

# The Sadguru Sant : A Divine Gift

~ Saheli Sheth (Peoria, USA)

**Real talk :** Why is it so important to connect our children with a Sadguru Sant<sup>1</sup> ? While there are countless reasons, let's talk about two of them.

**1. The nature of aging:** Due to how the human lifespan works, many children may outlive their parents. When I think about the day that my parents will depart from this Earth, intense feelings of dread and fear grip my throat. There is only one statement that soothes me, a promise made by our very own Swaminarayan Bhagwan: **Bhagwan Shri Swaminarayan's supreme divinity has been and shall remain forever manifest in human form on this earth.**

He has kept His promise through His unbroken lineage of God-realized gurus.

Read the fine print here : **You will never, ever, ever be alone.** Even if every family member or friend departs first, **God in His human form, the Sadguru Sant, will always remain with you on this Earth.** When I remember this promise, a calm ocean of serenity quiets the tsunami of fear and dread. Through an ongoing connection with a Sadguru Sant, your child will also feel this peace.

**2. The pursuit of happiness:** Many parents have one crucial wish for their children: for them to be happy. But how can happiness be attained in this world of distractions, heartbreak, and conflict? As stated in the Swami ni Vaato :

<sup>1</sup>A God-realized Saint, for example, Guruhari Sahebada, Sadguru Sant Pujya Ashvindada, Sadguru Sant Pujya Shantidada, Sadguru Sant Pujya Manojdasji.

અક્ષરધામના જેવું સુખ આંહી વર્તે છે, તેમાં પણ કેટલાક દુખિયા છે. તેમાં દેહનું દુઃખ થોડું ને મનનું દુઃખ ઝાઝું છે.

*The bliss of Akshardham prevails here, yet still, some are miserable. Misery due to the body is a minor cause, and misery due to the mind is a major cause.*

Our children, especially as they become overwhelmed by technology and comparison, need a shield from this misery. This is where the God-realized Saint comes in: our key to happiness. Guruhari Sahebada teaches us to “think positive” – an underrated skill, because how many people do we actually know who have mastered it?

**Connecting with a Sadguru Sant :** So, how do you connect with a Sadguru Sant well enough for your kids to learn from that connection? Ask for their contact information if you don't have it, and message, call, or send them pictures of things that make you think of them. No reason is too small to reach out! I have witnessed my parents randomly message a Sadguru Sant because “it's been too long, we miss him!” Children of all ages learn by observing; if they see their parents connect with a *sant*, they will learn to lean on *santo* during both good times and bad.

The best gift we can give our kids is **one that will outlive us.** And such a gift is found in the timeless promise of Swaminarayan Bhagwan: His human form will remain on Earth forever, in the form of a Sadguru Sant, who today is with us as **Guruhari Sahebada.** ◆