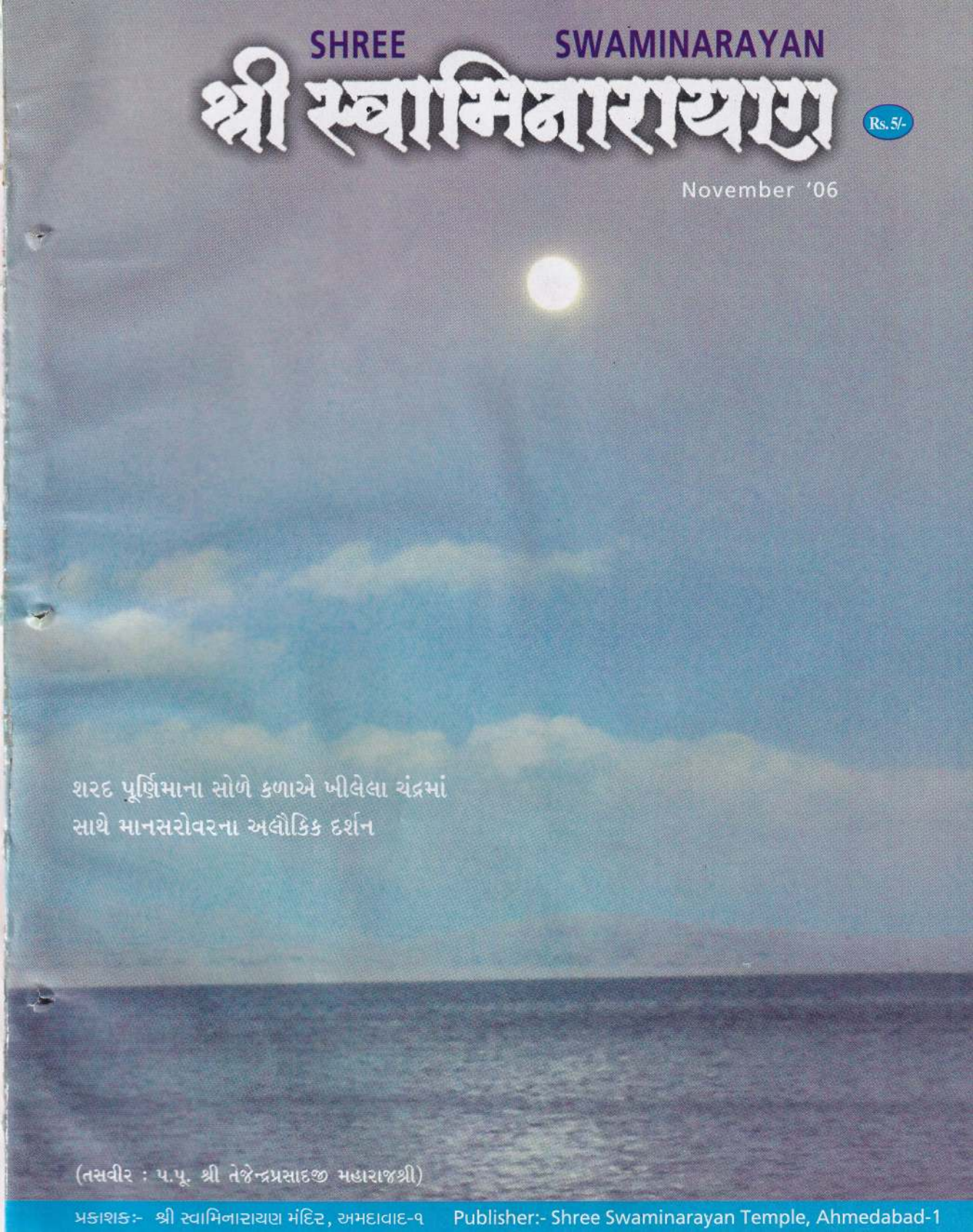
SHREE SWAMINARAYAN
શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ

Rs. 5/-

November '06



શરદ પૂર્ણિમાના સોળે કળાએ ખીલેલા ચંદ્રમાં
સાથે માનસરોવરના અલૌકિક દર્શન

(તસવીર : પ.પૂ. શ્રી તેજેન્દ્રપ્રસાદજી મહારાજશ્રી)

પ્રકાશક:- શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ મંદિર, અમદાવાદ-૧ Publisher:- Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Ahmedabad-1





Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan, in his manifestation as Neelkanth Varni, had graced the Mansarovar some two hundred years ago as a celibate. The devotees recalled these ancient memories when Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri served Maha Pooja at the sacred bank of Mansarovar. The Maha Pooja rituals were conducted by Swami Bhaktiharidasji (Muli).



Founded in 1998 A.D. By H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri, Shri Narnarayandev Diocese.

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ENGLISH EDITION
TARUN RAVAL

Editorial & Subscription Address
Shri Swaminarayan
(English)
Shri Swaminarayan Temple
Kalupur, AHMEDABAD-1 (INDIA)

Life time Subscription :
One Year : Rs. 50/-
Inland life time : Rs. 501/-
Overseas life time : Rs. 5000/-
India : @ Rs. 5/-

Published Simultaneously in English, Hindi and Gujarati on 11th of every Month.

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Official News-letter from Shri Narnarayandevdesh Diocese

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN श्री स्वामिनारायण

Vol : 9 No : 99 November 2006

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Editorial

Whatever Shri Swaminarayan Bhagwan has preached, He had practiced it first with Himself, before He preached. Shri Swaminarayan Bhagwan Himself has practiced the means like Vratta, tapa (penance), Sadhana (meditation) and the others and thereafter, Shri Hari has ordered to us to practice those chosen means to please Supreme Lord. Any one from such devotional ways, need to be practiced by the devotee, to earn the pleasure of God Moreover, to strengthen the spirit of detachment and to destroy the desires, a devotee needs to adopt Sattvik means. The gross intelligence cannot be of any help to the soul, in locating the Sattvik means, and therefore, an aspirant should follow the preaching of religious scriptures. This would enable the soul to walk easily on the path of salvation. Among the too many means like Japa (silent chants), Tapa (penance), Vrath, Daan (donation) and Yoga, one majestic means is Tirth-Yatra (pilgrimage of holy shrines). This is why, Bhagwan in guise of a celibate Brahmin boy-Nilkanth Varni – spent seven years in pilgrimage of the shrines in greater India. Unperturbed Nilkanth Varni did his pilgrimage across thunderous mountains and valleys of the snow covered Himalaya. He did pilgrimage of Mansarovar by walking against the stormy flow of the river. He emancipated everfree souls dwelling in Mansarovar, in disguise of the royal swans. The sacred shrine of Mansarovar is now revisited by the sixth descending son of him. H.H.Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri led the retinue of the saints and the faithful devotees, and revived historical memories of pilgrimage of Nilkanth Varni. We should do darshan of His holiness to refresh the memories of Shriji Maharaj. Such a blissful darshan and the blessing of him will take us to ultimate benediction.

- **Shastri Swami Nirgundas**
  Editor
  Shri Swaminarayan.



Appointment Diary of H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri

October-2006

1. Graced the inauguration of the office of Shri Ravindra Gopalbhai Modi, Shahibaugh, Ahmedabad

2. Received birthday wishes from His saints and the devotees on the 35th Birthday celebrations chaired by H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri.

   Graced Shri Swaminarayan Mandir at Kalupur and Narayanghat and served Sharadotsava Aarti to Lord Thakorji.

   Graced marriage ceremonies organzied in family of Shri Girishbhai Parshottambhai Patel.

7. Graced inauguration of the shop of Shri Bhupendrabhai Chatrubhai Patel, Naranpura, Sola Road.

   Graced the place of Shri Kanubhai A. Patel, Ghatlodia.

8. Graced 'Homa' at the residence of Shri Natvarbhai Devchanbhai Soni, Navrangpura.

9. Graced house warming ceremonies at the house of Shri Nathalal A. Patel, Shahibaugh, Ahmedabad.

10. Graced the residence of Shri Hasmukhbhai K. Chauhan.

14. Graced the place of Shri Sanjaybhai Mistri, Vatva, Ahmedabad.

    Graced Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Jivrajpark, Ahmedabad.

15. Graced presence at the Satsang Sabha organized at the house of Shri Rohitbhai K. Patel, Kubernagar.

    Graced the residence of Shri Pankajbhai K. Thakkar, Meghaninagar, Ahmedabad.

19. Graced Patotsava Celebrations at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Karjisan.

25. to 27. Graced Prayagraj and Chhapaiya - Narayan Sarovar to attend 'Asthi Visarjan' rituals of Respected Matushri (grand mother to His holiness).

HOMAGE BY THE GLOBAL SATSANG TO PAY FINAL OBEISANCE TO RESPECTED MATUSHRI ON HER ASCENT TO THE ABODE OF AKSHARDHAM.

(Late Matushri is the mother of the Sixth Acharya of Shri Narnarayandev Diocese, Ahmedabad)

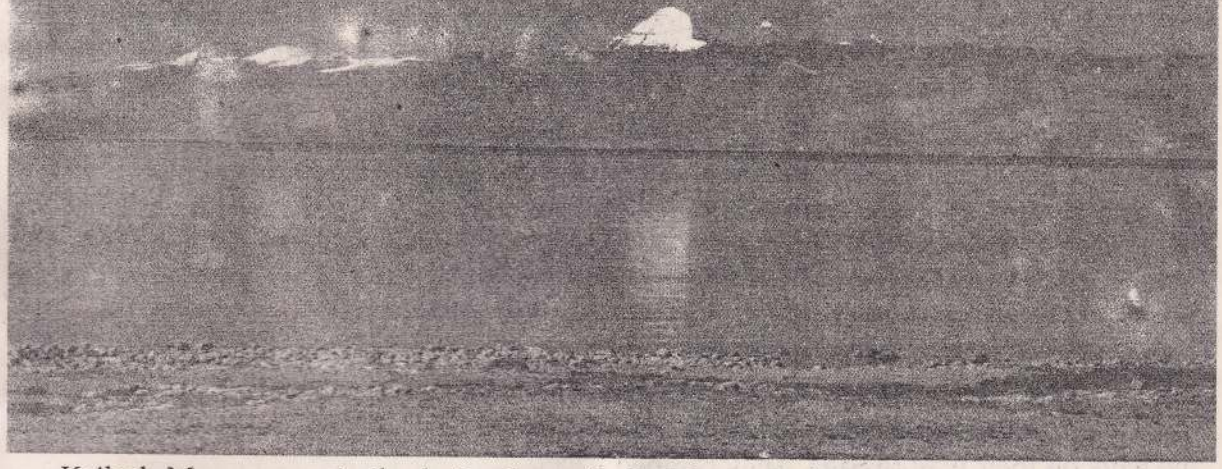
The detached soul and the spouse of the 5th Acharya (Late) Shri Devendraprasadji Maharajshri, has renounced her body of the gross elements and the eternal free soul has ascended to divine abode of Akshardham amidst the chants of 'Shri Swaminarayan Bhagwan, on 19-10-2006. Late Matushri is grandmother of the contemporary Acharya Maharajshri and mother of earlier Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri.

Religious and political leaders from the State and India have frequented Shri Swaminarayan baugh-the official head quarters of His Holiness- to pay respect to (Late) Matushri. Shri Narendrabhai Modi (Honourable Chief- Minister, Gujarat State), Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama (Minister, Gujarat State), Shri Purushottam Rupala (President, BJP, Gujarat), Dharmkool, Mahants, saints and the senior devotees from both the Deshas have conveyed in person, their hearty feelings.

A special assembly was organized on 1-11-06 at 8:30 a.m. to pay homage to (Late) Matushri. The assembly was chaired collectively by Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri, H.H.Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri. The devotees and faithful aspirants from India and abroad were assembled to pay final obeisance to (Late) Matushri. The Mahants from the temples in Gujarat and Shri Narnarayandev desh were assembled with the saints and Mahants from Vartal, Gadhpur, Junagadh and other Temples in Shri Lakshminarayandev Desh, were present at the assembly. Enlightened saint S.G. Mahant Shastri Nirgundasji and S.G. Shastri Swami Harikeshavdasji recalled past memory and praised devotional services and faith of (Late) Matushri. They brought to the knowledge of the contemporary generation, the awakening in female Satsangis, brought by Matushri in her time as Gadiwalashri, through her most inconvenience religious tours of Saurashtra, Kutch and Dandhvya desha. The roads and transport vehicles were either unavailable or were in a very poor condition. Despite such odds, She had left no stone unturned for the growth and development of the Sampradaya. The saints, scholars and senior devotees were come forward to sing praise of her devotional service. H.H.Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji recalled memories with tears in his eyes. Shri Mangalbhai Patel (Honourable Speaker, State Assembly, Gujarat state) expressed his hearty feelings and paid obeisance to (Late) Matushri.

About ten thousand aspirants and wellwishers were come from India and abroad to pay homage to ascended soul.

The Pilgrimage of Kailash Mansarovar in holy company of H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri



Kailash-Mansarovar is the holy place of Hindu religion. God and deities from celestial abode descend to this place to have water sports. Kailash and Mansarovar are the prasadi places sanctified by divine touch of Shriji Maharaj. Lord Shriji Maharaj in his form of celibate boy- Neelkanth Varni- had dwelled here at this place at young age of the eleven years. Celibate Neelkanth had traveled through the tall mountains, deep valleys and dense forests. He had scaled snow covered mountain peaks to come to this place. Bare footed celibate had performed here penance at the serene planes of Mt Kailash. Lord Brahma- the creator God- had created this beautiful place to give eternal pleasure to the celestial deities and the mankind on the earth. The royal swans at the lake, used to have the real pearls as their food. Shriji Maharaj has made this lake benedictory by having bath in it's sacred water.

The Gangotri, Yamanotri, Kedarnath and Badrinarayan are located at the hight of 12000 feet, but the shrine of Kailash-Mansarovar is at the hight of 18000 feet. A direct road, linking Badrinarayan and Kailash-Mansarovar, is now under construction. Some 215 years ago, Shriji Maharaj has graced this place in his life as a celibate Brahmin boy-Neelkanth Varni, and now the sixth descendant heir -the another form of Shriji Maharaj- H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri led the holy pilgrimage to celebrate 225th Birthday of Shri Swaminarayan Bhagwan.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri led the pilgrim saints and the householder devotees early in the morning on auspicious 29th day of September-2006. They were wished by the Chief Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi and the Minister Shri Bhupendrabhai Chudasama. Jet Airways managed the pilgrimage from Ahmedabad and with a brief halt at Delhi, they landed at Kathmandu. The pilgrims were blessed with the darshan of Lord Pashupatinath Mahadeva and Lord Vishnu. Lord Vishnu dwells here on his special bed of great serpent. H.H.Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri served Mahabhishekam to the Shiva Lingam.

The visas were processed next day at the border of China, before their onward pilgrimage to Kailash-Mansarovar in region of China. The pilgrimage from Kathmandu to Nyalam was a day long journey, by a fleet of chartered luxury coaches. While enjoying serene natural beauty of lush green meadows, forest, crystal clear streams, rivulets and unending range of mountains and valleys, they ascended the height of 6000 feet. There was little strain in breathing due to thinness of air. They stayed back for the two days at Nyalam.

With unbroken faith and trust, they began onward pilgrimage of Kailash Mansarovar. This was more difficult pilgrimage than their earlier journey to this place, therefore, they chose land cruisers for the onward pilgrimage. The refreshment and meals were arranged at the tents on their way to Saga. They camped at the new motel at Saga. Saga has become more memorable due to typical supply of water at that place. Here at Saga, the water supplied for the morning rituals was cold, and that too, was supplied most rigidly for the two hours duration every morning. Warm water was supplied invariably at evening! The saints were used to cook Thaal- meals to serve it to Lord Thakorji and Maharajshri. The pilgrims felt majestic presence of Shriji Maharaj in benign company of Acharya Maharajshri. The pilgrimage from Saga to Nyalam has become more challenging due to steep height of the mountain range and constantly thinning air. However, serenity of the environment strengthened their faith and devotion. They came to the hermitage of Swami Chidanandji Saraswati and stayed back for the one day at this peaceful place. Swami Chidanandji Saraswati has put in personal efforts to build this hermitage for the service to the pilgrims.

The pilgrimage from Nyalam to Paryag was much difficult. There was constant increase in height and stiffness causing problems in breathing. The devout pilgrims experimented with camphor and bottled oxygen to overcome breathing problem. At about four o'clock in evening, they did darshan of Mansarovar and camped at an Ashram near the lake. This was auspicious full moon night of Sharad Purnima. Silver like moon rays were showering on this holy place and full moon of Sharad Purnima was reflecting in tranquil water of Mansarovar. The canopy of sky was bedecked with the moon and stars. The pilgrims were relishing these eternal charms at the height of 18000 feet, by the grace of Shriji Maharaj. Snow covered mountain peaks were encircling this holy place. Those mountains looked like the satpurushas paying silent obeisance to the holy place. Lord Neelkanth Varni was protecting the pilgrims at the height of 18000 feet.

Maha-pooja was served next morning. The event was hosted by H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. The saints and the faithful devotees followed their Guru. The rituals of the Maha-pooja were conducted by S.G. Bhaktiharidasji (Muli Dham). The thaal was served at noon and prasadam of the sacred water was collected thereafter.

A large number of the pilgrims, preferred to stay back at Mansarovar to do Kailash Parikrama of the three days duration. H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri led the saints and the other devotees in their return journey to India and Ahmedabad. They left for Paryag at 4 p.m. and came to Nyalam next morning. From Nyalam, they came to Kathmandu and from there, they came to Ahmedabad.

The pilgrimage of Kailash-Mansarovar is most difficult among all the pilgrimages, but it became easy and memorable due to presence of His Holiness- the another form of Shriji Maharaj.

- A Report from Prahladbhai Patel, N.J. (U.S.A.)

GREATER ACHARYA MAHARAJSHRI'S SPIRITUAL ENDEAVOUR FOR OUR ULTIMATE BENEDICTION

- Prof. Suryakant Bhatt

The souls born to this sect are most fortunate among souls on the earth, because they live in holy company of the idols of God, the temples, the Acharyas, the saints and the sacred scriptures. The five Nand-santas have compiled Vachanamrits of Shri Swaminarayan Bhagwan. They did it for the benediction of mankind. The Vachanamrits are universely unparalleled. Those are nectar like words of God- Shri Sahajanand Bhagwan.

The Platinum Jubilee of H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri was celebrated by the sect, with devotion and faith. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri has blessed the mankind on this special occasion by compiling in his own handwriting a book- "Vachanamrit- maan- Shri Narnarayandev".

His holiness writes in the preface of this book: 'Lord Shri Hari is like a 'Chintamani' in this 'Kalpavriksha' like Sampradaya. There shall be little weakness in our efforts for the self emancipation, if we failed to understand that, there is no difference between Shri Hari and Shri Narnarayandev- the idol form installed in the temple at Ahmedabad by Shriji Maharaj Himself. One may realize this truth by his deep study of the eternal words selected from the 273 Vachanamrits, compiled by the five Nand-Sants of this axiomatic sect.

I have mentioned here selected paragraphs from those Vachanamrits. The devotees should read those Vachanamrits and should carve at his heart, each and every word of these Vachanamrits. This will help them to realize glory and majesty of Lord Narnaraandev.'

The title page is bedecked with the image of Lord Narnarayandev sitting at the personal pooja throne of His holiness. The last title page is bedecked with the holy foot-prints of Lord Shri Hari. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri is another form of Shri Hari and His holiness is in direct contact with Shri Narnarayandev. This book is a boon for the aspirants. I am mentioning here a few from the selected paragraphs:

".....then said Shri Hari, 'By the grace and majesty of Lord Narnarayandev, I do realize that I am pure consciousness, I am unbreakable, I am not piercable, I am Sachchidananad and my greatness is due to my eternal and divine form and due to the meditational penance by Shri Narnarayandev. .....and due to such meditational concentration of Shri Narnarayandev, I shall never be tempted to the sense objects, even if the celestial Devanganas descend to tempt me." (Vachanamrit: G.F-8)

".....It is our order that all our devotees will get an image of God, on a paper. You worship that idol form. Your worship to that idol shall confirm to the scriptures. If you would offer the hearty worship to Lord Narnarayandev, I have excellent rapport with Lord Narnarayandev, so I shall tell him with an earnest request that 'Oh God! Please reside permanently in the image that worshipped by the devotees who adhere firmly to the vow of the Panchvartaman. .....Therefore, be absolutely sure with the full faith and trust that the idol is the Lord, Shri Narnarayandev himself, and keeping in mind this cardinal truth, don't leave the idol without worship in any of the circumstances." (Vachanamrit: G.F-48)

".....Therefore, in this world, the great Rishi Narnarayan is the only one who is a

perfect celibate. Since we all have saught refuge in him, we all shall gradually attain that state, by the grace of Lord Narnarayandev." (Vachanamrit: G.F-73)

"Since we are dedicated devotees of Shri Narnarayandev, we should submit in absolute at His will, which is for our ultimate good. If He desires a hindrance free flow of the satsang, it shall be so God willing and if he desires otherwise, we should accept even that with utmost willingness. If Lord Narnarayan put us on an elephant, we should accept it willingly. On other hand, if He make us to ride a donkey, we should accept it with pleasure. But in no case, we should recede in devotion of lotus feet of Lord Narnarayandev. (Vachanamrit: G.F-74)

"Narnarayan Bhagwan, guised in the form of an ascetic, performs penance out of compassion and devotional love.... And the faith, knowledge, ethical duties and other virtues which are not so significant or so strong in the devotees residing in Bharat Khanda, become significant, strong and powerful in them by the penance and grace of Lord Narnarayandev. They attain ultimate benediction by the penance of Lord Naranarayandev. Those who do not tread the path of devotion are not so graced by him." (Vachanamrit: Sarang-16)

"We have constructed now the temple of Lord Narnarayan at Ahmedabad and many other such temples are to come up at the different places, ...but you should not inspire those people, who have no faith or trust in God. If Lord Narnarayan willing, the temple will come up and if not willing, it will not; but on this particular purpose, we should act in such fashion that ill feelings are not created. And at the time of religious festivities and Samaiyas of Janmashtami, if Lord Narnarayan willing, the events may be celebrated by spending millions of rupees or may be with a plain leaf of Tulsi. But the celebrations should go on in normal course, not under any compulsion or pressure. And the people, who at their free will desire to give away their villages, land, wealth or money to Lord Narnarayan at their own wish, may be allowed to do so at their free will, but there should be no insistence from our side." (Vachanamrit: G.M-21)

"Thousands of people were gathered to celebrate the events when I went to Ahmedabad to install the idols of Lord Narnarayan in Ahmedabad temple. I pulled my self together and left Ahmedabad when the grand event of invocation of Lord Narnarayandev was concluded and the Brahmins of the eighty four subcastes were served with sumptuous feast meals and cash gifts.....at the core of my heart, I liked only Narnarayandev, nothing else....." (Vachanamrit: G.M-22)

".....Lord Purushottam Shri Narnarayan is the cause of all the incarnations. And one, who imagines death in relation to Lord Narnarayan, has to undergo hellish pains and rebirths. Those who believed firmly in eternity of Lord Narnarayandev, shall be free from the cycle of birth and deaths. Therefore, all the followers in Uddhav Sampradaya, do hereby ordered, not to imagine death in relation to various forms of God manifested in past, present or in future....." (Vachanamrit: Ah-4)

".....I have installed with earnest insistence the idol form of Lord Narnarayan here in this temple at Ahmedabad by considering the idol as my own form. Therefore, don't imagine any difference between me and Lord Narnarayan of this temple. He is the Supreme God of Brahmdhaam." (Vachanamrit: Ah-6)

".....and the person to whom should be saluted most politely at first without any ego

by considering him as a devotee of Lord Narnarayandev, and should pray to him for a pardon. But in no circumstances, one should bring in self ego of age, power or status. Our God, Lord Narnarayandev is free of ego, anger and false-pride. We, the followers of Uddhava Sampradaya, should discard ego, anger and pride. (Vachanamrit: Ah-8)

".....There is a means to remove wicked desires. If arises such a desire that goes against the religious limits prescribed by me; or rises malice or disliking for a saint or a satsangi, one should pronounce loudly at that time the sacred names "Narnarayan, Swaminarayan." (Vachanamrit: Jet-3)

".....The saints like you are unparalleled .....and the one, who would offer food to you with devotional love, would earn reward of hundred holy fires and would attain emancipation at the end of one's life. And one who would touch your feet would be free from all his sins of past one hundred births. One, who offers cloths and attires, would earn ultimate benediction..... The actions taken by you, have become benedictory, because, you saints are in eternal refuge of Shri Narnarayandev, who dwells on the earth..... and Narnarayan Rishi sits constantly in your assembly. .....and you all have attained today Shri Purushottam Bhagwan today in the idol form of Shri Narnarayandev Rishi; therefore, feel free of doubts and do devotion with blissful pleasure. (Vachanamrit: Jet-4)

"...Listen to me with attention. I am telling you, as it is. There is nothing greater than the devotion of God, as God is the doer of every thing. And this moment, this Sabha is the doer. And with the grace of God – Narnarayan, I can do any thing as per my wish. ... Weak devotion culminates into a poor response.....I know everything of the past, present and future. I know from here everything –everywhere. I knew in like manner, quite before my birth, when I was in my mother's womb. And I knew all these well before, when I was yet to be in my mother's womb, because, I am the form and image of Narnarayan Rishi..... I am bringing repeatedly the glory and majesty of Shri Narnarayandev in my discourses, with a reason that Shri Krishna Purushottam- the Lord of Akshardham- Shri Narnarayandev sits here every day, in this Satsang-sabha. And considering him as the form of mine, I am spending millions of rupees in construction of his temple and installation of his idols by my own hands at Ahmedabad.....

The people in this country, who sat aside Shri Narnarayandev and worship other Gods or demi-gods, are like an unchaste woman, who sets aside her husband and runs chasing a stranger to satisfy her lust and carnal desires..... I have incarnated my self for the benediction of my saints and my faithful devotees. Therefore, if you could practice as per my preaching, I would take you definitely to my divine abode, wherefrom I have come. Know that, you have been emancipated, and if you entrust full faith in me, I will relieve you in adverse time of calamities- such as earthquake, draughts and disasters. I will extend absolute protection against adverse time. This would be done if you adhered firmly and faithfully to this Satsang- Holy fellowship, practiced the religious code of the sect and continued steadily with this Satsang. If not doing so, you would be a pray to the calamities, disasters and hardships of the worldly life and there would be no relation between you and me. I have ensured in absolute, leaving nothing. (Vachanamrit: Jet-5)

Divine Episode of Lord Shri Hari

- Prof. Mahadev Dhoriani

Vankia is a small village in hilly area of Panchal. The court of the local land-lord (Darbar) is assembled at the open court of Vankia. The darbars are discussing among themselves the problems related to local administration. At that late morning, comes there the four horse riders, led by Lord Sahajanand Swami.

Moka Khachar- the chief of the darbars, saw Shri Hari entering the village and heading towards the court and him. Moka Khachar rose swiftly from his seat and ran towards Maharaj. Shriji Maharaj saw him rushing towards them. Shriji Maharaj came down from Manki and held arm of Maka Khachar with love and compession to stop him paying obeisance by prostrating his person in sacred feet of Maharaj. Shri Hari took him to his side and hugged him with deep love. The darbars at the court followed the foot steps of their chief and paid hearty obeisance to Shriji Maharaj. Jai-Jaikar of Shri Swaminarayan echoed in all corners of space and land.

Hasty river–Utavali, passes near the out skirts of Vankia. Moka Khachar has one low roofed farmhouse near the bank of Utavali. He prayed to Maharaj to grace his farmhouse. Shriji Maharaj and the retinue camped at the farmhouse to favour his faithful devotee. The aspirants at the near by villages knew about the religious tour and camp of Shriji Maharaj. They came to the farmhouse to do darshan of Shri Hari.

Brahmin priest from village came to the farm to attend kitchen and to cook Thaal meals for Maharaj and his saints. Moka Khachar earned the pleasure of God by serving Thaal meals to Shriji Maharaj and the saints.

Huge assemblies were organized each day to deliver devotional discourses to enlighten faithful devotees. Hundreds of visiting aspirants were benefiting spiritually by this daily Satsang. Moka Khachar and his courtiers were attending these sessions invariably without any break. The sessions were being conducted twice a day in the morning and evening.

The devotees and aspirants were benefiting by this daily Satsang. They were satisfying their quest for eternal knowledge by submitting their personal inquiries to Shriji Maharaj. Shriji Maharaj himself was answering to their question. But in the today's session, Shriji Maharaj found Moka Khachar sunk in the ocean of worries. Omniscient Lord Shri Hari, read the mind of Moka Khachar and knew about his problem. Shriji Maharaj then asked him to revive his spiritual aspirations, 'My Dear Moka Khachar! Are you worried? Is there any problem? May I be of any help to you? Tell me'.

Moka Khachar looked at Maharaj by raising his head. He prayed, 'Maharaj! There is nothing to worry for. This small state is divided between we two. In my share, I have got the land of two villages, namely: Vankia and Sukhpur. I am thinking to settle here at Vankia by building a house at Vankia.'

Maharaj smiled at him and said, ' Darbar! My Dear Devotee! You are chief of this village and the land besides Sukhpur and the other land. To build a house is not difficult for a village chief and Darbar. If you desire so, you have the capacity to build a huge palace.'

Moka Khachar prays in return, ' Maharaj! I have made a secret resolute to get the drawings from you to build a house for my family. I have made a firm resolute get from you the drawings of my proposed house. I earnestly pray to you get for me a good location and bless the proposed house.

Maharaj pleased to his devotee for his spiritual enlightenment. Shriji Maharaj says, ' Moka Khachar! There is no problem in

choosing a suitable site for the proposed house. Come on! Follow me.' Shriji Maharaj walked towards a hill in eastern direction from Vankia. He came to the hillock and said, ' Moka Khachar! This is the ideal location for your residence.' Moka Khachar and his courtiers said in consent, 'Maharaj! As you wish.'

Maharaj took then a tiny branch and said, ' Moka Khachar! I am drawing a line by this stick like branch. You ask your people to fix stones to mark the line permanently.'

Omniscient Lord Shriji Maharaj drew the map of the royal residence and covered the area of the two Bighas. Moka Khachar observed it carefully and prayed to Maharaj, ' Oh my Lord! You have drawn the map of royal palace.

Maharaj said with a blissful smile, ' Moka Khachar! I have given much thought to the future when I draw this map of the Darbar Gadh. It has many rooms to fulfill various needs. Therefore, build a spacious and splendid palace for your family.'

Moka Khachar says, ' But Maharaj! I am a small chief of thetwo villages and I have only one son – Gelo Khachar, as my sole successor.'

Shriji Maharaj says in confidence, ' Moka Khachar! Build a fulfledged Durbar Gadh in accordance to my drawing. The lineage of your son Gelo Khachar and his family shall be too large to accommodate in this spacious palace. In not so far future, he will find it too small to accommodate his family.' Shriji Maharaj pronounced this forecast and rode Manki for his onward religious tour to Girnar.

Moka Khachar prayed quickly with presence of mind, 'Maharaj! In your return journey to Gadhada from Girnar, please stay back at Vankia to favour the satsangis by your blissful Dathan.

God is bound to his devotees by the rope called selfless love. How could he say no to his faithful devotee?

An artistic map was drawn by Maharaj to create four spacious halls on four sides of the fort. Moka Khachar directed his artisen to build a spacious hall. He installed there an image of Shriji Maharaj and created there the atmosphere of celestial bliss, by suitable decoration of the hall. The painted images of Ramanand Swami, Muktanand Swami, Premanand Swami, Nishkulanand Swami and other Paramhansas were placed on the four walls of the beautiful hall. Huge paintings of various leelas of Shriji Maharaj, were painted on the walls. Hundreds of thoughts and quotations from the Shikshapatri and Vachanamrits were written on the walls of this spacious hall. Thus the room was ready to welcome Shriji Maharaj.

As was promised earlier to Moka Khachar, Shriji Maharaj graced Vankia after the religious tour of Girnar. A colourful procession was arranged on this auspicious occasion to welcome Maharaj at this small village. It was a sweet surprise for Shriji Maharaj. Maharaj said, 'Oh Darbar! You have created entire Akshardham here in this region.'

'Maharaj! We desire to conclude Vastu – Poojan by your blissful hands and for that, my people have constructed this room hurriedly'.

Maharaj knew about the core of this conversation. He admired at his heart the spiritual wisdom of Moka Khachar, and remembered the spiritual wisdom of the boatman to compare it with the spiritual enlightenment of Moka Khachar. Moka Khachar benefitted spiritually by getting a map from me with the Vastu of his palace.

The spacious hall, where Shriji Maharaj had the Thaal meal, has become a prasadi place. Hundreds of devotees throng this place everyday to do Darshan of Maharaj. Maharaj has gifted a sword to his devotee. The sword and the prasadi hall are open to the devotees for the Darshan and the obeisance. Thousands of aspirants are thronging this place to do darshan of this prasadi items.

THOUGHTS & APHORISMS FROM SHRIMAD SATSANGI BHUSHAN PRAYAN

Reader-priest : Mahant Swami Shastri Nirgundasji

Place : Swaminarayan Mandir, Nava Naroda

As has been said in Neeti Shastra, one should not argue in front of a stronger person.

Unfulfilled desires are bound to result in a re-birth of a soul. The rebirth shall be in accordance to his unfulfilled desires.

Shri Swaminarayan Bhagwan has asked his followers not to trust in miracles, magic or black magic. Trust in God and devotion.

Married woman are called better half of their husband. The virtuous rewards of the actions taken by their husband are shared equally by such married man and his wife. However, a married man can not pass on the half of his sins to his wife, though the sins may have been earned by the sinful acts committed by the man during his married life. Thus a married woman is a partner in the virtuous acts of her husband, but she is not a partner in the sinful acts of her husband. This is the reason, why a married woman is called a 'Dharm-Patni' of her husband. The sins of the sinful acts of a married woman are transferred to her husband and such a husband will have to bear the burden of such sins. Therefore, a virtuous husband should take good care of her wife to help her to walk on the path of virtuous and faith. There rules and commandments are prescribed by the scriptures, women are used to realize God earlier, even if, their virtuous acts are very small. God favours the mother – again a woman – and offers the first chance of the Darshan of his incarnation at the time of his birth.

The women are the ocean of kindness and compassion. The men's eye sight is heavy to the new born child. This is the reason, why a man is not allowed to see his child during the first week, after the birth of his child. Man's eye sight is harsh hard and rough. It's powerful force is ten thousand times more than the power or force of the lazer rays. The man has such power in his eye sight. Yogis are used to emply the power of their sight in welfare of others. Gopalanand Swami stalled and stopped the lunar eclipse to save the head of his follower sat sang.

The salvation is not unattainable to a person who salutes to the Satpurushas or Sadhus , who have submitted in absolute at the refuge of God. Salvation is easily attainable to a person, who has served meals to the ascetics and Saints.

Wherever there is discrimination against man or woman, small or big or good or bad, there shall be the fear and danger attached to such discrimination. There is no discriminative attitude at the divine abode of Akshardhaam.All the free souls are equal and indiscriminate. God and the Muktas live at the abode of Akshardhaam.

Antahkaran becomes pure by constant chants of the names of God.

God pleases with satisfaction, if a devotee serves whole heartedly the service of leaves, flowers, fruits and water.

Whole beans of Mung cook thoroughly and in an even proportion, when we boil it in water. Healthy beans of Mung cook thoroughly and at times merge like a liquid but the spoiled seeds among the Mung, retain their coarce stiffness like small pebbles. Boiling water can not soften the mass of such spoilt seeds of Mung. Among the Satsangis, some are hard and static like such spoilt seeds of Mung. They noad their heads in confirmation to a dialogue or preaching, but like a solid rock, they are absolutely change free, unaffected . At the Satsang , they confirm to the preaching and sermons, and when they are at home, they confirm to the worldly ways!

The names are very beautiful these days, but the actions of the people have become very bad and ugly in comparison to their beautiful name. In past not so far, people were used to be called

by the name which were not so good in taste. There were people named Kacharo (garbage) Ukardo (huge heap of garbage) Mafat (cost free) etc., but the actions and works of them were priceless and most beautiful.

God is not sat for robbing his devotees: God desires only the one tenth part of the income in accordance to the personal capacity of his devotee. If a devotee is not capable of sparing the one tenth of his income, he may donate as Dharmada , the one twentieth part of his income. God accepts such Dharmada with a free mind and in return showers his unbound pleasure for welfare of his faithful devotee. God acts for absolute good of his follower devotees. God worries for his devotee.

A true devotee -a faithful Haribhakta – never believes in black magic, blind faith or evil power. A faithful Haribhakta lures others to attend Satsang!

The family members should seat together at evening to do worship and prayer of God. They should read before the members at least a page or a chapter from the sacred scripture. They should deliver Katha at least for the ten minutes every day. This will restrengthen spirit and spiritual values in growing generation. The Satsang and family relation will last forever in such family. This is our culture.

Jetalpur Dhaam destroys the sins of the visiting aspirants.

Shri Hari says, 'I am having Thaal with my saints. I am gracing the places when my saints are on a religious tour. I am pained by the pains of my saints. People should know these facts. The saints dwell in me, and I dwell in my saints. My saints should be regarded as my own image – my own form. This is absolute truth.

The mountain like sins of a sinner, become tiny like a fine grain of mustard when a sinner submit in absolute at the refuge of God. A thief or a sinner grows much faster than the other devotees in Satsang and devotion, when he is initiated in holy fellowship.

The well preserved Tiffin of devotion and darshan shall be immensely useful when a soul ascends to the path of divine abode of God. Do devotion. Do darshan of God. There are souls who did not like to speak the names of God, they dislike to remember God. They disobey to the orders of God. Such souls can not attain ultimate benediction.

The sins of past and present births shall be burnt to ashes, if knowingly or unknowingly, one utters the names of Swaminarayan: Soul attains Akshardhaam by his surrender to Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan.

The idols of Lord Narnaryandev at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Kalupur, Ahmedabad have been sculptured by the heavenly sculptor – Vishwakarma. Demi Gods and presiding deities were used to worship this image at heaven. Even these days, Gods and demi – Gods are used to visit the temple to pay obeisance to Lord Narnaryandev – dwelled in these idols. At the time of installation, the images walked beside Maharaj from their Yagya Mandapam and graced their places at the inner temple.

Shri Swaminarayan Bhagwan sat on the threshold of the chamber of Lord Narnaryandev and said, 'There is no difference in the forms of Narnaryandev and myself. The service rendered by the devotees to Lord Narnaryandev shall be accepted by me while dwelling eternally in the form of Lord Narnaryandev. I will escort the souls to my divine abode.'

A devotee, when surrenders at the refuge of Lord, earns those Punyas, which were earned by Lord Narnaryandev through the penance. The virtuous fruit of the penance helps the devout soul to realize divine majesty of Shri Hari. The soul roams on the earth without such ultimate knowledge.

The one who has God at his heart help the others to realize God. God dwells in the heart of the saints and therefore the saints are helping the aspirants to realize divine majesty of Bhagwan.

There are souls, who can not enjoy the pleasure of God's holy presence, despite they have him with them. They are unfortunate souls.

The grace of a Satpurusha helps the devotee

Con. on page 15

NECTAR LIKE BLESSINGS FROM HIS HOLINESS

- Compiled by : Gordhanbhai Sitapara

The Vijaya Dashmi Stands for the victory of the divine forces. Victory of the divine and defeat of the evil. Evil forces are our inner enemies. Inner enemies are more dangerous than the outer enemies. Kama (desires), Krodha (anger), Lobha (greed), Maan(pride), Eershya (envy) and Ahmkara(false age of doership) are big enemies of man. These inner enemies are big hurdles on our path of salvation. The man has to fight out these evil forces. He has to defeat them. God helps the man to defeat these inner enemies. Vijaya Dashmi day and the poojan-Aarti were unique at our Swaminarayan Temple. The celibate chief priest and saints were at service of God to help Supreme Lord to adorn shield and weapons.

Thousands of devotees were come to the temple to serve poojan-Archan on this auspicious day. There is tradition of serving poojan- Aarti to the weapons. Here at the temple devotees have served poojan to supreme lord and victorious weapons. Shri Hari holds weapons to kill inner enemies of his devotees. Devotee should pull together little force and Shri Hari's support shall be there to defeat inner enemies.

The Vijaya Dashami is the birthday of the seventh descending son of Shriji Maharaj H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri conveys hearty blessings to his devotees on this special occasion.

I am narrating here the blessings received from H.H. Lalji Maharajshri and H.H. Acharya Maharajshri:

'I pray to Lord Narnarayandev to grant long life to the devotees here. Moreover, I Pray to my father- (His Holiness) to bless me the power and the Strength to serve this holy satsang.' – H.H. Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri

'Maharaj wrote in the Shikshapatri to act upon his orders. He asked us to act with love. Further, He asked us to practice it consciously. Some practice it under the pressure. Some practice it under the fear and some act with personal greed. The best among these, is the practice with Love.

When is it possible to practice it with Love? It is possible to practice it with love, when one realizes Maharaj in the truest form. It is possible to practice, when one loves Maharaj. Bond of true love inspires hearty following. We obey to the orders of our loved one. We do much more than what he has desired. One acts contrary, in absence of selfless love.

Almighty Supreme Lord has installed this spiritual seat of satsang. Don't act in the way that gives bad name to the sampradaya. Don't act contrary to the principles of this holy seat. The Satsang and Maharaj are not belonging only to me. Maharaj and the Sampradaya belong to saints and devotees. The help and support are needed from all for this Sampradaya. Maharaj has blessed us with the form of Lord Narnarayandev. Well before the pilgrimage of Kailash-Masarovar, H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri has said to us that he was visiting that place to click photos and images. Real majesty stays here at this place- in this temple. We know that His Holiness loves photography.

Maharaj has blessed us with Lord Narnarayandev. Maharaj dwells dwells here in this image to benedict us. Maharaj has blessed us with the saints, Haribhaktas and the scriptures. There is nothing more than that to attain. Lord Narnarayandev is present before us to handle our smallest ever file-plea – of the devotees. Lord Narnarayandev grants instantly the wishes of his devotees. Householders are aware about the efforts needed to get a prayer granted by the highest office at Gandhinagar or Delhi.

Once I was traveling with my retinue of the saints and parshadas. There in the city, I found heavy traffic jam on the road. I saw a small girl walking on a rope in hot sun of summer. She was playing tricks to earn livelihood. Maharaj is kind to us. As soon, he held the seat, Maharaj ensured a boon for the

satsangis. He desired food and clothing for his devotees. If we act according to will of god, we may earn name and fame. We exist due to Maharaj. We can't do service of the satsang by our futile talk or speech. Wholehearted efforts are a must. We should employ our mind, action and speech in service of God. I pray to Maharaj to bless us with moral strength and spiritual powers to practice upon the orders of Maharaj.

— H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri.

It will not be out of context if I repeat here the speech of Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri. 'As far concerned to the faith, trust and Shri Narnarayandev, there is no room for any compromise'

— H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri.

(Janmashtami Samaiya, Muli Dhaam).

Con. from page 13..... **Thoughts & Aphorisms From Shrimad Satsangi Bhushan Prayan**

to remember God at the time of death.

The worldly sense objects are bound to give pains. Only God bestowes divine pleasures. Worldly souls cannot understand this subtle truth. Worldly relations are selfish. An enlightened soul becomes a slave of the worldly objects instead of being a slave of supreme Lord.

The cycle of births and deaths destroys automatically when a soul loves God instead of loving sense objects.

Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan pleases to his devotees, when they like Hanumanji, do devotion like a slave of God. The grace and compassion of Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan help a weak soul in realization of supreme Lord.

The world pleases to a person who knows the ways to please Shri Hari. God pleases to the devotees who have surrendered in absolute at the blessed feet of God.

- Compiled by : Gordhanbhai. Sitapara

Con. from page 18..... **Ingratitude**

him as his food. He carried the dead body to eat. Nadijang was a good friend of Hiranyaksha. Hiranyaksha liked his company. Next morning, he sent a messenger at the place of Nadijang to invite him, but he found him nowhere. At last he went back to Hiranyaksha and reported about Nadijang.

Hiranyaksha sent his army in search of Nadijang. They searched entire region and caught Girish, when they found with him the dead body of Nadijang. Hiranyaksha was very angry to him, when he knew about sinful act of Girish. He rebuked in extreme anger, 'Oh Girish! He was a good friend of yours. He had helped you to earn wealth and status, and in return, instead of being thankful to him, you have killed your good friend for a prey. You are most ungrateful. It is disgusting.

Hiranyaksha summoned demons to kill and devour Girish. They killed Girish but refused to have his meat. Demons too did not like to have the meat of a ungrateful man. Ingratitude is a major sin.

Heavenly cow-Kanmdhenu – in space dropped some milk drops on dead body of Nadijang. Nadijang became a live. In his conscious state, Nadijang inquired about his friend- Girish. Hiranyaksha narrated the story of his sinful acts. Nadijang requested his friend to extend life of Girish. King of heaven – Indra – pleased to them and blesses life. Girish came back to conscious state and prayed for a pardon.

Girish spent rest of his life happily. He lived a virtuous life and repented for his past sins.

Kalol Yuvak Mandal Celebrates Acharya Maharajshri's Birthday by gifting life membership to the readers of Shri Swaminarayan

The Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal at Kalol has celebrated the Birthday of Acharya Maharajshri by contributing 50% of the subscription to the 35 new life time subscribers of this magazine. H.H. Acharya Maharjshri conveys hearty blessings to the Shri N. N. D. Y. M. Kalol. *– Mahant Swami*

UNIVERSAL BENEDICTION

- Atul B. Pothiwala

The sun is waiting to sat in western sky line. The sating sun is waiting for some one. Its red light is reflected on the stream of Ghelo River.

Shriji Maharaj and his retinue of the saints and devotees are heading towards Ghelo to have evening bath. Sun God feels fulfuilled by one darshan of Shriji Maharaj. A Kanbi farmer is heading towards his house on the bank of river. Lost in thoughts, he strikes at the shoulder of Shriji Maharaj. He hardly bothers about it and walks further on way to his house.

Mulji Brahmehari was walking behind Shriji Maharaj. He caught the arm of the farmer and said, 'Have you knocked at the shoulder of our God? Are you blind?'

The farmer said, 'May be, I am a blind, but what about your God! Can't he see? Why has he not seen? In the incarnations like Rama and Krishna, he has not seen us. They have benedicted Gopalaks and monkeys! But not bothered for us. He has ignored us flatly. We have been forgotten by him.'

Maharaj was listening to this dialogue. He made a firm resolute, 'I will benedict all lower castes, inclusive of Kanabis and farmers. I want to benedict everyone. None is to be left.'

Maharaj acted upon his resolute and benedicted Kanabis, Kathi, Koli, tailors community, barbars, gardeners, goldsmith, tribals, Mer and others belonged to lower casted. They were elevated to higher plane of life style matching with the purity of Brahmins, warrior's community and trader's community. He taught them virtues, ethics and good conduct. Great devotees came from these lower castes. Not only Hindus, but the people like Khojas, Vohra, Pathan, Muslim and Parsis came in virtuous fold of this sect.

This was a rise of new era. This was reformation of Indian society. Mankind learnt the values, virtues and sublime purity, reflected in their householder life.

Maharaj graced the Akshar Ordi after the ritual of evening bath. He graced a huge bedstead and said 'Mulji Thakkar! How much you know in accounting?'

Mulji Sheth said, 'Maharaj! I know the accounting needed in our trade and the society.' Maharaj asked him again, 'Sheth! How much you know in accounting?' Mulji Sheth submits, 'Maharaj! I am able to count the figures consisted of 18 units – one and seventeen zeros!'

Maharaj pondered for a while and said, 'I desire at present to benedict infinite numbers of the souls. I want to benedict all the aspirants on the earth. Those who come in contact with our Haribhaktas or the saints shall be benedicted instantly. Those who offered water, meals or any service shall be benedicted without any doubt. The souls born in this Satsang shall be benedicted ultimately without any effort.'

This was a pleasant surprise for the devotees present at the assembly. The call of universal benediction echoed in all the direction. They knew about the ultimate cause of this incarnation.

શ્રી નરનારાયણદેવ પીઠાધિપતિ
પ.પૂ.ધ.ધુ. આચાર્યશ્રી
૧૦૦૮શ્રી કોશલેન્દ્રપ્રસાદજી
તેજેન્દ્રપ્રસાદજી મહારાજશ્રીના
૩૫ મા પ્રાકટ્યોત્સવ પ્રસંગે
મંગલ કામના

श्री कोशलेन्द्रं मुदाचार्यवर्यम्
गुरुंस्तथा पितरं तन्नमन्तम् ।
सर्वाधिकं ज्ञानिनां मानदक्षम्
दीर्घायुषं प्रार्थयामः प्रणामम् ॥

स्वामिनारायणं देवम्
नौमि सदुणकाम्यया ।
कृपया देवदेवस्य
सर्व श्रेयस्करं भवेत् ॥

(ડૉ. વાસુદેવ વિ. પાઠક પાગથી)
(૨, ઓક્ટોબર, ૦૬ વિજયા દશમી)

CONCENTRATION

- Shastri Haripriyadas

Botad is a small town near Sarangpur Dhaam. There at Botad, lived a faithful devotee of Shriji Maharaj. Shivlalbhai was a faithful devotee of Shriji Maharaj. He was a businessman by profession, but was a true Satsangi – a true devotee. He was so dedicated to devotion and devotional service that the world and the worldly charms were vanishing from his mind, as and when he sat for a Pooja. He was concentrating exclusively in devotional service (Pooja). He was forgetting time and place during such concentration.

Contemporary wall-clock, timepiece or wristwatch, may be useful to some people and may be so in certain circumstances, but far and large, we – as a soul – have lost much of devotion due to such measurement of time. There are people, who look at their watch by turning and twisting their wrist and they do it frequently at a short interval of ten minutes! Such habit or stupidity is very harmful to the self-enlightenment and spiritual growth.

A senior Satsangi was living in a village. The saints were used to visit that village to conduct Katha-sessions and Kirtans to help the householders on sacred path of devotion. That old man was attending such sabhas regularly. He was used to stand up to salute the saints, as and when a saint or a reader priest graced the sabha to conduct katha-satsang. In those days, huge wall clocks with designer pendulum were an adornment of the public halls. This pious soul was used to cover the dial of the clock by his side cloth. Once a saint asked him, 'Bhagat! Why are you hiding the dial of the clock? Why you cover it?' Bhagat said, 'Swami! We hardly have five or seven days in a year, to listen to your enlightening discourses, moreover, the discourse ends for the day right at 10.00, if the time becomes noticeable without delay. Such a short time is not acceptable to we needy aspirants. Therefore whenever you see at the clock, this side cloth will act like a covering veil to obstruct your vision. The Katha-Satsang will continue for a longer time.'

The teaching of the episode is: Don't pay more attention to your wrist watch, when you serve poojan archan. Shivlalbhai, though a big businessman, was forgetting his business and engagements at the time of Pooja. He was concentrating exclusively in devotional worship.

Gopalanand Swami graced Botad, and with his saintly group of disciples, he resided at the house of Shivlalbhai. He was used to see from a distance the poojan, offered by Shivlalbhai, and after a little while, he was sitting silently beside the seat of Shivlalbhai. Shivlalbhai took it as a grace of Swami and assumed , it as a reason for sitting beside him. Swami was used to leave the place, at the end of Pooja. This became like a daily routine for the four consecutive days, but on the fourth day, swami left the company of Shivlalbhai, when he was about to complete the first half of the poojan. Shivlalbhai went to the place swami to pay salute, when he concluded devotional worship. With a humble salute, he said, 'Swami! Why you left the Pooja in middle?

We address our loved one by their first name without any suffix or prefix. Plain name indicates intensity of selfless love. Swami was loving him, therefore, he said, 'Shivlal! I was sitting in your Pooja, but that was not for to see your face. You are so engrossed in Pooja, are so much concentrated in it, that Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan comes in person to receive your Pooja. Therefore, I was used to sit beside you to have blissful darshan Shri Hari. Now, you try to recall, what was happened to you when you were half way in your Pooja? What you thought, when you broke your concentration?' Shivlal Sheth pondered for a while, and said, 'Swami! It is true. In middle of the poojan-archan, I thought about the man, who was to come from Bombay for a big business deal. I thought about the man and about the proposed business...' Gopalanand Swami interrupted the dialogue and said, 'Shivlal! As soon you thought about your business, Lord Swaminarayan, who was receiving in person the poojan-archan from you, rose from the sear and left the pooja-place. Now there was no point to stay back beside you. Therefore, I too left your place in between.'

This shows power of the concentration. Who is effective when you are before the idol of Lord Thakarji? Who is effective in your devotional worship? Who is effective when you chant on the beads of rosary? The answer is one and only one, for these three questions; concentration acts effectively. God receives it in person – Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan comes to us – when we do devotion with absolute concentration.

INGRATITUDE

- Sadhu Shrirangdas •

Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan has narrated his experience in company of an ungrateful man, in description of the pilgrimage of Tirupati to Rameshwaram. This episode is narrated in the Vachanamrit (G.F – 10). Shriji Maharaj has narrated it to teach us a lesson, to teach us to be cautious. Shriji Maharaj certifies him as an ungrateful man, and leaves him far behind in his pilgrimage to Rameshwaram. Shriji Maharaj preaches us, to not be ungrateful like that Sevakram. Shriji Maharaj dislikes ingratitude. Here is a story about an ungrateful man:

Once upon a time there was a poor Brahmin youth. He belonged to a holy and pure sub-caste of Brahmin. Though was born to a noble caste, he was deprived of livelihood. There was no money – no occupation – to feed himself. He was borrowing money for his living. He was living in his ancestral house. He spent months and years without any productive work and earned huge burden of debt due to constant borrowing. He pitied himself for such self-humiliation, and at last he stood on his feet to do something. He thought to sell his ancestral house to raise fund and thought to pay off borrowed money, out of the proceed of the sold property. He made up his mind to leave his birthplace and the country to test his luck in some western countries.

He sold the house, paid the debt and went overseas to earn money and wealth. There was enough money with him to start some business. He settled in a gulf country and married to a muslim woman. He lost majesty of his upper caste; he lost his purity and inherent virtues due to his marriage with a muslim lady. Being weak and unsteady in his will power, instead of – leading his wife, he became a docile follower of her and went too far in spoiling personal character and conduct. He had meat and wine to please her and became like muslim convert. He lost his purity, virtues and good intentions. Even after losing the inner wealth, he was not successful in earning wealth. The country, its culture, and its value system were not suited to him. He remembered his goal when he thought about his past, and left muslim country to fulfill his aim of earning wealth. He traveled far and large in different countries, scaled hilly regions and forests besides towns and villages to find out a suitable job. Once he fainted in exhaustion, hunger and thirst, on his way through the countryside. However, he recovered himself and in torments of fatigue and unsustainability, he dragged himself towards a pond. There, a crane named Nadijang saw him in such precarious state. The crane took good care of him and served food and water. The bird then asked him about the cause of his present venture. Poor Brahmin Girish narrated to him his adversaries and prayed for a supportive hand. He explained that, he was roaming region to region in search of a good earning, but luck was not favouring him. He prayed once again for the help. Nadijang helped him and gave address of his friend.

Helpless Girish visited the office of Sheth Hiranyaksha at Hansdhwaj. Hiranyaksha was a friend of Nadijang. He honoured the recommendation of his friend and offered a lucrative job to Girish.

This was a favourable time for Girish. He earned wealth and respect. After some years, he desired to go back to his home state. He conveyed his desire to Hiranyaksha. Sheth Hiranyaksha consented to it and made comfortable arrangement for his return journey.

In his return journey, Girish came to the place of his well-wisher Nadijang. Nadijang was very happy for Girish. He offered feast meals and good entertainment to welcome his new friend and spend whole day talking about Hiranyaksha and his business empire. Due to unethical life style, Girish lost virtues and wisdom. In his re-birth as a rich man, Girish was become a greedy and selfish soul. At night, he looks at Nadijang sleeping innocently at his place. His flashy body tempted Girish to kill the bird for his tiffin. He took a burning log and killed Nadijang to have

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Spiritual Wisdom

- Samkhya Yogi Kamalaba and Ushaba (Surendranagar)

Lord Purushottam Narayan dwells on the earth to re-establish axiomatic religion and to benedict infinite number of souls. A true devotee lives happily as per the wish of God. He neither blames God nor complaints to God for his adverse time; 'Why I am at pain despite my devotion and penance? A true devotee never thinks on that line. He bears the pains and adverse time. Such devotees are Ekanthik Bhaktas.They live happily as per will of God. There are spiritually wise souls.

Bhagwan has said in his Vachanamrits, There is nothing uncommon among the ascetics or the householders. The one is great if he is great in his spiritual wisdom. It is very difficult to develop spiritual wisdom. We are most fortunate among the souls on the earth. We have with us our God – Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan. Take this as good fortune. Even Gods are not fortunate enough to do darshan and service of Lord Shri Hari. Many have lost their crowns and thrones to do a darshan of Bhagwan, but despite such sacrifice they haven't got a faded glimpse of God. Don't lose your courage and faith due to on slaugth of adverse time. Don't leave refuge of Shri Hari to do worship of other Gods or Goddesses. Our Swaminarayan Bhagwan is with us. He dwells in Satsang. He is our saviour in our adverse time. He takes good care of us through his faithful devotees. Develop firm faith and trust.

In a village near Botad, lived a devotee of God. Giga Dhadhal was a faithful follower of Shriji Maharaj. He belonged to lower middle class. In a family of three, he has one son and one daughter. Giga Dhadhal was a blind. His widowed daughter and his son were living with him. Daughter was taking good care of her father and the son was looking after farming. Free soul Gigabhai was spending his time in devotion of God.

Adverse time pourced upon Giga Bhagat and his aspiring son fell in jaws of incurable illness. Giga Bhagat sat beside the bed of his son to support his spiritual wisdom by chanting names of God and turning heads of sacred rosary. Maharaj manifested himself in front of his ailing son and told him about the end of his life line. God told him that he was there to take him to Akshardhaam. God advised him to seek permission from his father. Giga Bhagat listened to this fragmented dialogue. He said, 'My child! Who else is there?' The son said, 'Father! Shriji Maharaj is here to take me to his divine abode. If you permit me, I may go with him to Akshardhaam.'

Giga Bhagat said, 'My child! If Maharaj is here to escort you, you should not waste your time for my permission. You may leave for Akshardhaam.' Giga Bhagat permitted him happily to leave for Akshardhaam. Relatives and well-wishers came to conclude funeral rituals. They gathered again at evening to console Giga Bhagat for ultimately death of his son. They said, 'Bhagat! You are a blind. Moreover youthful widowed daughter is a responsibility on your head. To add in such adverse time, God has snatched away your son. Maharaj is not just to you. It is visible injustice.' Bhagat said to them, 'Look! Shriji Maharaj has taken my son to his divine abode. At a given time we all will have to leave this body and the world. There should be nothing to grieve for my deceased son. Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan himself has escorted him in his final journey to Akshardhaam. Lord Shri Hari takes good care of us. Pray to Shriji Maharaj and thank

him for his favour.' Thus, Gigabhai himself consoled his relatives and well-wishers on this occasion. It is very difficult to acquire such spiritual wisdom. Maharaj says, 'Ascetics and householders are equal in their status. Those are great who have acquired trust spiritual wisdom.

Now there were only two members in family of Gigabhai – blind father and widowed daughter. There was nobody to earn livelihood for them. There was nobody for them. There was nobody to protect this support less family. Giga Bhagat spent his householder's life chanting name of God. He held unshaken faith and trust in Shriji Maharaj. They spent about six months in devotion and worship of God. There was no complaint from Giga Bhagat about the acts and ways of God. Meanwhile, his daughter fell prey to an incurable ailment. Shriji Maharaj manifested himself in front of her and with due consent from Giga Bhagat, Shri Hari took her to the divine abode of Akshardhaam.

The relatives and well-wishers said, 'Gigabhai Khachar! You are blind and helpless. The son and daughter were the only supports. The son was the only bread winner in your family but God had taken him away without any consideration. After the loss of bread winner, your daughter was the only support in your householder's life and she was taking good care of you in your blindness. Now, Bhagwan has snatched her away from you. God needs to be considerate towards your helplessness.'Giga Bhagat said, 'Shri Hari has removed my worries. I was much worried about the future of daughter after my death. Almighty Shriji Maharaj worries more for his devotees. God has freed me, by taking my daughter in her benign refuge. God has taken her to his divine abode of Akshardhaam.'

Shriji Maharaj then manifested his divinity in front of Shivlalbhai and said to him, 'Shivlalbhai I have taken the son and the daughter of Giga Bhagat in my divine abode of Akshardhaam.' Shivlalbhai prayed with little worry, 'Maharaj! What about Giga Bhagat? He may be helpless in his blindness. Who will support him?' Maharaj said, 'I have come here to talk about it. I am assigning this responsibility to you. Be supportive to him. Take good care of Giga Bhagat.' Shivlalbhai said, 'Maharaj! I am most fortunate. You have blessed me with an opportunity to do service of Giga Bhagat. I will do at my best at the service of Gigabhai Khachar. My Lord! Please leave it to me. I will put in best of my efforts to comfort Gigabhai.'

Shivlalbhai came to the village of Gigabhai and found out a virtuous lady to extend service to Gigabhai Khachar. He went to the house to Gigabhai Khachar and informs him about the orders of Shriji Maharaj. He told Gigabhai about the arrangements made for the householder's requirements and meals.

A fixed deposit of Rupees five hundreds was kept with a seth, and the expenses towards food bill and salary were to be arranged from this fund. Five hundred rupees were a huge amount in those days of past.

Shivlalbhai took good care of Gigabhai Khachar by visiting him frequently at his house and continued to send money without any delay. Gigabhai Khachar thanked Shriji Maharaj and the devout soul Shivlalbhai for their compassion and love.

Shriji Maharaj took good care of his devotee till last breath of him and took him to Akshardhaam after his last breath.

God is merciful to his devotees. God cares for his faithful devotees. Surrender in absolute at the Lotus like feet of Shriji Maharaj and earn eternal refuge at the Akshardhaam.

DONATION OF THE SONS

- Hinaben S. Bhojani

There is great rejoicement at Panchala. Lord Shriji Maharaj and saints are dwelling at the royal residence of Jhinabhai Darbar. Colorful festivities are being organized every day to give devotional pleasure to the Satsang at Panchala.

Shriji Maharaj himself serves lofty Thaal meal to the saints and devotees. Shriji Maharaj conducts devotional sessions of Katha-Varta to give devotional pleasure to Jhinabhai. These devotional services and the religious celebrations are not limited to the outskirts ofare gracing nearby villages to spread message of universal benediction of mankind and souls.

Shriji Maharaj graces Bala - a small village near Panchala – during his religious tour of Panchala area. Bala is a small village. There, among the Haribhakta lived a small family of one old lady and her two sons. Though were poor and needy, the house lady was a firm and faithful devotee of Shriji Maharaj. Her virtuous sons were earning livelihood by their hard work at the farms and fields. The sons too were devout and virtuous souls. The old woman came to know about Shriji Maharaj presence at the village. She knew that God himself has come to their doors to bless them with prosperity, peace and benediction.

A Satsang Sabha was organized at the public place to sing praise of God. She locked her house and went to the public assembly. She stood far away at the back of audience and did darshan of Shriji Maharaj. There was no limit to her pleasure and rejoicement. She laughed and danced like an insane person. People were shocked by her behaviour. They were curious to know about the cause of such behaviour.

Maharaj pleased to her and said, 'Oh Reputable lady? Let me know, why are you laughing and dancing?' Old lady prays, 'Maharaj! We are most fortunate souls. God himself has come to our doors to fulfill our aspiration. You have fulfilled our aspirations and wishes. I am happiest in the world. Maharaj! Listen to me. Are you pleased to me? Are really happy?' Maharaj said, 'I am very happy to meet you. I am pleased to you.' Old lady said, 'Maharaj' Oh my God! I am also very happy by your blissful Darshan. I can't express my happiness. If you are pleased to me, please ask for something from me. I am ready to give it.' The devotees and aspirants were shocked in astonishment when they heard such weird offer and it's announcement. Usually God offers such promise, but here in this extraordinary case a poor devotee – a poor woman puts forward an offer to fulfill a demand from God! It was quite uncommon. Maharaj said to her, 'If you are ready to fulfill my demand, give me the thing which is dearest to you.' Old lady consented to wish of God and went back to her house.

She opened the gate and emptied almirah and chests to collect valuables and ornaments. Those were very dear to her. She kept those things in a packet to submit it to Maharaj. Meanwhile, her sons came back from the field. They told her about Shriji Maharaj, and asked her to accompany them to do darshan of Shriji Maharaj. Devout mother told them about her visit and her promise to Maharaj. While narrating her experience she said, 'Dear sons! Maharaj too is pleased to us. God has asked me to give him my dearest thing. I have collected these ornaments and money from our house to submit my dear things to Maharaj.' But as soon she mentioned the word 'My dear things', a thought sparked at her mind- 'Were those the dearest? Then what about the son? Were they not very dear to her? Among these two – the wealth and the sons what was most dear to her? The sons or the wealth?' She instantly realized that the sons were the dearest to her. Without giving any thought to her age or her life stage, she concluded instantly to submit both her sons at the service of God. She explained to her sons about her intentioned. The sons too consented to her decision. She held firmly by her hand the wrists of the sons and took them to the Satsang Sabha.

She prayed, 'Oh Maharaj! I have brought here my dearest thing – my sons. I am submitting them in your service.' Shriji Maharaj pleased to this devout family and took them in the fold of holy fellowship. Bhagwati Deeksha was visited with the sainthood. Both these sons have become known as Prasadanand Swami and Daharanand Swami. Shriji Maharaj has mentioned their episodes in his Vachanamrits.

God takes good care of his devotees. A true devout soul attaches himself and concentrate steadily in image of God. This Sampradaya has the devout mothers like the mother of Gopichand, Dhruva and Prahalad. With a smile on their face, they have submitted their dear children at the service of faith. The village – Bala – has process this fact to the world.

News And Notes From Shri Narnarayandev Desh

AHMEDABAD REGION

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri's Birthday celebrated at the temple in benign presence of Lord Narnarayandev

The auspicious festive day of Vijaya Dashami is the manifestation day of His holiness. The 35th Birthday of H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Koshlendraprasadji Maharajshri was celebrated by the saints and devotees, at the prasadi Sabha Mandapam of Shri Swaminarayan Temple Ahmedabad. The festive events were chaired by H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri in benign presence of Lord Narnarayandev.

His holiness was felicitated first by the senior saints led by S.G. Mahant Swami Shastri Nirgundasji. The Mahant Swami and saints have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by serving fresh flower garlands and Aarti poojan to His holiness. Thousands of devotees from far flung places were come to the temple to celebrate this majestic occasion. They conveyed their hearty wishes by presenting fragrant flowers to His Holiness. The Sabha was blessed at the end by H.H. Lalji Maharajshri and H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. The event was grganised by the sains under guidance from Mahant Swami. *-Kothari Dharmaprakashdas*

Sharda Poojan and Annakut at Shri Swaminarayan Temple (Kalupur) Ahmedabad

The group Sharda Poojan was organized here in benign presence of Lord Narnarayandev at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir (Kalupur) Ahmedabad. The auspicious account books of the faithful followers were installed at the Sabha Mandapam to serve poojan archan to Goddess Sharda. Scholar Brahmin priests assisted to the Mahant Swami and Mahant served poojan archan on behalf of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. The hundreds of devotees, engaged in trading and business benefit every year by this group Sharda poojan. The Sarda poojan and the Annakut were organized on the same day. Lord Narnarayandev and Gods were served with lofty Annakut of sumptuous dishes. Thousands of devotees and aspirants were come to the temple to do darshan of the Annakut. The New-year day was the busiest day for the temple authority. The visitors, in groups hundreds, continued to pour in without break, through out whole day. The bee line of the aspirants began with the early morning Aarti and continued without stop till late evening concluding Aarti. The vision for the new-year was read and declared by the temple priest in front of public at the Prasadi Sabha Mandapam. The festive decoration, lighting, Sharda poojan, Annakut and the Annkut distribution were organized by the Kothari Swami and the saints under guidance from Mahant Swami.

–Shastri Vishwavalabhdas

Respected Matushri passes away to Akshardham, silent prayer and constant Mahamantra Japa in benign presence of Lord Narnarayandev at the temple

Respected Matushri, the mother of the sixth Acharya Maharajshri and the entire Satsang, ascended to divine abode of Akshardham. The silent prayer and constant Mahamantra Japa was served on 31-10-2006, by entire satsang, in benign presence of Lord Narnarayandev at the temple. The meditative devotional session was organized at the prasadi Sabha Mandapam of the temple. The extra-ordinary session was led by His holiness. The saints, Mahants and the devotees from different places were present at the constant dhoon session of the 24 hours duration. The Samkhya yogi and the Karma yogi ladies have served constant Dhoon at the Haveli temple. Similar dhoon sessions were organzed in all the Mandirs in territories of Ahmedabad, Muli and Bhuj area. The dhoon session was concluded ceremoniously on 1-11-2006 at 8.00 a.m. in benign presence of the three successive forms of Shri Hari.

Sharadotsava at Ahmedabad temple

Sharadotsava was organized here at the spacious courtyard of the temple. A large number of devotees and saints were present at the special assembly to participate in the Sharadotsava. The raas-kirtans and devotional music was served by the Occhavia Mandal in benign presence of H.H.Acharya Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji Maharajshri. Lord Thakorji graced the majestic canopy bedecked with snow white fabric. Sharadotsava Aarti was served jontly by H.H. Acharya Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji Maharajshri to please Lord Thakorji. His holiness and Lalji Maharajshri left after the conclusion to attend similar celebrations at our temple at Narayanghat. The events were managed in a decent way by a team of the saints and Haribhaktas led by Kohari Swami. *-Jayesh Patel*

Sharadotsava at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Narayanghat

Shri Narayan Ghat is a prasadi place. Shri Swaminarayan Mandir at Narayanghat has organized

the majestic event of Sharadotsava to please Lord Thakorji. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji Maharajshri graced the celebrations at the splendid courtyard of the temple. Hundreds of devotees were assembled at the temple to participate in raas and devotional music. The saints too joined the devotees at the raas sessions. Jayeshbhai Soni has earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by his sweet vocal music. The saints from Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Kalupur and Kankaria were present with the hundreds of devotees from the nearby areas.

A special assembly was organized on this occasion. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the assembly and released 'Shri Sahajanand Swami Charitra' written by Shri Naranbhai (Baladia). Festive Sharadotsava Aarti was served to Lord Thakorji by H.H. Acharya Maharajshri and Lalji Maharajshri. Haribhaktas followed their Guru and served Aarti-poojan to Lord Thakorji.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri blessed the devotees, 'Our dancing and roaming in the world shall not be fruitful, if each our step is not rising in memory of Shriji Maharaj. Even a single, if taken firmly with memory of Shriji Maharaj, shall be enough for the ultimate benediction. Today is the best among the days to please Lord Shriji Maharaj. This is the day, when Respected Bapuji (Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri) had holy dip in sacred water of Man Sarovar with his retinue of the saints and the devotees. Maharajshri had prayed there at his heart for absolute pleasure of this Satsang.' The events were organized by the saints under guidance from the Mahant Swami.

- Gordhanbhai Sitapara

Chaturmaas Celebrations at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Bapunagar (Ahmedabad)

The Hindolas, Ganapatiji procession, Janmashtami, Sharadotsava, Diwali Annakut, and other events of Chaturmaas were celebrated here with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. The events were organized by the S.N.N.D.Yuvak Mandal with inspiration and guidance from the Mahant Swami. Weekly satsang sabhas are organized regularly on each Saturday of the month.The sabhas are attended well by the devotees. *- Gordhanbhai Sitapara*

Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Jivrajpark (Ahmedabad)

The weekly satsang sabhas are organized at evening (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.) on each Sunday of the month. The Katha-kirtan, Dhoon and discourses are being presented by the saints at the temple. The satsang sabhas are attended well by the local devotees. The 35th Satsang sabha was hosted by Shri Prakashbhai Patel (Cleveland, U. S. A.) with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the sabha to bless his faithful devotees. Devotional music was served by the famous singer Shri Jayeshbhai Soni. The sabha session was concluded with the hearty blessings of His holiness. *–Bharat K. Mulani*

Satsang Sabha at Shri Swaminarayan temple, Gavada

The next year is the silver jubilee year for Shri Swaminarayan Mandir at Gavada.The saints and devotees have planned 25 satsang sessions to strengthen devotional fervour in this remote area. H.H. Acharya Maharjshri has blessed the programme. The silver jubilee shall be organized for a week (20-1-07 to 27-1-07) with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri.

The first satsang sabha in this series was organized on 10th of October at Shri Swaminarayan School, Nirnaynagar, Ahmedabad. The session was hosted by Shri Dashrathbhai K. Patel. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the Sabha and blessed the devotees. The second Satsang Sabha (15-10-06) was hosted by Shri Kanjibhai Revabhai and Shri Rameshbhai Revabhai (Gavada wala), at the Bungalow area Kubernagar, Ahmedabad. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the Sabha and blessed his faithful devotees. The Sadgurus Ramkrishna Swami and P.P. Swami, have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by their service at the Sabhas.

– Swami Jaiprakashdas.

The New Temple at Ghatlodia creates history by its devotional activities

Lord Narnarayandev and H.H. Acharya Maharajshri have showered hearty pleasure on residents of Ahmedabad. One Harimandir and one temple are being built each year in territory of Ahmedabad. It is like a competition between the satsangis for commissioning new temples in the diocese. Ghatlodia temple was built in great speed with in few months. Beside their hard work, the satsangis are very sincere in devotion and devotional activities. Sharadotsava was celbrated here in a grand way to welcome season of joy. The Diwali festivities and Annakut were served to Lord Thokorji to earn pleasure of Shriji Maharaj. There is quick rise in visiting satsangis and new temple looks too small to accommodate heavy rush of the devotees at the time of evening. The satsang activities are progressing steadily with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. *-Pravinbhai T. Patel*

Educational News from the H.H. Acharya Shri Devendraprasadji Kelavani Trust

The students of Shri Sahajanand Secondary and Higher secondary School have earned championship and merit at the Sharad Ramatotsava:

Paldi-Ambawadi ward level championship :

Winners: Kabaddi (Sr) male, Kabaddi (Sr) female, Kabaddi (Jr) male, Best athlete –male: Solanki Hardik Std-12. Selected for the district level : Dhrivish Patel-400 mt (sr), Hardik Solanki-100 mt (sr), Hardik Solanki-Long jump (sr), Devansh Nagori- 100 mt and 400 mt running, Vivek Panchal- Ball throw, Shivam Shah- High jump, Khushali Vora- Ball throw.

Selected for the state level : Devansh Nagori- 400 mt running, Hardik Solanki- 100 mt running.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri conveys hearty blessings to the players and the trainers. *-Principal*

OVERSEAS

The Swaminarayan temple at Chicago celebrates 35th Birthday of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri

Chicago Satsang has celebrated here the 35th Birthday of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri, with the due co-operation and guidance from the Mahant Swami Dharmvallabhdasji. Lord Shri Harikrishna Maharaj was bedecked with official dress of His Holiness. A special assembly was organized to celebrate this special day. The glory and majesty of the Dharmavanshi Acharya were narrated by the saints from the religious scriptures by the Nand-sants. Shri Rajubhai, Pravin Bhagat, Nareshbhai, Thakorbhai, Vishnubhai, Rameshbhai Brahmbhatt and Shri Jagdishbhai (President) of the Event-management Committee have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by organizing colourful events. Poojan- Archan and the Birthday Aarti were served by the devotees and the saint to the photo-image of His Holiness. The devout children and youthful aspirants stood to gather around the birthday cake and cut it with Jai-Jaikar of His holiness.

The Satsang Mahila Mandal and the devotees Shri Vishnubhai, Ghansham Bhagat, Kamaleshbhai and Ghanshyam Kavi have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by their service at the celebrations. The events of Jalajhilani and Sharadotsave were organized by the saints and devotees with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. *-Ishan Trivedi, Vishnubhai*

Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Colonia, celebrates first Patotsava

The first annual Patotsava was organized here by the devotees with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. Mahant Swami Devprasaddasji has earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by his encouragement and inspiration to the devotees. The Satsangi Jivan Parayan was organized on this occasion. Thousands of devotees were assembled to attend Pothi-yatra. The sacred events of Patotsava Abhishekam and Maha-pooja were hosted respectively by the family of Shri Nimeshbhai Patel and Shri Kaushikbhai Bhavsar. The rituals of Maha-pooja were conducted by Jagdishbhai Shukla. H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri graced the temple and received warm welcome from the saints and devotees. His holiness graced the inner temple and served lofty Mahabhishekam to Supreme Lord. The saints from ISSO temples at New Jersey, Chicago, Boston, L.A., and Huston were present on this occasion. Shastri Swami Prushottamprakashdasji was come from Jetalpur Dhaam.

Respected Gadiwalashri and her retinue of Samkhy-yogi sisters graced the occasion to give blissful pleasure to her female followers.

The 35th Birthday of H,H. Acharaya Maharajshri was celebrated at the temple by the sants and the devotees. The folk songs and traditional folk music were presented by the folk- singer, Shri Bhikhudan Gadhvi and his team members. The poojan –archan and the birthday aarti were presented to the photo-image of His holiness by the saints and the devotees. The guests and the hosts were welcomed by the Mahant Swami and the managing committee members. The Saradotsava was celebrated in devotional fervour by the saints and the devotees. The satsang activities are progressing steadily with the due blessings of His holiness.

–Pravinbhai Shah

Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, L. A. (U.S.A.)

The Samaiya- festivals are being organized with devotional fervour by the saints and devotees. The auspicious 14th day of the dark half of Ashwin was celebrated at the temple by presenting Poojan – Aarti to Lord Hanumana. The majesty and divinity of Lord Hanumana was explained to the devotees by the Mahant Swami Shastri Keshavcharandasji. Sharda Poojan was organized at the Sabha Mandapam on auspicious Dipawali day. Hundreds of devotees and aspirants have participated in both the events. The temple buildings were decorated with colorful lights to welcome auspicious days.

The Newyear was celebrated by presenting early morning Aarti to Lord Shri Radhakrishnadev, Shri Ghanshyam Maharaj, Shri Narnarayandev and Shri Lakshminarayandev. The festive Annakut of the sumptuous dishes was served to Lord Thakorji. A special sabha was organized and majesty of the Annakut was explained to the devotees. The letter of newyear blessing was received from His holiness and the blessings were conveyed the assembly. The Mahamantra Dhoon was chanted in memory of (Late) Matushri. Prasadam and calendars were distributed to the devotees. The sabha was concluded with Jai-Jaikar of Swaminarayan Bhagwan. *–Natubhai Patel*

AKSHARVAAS

Ahmedabad : Age-old senior saint and enlightened soul – S.G.Swami Krishnajeevandasji (Guru: S.G.Swami Shastri Hariswaroopdasji) passed away (19.10.2006) to Akshardham admist chants of blissful name of Shriji Maharaj. The sect is at loss by departure of such senior saint.

Bhuj (Kutch) : Mahant Swami of Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Bhuj – S.G.Swami Hariswaroopdasji passed away (30.10.2006) to Akshardham, while chanting blissful name of Shriji Maharaj. The sampradaya as whole and the devout Satsang of Kutch region are at an unbearable loss by departure of such enlightened soul. Some time back, His holiness had been there at Bhuj with Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri for a caring visit of ailing senior saint, when they knew about the ailment of (Late) S.G.Hariswaroopdasji.

Siddhpur : Mahant Swami of Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Siddhpur, S.G. Mahant Swami Bhaktipriyadasji (Guru : Shastri Swami Harinarayandasji) passed away to Akshardhaam amidst constant chants of Shri Swaminarayan Maha Mantra.



The Chief Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi, Shri Purushottam Rupala (State President, BJP) and Shri Bhupendrasinhji Chudasasma at the Swaminarayan Baugh to convey heart felt condolence to H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji Maharajshri, on Aksharvaas of Respected Matushri.



The homage and final obeisance were paid by the Global Satsang and the well wishes in blissful presence of Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji, H.H. Acharya Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji Maharajshri, on final departure of Respected Matushri. The saints and the devotees from both the deshas were present on this occasion.

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Praful Kharsani

A Charmful view of the Mansarover. H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri favours his pilgrim devotees by His blissful presence with them, at the bank of Mansavrovar.