Rs. 5/-

શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ

August 2009



પ્રકાશકઃ શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ મંદિર, અમદાવાદ-૧



Karbhari and the members of the Scheme Committee performing aarti of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj on the occasion of 12th Prakatyotsav.



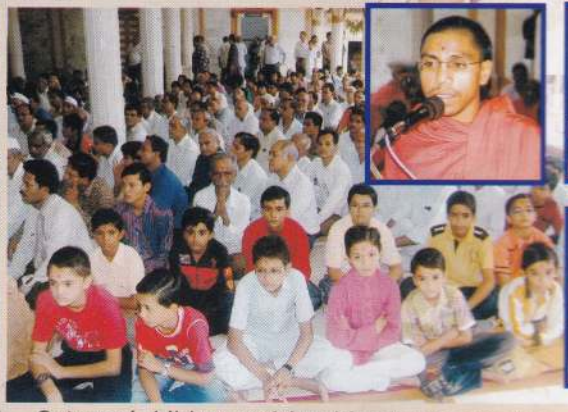
H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj granting prizes to the bright students of Std.10 & Std.12.



H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj blessing on the occasion of Prakatyotsav.



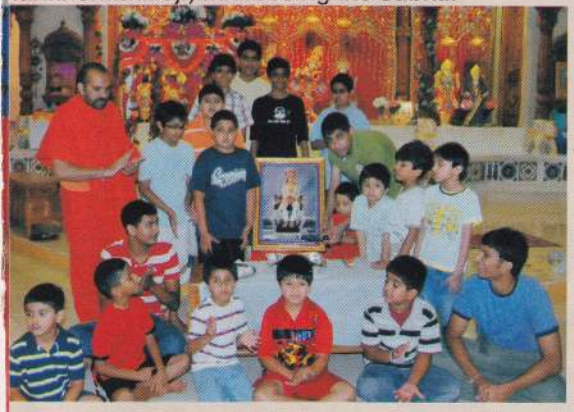
Parshan Nilesh Bhagar (Guru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji) addressing the Sabha.







Satsangi children and the elder devotees in the Sabha.



Under the guidance of Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji of Sineminson temple, the future generation of Satsang is celebrating the Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj.



Haribhaktas of Kothamba are offering the diving thing of Prasadi to H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj.





H.H. Shri Maharaj performing aarti of Shree Ghanshyam Mahaaj in Vadnagar temple, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessing the Sabha in Vadnagar temple and Mahant Swami of Ahmedabad temple and Shastri Swami Narayanvallabhdas and the saints in the sabha.



श्री स्वामिनारायण

Official News-letter from Shri Narnarayandevdesh Diocese

Vol : 3 No : 28 August-2009

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Founded By H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri, Shri Narnarayandev Diocese.

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EDITORIAL

विशेषनियमो धार्यश्चातुर्मास्येऽखिलैरपि ।
एकस्मिन् श्रावणे मासि स त्वशक्तैस्तु मानवैः ॥
-Shikshapatri-76

All our devotees should observe some special rules during the *Chatur Maas* and if that is not possible then they should observe the rules during the pious *Shravan Maas. Chatur Maas* is the time in which devotees can please the Almighty God by observing some special rules as per the directions of Shree Hari. The pious *Shravan Maas* is the golden period for *Bhakti, Tapa, Gyan* and *Vairagya*. Just as a farmer does agriculture work during its prime season and stores the grains in time and uses it throughout the year, just as the birds store the energy in their body which can be utilized at critical time; similarly months of *Chatur Maas* and *Shravan Maas* are pious months wherein the devotees should credit their accounts with *Bhakti*. By performing special *Bhakti, Tapa, Vrata* etc. during the pious *Shravan Maas*, we credit the noble deeds of our life and then only the month is said to be meaningful for us. Simultaneously we also know that, it is not that one should perform *Bhakti* only during this pious *Shravan maas* and then do nothing throughout the year. In fact this is a month to perform some special *Bhakti* and we have to continue our regular *Pooja*, *Bhakti* during the remaining months of the year. But we should make efforts to perform special *Bhakti, Vrata* and *Tapa* during this month and should credit our account. The Lord Shree Hari is pleased with all of us.

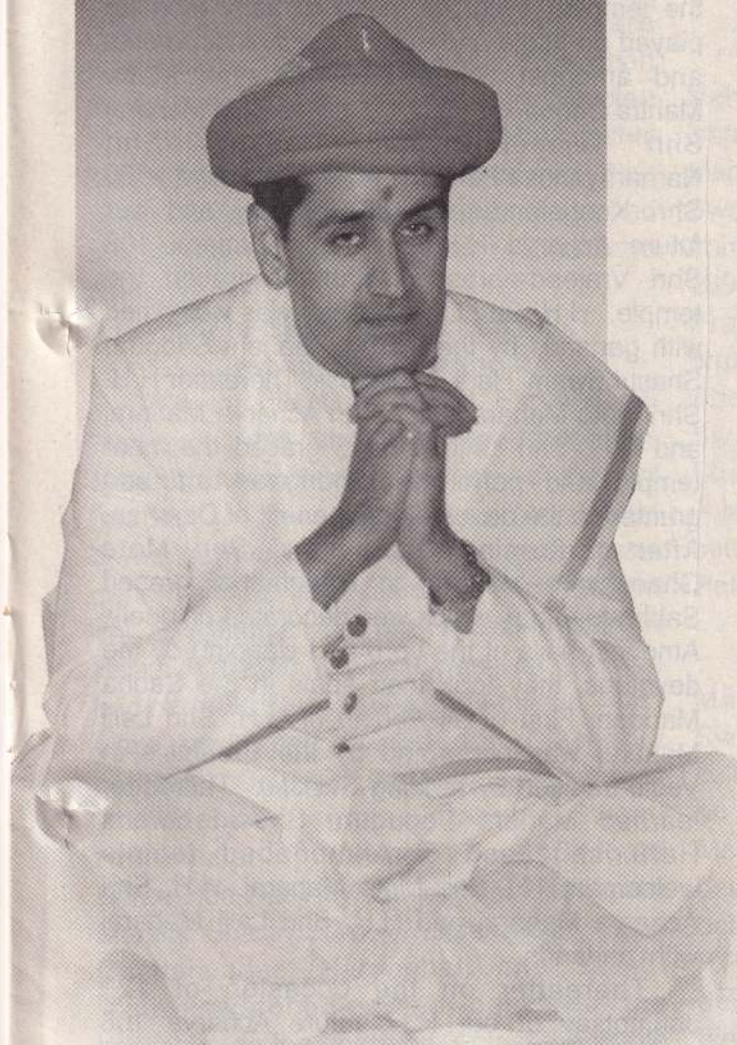
With a view to grant happiness of *Katha-Varta* to all the devotees, saints are on the pilgrimage to the villages so it is the duty of all the devotees to render their services on such occasions. It is also strongly recommended to identify the Almighty Lord Shree Hari and to remove all the infirmities in our *Bhakti, Dharma, Upasana*, if any.

It is the prayer at the lotus like feet of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev that the Lord Shree Swaminarayan grant happiness to all the devotees in their life. Jay Shree Swaminarayan.

Editor
Mahant Swami
Shastri Swami Harikrishnadas

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

(July- 2009)



5. Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Jivrajpark on the occasion of *Satsang Sabha*.

7. Guru-Poojan by the saints and Haribhaktas on the occasion of Gurupoojan

17. Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm.

18. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple Harshadnagar, Bapunagar on the occasion of Mahapooja and graced the house of the devotee at Ghodasar

20. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Kamleshbhai Dharmshibhai Patel, Memnagar on the occasion of Mahapooja

24th July to 3rd September Pilgrimage to Europe-America
Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Leicester (U.K.),
Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Chicago (America)
5th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Detroit
1st Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Canada Toronto
Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Gatewick (U.K.)

4th September return to Desh



Celebration of 12th Prakatyotsav of our future Acharya H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj

- Shastri Narayanvallabhdasji (Shree Sahjanand Gurukul, Vadnagar)

• અયોધ્યાવાસી આવિયા, હરિપ્રસાદનો પરિવાર,
સંબંધી શ્રી મહારાજના, સત્સંગનો શણગાર.

The pious day of Ashadh VAd-10 (17/07/2009) was the day of 12th Prakatyotsav of our dear H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj. Many saints, Mahants and Haribhaktas had arrived to Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur Ahmedabad early in the morning. Eyes of all of them were stuck up towards the main entrance gate of the temple. With the music of early morning played on bugle and other musical instruments and amongst Shree Swaminarayan Maha Mantra Dhoon, our dear H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj, Shri Narnarayandev Pithadhipati H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and our future Acharya H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj graced the temple. H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj was welcomed with garlands by the learned Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji. Thereafter H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj graced the inner temple and performed *Shangaar-Aarti* and granted to the devotees the benefit of Darshan. After performing Darshan of Shri Mota Ghanshyam Maharaj in Rangmahol graced Sabha Mandap, which was decorated uniquely. Amongst hails of the Lord and clapping by the devotees, they took their seats in the Sabha Mandap. First of all *Poojan* of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj was performed by the Brahmins in Vedic tradition by reading *Swastic*. Thereafter learned Mahant Saduguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple welcomed H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj with garlands.

Thereafter on the occasion of 12th Janmotsav of our H.H. future Acharya 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj, Sadguru Mahant Shastri Harikrishnadasji (Ahmedabad), Sadguru Mahant Shastri swami

Atmprakashdasji (Jetalpur), Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Poornaprakashdasji (Dholka), Sadguru Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji (Narayanghat), Sadguru Mahant Nana P.P. Swami (Narayanghat), Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Shreejiprakashdasji (Naranpura), Saduguru Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji (Muli), Sadguru Mahant Swami Krishnavallabhdasji (Surendranagar), Sadguru Shastri Swami Narayanvallabhdasji (Vadnagar), Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Ghanshyamprakashdasji (Mansa), Sadguru Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji, Sadgugu Shastri Swami Nirgundasji, Sadguru Shastri Swami Keshavprasaddasji, Sadguru Bramchari Swami Rajeshwaranandji (Poojari of Shree Narnarayandev), othari Parshad Digambar Bhagat, Sadguru Swami Dharmjivandasji, K.K, Kothari Swami (Ahmedabad) ,m Swami Jagatprakashdasji, Sadguru Mahant Swami Dharmswaroopdasji (Nathdwara), Sadgugu Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji (Mahesana) and Sadguru Shastri Swami Satsangibhushandasji (Gandhingar) and Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Premswaroopdasji of Siddhpur and saints and Mahant of HImatnagar, Idar, Sapawada, Torda, Prantij, Pethapur, Unava and members of the Scheme Committee devotee Shri Ratibhai Patel, Dr. K.K.Patel, devotee Shri G.K. Patel, devotee Ramabhai Patel, devotee Shri Amit Patel, the son of devotee Shri Dasrathbhai Patel, and devotee Shri Sandipbhai Vora etc. leading devotees had performed poojan archan of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and obtained the blessings..

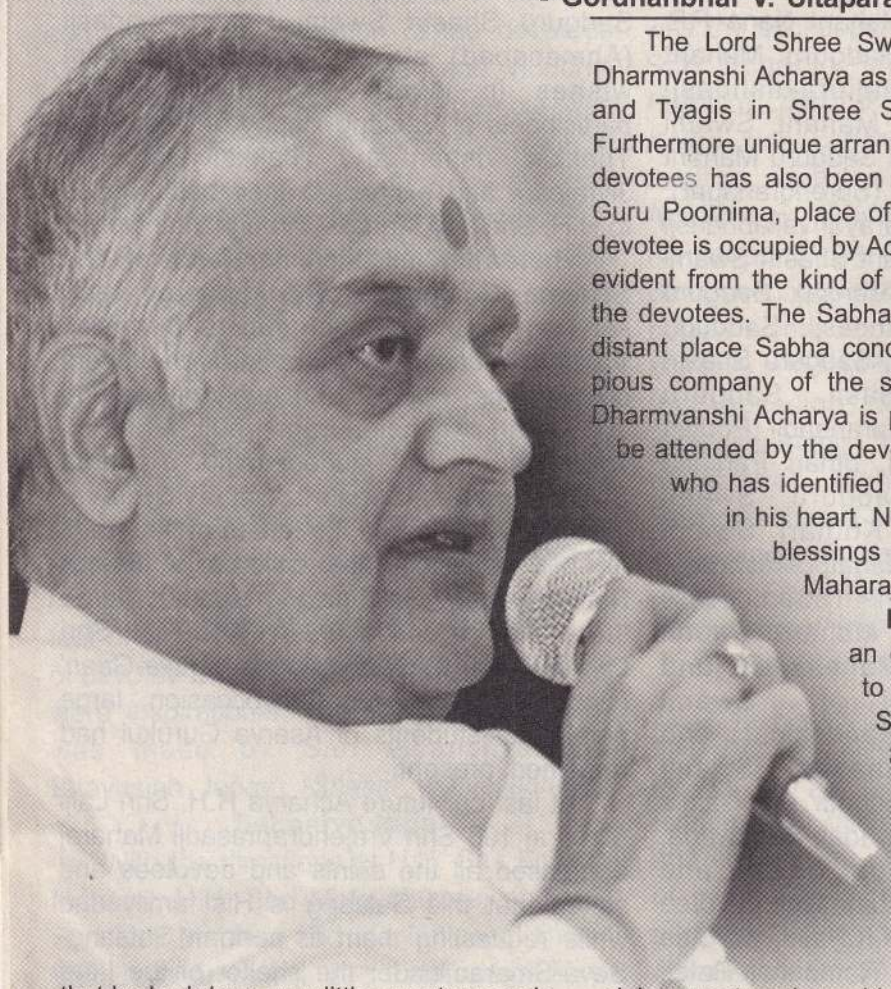
Thereafter little children of Bal Mandal namely, Patel Krunal, Modi Harshil, Soni Jay, Soni Badrish, Darshan, Kothari Darshan offered a bouquet of flowers to H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and performed aarti. On the occasion of 12th Janmotsav of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj little student saints namely Shastri Abhayprakashdasji Guru Sadguru Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji (Narayanghat) and Shastri Purushottamprakashda (Valiwala) and Parshad Nilesh Bhagat Guru Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji (Ahmedabad) etc. expressed their best wishes in words. Moreover regular participants of Satsang Happy of Bopal and Thakkar Vishan and Thakkar Dhruv of Jivrajpark and expressed their best wishes to H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj through their words.

Thereafter all the members of the Scheme Committee who rendered their services day and night during '*Dharmkul Vandana Mahotsav*' were offered the letters of blessings by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj. Thereafter brilliant student-saints of Shree Swaminarayan Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jetalpur were offered the letters of blessings on this occasion little children of Shjree Narnarayandev Bal Satsang Mandal offered the wishes to our future Acharya H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj by performing a '*Kavya-Gaan*' (singing a song). On this occasion, large number of students of Asarva Gurukul had remained present.

At last our future Acharya H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj addressed all the saints and devotees and stated that this Satsang is His family and while requesting them to perform Satsang-Seva-Smaran under the shelter of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, blessed them. Thereafter H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj stated that, selection of Lalji Maharaj on Gadi of Sampradaya has been made by the Lord Shreeji Maharaj and therefore all the saints and devotees will have to take care of Lalji Maharaj and blessed all the saints and devotees. At last with Shree Swaminarayan Maha Mantra Dhoon the Sabha organized on the occasion was concluded. The whole Sabha was conducted by Shastri Narayanvallabhdasji (Vadnagar).

Blessings on the occasion of Guru-Poornima

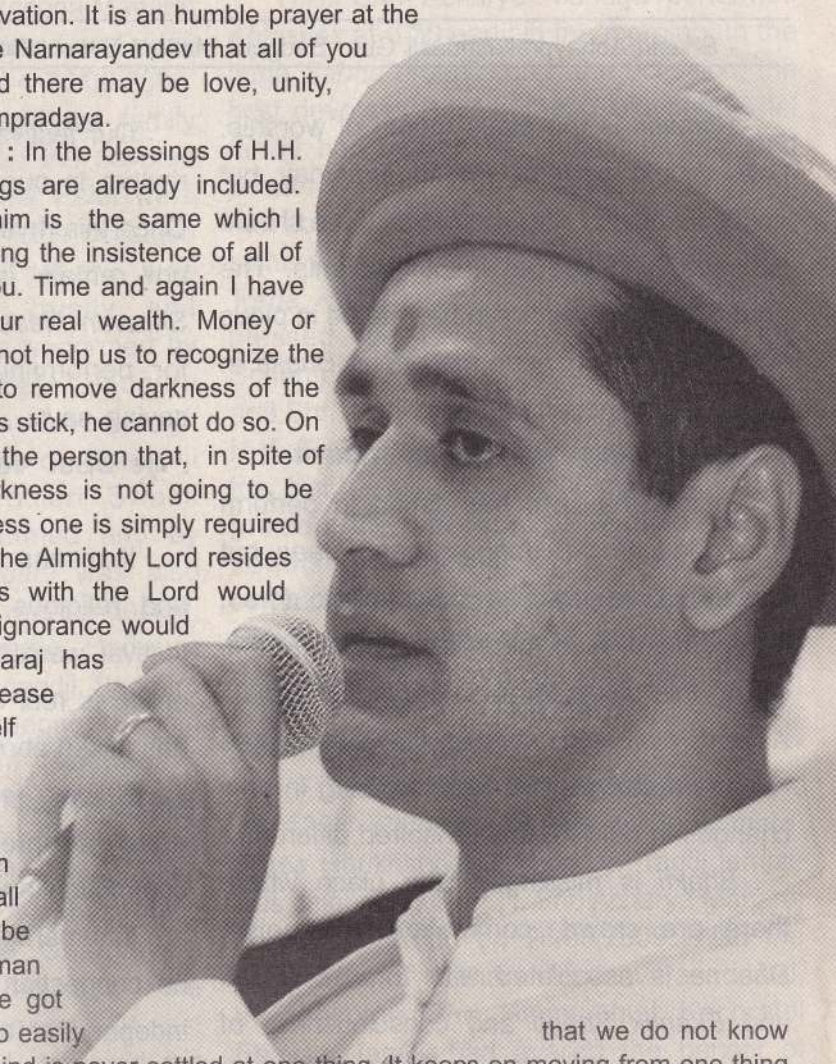
- Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara (Hirawadi-Bapunagar)



The Lord Shree Swaminarayan has established Dharmvanshi Acharya as the Guru of all the devotees and Tyagis in Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya. Furthermore unique arrangement for Guru of the ladies devotees has also been made. On this pious day of Guru Poornima, place of Guru in the heart of a real devotee is occupied by Acharya of Gadi. This becomes evident from the kind of Sabha which is attended by the devotees. The Sabha of Acharya Maharaj, or at a distant place Sabha conducted in our temples in the pious company of the saints where the tradition of Dharmvanshi Acharya is preserved in true sense is to be attended by the devotees. He is an ideal disciple who has identified and placed Acharya Maharaj in his heart. Now here is a rendering of the blessings of the Other Form of Shreeji Maharaj:

H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj :- If an example of an ideal Guru is to be given then Ramanand Swami is an ideal Guru in our Sampradaya. He has never introduced himself to his disciples. He has also introduced the Lord to his disciples. When he had net met the Lord Shree Hari then he used to tell that he had done very little; greater people doing great work would come later on. After Maharaj came in Satsang, Ramanand Swami has preserved the place of Shreeji Maharaj at number of places such as Kaalvani. Now if we talk bout the ideal disciple then in our view Shri Nilkanthvarni is the best disciple. Until he accepted the Seat, he had rendered the services as a disciple along with Muktanand Swami. And when Ramanand Swami directed him to accept the Seat, he simply followed the directions of his Guru.Perhaps it is very difficult to obtain this place. There was one devotee Navinbhai. He used to tell that Dharmvanshi Acharya must have performed very austere *Tapa* for 100 years, then only he would have achieved this place. Thus, appointment on this Gadi is made by the Lord Shree Hari himself but to maintain the pious place of Gadi is more difficult than to achieve it. We have got the experience of 35 years. One thinker has written that, Dharma of Grihastha Acharya of Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya is more difficult than Dharma of Tyagi. We have got dual responsibility. When any learned saint or a devotee comes to offer Pranam to us then we have to maintain that kind of level and standard. Our Sampradaya is replete with umpteen

number of specialities and importance. Since all of you have understood this importance and have come here in large number to express your sincere feelings and wishes on this pious day and therefore all of you deserve an ovation. It is an humble prayer at the lotus like feet of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev that all of you always progress in your life and there may be love, unity, peace and prosperity in our Sampradaya.



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj : In the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, my blessings are already included. Whatever has been stated by him is the same which I wanted to say. And yet considering the insistence of all of you I share a few words with you. Time and again I have stated that, Almighty Lord is our real wealth. Money or status is temporary and they do not help us to recognize the Almighty Lord. If one attempts to remove darkness of the night with the sturdy strokes of his stick, he cannot do so. On the contrary, the night would tell the person that, in spite of his such night long efforts, darkness is not going to be removed. To remove this darkness one is simply required to light a little lamp. Similarly, if the Almighty Lord resides in our heart then our relations with the Lord would strengthen and our darkness of ignorance would evaporate.In Vachanamrit, Maharaj has asked what is the means to please the Almighty Lord? Maharaj himself has answered the question and said that, firm faith in the Lord is the only means to please the God. If one cherishes the firm faith in the Almighty Lord then all unhappiness and miseries would be removed from his life. The human mind is very unstable. We have got such great saints and the Lord so easily that we do not know their real significance. And our mind is never settled at one thing. It keeps on moving from one thing to another and that also incessantly. In fact it is beneficial to remain with the Lord. If one keeps on changing his stand and stance in life then he does not remain a reliable person. If one remains in party for a longer period of time, then there are chances that he may become a Minister. But this is about the worldly life. If we remain under the shelter of the Almighty Lord for a longer period of time then the Lord has granted us everything because the Lord is Minister of all these ministers! There is no minister greater than this Minister and so why should we wander here and there.

It is the duty of all of us, our, of the saints and the devotees that since we have got the Lord Shree Swaminarayan, the Lord Shree Narnarayandev then let us introduce them to other people of the society because we all are the members of one family and it is the duty of the each and every member of the family to do so. It is an humble prayer at the lotus like feet of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev that faith of all the devotees and the saints may remain firm in Maharaj.

In the pious Shravan Maas

- Shastri Abhayprakashdasji Guru Sadguru Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji (Narayanghat)

Shravan is the pious month of worship. One should perform *Bhakti* everyday but during this pious *Shravan Maas*, there should be something special in our worship. The Lord Shree Swaminaryan has stated in pious *'Shiksha-Patri'* to perform special *Bhakti* in the pious month of *Shravan*.

एकस्मिन श्रावणे मासि सत्व शक्तैस्तुमानवैः ।

In fact the Lord has asked to perform *Vrata* and *Bhakti* during *Chatur-Maas* but those who are physically incapable to do so, they should also perform special *Bhakti* during this pious *Shravan Maas*. On *Gokul-Astami*, devotees worship the Lord Shree Krishna. Festivals are there to bring in new changes in our life, to be inspired differently.

Bhakti is missing at the place where there are crowd, commotion and noise. *Dharma* is associated with *Ekantik Bhakti* and *Ekantik Shanti* and consciousness of mind. Many people have more faith in their religious outlook then being really religious. How many devotees read 12th Adhyaya of *'Gita'* on the pious day of *Janmastmi*?!!! If one does not read, one does not think and when one does not think he is drowned in the well of superstitions. In their life festival is wasted and worldly affairs go on.

Our festivals are meant to preserve the rhythm in our life and not to disturb them. Once this rhythm is disturbed, *Dharma* does not remain in life. Therefore this pious *Shravan Maas* is meant for worshiping and for performing *Ekantik Bhakti*. One Sufi saying says:

"નૂર ઉસકા જહર ઉસકા, ફિર ન દેખે તો કસૂર કિસકા ?"

It means to remain light, concentrated and religious. A person who wastes the festival, wastes his life. Disturbance of rhythm of life is real death. Kaka Saheb Kalelakar has talked about the 'Living Festivals'. When these living festivals are celebrated by the dead people then there is a crowd, commotion and noise in the society. There are innumerable stars in the sky but there is no congestion of these stars. Each star is independent alone. Saptarshi stars appear to us close to one another. But every Rishi resides in the ocean of his own 'Sunyata' (zero) and nourishes his own existence.

In such a pious Shravan Maas, though we may not go deep into the study of the scriptures but we should perform Bhagwat bhakti and should attain emancipation which is the ultimate goal of life.

Shikshapatri

The Epistle of Precepts

(based on Shatanand's Shikshapatri Arthadipika)

By Pravin S. Varsani

Text 27

One shall never associate with thieves, sinners, drug addicts, hypocrites, licentious and such other deceitful persons.

Markandeya Purana gives us an extensive list of people, place and situations to away from:

1. Those supposed '*Pundits*' who teach the wrong things and who behave inappropriately (contrary to *Vedic* Laws).
2. Those people who have pride and who are intoxicated with themselves through the progress they have achieved.
3. Those who preach incorrectly, such as fictitious philosophies which are against *Vedic* laws.
4. Those who are discourteous and immodest.
5. Those of bad conduct.
6. Those who steal.
7. Those who question everything.
8. Those who spend too much.
9. Those who are selfish.
10. Those who hold a grudge and seek revenge.
11. Those who speak lies.
12. Those who are cruel.
13. Those who are strong and powerful.
14. Those who are poor.
15. Those who are slanderous.
16. Those who rely too much upon destiny-attitude of being born as a sinner.

Those who associate with these types of people adopt the bad qualities of these persons. Thus all of these qualities are undesirable and so one should never associate with such people. ***Hansa Gita*** has explained, "Those who associate with or serve a saint adopt the saintly qualities of the saint. Those who associate with or serve a saint adopt the saintly qualities of the saint. Those who serve an unsaintly person (a person with bad and sinful conduct) adopt his unsaintly qualities. Similarly those who serve a *Tapasvi(*performer of penance) receive the fruits of the *Tapasvi* and himself exudes the brilliance of the *Tapasvi*. In this way, man becomes coloured by the nature of the person he associates with.' The last message in the previous quote amplifies the Gujarati saying -'*jevu sunga tevu runga*'.

Vanaparva of Mahabharat says, 'Association with inferior people lead to one's mind also becoming inferior, association with mediocre people leads to oneself becoming mediocre and association with superior people leads to one's own mind, intellect and self becoming superior.'

Skanda Purana's Vasudev Mahatmya explains, 'One's actions are contrived from one's association with various *Shastras* and types of people. Therefore one must never associate with immoral people.'

Manu explains, 'Those who associate with sinful people must perform the *Prayaschit* of the sinful person who commits such sin in order to nullify his sin of association.' Disassociation must be nine-fold, as outlined by **Brihaspati**: (1) to sleep with, (2) to sit with, (3) to sit in line with (*Pankti*) (4) to drink with, (5) to eat with in a line (6) to perform in Yagna with (7) to learn with (8) to marry with and (9) to eat with generally. **Vidurji** explains, 'Those who do not associate with these various sinful persons are eternally happy and comfortable in life.' Shatanand also adds that one should not associate with the very ill, as such consequence is also imminent.

Therefore Lord Swaminarayan writes this Shloka to save all his disciples from such consequence of misfortune, sin and misery. He specifies six types of people which he feels are the worst kinds of people and which cover all undesirable persons. He mentions thieves (*Chor*), sinners (*Papi*) and addicts (*Vyasanis*) which includes all eighteen *Vyasanas* mentioned by Manu, as well as the drugs such as tobacco, heroin etc. he also mentions people who are unrighteous (*Pakhandi*) who are bent on worldly and lustful desires (*Kami*) and who are deceitful (*Kimiya*).

All such persons have no place in society and so it would be ridiculous for us, devotees of God to associate with them. They are an insult to mankind and we must never associate with these people and become party to their sinful ways.

Blessings on the occasion of 12th Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj

- Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara (Hirawadi-Bapunagar)



Under beautiful arrangement and guidance of Mahant of Ahmedabad temple Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, on the pious day of Ashadh Vad-10 17/07/2009, 12th Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri 108 Shri Lalji Maharaj was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in the pious company of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and in the presence of large number of saints and the devotees.

On this occasion, brilliant students of Std. 10 & 12, persons conducting Shree Narnarayandev Religious Education Department and representative of various sections of the volunteers who rendered their great services during Dharmakul Vandana Mahotsav were offered the letters of blessings by H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. Moreover, under Shri Vrajendraprasadji Award Scheme, various types of awards were offered to the eligible student-participants and they were all inspired. After the young students, saints and parshads expressed their feelings in their speeches, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj stated in his speech of blessings that, this was the day on which all the saints and the devotees had to give something to him and He expected their blessings. But then what should be given in return. So there is humble prayer to the Lord Shree Narnarayandev that, the Lord may make them happy.

In his speech of blessings, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj has stated that, he felt that on that day he had simply to listen to the young saints and Haribhaktas but when mike was placed in front of him, he felt that, he was still young. Selection of all Acharya on the Seat of Narnarayandev Gadi is made by the Lord Shreeji Maharaj. And considering the demand of the time, suitable selection is made for the Gadi. The future of Satsang is very bright.

When *Dharmkul* left Chhapaiya and settled in Gujarat. Taboos and culture of Gujarat is quite different and therefore Dharmkul had to face great difficulties. At that time, Mukund Brahmchari used to render great services to Maharaj. When Dharmkul came to Gujarat, Mukund Brahmchari started rendering great services to Dharmkul. Therefore some complained that, after the arrival of Dharmkul, Mukund Brahmchari

SATSANG BALVATIKA

- Editor : Shastri Harikeshavdasji (Gandhinagar)

NO HYPOCRISY BEFORE GOD

- Shastri Haripiyadasji (Gandhinagar)

In *Janmangal Stotra*, the Lord shree Swaminarayan is referred to as *Nirdambhey Namah*. The Lord odes not like hypocrisy & this can be understood from HisCharacter. When the Almighty Lord used to grace Bhauj then a large Sabha used to be conducted on the ground of Sundarjibhai. Many pandits, learned people and Haribhaktas used to attend the Sabha,

Once there was confusion in one such Sabha Muktanand Awami &Brahmaand Swami started singing the Kirtans. Kirtans was completed & Maharaj was preparing to address the *Sabha*. Meanwhile two persons came, Maharaj welcomed them and they took their seats in the sabha. Maharaj asked from where they were coming to which *Sampradaya* they belonged to & which type of *Diksha* they had. But they did not answer any of these questions. The two persons looked like *Guru & Shishya*, The Disciple said that now his Guru was in the State of Samadhi and anybody could test it. Maharaj smiled & asked one of the devotees that anyone in this sabha was also in the state of *Samadhi*. Ladhibai was sitting in the Sabha of Ladies and she was in the State of *Samadhi*. Then Maharaj said that there should be test to verify who was in real state of Samadhi and asked Hirjibhai to bring the burning coal upon the heads of both the guru & Ladhibai who were in the state of Samadhi. This would reveal to everybody who was in the real State of Samadhi.

The moment burning coals came, eyes of this so-called Guru were opened & he refused to keep the burning coals away from him. Maharaj asked him a person who is in real State of Samadhi can not be disturbed by any type of physical torture. But the Guru was not ready for it. Then Maharaj asked the devotee to put the burning coals upon the hand of the skin of the hand but as Ladhibai was in real state of Samadhi, she was not aware of this physical world,

Then Shreeji Maharaj told the two persons that his aim was only to propagate to make everyone happy. Maharaj asked the guru why he should be hypocritical. Any worship which is performed with hypocrisy is not acceptable and all *Vrata, Tapa. Japa* etc. if performed with hypocrisy do not succeed. Only truth is not perennial & not hypocrisy.

Write the rising of the sun early in the morning the leaves of the tree start shini9ng Thus truth is perennial & hypocrisy is a vice. Many people like you are showy & they deceive the innocent people. Even Sitaji was deceived by Ravana in the garb of a Sadhu. What is the message from this? The message is one has to learn to identify hypocrisy. The guru realized this, he begged pardon of Maharaj & went away. So friends, we can deceive the world but not the Lord because he does not like hypocrisy and therefore Shatanand Muni has called Shree Hari as Nirdambhay Namah.

THERE IS PEACE IN SELF-DEPENDENCE

-Sadhu Shrirangdas (Gandhinagar)

There was a village Gandhinagar There were some rich businessmen & some poor farmers. The life of the poor farmers was dependent upon the destiny If there is rain, they could survive otherwise they would starve in drought. But it is said that almighty Lord is very merciful & he is worried about the all. And when ardent devotees is there He grants him happiness & prosperity of all kinds. Even if all the people deceive him, then also he remains happy & prosperous & no one comprehend the mystery of his happiness &Prosperity.

One farmer of this village was a devotee. He was very kind. He had a portion of land. So he used sow the seeds while worshipping the almighty Lord. The farmers had nothing with his except this piece of land

One day he saw an old women lying unconscious on the road near his farm it is quite known that poor people know the unhappiness *misery of others and the rich people cannot understand the misery of others and the rich people can not understand the misery of others, on the contrary they take disadvantage of helplessness of the poor. This farmer took care of the old woman and offered her a glass of water. The old woman recovered and opened her eyes and observed that this farmer was having *Mala of Tulsi* around his neck & *Chandlo* on his forehead. The old women asked him to demand anything as he had saved her life. The farmer refused as was happy with his simple life But the old women gave him magical ring, She also informed him that this ring would give him only once &so he should be very careful. He shaved the magical ring to his friend, who was a goldsmith. As the goldsmith could appreciate the real value of this precious ring, especially when it was a magical ring, he thought to replace it. So he took the ring home with an excuse to show it to his wife, made a similar kind of new ring & gave it to the farmer & retained the magical ring. The innocent farmers could not know that the ring has been replaced. At night the goldsmith demanded from the magical ring that there should be rain of gold upon his house. On uttering these words, there who so much rain of the gold & lost his life on the other hand the farmer was encouraged with the ring, he handed over the ring to his wife & both of them decided to work hard &use the ring during their old age. The farmer & his wife became rich with their collective hard work & left behind them many properties for their children.

Though Ravana had his Lanka made of gold yet he could not be happy. Dwarika which was made of gold was made to sink in to the ocean by the Lord Shree Krishna. If gold i self should have been capable of granting happiness then, the Almighty Lord would have distributed it but it is not so. Earning through hard work is real gold & it only grants real happiness Therefore the Lord Shree Swaminarayan has stated in '*Shikshapatri* ' "*One should perform hard work suitable to him his temperament.*"

BHAKTI-SUDHA

ALL REAL WEALTH IS WITH MAHARAJ

- Tarlaben Atulbhai Pothiwala
(Memnagar-Ahmedabad)

Surajbai was a Brahmin and was residing at Bhuj. She had great faith in Shreeji Maharaj & she used to perform *Bhakti* days and nights while offering the grains to the birds She used to pray.

"ચણો, મોજથી ચણો ! મહારાજની જાર છે અને તમે મહારાજના કબૂતર છો."

Once Surajbai went to Gadadha to perform *Darshan* of Maharaj. She was overwhelmed to have *Darshan* of Maharaj Everyday she used to offer the meals to Maharaj & she rendered great services with used to offer the grains to the birds everyday but the same was not possible in Gadadha. While Surajbai was thinking Maharaj stood up & started offering the grains to the birds. When asked, Maharaj replied that she has come from *Akshardham* and many people would avoid the benefit through her. And in fact many people got emancipation through Surajbai.

One such lucky person was Dhanbai of Rampur village. Her Husband had passed away immediately offer the marriage. Dhanbai had decided her attention forwards the Lord and his worship. Surajbai & thereafter became an ardent devotee. It was an ardent desire of Surajbai that many big *Yagnas, Samaiyas* should be performed in Kachchh and thousand of *Haribhaktas* should be offered the meals. But as she was a Brahmin, and for that reason, other devotees refused to accept the meals from her. Therefore Surajbai asked Dhanbai to organize big *Yagna* and *Samaiya* and also to offer the meals to the saints & *Haribhaktas*. Dhanbai asked for the money which was required to organize much *Yagna & Samaiyas.* Surajbai smiled & replied that her name it self suggested the wealth & therefore she should not be worried about it. Surajbai offered her five *Kori* [rupees one and half as per the prevalent currency]. Dhanbai preserved the money as blessing & offer some days Surajbai passed away to Akshardham with the blessing of H.H Shri Gadiwalashri the noble deeds of service of Dhanbai started it began with various kinds of *Parayans* viz., *Bhagwat Parayan. Satsangbhushan Parayan 'Hari-Vakya Sudha-Sindhu Parayan 'Bhaktachintamani Parayan, Shikshapatri- Bhashya, Satsangijivan Parayan.*

Huge amount of money started flowing alongwith many *Parayans, Samaiyas, Yagna*, temples etc. there were organized fifteen days long festivals and *Akhand Dhoon* continued by thousand of saints and Haribhaktas. This much of money was accumulated with blessings of Maharaj and Surajbai who had offered Dhanbai five *Kori*. Yet Dhanbnai was living a very simple life.

Thus Dhanbhai is a great devotee of our Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya. When the task entrusted by Surajbai was accomplished, she left this world. Thus, blessings and significance of Maharaj are unique and perennial.

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IDLENESS – GREAT ENEMY OF HUMANS

- Sankhya Yogi Monghiba (Swadhyay Mandal of ladies, Dholi)

Idleness is the great enemy of human beings. It is a great obstacle in achieving

emancipation. It spoils all the works & efficiency of the people.

आतस्यं हि मनुष्याणां शरीरस्थो महान रिपुः

Idleness is the great enemy residing in human body. It creates hurdles in all the good things & deeds. It is an enemy who is fed & nourished by us only. Laxity in observing our religious duties is the direct result of this idleness. In Vachnamrit-14, Shreeji Maharaj has stated that, one who has overcome idleness & *Maya* has won this world. If a devotee is vigilance enough he/ she can overcome this potent obstacle. Even in 'The Bible' the scripture of the Christians, it is advised to the human beings to watch ant and to learn wisdom through perseverance from this tiny insect. Rishi Sanatsujat has stated:

प्रमाद वै मृत्युमहं ब्रवीमि सद्राऽप्रमादममृतत्वं ब्रवोमि

When Shreeji Maharaj would go to sleep, many devotees & saints stayed there, performing *Darshan* of Shreeji Maharaj until Maharaj covered his face with the blanket. Whereas many other idle devotees would sleep before Maharaj. In the morning Maharaj used to embrace all those devotees & saints who had awakened until He slept.

Thus we cannot succeed in life until we get rid of this idleness. Therefore it is a prayer at the lotus like feet of the Lord Shree Swaminaryan that all the devotees may be able to identify this inner enemy who is residing in us Y we may overcome it with the blessings of Maharaj.

FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS IS THE BET WAY

(FROM BLESSING OF H.H. SHRI GADIWALASHRI)

- Kotak Varsha Natvarlal (Ghodasar)

Many people in this world are unhappy; the reason of it is their destiny. When our Karmas are accumulated and get matured to yield the fruits than a soul takes human birth. There are four types of such Karma : *i) Tivra Prarbdha Karma (ii) Ati Tivra Prarbdha Karma iii) Manda Prarbdh Karma and iv) Ati Mand Prarbdh Karma*. And as a result thereof we face good and bad situations in life. In spite of persuasions of the parents, a child jumped from above and sustained injury in his leg. Then the child cried and complained of pain to his parents. Then the parents gave the child medical treatment with love and affection and with this healing, the child felt good. Similarly many devotees do not follow the directions & instructions of Shreeji Maharaj in their life. Then they face a number of difficulties and later on they complain about their miseries. Though we have got the best scriptures like '*Shiksha-Patri*' in our life & yet we disobey many of its directions and then we have to face the difficulties. It is worship & *Bhakti* which helps us to overcome such difficulties.

In her blessings, H.H. Shri Gadiwalashri has explained that, if we desire that, there ay not be any difficulties in our life then the best way is to follow the directions of '*Shiksha-Patgri*' scrupulously. There are three types of Karma – *i) Prarabdh ii) Kriyaman and iii) Sanchit Karma*. In *Prarabdh Karma* – we yield the fruits of our earlier Karma. *Kriyaman Karma* means the action & deed we perform from day to night in our life and *Sanchit Karma* means the Karma, whose fruits we shall yield later on in future. So if we follow the directions of *'Shiksha-Patri'* scrupulously, then we would get happiness and everything in life.

News And Notes From Shri Narnarayandev Desh

AHMEDABAD REGION

12 Hour Akhand Dhoon in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, *Dhoon* was performed in the *Divine Sabha Mandap* of *Prasadi* with a view to persuade *Meghraja* and to preserve peace everywhere. Saints and Haribhaktas of Khakhariya had joined in the *Dhoon. Dhoon* was got started by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and at 8.00 O'clock Shri Mahant Swami had got the *Dhoon* concluded. A large number of saints and devotees had participated in *Dhoon*. Parshad Digambar Bhagat and J.K. Swami had made the arrangements of cold-drinks and water on this occasion. *(Bhakti Swami)*

Hindola Darshan in Ahmedabad temple

As per the tradition of Sampradaya from Ashadh Vad-Bij artistic and decorative Hindola are performed to Thakorji in each of our temples. This Hindola Darshan is organized in every evening. This year, with the inspiration of Mahant Swami Hindola of various types of flowers were organized in our Ahmedabad temple. Kothari Parshad Digambar Bhagat, Kothari J.K. Swami, Yogi Swami, Nilesh Bhagat, Bhandari Suryaprakash Swami, Kothar Staff etc. had rendered their services during this Hindola Darshan. Various types of Hindola Darshan were performed at Rang Mahol Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj, Akshar Bhuvan and Haveli. Poojari of Shree Narnarayandev, Brahmchari Swami Rajeshwaranandji and the saint Mandal had performed Hindola to Thakorji in the evening. *(Yogi Swami)*

Students of Shree Swaminarayan Sanskrit Maha Vidyalaya who got 1st Class in last examination

Std. 12 (Uttar Madhyama) (1) Swami Gopalcharandas Guru Swami Premvatinanddasji 76% (Junagadh) (2) Swami Harikrishnadasji Guru Swami Harikeshavdasji 75.54% (Dholera) (3) Swami Gopaljivandas Guru Shastri Pranjivandasji 70.62% (Muli)

Std.10 (Prathma-3) (1) Trivedi Sagar 72.43% (2) Parshad Nilesh Bhagat Guru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji 71.57% (Ahmedabad) (3) Swami Vrajbhushandas Guru Mahant Swami Shyamsundardasji 71.43% (Haridwar)

(Organizer : Shastri Swami Hariom Prakashdasji)

List of First Five brilliant students of Std.10 & Std. 12 of Shree Vrajendra Prize Scheme

Std.10 (boys) (1) Patel Deep Rajendrabhai 94.77 Kubadthal (2) Shah Saumil Akshaybhai 93.69% Ahmedabad (3) Patel Dhrumit Rameshbhai 92.31 Ahmedabad (4) Tank Jay Pankajbhai 92.00 Ahmedabad (5) Patel Divyang Bharatbhai 91.23 Ahmedabad

Std.10 (girls)(1) Modi Rajashri Kaushikkumar 92.92 Ahmedabad (2) Thakkar Krishna Ashokbhai 91.08 Ahmedabad (3) Patel Vrunda Rajendrakumar 90.92 Ahmedabad (4) Jadav Kruti Rajeshbhai 89.69 Ahmedabad (5) Patel Foram Maheshbhai 89.08 Ahmedabad

Std.12 Science (boys) (1) Desai Sanket Dhirajbhai 94.40 Ahmedabad (2) Patel Parth

Mukeshbhai 89.60 (3) Mehta Aakash Hasmukhrai 87.20 Ahmedabad (4) Mamtora Devang Harishbhai 84.90 Ahmedabad (5) Bhavsar Ghanshyam Rameshbhai 83.80 Ahmedabad

Std.12 Science (girls) (1) Thadoda Chandni Naranbhai 82.40 Lilapura (2) Patel Gopi Ashokbhai 82.40 Ahmedabad

Std.12 General (boys) (1) Vithlani Vaibhav Navneetbhai 94.20 Ahmedabad (2) Patel Nilay Kirtibhai 88.14 Ahmedabad (3) Sonagara Narendrakumar Nagjibhai 82.86 Chardava (4) Khatri Hardik Rajendra 82.71 Vadodara (5) Soni Snehal Bhupendra 82.71 Ahmedabad

Std.12 General (girls) (1) Patel Dharmistaben Bhagwandas 87.71 Kherva (2) Bhavsar Himadri Pankajbhai 85.86 Ahmedabad (3) Choksi Pooja Jagdishbhai 84.80 Ahmedabad (4) Bhavsar Maitri Prakashkumar 84.29 Ahmedabad (5) Zinzuwadia Vaibhavi Dineshkumar 83.29 Ahmedabad.

All the above students were distributed prized by H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and had blessed them that they keep on progressing in their life.

Patosav in Vadnagar temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Swami Harisevadasji 48th Varshikotsav of the Lord Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vadnagar was celebrated on Saturday the pious day of Jeth Vad-12 20/06/2009. Devotee Bhavsar Rajnikant Girdharlal was the host of the occasion. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshlendraprasadji Maharaj performed *Mahabhishek, Shangar aarti* and *Annakut aarti* of Thakorji. Arrangements for *Mahabhishek* and *Annakut* were made by *Poojari* Swami Abhishekprasaddasji. Thereafter *Sabha* was conducted. The host of the *Sabha* devotee Shri Rajnikantbhai performed *Poojan-Aarchan* and *aarti* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. On this occasion leading personality of Vadnagar devotee Shri Somabhai D. Modi was honoured with shawl and flowers by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, the trustees devotees Shri Haribhai Modi, Shri Bhagabhai Choksi, Shri Navinbhai Modi, Bhalchandrabhai Bhavsar, Dilipbhai Bhavsar etc. had performed *poojan* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Thereafter learned saint of Ahmedabad temple Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Sadguru Shastri Swami Poornaprakashdasji (Dholka Mahant), Sadguru Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji and devotee Shri Navinbhai Modi (trustee) had delivered their inspirational speeches and had explained the importance of history of Vadnagar and importance of *Patotsav*. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had praised the services of *Haribhaktas*, explained *Service, Smarana* and *Siddhant* of *Satsang* and blessed the *sabha*. With Prasad to all the saints and devotees the *sabha* was concluded. The *sabha* was conducted by Shastri Narayanvallabhdas. Arrangements for the kitchen were made by Shastri Swami Abhishekprasaddasji and Swami Dharmkishordasji Guru Sadguru Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji. *(Shastri Narayanvallabhdasji, Vadnagar).*

Patotsav in Ayodhya temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant of Ayodhya temple Sadguru Swami

Devprasaddasji Guru Sadguru Swami Jagatprakashdasji, 95th Patotsav of Shree Radhakrishnadev, Shree Harikrishna Maharaj of Ayodhya temple was performed on Friday the pious day of Ashadh Sud-4 26/06/2009. Devotees Vasantiben Babubhai Patel family of Naranpura Ahmedabad and the devotee Shri Kanchanben Dashrathbhai Patel were the hosts of the *Patotsav*. On the occasion of *Patotsav, poojan* of Thakorji was performed by the host family and *Mahabhishek* of Thakorji was performed by Mahant of Chhapaiya temple Sadguru Brahmchari Swami Vasudevanandji. Thereafter Shangaar *aarti* of Thakorji decorated by Sadguru Poojari Swami Madhavpriyadasji was performed and by offering *Annakut, Annakut aarti* was also performed. Thereafter *Sabha* was conducted. Mahant of Chhapaiya temple Sadguru Brahmchari Swami Vasudevanandji, Sadguru Swami Jagatprakashdasji, sadguru Shastri Swami Narayanvallabhdasji (Vadnagar), Sadguru Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji and Sadguru Nana P.P. Swami (Mahant of Narayanghat) had explained the importance of the pious *Tirthbhoomi* of Ayodhya which is *Leela-Bhoomi* of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj and thereby the devotees were inspired to render their services. At last Parshad Bharat Bhagat had delivered the Vote of Thanks. The occasion was concluded with Prasad to all the saints and devotees. *(Shastri Swami Narayanvallabhdasji)*

163rd Patotsav of Idar temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant of Idar temple Jagdishprasaddasji 163rd *Patotsav* of Shree Gopinathji Harikrishna Maharaj was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharja performed *Abhishek* at 6.30 early in the morning. In the huge *Sabha* organized on the occasion, the host devotees Bhikbhabhai Gokalbhai Patel family had availed the benefit of *aarti* and *poojan* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and had obtained the blessings. On this occasion, saints who had come from Ahmedabad, Muli, Torda, Prantij, Laloda, Himatnagar, Sokli had blessed the devotees. Member of the Scheme Committee devotee Dr.K.K.Patel and Shri J.D.Patel had addressed the *Sabha*. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had also blessed the Sabha in a very light mood and had praised the services of Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji. The *Sabha* was conducted by Shastri Harijivandasji (Mahant, Himatnagar temple) and at last all the devotees had availed the benefit of *Mahaprasad*. *(Kothari Sadhu Satyasankalpdasji)*

Patotsav of Prantij temple

122nd *Patotsav* of Shree Bhaktimata, Shree Harikrishna Maharaj of Prantij temple was celebrated by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in Vedic tradition on 26/05/2009. With the inspiration of Mahant Madhavprasaddasji, the devotee Shri Hasmukhlal Kachralal Bhavsar family had availed the benefit of being the host of the *Patotsav* and had performed *poojan-archan-aarti* of Thakorji. After performing *annakut aarti* of Thakorji, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced the residence of the host family. Many saints from various places had arrived on the occasion and thousands of Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of *Darshan*. *(Haribhai Modi)*

Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Mathura

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Swami Anandprasaddasji and Mahant Swami Guruprasaddasji, 20th *Patotsav* of Shree Radhakrishnadev Harikrishna Maharaj was celebrated on the pious day of *Vaisakh Sud*-10, 04/05/2009. O this occasion *Shrimad Bhagwat Panchanh Parayan* was organized. Shastri Swami Nirgundasji was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*. *Mahabhishek* of Thakorji was performed by H..H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion. Devotee Shri Jitendrabhai Ramanbhai Patel (advocate) had rendered the services as the host of *Parayan* in memory of Akshar Nivasi Vimlaben Ramanbhai and Aksharnivasi devotee Chandubhai Odhavjibhai Soni and devotee Ranjanben Chandubhai Soni (London) family had also availed the benefit of being the host of the *Parayan*. P.P. Swami from Jetalpur other saints and dignitaries had remained present on this occasion. Poojari Hariprasaddas, Yogicharandas etc. saints had rendered good services. The *Sabha* was conducted by Kothari Yagnaprakashdas. *(Vrajendra Nagar, Mathura)*

Karmshakti Mandir Dashabdi Mahotsav and Invocation of the idol images in temple of ladies

On the occasion of invocation of idol images in Karmshakti temple *Shrimad Satsangijivan Panchanh Parayan* was organized from 07/05/2009 to 11/05/2009. Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) was the spokesperson of *Parayan*. Besides this *Mahavishnu Yag, Mahapooja, Shobhayatra, Annakut*, and other cultural programmes, *Annakut*, and blood donation camps etc. were organized on this occasion. *Shobhayatra* of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj was divine and unique.

At 9.30 in the morning on 11/05/2009, invocation ritual of the idol images was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and thereafter *Katha* and *Yagna* were performed. At last there were inspirational speeches of the saints and the donors were honoured. The whole *Sabha* was blessed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. This occasion was graced by H.H. Shri Gadiwalashri and granted to the ladies devotees the benefit of *Darshan*.

On this occasion devotees Shri Ashwinbhai Donga, Shri Shaileshbhai Patel, Shri Devjibhai Donga and Shri Baldevbhai Suhagiya had rendered their beautiful services. The *Sabha* was conducted by Mahant of Naranghat temple Shri Nana P.P. Swami. *(Gordhanbhai Sitapara)*

Samuh Pooja in Harshad Colony temple (ladies) under construction

In the tradition of disciple of Sadguru Mahanubhavanand Swami *Satsang* activities in Harshad Colony area was nourished by Akshar Nivasi Narayandasji Swami and in the golden period of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj inauguration of separate temples for ladies and the gents have been made in Harshad colony area of Bapunagar. In the temple of gents devotees, many things of *Prasadi* are there. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Gadiwalashri, *satsang* among the ladies devotees of the area increased and later on construction work of the temple for ladies also started. With the directions of H.;H. Shri Acharya Maharaj

and inspiration of Shastri Shri Nirgundasji Swami and devotees Shri Dasbhai, selection of land near the temple of gents devotees was made and at the time of *Bhoomi-Poojan* H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj had granted the blessings.

Therefore in a very short period of time, as per the plan given by Nasit brothers, 50% of the construction work of the temple is completed. For the benefit of this temple, with the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of devotee Shri Dasbhai, on 19/07/2009 *Samuh Maha Pooja* was organized wherein besides 4 chief hosts, other 180 co-hosts had availed the benefit of service. On this occasion, saints, Parshads and devotees from Kalupur temple, Approach (Bapunagar) temple and Karm-Shakti temple had arrived. At last all the devotees had availed the benefit of Prasad. The concluding ceremony of *Mahapooja* was graced by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, Shastri Nirgundasji, Nana P.P. Swami, Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji, Member of Legislative Assembly Shri Vallabhbhai Kakdia and Dr. Kanubhai S. Patel had delivered their speeches. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had praised the activities of *Satsang* among the ladies devotees and had blessed that the construction work of the temple may be completed expeditiously. *(Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara)*

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Bopal

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj 4th *Patotsav* of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Bopal was celebrated by H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj on the pious day of 1st May 2009. With the inspiration of Mahant of the temple Shri Harivallabh Swami, devotees Shri Navinbhai and Shri Arvindbhai, both sons of Akshar Nivasi devotee Shri Sendhalal Karsandas had performed *poojan-archan-aarti* of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and had obtained the blessings. At last the *Sabha* was blessed by H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. Among the inspirational speeches of the saints, services of the trustee of the temple devotee Shri Ratibhai Khimjibhai Patel (Medawala), who constructed this temple and then offered it to the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, were praised. Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of *Abhishek, Mahapooja,* and *Annakut Darshan*. H.H. Shri Gadiwala Shri is very much pleased with the ladies devotees of this area and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj takes special care of the *Bal Mandal* of this area. Services of Kothari Amrutbhai are really inspirational. *(Pravinbhai Upadhyay)*.

Kothamba

On 07/05/2009, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kothamba and performed aarti of Thakorji and graced the Sabha organized on the occasion. Saints and Haribhaktas performed aarti of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and obtained the blessings. Swami Madhavpriyadasji , the disciple of Akshar Nivasi Karsandasji Swami, offered the Things of Prasadi to Shree Swaminarayan Museum, which were received by him in Guru Tradition. Haribhaktas of the village had also rendered their services for Shree Swaminarayan temple. *(Ashwinbhai)*

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in village Ogan

There is 120 years old temple in Ogan

village of Viramgam taluka. With the inspiration of Shri P.P. Swami of Jetalpur, and with the co-operation of the devotees Kothari Bhavusinhbhai Jadav and Vinubhai Mistry, renovation work of the temple was done. Frequent visits of Shri P.P. Swami to the temple along with other saints had instilled firm faith among the devotees.

On request of the devotees, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the temple on 16/05/2009 along with the saints. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, Shri P.P. Swami, Vrajvallabh Swami, J.K. Swami Kothari, Raghuvir Swami, and Sukhnandan Swami had delivered the speeches. At last the Sabha was blessed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. All the devotees of the village had availed the benefit of touching the lotus-like feet of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Services of devotee Shri Chimanbhai Patel (Bhatwala) were inspirational. The whole arrangement was made by Shri Ghanshyambhai Bhavusinh Jadav. *(Shastri Vrajvallabhdas)*

Dangarva Vato

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and inspiration of Swami Vasudevcharandasji, 23rd Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies) was performed on 24/04/2009 by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj with great enthusiasm and fervour. After performing aarti of Thakorji, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced the Sabha. After the inspirational speeches of the saints, the Sabha was blessed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. *(M.B. Darbar)*

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Gavada

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Three days *Paryan* of *Shrima Shiksha Patri Bhashya* was organized in Shree Swaminarayan, Gavada. Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) was the spokesperson of the Parayan. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had performed *Patotsav aarti* of Thakorji and thereafter *Katha* was concluded. Among the hosts families, devotees Shri Parshottambhai, Amrutbhai, Gopalbhai, Jayajtibhai and Rameshbhai of Akshar Nivasi Valjibhai Balchanddas Kothari family had performed *poojan-archan* and *aarti* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and had obtained the blessings. On this occasion, Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji from Ahmedabad temple, Naranghat Mahant Sadguru Swami Devprakashdasji and Nana P.P. Swami were inspirational. At last the Sabha was blessed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. *(Rameshbhai Kothari)*

Patotsav of old Aroda temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, and inspiration of Mahant Swami of Idar temple, 3rd *Patotsav* of old Aroda temple was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. On this occasion, *Samaiya* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj was also performed. After performing Mahapooja and Annakut Aaarti, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced the Sabha. Devotee Shri Shankarbhai Patel the father of Akshar Nivasi Mahendrabhai had performed poojan-aarti of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and had obtained the blessings. Many saints who had arrived from various places had expressed their best wishes and at last the sabha was blessed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. The Sabha was conducted by Shastri Swami Harijivandas. *(Kothari Satyasankalpdas)*

Ishwarpura (Badpura)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, and inspiration of Sadguru Shastgri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Mahant Narayanghat) Saddguru Mahatn Swwami DEvprakashdasji (Narayanghat) on 20/05/2009, 14th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple Ishwarpura was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. On this occasion a programme of '*Saint-Vaani*' and *Bhajan* were organized at night. Services of Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal were praiseworthy. Devotees Shri N.D. Chaudhari of Narnarayan Jewellers (Mansa), devotee Shri Jasubhai Soni and Shri Mukeshbhai Madhubhai Chaudhari had rendered their great services. Devotees of the village had availed the benefit of *Darshan*. (Chaitanya Swami)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jesangpura (Khakhria)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, invocation ceremony of the idol images in the newly renovate Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jesangpura was performed with great fervour and enthusiasm on 23/05/2009. On this occasion Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) had narrated Ktha. Yagna and Annakut aarti were performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. On this occasion, Mahant of Ahmedabad temple, Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Akshar Nivasi Sadguru Shree Hari Dasji Swami Mandal, Naranpura Mahant Shastri ShreejiPrakashdasji, Shastri Chaitanyadas (Naranghat) and Shastri Vishwaswaroopdas had delivered the speeches on the occasion. At last the whole sabha was addressed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. The Sabha was conducted by Naranghat Mahant Nana P.P. Swami. *(Shastri Abhayprakashdas)*

Satsang Sabha in Makakhad

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, a beautiful Satsang Sabha was organized at the residence of Akshar Nivasi devotee Shri Bhikhabhai Mohanbhai wherein devotee Shree Udayanbhai Maharaj had explained the importance of Dharmkul. *(Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal)*

24 Hour Akhand Dhoon in Motera

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, and inspiration of Nana P.P. Swami (Naranghat Mahant), a 24 hour *Akhand Dhoon* of *'Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra'* was organized from 7.30 hours in the morning on 04/07/2009 in Shree Swaminarayan temple of *Prasadi* at Motera. The *Dhoon* was organized with a view to please Meghraja. *Poornahuti Aarti* was performed Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji and Shastri Chaitanya Swaroopdas (Koteshwar Gurukul). A large number of devotees had availed the benefit of this *Dhoon*.

Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple Ramol (Jamfalvadi)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, 2nd Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ramol was celebrated with all fervour and enthusiasm on 18/06/2009. Thereafter, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharj had graced the houses of the devotees. The whole arrangement was made beautifully by Naranghat Mahant Shri Nana P.P. Swami. After the inspirational speeches delivered by the saints, the Sabha was blessed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. The Sabha was conducted by Shastri Chaitanyaswaroopdas and all the devotees

had availed the benefit of Darshan. *(Purushottam Laheri)*

Hindola Darshan in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranpura

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Shreejiprakashdasji, artistic Hindola of Diamonds have been performed before Thakorji, whose Darshan can be have upto 20/08/2009. 16th Gyan Parayan will also be organized from 12/08/2009 to 16/08/2009 wherein there would be Shree Hari Vanvicharan Parayan. All the Bhaktas are invited to avail this benefit. *(Rishikesh Swami)*

Artistic Hindola Darshan in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Unjha

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Hindola Darshan of Thakorji is organized from 12/07/2009 to 14/08/2009 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Brahmin Street, Unjha.

Kaliyana (Tal. Viramgam)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj all the haribhaktas of Kaliyana village organized 12 hour Group Dhoon of Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra on 05/07/2009. a large number of ladies and gents devotees had availed the benefit of the Dhoon. Services of the devotee Shri Dahyabhai Butiya and Kothari etc. were inspirational. *(Rupabhai Haribhai)*

Sabarmati, Ramnagar

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Patotsav of Thakorji was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm on 04/05/2009. Devotees had also availed the benefit of performing pooja-archan and aarti. *(Ravjibhai Patel)*.

Shrimad Bhagwat Gyan Yagna

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah was organized in Shyamsunder Society, Himatnagar from 16/04/2009 to 22/04/2009. Shastri Harijivandasji was he spokesperson of the Saptah. *(Jitubhai Raval)*

Shree Swaminarayan temple,Limbdi

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Mahant Swami had organized Guru Poornima Mahotsav, Hindola Utsav and Chaturmaas Katha in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Limbdi. Large number of devotees had availed the benefit of Darshan. *(Akshaykumar)*

Appointment of new Mahant in Shree Swaminarayan temple, New Delhi

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj has appointed Sadguru Mahant Swami Dharmswaroopdasji Guru Swami Jankivallabhdasji (Nathdwara Mahant) as Mahant of Shree Swaminarayan temple, New Delhi. Swami Swayamprakashdasji is appointed as Joint Mahant.

New changed Contact Nos. of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Nathdwara

09352301410, 09983001226

Publication of book

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj i) 'Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya Darshan' book written by Shastri Swami Harijivandasji (Mahant of Himatnagar temple) has been published. The book contains rituals, taboos and principles of our Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya and the book is worthy to be studied ii) 'Chalo Yauvan Sajavie' is another book which is inspirational for the youth.

OVERSEAS NEWS

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Colonia

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, *Poojan archan* and *aarti* of Shree Hanumanji in our Shree Swaminaryan temple, was formed on the pious day of '*Hanumaan Jayanti*'. Simultaneously, Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj was also celebrated by performing poojan-archan of photo of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. Mahant Swami had explained the importance of Shree Hanumanji and Dharmkul.

H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Mota Gadiwalashri had graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Colonia along with Shri Binduraja and Shri Suvratkumar and Shri Saumyakumar and Parshad Vanraj Bhagat. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj had performed aarti of Thakorji and had granted the benefit of Darshan to all the devotees. In the Sabha organized in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Shastri Dharmvallabhdasji from Cleveland, Mahant of Vihokan temple Shastri Madhavprasaddasji and Mahant of the temple Gyanjivandasji and Haribhaktas had welcomed H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj with flowers and garlands and had also performed *poojan* and *aarti*.

In the *Sabha* the saints had delivered the speeches suitable to the occasion and had made some suggestions for developing culture in future generation of our *Sampradaya*. At last the *Sabha* was blessed by H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and had directed all to regularly come to temple for *Darshan*. *(All Satsangis)*

22nd Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vihokan

H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performed 22nd *Patotsav* of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vihokan with great fervour and enthusiasm. First of all *Dhoon* and *Kirtan* were performed early in the morning. All the ladies devotees had performed *Kalash-Yatra* in the pious company of Shri Binduraja. At 9 o'clock in the morning H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, Shri Suvratkumar and Shri Saumyakumar and Poojari and the saints had performed *Shodashopchar* of Thakorji in Vedic tradition. Ritual of *Patotsav* was performed by Shri Jagdishbhai Shukla. On this occasion Group *Mahapooja* was also organized. All the *Haribhaktas* had availed the benefit of *Patotsav-Abhishek* and *Annakut Darshan*.

In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, Mahant Swami Dharmvallabhdasji (Cleveland), Mahant Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji (Cherry Hill), Mahant Swami Gyanprakashdasji (Colonia) and Mahant Shastri Madhav Swami etc. saints had explained the importance of the Lord Shree Hari and Dharmkul and had also described the arrangement of *Utsav, Samaiya* in our *Sampradaya*.

In the *Sabha* of the ladies devotees, H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Mota Gadiwala had blessed all the ladies devotees and had granted them the benefit of *Darshan*. The host families had performed *poojan-archan* of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and had obtained the blessings.

At last the *Sabha* was blessed by H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and had stated that, we have to adjust ourselves according to the *Utsav* or festival and we get pleasure by

attending such *utsav* and festivals. It is the duty of all of us to perform *Satsang* and help others perform *Satsang*. *(Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal)*

SEWA Medical Camp, Free Dental Health Care

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, on 25th April Free Dental Camp for the children and elder devotees was organized at New Jersey. Wherein a large number of devotee had availed the benefit of free medical check up and treatment. Dr. Hiren Shah, Dr. Rohinit Navlakar, Dr. Rachuvanshi, Dr. Daftari and other doctors had rendered their services during the camp. SEWA organizes Free Medical Service every fortnight whose benefit is being availed by many devotees

Washington D.C. (I.S.S.O., Chapter)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, *Satsang Sabhas* were organized at various places on 28th March, 4th April, 18th April, 1st May, 15th May, 13th June and 26th June. In these *Sabhas, Bhajan-kirtan-Vachanmrit* reading and *aarti Thaal* of Thakorji were performed. In the Sabha from Cleveland Harinandan Swami had narrated the *Katha* through Cell Phone for 1 hour. On the occasion of *Prakatyotsav* of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, in the Sabha all the devotees had performed *poojan* and *archan* of Photo of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. All the devotees were blessed by H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj through Cell Phone and their services were praised on 16th May from Cleveland Harivallabh Swami had narrated the *Katha* on Cell Phone. On 22nd May also, a beautiful *Sabha* was organized.

On 13th June Harivallabh Swami had explained through Cell Phone, the importance of Shree Hari and Dharmkul. A large number of devotees had remained present in all these *Sabhas*. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, activity of *Satsang* is progressing day by day. *(Kanubhai Patel).*

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Chicago

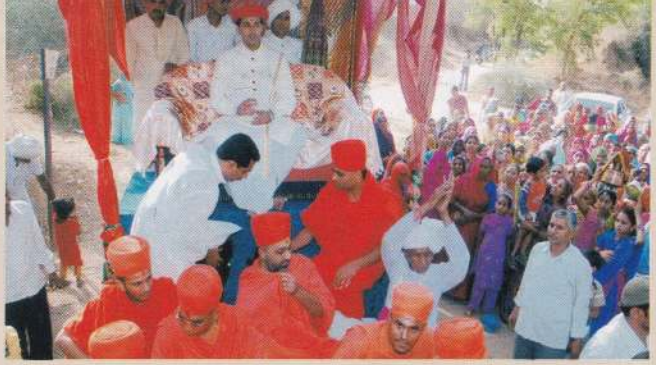
With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj *Akhand Dhoon* of 11 hours was organized on 25/07/2009 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Chicago on the occasion of 11th *Patotsav* of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj, Shree Radhakrishnadev. Early in the morning from 7.00 hours to 6.00 hours in the evening, echoes of Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra were listened in the temple. After *Mangla Darshan* early in the morning, *Dhoon* was started by the saints. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) had attentively participated in the *Dhoon* continuously for 11 hours. Many devotees had also availed this benefit. In the evening during concluding ritual, *Sandhya aarti* was performed. *(J.P. Swami)*

For Members of Magazine through Sea-Mail :

Some of our devotees residing abroad have subscribed sea-mail postage of our magazine and accordingly they were mailed the issues of the magazine through sea-mail. But the Postal Department of the Government of India have now stopped this Sea-Mail Service. Therefore, these sea-mail members are requested to send their life membership subscription for air-mail.



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing aarti in Prantij temple.



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting Darshan in Shobhayatra on the occasion of Parayan at Dharampur (Bhundiya)



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharj granting Darshan and Shri P.P. Swami addressing the Sabha on the occasion of invocation ceremony of the new temple at new village of our Satsang Merana Muvadi (Panchmahals)



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting Divine Darshan in Shobhayatra at village Ogan.



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting Darshan and the spokesperson Shastri Nirgundasji Swami and Shri P.P. Swami addressing the Sabha on the occasion of Patotsav of Mathura temple.



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessing the hos family on the occasion of Patotsav of Idar temple



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting Darshan and Kothari J.K. Swami on the occasion of



The host families performing aarti of H.H. Shri Acharya

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Kharsani