



I remember a small story, which illustrates this point of forgetting our motivation. There was a small farmhouse in England with a lake. A turtle used to live in the lake. The young boy who lived in the farmhouse used to go and see the turtle everyday. He became friends with the turtle. One morning, he found it lying on its back, apparently lifeless. He was very upset and was inconsolable in his grief. His father tried to console him by saying that they would have a funeral for it. Together they would make a coffin, and give him a ceremonial burial and make a nice grave, and build a tomb and install a tombstone, engraved *Mr. Turtle*. Together they prepared for the turtle's burial. When they went back to get the turtle, it was not dead, but was alive in the lake. Now the boy was so enthusiastic about the burial, he said to his father, "Father, father, let's kill it so we can bury it!"

Likewise, we can become so enamored of our project that we forget the original motivation for that project. It is important not to allow this to happen. Whatever we say, we should do; and we should consider that we are doing it as a dedication to Swami, to please Him. That kind of motivation will definitely purify our thoughts and will take us nearer and nearer to the goal of the Ideal Sai Devotee. Thank you very much for your patience and attention. Jai Sai Ram.

Dr. Goldstein

Dr. Goldstein thanked all the speakers and the delegates for their participation. In closing, he observed:

Clearly you have come to this conference with serious intentions and concerns. I have heard pressing questions and enquiries regarding administrative and management issues. It is our duty to respect and respond to all genuine concerns and we certainly will. But, the preeminent concern is Love. I ask all of you to look around the room and recognize that we are in the Divine presence of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. All of us who are gathered here and, in fact, all men and women everywhere, are truly embodiments of His Divine Love.

The conference was officially closed with the assembly chanting the prayer, *Loka Samastha, Sukhino Bhavantu* (May all the worlds be happy!).



Pictorial Section

8th World Conference

