play as transmitters of values and ideals to future generations. ‘You need to cultivate greater self-esteem and self-respect. You need to have greater faith in yourself and in the nobility of your profession,’ exhorts Dada Vaswani.

As the true teacher he is, the author elaborates the diverse roles and responsibilities of a teacher through apt analogies and jokes, which make reading this book a pleasant experience. The illustrated book also abounds with plenty of wise counsel like engaging students constructively, dealing with problem children, handling stress, and so on.

The quotations attributed to Mahatma Gandhi on page 19 and 96 are, in fact, statements made by Swami Vivekananda. The error needs to be corrected in the next edition.

This book, coming at a time when there is a serious erosion of values in the teaching area, is recommended for all connected with the teaching profession.

Swami Vedapurushananda
Ramakrishna Mission Vidyapith, Purulia.

Holy Mother, Swamiji, and Direct Disciples at Madras

‘Young men of Madras, my hope is in you. Will you respond to the call of the nation?’ Swami Vivekananda exhorted the youth of Chennai—former Madras—and they admirably responded. Supporting the swami’s travel to the West, they gave a grand reception on his return and built one of the first centres of the Ramakrishna Order. This response continues as it became evident by the city’s enthusiastic celebrations of the centenary of Swami Vivekananda’s return from the West in 1997 and the 150th birth anniversary of Holy Mother Sri Sarada Devi in 2003.

The book under review is a compilation of various accounts of the stay of Sri Sarada Devi, and Swamis Vivekananda, Brahmananda, Shivananda, Ramakrishnananda, Abhedananda, Vijyanananda, Subodhananda, Niranjanananda, Turiyananda, Trigunatitananda, and Premananda in the city. Chennai and its people are inseparably linked to the Ramakrishna movement. Marina Beach, Parthasarathy Temple, Kapalishwara Temple, Mylapore, Triplicane, and various other places in the city have been hallowed by the visits of these spiritual luminaries.

Meticulously referenced, this volume contains many valuable photographs and interesting lesser-known facts—like Swami Subodhananda learning Tamil. A tribute to the spirit of Chennai in spearheading the cause of the Ramakrishna movement, it could well be a prized possession of all the admirers of the movement and the city.

Swami Narasimhananda
Advaita Ashrama, Kolkata

BOOKS RECEIVED

Nine Steps to Realize God
B S Patil

The book shows in a few steps how to tap the fountain of spiritual wealth and live a successful and happy life.

Great Sayings with Illustrations

This handy hardcover pocket booklet presents the sublime sayings of Sri Ramakrishna, Holy Mother, and Swami Vivekananda intermingled with their many pictures.

Fragrance of Sai Bhakti
Suresh Chandra Gupta
Shri Sai Samiti Noida, 64-D/2, F Block, Sector 40, Noida 201 303. Website: saimandirsec40noida.org. 2010. xii + 139 pp. ₹ 70.

For devotees of Shri Shirdi Sai Baba, this book is fragrant with deep devotion, veneration, and longing for Sai Baba and his grace.