - Scene 2

IamI: What you just saw was narrated by Swami himself.

Hu: Swami said this? But how could he know this? He is only 81 years old, while this happened 10,000 years ago!

IamI: Listen carefully to me. Do you remember everything since you were born?

Hu: Of course not. Who can?

IamI: But, you were alive all the time and experienced it all. Also, you do remember everything about important things in your life, is it not?

Hu: Sure. I am not sure where’s all this going …

IamI: Well, Arjuna once questioned Krishna the same way. Arjuna knew that Krishna is God, but sometimes Krishna appeared to him as a guide and a friend. Of course, this is very much a Divine sport. Arjuna asks:

“Krishna, You said that You first taught the Gita to my ancient forefathers? But, that’s thousands of years ago … So, to which age do you belong? Did you teach them while in this body? That is unbelievable. For this body is only four or five years older than mine. I only know the present but not the distant past You speak of. What is the reason?”

Hu: Yes, yes, exactly … I am really keen to find out how Krishna replied?

IamI: Krishna laughs within Himself. From being a charioteer and a friend, He revealed His real nature. He answered to all mankind:

“Arjuna! What exactly do people mean when they say the Sun has risen and the Sun has set? It is so far as their vision is concerned. That is all, is it not? The Sun does not rise, it does not set. I am also like that. I am not born, nor do I die. So I am conscious of all My appearances, all My manifestations. I am Almighty, I am All knowing.
I am unborn, immortal. Humans are born as a result of the merit and demerit of previous births. Mine is a Divine birth as a play of God. Prayers of the good are the cause of My birth. The misdeeds of the wicked are also the cause!”

**Hu:** This is so profound. Our Bhagawan is so powerful and yet so accessible. He is truly a friend, a mentor and a guide for all of us.

Now, I wonder how He chooses to fulfill His promise to the Hill. Do you know? I am sure there is another one of His leelas here too …

**IamI:** Aha! You did remember to ask. For that, we will have to travel 5000 years to Dwapara Yuga. Let’s go to Gokulam on the banks of river Yamuna where the Lord has taken human birth as Krishna.

**Narrator:** HuAmI begins to meditate and easily attains the state of inner consciousness where his lower minds are non-existent. HuAmI and IamI traveled together without forms, as pure wisdom and knowledge, across space and time. They arrived at this beautiful hamlet, Gokulam, cuddled between the Gowardhana Mountain, the flowing waters of Yamuna river and enchanting forest of Brindawan.

It’s a big day in Gokulam, as the elders are gathered for a puja and a ritual. Preparation for the puja is going on under the supervision of Nanda. On the side, Krishna is playing with the cowherd boys and girls on the other side …

After sometime, young Krishna playfully comes to his father, Nanda, and asks:

**Track 8 - Scene 3**

**Krishna:** Father

**Nanda:** Yes Krishna.

**Krishna:** What is all this going on? Please tell me… what are you all doing? What’s the purpose behind all these activities?

**Nanda:** All this is in preparation for a ritual, puja to please Indra. This Indra, is rain itself. Clouds are his manifestations. This mighty Indra is responsible for the ecosystem that sustains agriculture. All of us are therefore performing this puja to worship him and to please him.

**Narrator:** With his infinite knowledge and guidance Krishna’s assume the role of a teacher and said:

**Krishna:** I see that the only purpose for this puja is personal gains. Everyone is seeking comfort and happiness. But, man is born out of Karma and dies due to Karma. Joy or grief, Pain or happiness, all good and bad experiences are a result of his own actions. And man is in control of his actions- so where is the need for puja?

**Nanda:** Krishna, you might be younger in age than us, but your words are wisdom itself. What shall we do?
**Krishna:** We must act according to our role in society. We are cowherds not farmers. We live outdoors in the foothills of this mountain. This land which provides pasture to our cows and shelter to us is what we need to worship. Why perform a ritual to please Indra? It is not necessary. So, in my opinion, all this preparation should be used to perform puja for the well-being of our cows, this land and the mountain.

**Nanda:** So be it. We will pay our homage and perform our worship accordingly.

**Elder:** Krishna, this has been a long tradition. Will this make Indra, who is the king of Gods, angry?

**Krishna:** Dharma protects and sustains. Self-confidence is the foundation for faith and devotion. The Divine will protect those who practice Dharmic teachings. Have no fear when I am here!

**Narrator:** With Krishna's word in mind, the elders and Nanda collect their puja articles and offer them to the Gowardhana Hill. Indra, noticing that everyone is following Krishna decides that He will teach all of them a lesson. He suddenly turned into dark clouds to bring a storm and prepared to strike the villagers.

**Narrator:** Trembling in fear, the cowherds ask for Krishna's help. Krishna gives a smile and just like a child holding a flower in his hand Krishna lifts up the Gowardhana mountain on one finger.

**Krishna (smiling):** Come all of you, take shelter under this hill. Don’t feel worried that I will not be able to hold this up for long. Have faith in Me ...I will not fail you. I assure you that I don’t feel any weight and I don’t need any effort to keep this up.

*Scene ends here and there's a pause and a change in instrumental music*

**Narrator:** The storm lasted for 7 days but just as Krishna promised the mountain did not even waver slightly. When the Sun returned Krishna laid the mountain down.

**Hu:** hey wait a minute, this is not making any sense here? Are you saying a Krishna avatar who is essentially God fought a God, Indra? I don’t get it how could two God’s be fighting, after all God is all good why would he fight another good?

**IamI:** Everything happens for a reason. You see, observing that He was being named as such, Indra decided to demonstrate to the world that Krishna was indeed God come on earth. So, he manipulated a situation, where Indra Puja was cancelled by the people of Vraja, where Indra retaliated with heavy downpours of rain, and where Krishna had to lift up the Gowardhana Peak, in order to shelter the cowherds and cows from the onslaught on the downpour. It was all part of the play. Indra had no anger, nor did he entertain any idea of revenge or retaliation! Nor would Krishna ever advise people to give up Puja. Such miracles were decided upon, in order to make them identify the Divine already amidst them. Such incidents confirm the view that nothing can happen, without an underlying purpose.
Hu: Ooh I see, that makes sense so it was all part of the play..., but then if Krishna is God why would he need to shelter the people in the first place, couldn’t he just make the water go away as he has infinite power in this universe.

IamI (smiles): Do you remember when Hanuman was making the bridge for Rama to travel across to reach Lanka.

Hu: Yes I do

IamI: And then he promised a little mountain that was not needed for the bridge building that it’s purpose would come later, but in time it would definitely have the honor of doing God’s work.

Hu (gasped): He kept the promise! That’s the same mountain!

IamI: Yes......it is.

Track 9 - Scene 4

Narrator: And suddenly, they were once again witnessing Hislop’s conversation with Swami. Hislop, no longer confused, sat and watched as Swami took the remaining four saris and distributed them, one going to Mrs. Hislop.

IamI: Do you understand now, how all objects have and can express their feelings?

Hu: It makes a lot of sense now.

IamI: You have to realize that no matter what it is, everything is the same; it is in fact part of god and is in itself God. Therefore, even the most unassuming of objects is God, and can express its feelings.

Hu: Every object and every person is one with God.

May All The Beings In All The Worlds Be Happy!
Om, Shanti, Shanti, Shanti