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H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing *Sharda Poojan* in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur along with Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Brahmchari Swami Rajeshwaranandji and the saints.





H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting *Darshan* in a procession in Edelaide city and in a garden alongwith Nana P.P. Swami and Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji.



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessing the *Sabha* in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Nava Vanzar (Sarkhej) on the occasion of *Vishnu Yaag*.



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting *Darshan* along with Nana P.P. Swami & Kothari J.K. Swami in Uvarsad on the occasion of *Parayan*.



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

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श्री स्वामिनारायण

Official News-letter from Shri Narnarayandevdesh Diocese

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EDITORIAL

If there is a very big river and there is no water in it? If there is a very beautiful bird but without the eyes and wings? If there is a cheque of a very well known bank but without signature of the account holder? From the above, it transpires that, all the above are incomplete and useless if there are no minimum requirements of them. Similarly, even if we perform Bhajan, Seva, Satsang, Upasana, Niyam and *Darshan* but all are useless and fruitless if we do not have ardent faith in the Almighty Shree Hari. Without ardent faith all these Bhajan, Kirtan, Satsang, Upasana are useless and fruitless. After creating the whole *Bhakti-Sutra*, Naradmuni gave the essence of it in one line describing how Bhakti and faith of a devotee should be: "यथा व्रजगोपीवगनाम्". One should cherish worship just Gopis Vraja had for the Lord Shree Krishna. Gopis told Uddhavji who came from Mathura to remove their woes, "*Oh! Uddhavji, you have come to remove our woes, but the real cause of our woes is this Krishna and therefore only He (Krishna) can remove our woes and grant us happiness. The woes caused by Krishna are dearer to us than the happiness granted by others.*" If we develop and cherish such an ardent faith for the Almighty Lord that no one else in this universe except the Lord can give me eternal happiness then only our Bhajan-Bhakti and *Satsang* are real. Let us pray at the lotus-like feet of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev that, the Lord may grant us such type of *Bhakti*.

Editor
Mahant Swami
Shastri Swami Harikrishnadas

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

(October-2009)

15. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Vishal Pujara, Motera.

17. Graced *Patotsav* of Shri Rokadiya Hanumanji Maharaj (Muli Desh).
Performed Group *Sharda Poojan* in Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Kalupur.

18. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple Naranpura, Naranghat and Kalupur to *Annakut* aarti.

19. Performed *Mangla Aarti* of Shree Narnarayandev on the pious day of New Year and granted *Darshan* and blessings to all the devotees.
Graced the house of the devotee Shri Vasantbhai Tank, Paldi.

21. Graced the house o the devotee Shri Babubhai Naranbhai Patel, Nikol.

23. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kankariya, Ram-baug.

24. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Rasikbhai Laljibhai Patel, Thaltej tekra on the occasion of *Katha.*

25. Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple (ladies) Uvarsad On the occasion of renovation of the temple.

26. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Chimanbhai Patel, Memnagar.

27. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vadaj.

28. Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple Balasinor on the occasion of *Parayan.*

29. Performed *Saint Maha-Diksha* ritual.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Naranpura on the occasion of *Tulsi-Vivah.*
Graced the house of the devotee Shri Jigneshbhai Soni, Naranpura.

30. Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Balol (Bhal) On the occasion of *Patotsav.*

31. Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Kherol (Panchmahal).



Shikshapatri

The Epistle of Precepts

(based on Shatanand's Shikshapatri Arthadipika)

By Pravin S. Varsani

Text 30

One shall never drink unfiltered water or milk nor bathe with water which contains many organisms.

Agalitam Na Patavyam Paniyam Cha Payastatha

One shall never drink (*Patavyam*) water (*Paniyam*) or milk (*Payastatha*) unfiltered (*Agalitam*). Shatanand writes that filtration must take place using a piece of cloth – *Galitam Vastraputam*. Something used other than a cloth is considered unfiltered and so this should be duly noted.

The **Smrutis** explain, 'Water from a leather pail and water unfiltered are like meat. (***Charmavari Bhavenmaisam Toyamgalitam***). Also, *Gavya* (milk, yoghurt, lassi, butter and Ghee) kept in a metallic pot (*Tamba*) is like liquior.' Therefore Shatnanad says that to drink unfiltered water results in the sin of eating meat.

Shatanand here clarifies the point of *Gavya* kept in *Tamba Patra*. He explains that *Gavya* other than Ghee is like liquor. Also milk and other such substances, kept in a *Tamba* for purposes of *Deva Pooja, Yagna*, milking, serving or for use by an ascetic is acceptable. Similarly milk kept in a *Tamba* pot, whose skin has not been removed is acceptable also.

Shatanand explains that unfiltered milk should never be drunk. Sometimes such milk may contain tiny hairs from the body of the cow. For such instance of drinking milk containing hairs, *Prayaschit* is written by *Pracheta*: 'Those who inadvertently partake of a nail, hair, mud, metal or clay etc. even once, should fast for an entire day to cleanse themselves of such sin.' Also Ghee (or butter) bought should always be cleansed by filtering. Often such things purchased may contain hair, insects etc. and so careful use of these is required.

Harit Muni in **Mitakshara** explains, 'Those who eat insects, worms, dirt or water containing these should live off *Gomutra* (cow urine) and *Gochaarna* (cow excrement) for three days as *Prayschit*, to nullify such sin'. **Smrutis** further explain that filtered water will stay pure for six hours and after such time has elapsed it should be re-filtered. Also, it is written that one who drinks without filtering, just once accumulates the sin accumulated by a fisherman in six months.

Snaanadi Naiva Kartavyam Sukshmajantumayambhasa

One should never bathe in water that contains small organisms. Such water should never be used to wash hands or feet, wash clothes or cutlery. Those who ignore this commandment are the cause of death to many such organisms and so break the great Dharma of Ahimsa. Those who act contrary to the Lord's words are born again and again upon the earth as insects and the like.

Pilgrimage of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj of Australia

- Parshad Vanraj Bhagat (Swaminarayan Baug, Memnagar)

Adhipati of anantkoti Brahmanand came to this world for emancipation of all the souls and during his time, the Lord granted emancipation of crores of souls and thereafter granted us the *Path* of *Moksha* through *Satsang*. The Lord got constructed temples, established the seat of Acharya and also got created the great scriptures and bestowed us the rare gift of *Paramhamsas* and saints. It is the noble aim of the Almighty Lord to echo and spread the pious name of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan not only in the villages but in all the houses, in all the persons and also in every leaf of the trees and plants and therefore all the efforts are being made in that direction. Wherever the devotees go, reside and settle, the Almighty Lord also goes, resides and settles with the devotees. During the last few years, many of our devotees have gone and settled in Australia for the purpose of education or business. Respecting the cordial invitation of these devotees, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced Australia along with the saints from 30/09/209 to 11/10/2009. Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Mahant, Naranghat temple), Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) and Parshad Vanraj Bhagat joined this great pilgrimage. On the pious day of His Prakatyotsav, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj started the pilgrimage to Perth via Mumbai and graced Perth at 9.00 hours in the night on 29/09/2009. It was the every first visit of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj of Perth and therefore all the local devotees were overwhelmed with joy and pleasure. About 200 gents and ladies devotees had got together to welcome H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. The local native people of Australia were surprised to observe such a grand welcome. On 30/09/2009 and 01/10/2009, beautiful *Sabha* was organized. On both the days, the devotees availed the benefit of blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Huge piece of land was also acquired in the city of Perth for construction of a new temple. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced and sanctified the said land and blessed all the devotees for expeditious completion of the construction work of the new temple. Shri Vishrambhai, Shri Kantibhai, Shri Manjibhai, Shri Harindrabhai Dave etc. devotees prayed to H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj to grace the city again.

From Perth, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced Melbourne. From 03/10/2009 to 07/10/2009, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the houses of the devotees in Melbourne and granted them the benefit of blessings and *Satsang*. All the devotees availed the benefit of *Satsang* with H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj constantly for 04 days in Ringwood area of Melbourne. Thereafter, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced Point Cook area of the city, to grant the benefit of *Darshan* to the student-devotees residing there and granted them blessings. Durng the Sabha, all the Haribhaktas performed Saamaiya of H.H. Shri Acharya in ancient Indian tradition. Ladies devotees walking with band, lazim and the pots on their heads were granting the glimpse of the great *Bharatiya Sanskruti*. A beautiful house has been purchase for construction of a temple in Melbourne, too. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed all the devotees for expeditious construction of the temple at the site. Devotees Dipakbhai, Rameshbhai, Jayeshbhai, Rajubhai, Gaurangbhai obtained the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj for development of *Satsang* in the area.

From Melbourne, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced Adelaide. Compared to

Con.on page 7.....

Who Gets Complete Fruit of Worship of God?

- Jayantibhai K. Son
(Memnagar-Ahmedabad)



Every person on this earth worships his own personal god. Most of them worship the Almighty God to remain happy. Very few of them think about the emancipation of their soul. Even after such a noble thought of the emancipation, it is very difficult to identify the Lord Shree Swaminarayan. If every person can easily identify the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan then everyone would have accomplished the path of emancipation. But it does not happen. Without ardent worship of the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan, no one can get emancipation in life. As a result of the fruits of many births, one becomes capable of identifying the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan and he gets *Bhakti* of the Lord.

The Lord Shree Swaminarayan is the Almighty Lord *Purna Purushottam Naryan* and this is assured by the Lord Shree Swaminarayan Himself in Vachanamrit-7 of Ahmedabad Chapter.

સર્વથી પર એવું જે શ્રી પુરુષોત્તમનું ધામતેમાં ગયા. ત્યાં પણ હું જ પુરુષોત્તમછું. મારા વિના બીજો મોટો કોઈ દેખ્યો નહિ એટલે ઠેકાણે કર્યા અને પછી અમે દેહને વિષે આવ્યા અને ફેર અનંત સામું જોયુ ત્યારે એમજણાણું જે, સર્વે બ્રહ્માંડની ઉત્પત્તિ, સ્થિતિને પ્રલય તેનો કર્તા પણ હું જ છું. ને અનંત બ્રહ્માંડના અસંખ્ય શિવ, અસંખ્ય બ્રહ્મા, અસંખ્ય કૈલાસ, અસંખ્ય વૈકુંઠ અને ગોલોક બ્રહ્મપુર અને અસંખ્ય કરોડ બીજી ભૂમિકાઓ એ સર્વે મારે તેજે કરીને તેજાયમાન છે અને વળી હું કેવો છું તો મારા પગને અંગુઠે કરીને પૃથ્વીને ડગાવું તો અસંખ્ય બ્રહ્માંડની પૃથ્વી ડગવા માડે ને મારે તેજે કરીને સૂર્ય, ચંદ્રમાં, તારા આદિક સર્વે તેજોયમાન છે. એવો જે હું તે મારે વિષે એમસમજીને નિશ્ચય કરે તો ભગવાન એવો હું સર્વોપરિ એવું જે ધામતેને પમાડીશ.

Thus we have realized the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan and we also perform *Bhakti* and *Bhajan* of the Lord. Yet there is difference in yielding its fruits. One gets power and energy by performing *Navdha Bhakti* of Shreeji Maharaj but this *Bhakti* becomes fruitful only when the image of the Shreeji Maharaj is kept at heart. Shreeji Maharaj has stated in *Vachanamrit* that, if one does not remember the Almighty Lord while performing *Bhajan* and *Bhakti* then such Bhajan and Bhakti are as good as not performing *Bhajan* and *Bhakti*. In *Navdha Bhakti Pradakshina, Dandvat Pranam, Japa, Mantra, Mala, Janmangal Path* etc. are performed. All these means in themselves cannot yield any fruits but if they are utilized to please the Almighty Lord then only one gets its fruits. If *Mala, Mantra* are performed while paying attention to its counting, then it becomes a mechanical process and one does not get any fruits from such *Mala* or *Mantra*. Shreeji Maharaj

has stated in Vachanamrit-41 of Gadhda Middle Chapter:

ભક્તિ તો ફક્ત ભગવાનની પ્રસન્નતાને અર્થે ને પોતાના કલ્યાણને અર્થે જ કરવી, પણ કોઈ વખાણે તે સારુ ન કરવી, જીવનો તો સ્વભાવ જ છે જે જેમાં પોતાને માન જડે તે જ કરવું સારુ લાગે, જેમશ્વાન હોય તે સુકા હાડકાને એકાંતે લઈ જઈ કરડે, પછી તેણે કરીને પોતાનું મોઢું છોલાય ને તે હાડકું, લોહીવાળુ થાય તેને ચાટીને રાજી થાય છે. પણ મૂર્ખ એમનથી જાણતો જે મારા જ મોઢાનું લોહી છે. તેમાં હું સ્વાદ માનુ છું. તેમભગવાનનો ભક્ત હોય તો પણ માનરૂપી હાકડાને મૂકી શકતો નથી અને જે જે સાધન કરે છે તે માનને વશ થઈને કરે છે.

But when one does not perform *Bhakti* knowing that he is performing it to please the Almighty Lord and when there is an iota of pride in it then one should immediately improve himself. Therefore Shreeji Maharaj has stated that, if *Bhakti* and *Bhajan* of the Almighty Lord is performed by leaving aside the worldly desire even for some time then also the Lord remains very much pleased with such a devotee. One should always remember that, one does not get the worship and *Bhakti* of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan so easily; one gets it after accumulation of the noble deeds of thousands of past lives. One should perform *Bhakti* keeping in mind that except the Lord Shree Swaminarayan, no one can make this soul happy on this earth. Therefore one should give priority to *Bhakti* of the Almighty Lord in his life. If one performs *Bhakti*, after performing all his worldly duties, then the fruits of his *Bhakti* are also of the second grade and therefore one should never commit such a mistake. During the crores of birth, this soul has not habituated itself with *Bhakti* of the Lord and therefore it does not prefer *Bhakti* voluntarily until it is asked to do so by someone else. Therefore one should be alert and when one has realized that, he has got the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan in this life, then he should take maximum benefit of this life and by putting aside all the worldly affairs, he should perform *Bhakti* and *Bhajan* as per the directions of the Shreeji Maharaj.

Con. From page 5

Pilgrimage of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj

Perth and Melbourne, Adelaide is a smaller city and there are very few devotees in it but there was more enthusiasm in the devotees of Adelaide. Beautiful Satsang Sabha, one day outdoor Shibir, Programme of Grace of the houses of the devotees were organized. Through questionnaire with the young devotees, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj resolved the spiritual questions and quarries of the young devotees and provided them valuable guidance. It was a divine pleasure for these young devotees to remain and stay so close with H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granted them blessings for development of *Satsang*.

On 11/10/2009, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj returned to India. Devotees Shri Rameshbhai, Manishbhai, Arvindbhai, Ghanshyambhai Dabhi and Purushottambhai etc. young devotees had availed this divine benefit.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced Sydney in April-2009 and he is again to grace Sydney again in April-2010, therefore many devotees and members of Scheme Committee of Black Town Temple, Sydney had come to Melbourne and Adelaide to perform Darshan of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj directed and recommended all these elder devotees to develop and preserve Satsang. With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Nana P.P. Swami and Ram Swami had graced Sydney for seven days and had availed to the devotees benefit of *Katha, Varta* and *Satsang* in the temple of our *Sampradaya*.

When H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj has been taking such pains for development and our *Satsang* then let us take inspiration from him and render our services in this noble and divine task of development of *Satsang* and encourage and inspire our relatives residing in Australia to attend the *Satsang Sabha* and to perform *Darshan* in the temple of our *Sampradaya* regularly.

પ્રભાત ઉતારી પાર્થ્યું પૃથ્વી પર !

- Prof. Mahadev Dhoriyani (Rajkot)

Contribution of the singers of the State of Gwalior is considerable in Classical music. They came to Junagadh with the expectation of receiving a gift. Nawab of Junagadh had heard the Classical music from the mouths of the Brahmanand Swami, Premanand Swami, Devanand Swami etc. When the Lord Shree Sahjanand Swami incarnated on this earth, then it was the prime time of classical music.

The Nawab told the singers, "If you listen to the classical music from the Paramhamsas like Brahmanand Swami and Premanand Swami, your pride would be melted down. It is a matter of rare opportunity to listen the classical music from them. You may come to my Darbar after listening and relishing their music, I shall honour you thereafter."

All the arrangements of the traveling of the singers of Gwalior upto Gadhda was made with attendants by the Nawab of Junagadh. They reached Gadhda in the evening. Sahjanand Swami was sitting in the Sabha of Darbar of Dada Khachar. The leader of the singers of Gwalior passed on the message of the Nawab of Junagadh to Maharaj.

Maharaj told them, "You all must be tired of long traveling, therefore tonight our singers would present their music before you." And Maharaj looked at Premanand Swami and Brahmanand Swami. Obtaining the directions, both the saints prepared their team of musicians. They were asked to play '*Bhairav Raag*'. There are well established norms in the field of classical music. Accordingly, Bhairav Raag cannot be played in the evening; it can be played only early in the morning. Therefore the singers of Gwalior started murmuring among themselves.

As per the directions of Maharaj, Premand Swami started the first lines of Kirtan in Bhairav Raag. Brahmanand Swami was ready with his Tabla and Muktanand Swami released the tunes from Sarangi.

"ચંદન ચર્ચિત નીલ કલેવર,
સુંદર કટિતટ કસ્યો પટપીત;
પ્રેમાનંદ પ્રીતમપ્યારે કી,
છબી પર તન મન બલિ જાઉં.
નિત.... નિત....."

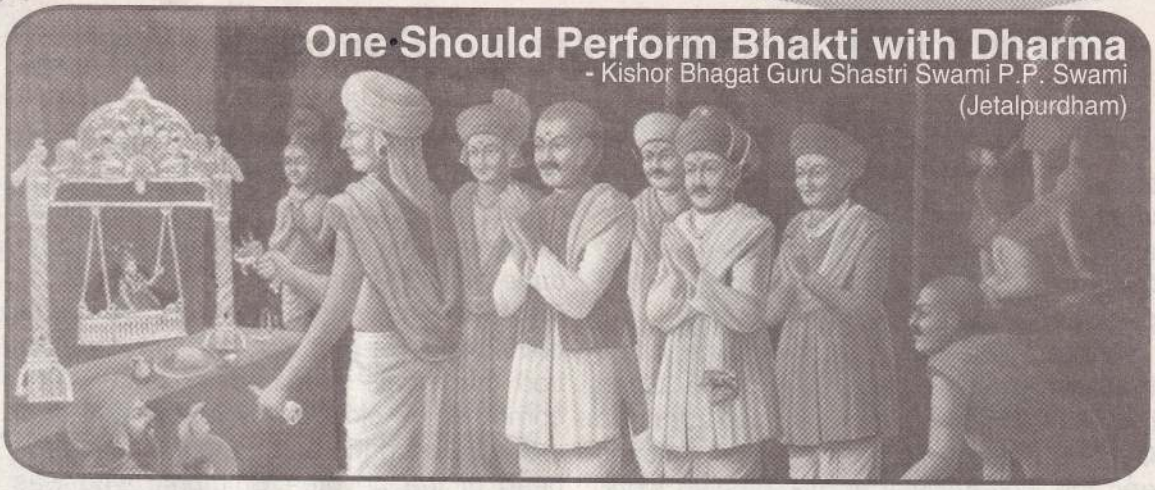
With the singing of the song in Bhairav Raag, the whole atmosphere in Gadhpur got changed. It was the atmosphere of early morning. Even the cocks started singing believing it to be an early morning!!! The singers of Gwalior could make out, why Maharaj directed his singers to play Bhairav Raag in the evening and they bowed down at the feet of Maharaj.

On the second day, the singers of Gwalior heard Brahmanand Swami. They were all stunned. All the singers stayed there for five days and relished various types of music. Thereafter all the singers of Gwalior returned to Junagadh with a letter of recommendations of Brahmanand Swami. The Nawab of Junagadh listened to their music for three days. He was very much pleased with all them, and offered them all precious gifts. While returning to their native place the singers of Gwalior told the Nawab of Junagadh that they would always remember their experience of Gadhda. The Nawab smiled at them.



One Should Perform Bhakti with Dharma

- Kishor Bhagat Guru Shastri Swami P.P. Swami
(Jetalpurdham)



Those who want to get freedom from this woeful world and to achieve *Akshardham* of the Almighty Lord should perform *Bhakti* with *Dharma*, *Gyan* and *Vairagya*.

All the devotees living the worldly life should follow the directions given by Shreeji Maharaj in *'Shiksha-Patri'* and they should live the life full of Dharma. Then what is Dharma? It is stated in *'Shiksha-Patri'* that Sadachar which is approved by *Shruti* and *Smruti* is Dharma and to know *Jiva, Maya, Ishwar* His various forms is called *Gyan* and no affection with anything except the Lord Shree Krishna is called *Vairagya*. The form of *Bhakti* which is a combination of above all the three if it is performed with love and affection and faith towards the Lord Shri Krishna then it is real *Bhakti*.

Similarly there are nine types of *Bhakti*. *Dharma* is the Head of *Bhakti, Gyan* is the heart of Bhakti and Vairagya is the feet of Bhakti. Therefore to perform *Bhakti* with all the three is called *Ekantik Bhakti Dharma* and it is called *Bhagwat Dharma*. Devotee performing such *Bhakti* is called *Ekantik Bhakta* and *Bhagwat Bhakta*. Such type of *Bhakti* is obtained only through *Satsang*.

The devotees should also know Purna Purushottam Lord Shree Narayan, His Form, Nature, *Guna, Eishwaraya*, etc. and should read and listen to those scriptures wherein there are such descriptions of the Lord. They should also behave as per the conduct prescribed in such scriptures. They should always remain in the company of good people and should behave as per the wish of such persons. He should also listen to the *Katha* of the Lord wherein *Golok, Vaikunth, Shwetdwip, Brahmpur* etc, *Dham* and creation of the universe, incarnations of the Almighty Lord etc. are described. When sheer *Bhakti Bhava* emerges in the heart of a devotee by listening to such *Katha*, such a devotee is called *Ekantik Bhakta*. While performing such *Bhakti* if *Atma-Gyan, Vairgya* and *Dharma* appear to be creating the hurdles, then they should be put aside and Bhakti should be given the first priority in his life. Because in *Vachanamrit*, Shreeji Maharaj has stated that those who are ardent and *Ekantik Bhaktas*, then all the three viz. Dharma, *Gyan* and *Vairagya* also cannot disturb such a *Bhakta*. Thus, Shreeji Maharaj has placed *Bhakti* above all the three and has stated that, there is no other better means to get emancipation except such a *Bhakti*.

Wave of Pleasure : Leela of Gangajaliya Well

- Shastri Harijivan Swami (Himatnagar Mahant)

Once the problem of drinking water cropped up in Gadhada. Devotee Natho went to fetch water for Shree Hari but the anti-social elements did not allow him to fetch the water. The devotee was very much perturbed at this.

Maharaj asked him not to worry and told that a well shall be prepared in Darbar Gadh itself so that there may not be any turmoil in Gadhada for drinking water. The artisans and the workers started the digging work. After the work of about seventy to eighty feet, a huge black stone came while digging the well. Devotees reported Maharaj that, now it would not be possible to dig the well any further. Maharaj asked them not to worry as there would be tremendous water in the proposed well. All the devotees who were rendering their services were now tired. Therefore *Parshad* of Maharaj devotee Bhimbhai started digging the well. Parshad was digging the well and Maharaj was experiencing the thuds. When Maharaj asked who was digging the well, devotees told that it was Parshad Bhimbhai. Immediately Maharaj stood up, rushed to the site of the well and threw a cloth upon the *Parshad* Bhimbhai. When Bhimbhai asked who threw the cloth from above, Maharaj told that it was the cloth of *Prasadi* and Maharaj returned to his seat in the *Sabha*. *Katha-Varta* were resumed. Bhimbhai was digging the well at the site. During the work another black stone came on the way; moreover he was very hungry. But no one knew it except the omniscient Maharaj. Maharaj takes care of all the devotees. Immediately Maharaj called the cook and asked him to prepare the meals as he was very hungry.

The cook prepared the loaves and offered it with jaggery and Ghee. Maharaj mixed up all the three. The devotees witnessed this and asked what was to be done with it? Maharaj told that, his *Parshad* Bhimbhai was very hungry and these meals have been got prepared for him. Maharaj tied the meals prepared by him in one corner of the cloth of his turban and let it loose beneath the earth and it touched the head of the devotee Bhimbhai who was digging in the well. When the devotee opened the cloth, he found the meals in it. He was very happy. He understood that this was the work of Maharaj.

Devotee Bhimbhai requested Maharaj why He was taking such pains for him? Maharaj replied that, he had become hungry and therefore he thought to send him *Prasadi* since he had to break the black stone for digging the well. The devotee Bhimbhai was overwhelmed with this. With the strength obtained from the *Prasadi*, the devotee Bhimbhai could break the black stone and dig the well further. After some digging work, sweet drinking water started coming from the underground. Everyone rejoiced the accomplishment of digging the well. All the devotees as well as Maharaj drank water from it.

After some time, a Brahmin came to the village. The Brahmin came to Maharaj for *Darshan* and offered him two bottles of the holy water of river *Ganga*. Maharaj took some water from it and poured it into the well and explained the importance of the water of the well. Since then, the well is known as ***Gangajaliya Well.*** All the devotees thronged together; fetched the buckets of water from the well and Maharaj took bath. All enjoyed it like anything.

શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ

સત્સંગ સુરભિ

- Atul Bhanuprasad Pothiwala (Ahmedabad)

સુખો ન થયો લીલો પણ આલમબન્યોં અમીર !

Ranpur is a small village near Botad in Bhavnagar district. One Sukha Maharaj was residing in Ranpur. He had had the occasion to meet and perform Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. After the meeting he became a *Satsangi* and adopted *Kanthi*. Sukha Maharaj was a pious Brahmin. He used to earn the livelihood through receiving alms from others. Though there was everything in his house, he was very greedy by nature.

There are all types of happiness whenever there are Maharaj. This Sukha Maharaj started staying at Gadhda. He used to perform *Katha, Varta* and eat new delicious dishes everyday. Kathi Darbar inquired in Ranpur and they found that, this Sukha Maharaj was accustomed of receiving alms otherwise he had everything at his home. Once taking an opportunity Sura Khachar told, "Oh Lord! This Sukha Maharaj has been requesting for many days that Maharaj may grace his house and sanctify his home. Oh Lord, you are omniscient and you will have to grace the house of the devotee Sukha Maharaj." Maharaj smiled and looked at Sukha Maharaj.

Sukha Maharaj requested Maharaj, "Yes, you will have to grace my house. When will I get such an opportunity? When will you grace my house?' Maharaj said, "Ranpur comes on the way to Loya- the famous place of pilgrimage. One day we shall certainly come to your home." Many days passed, whenever Sukha Maharaj reminded Maharaj replied, "We shall think over it and let you know." Observing this Sukha Maharaj started insisting Maharaj to grace his house along with all the saints.

It was decided to celebrate *Annakut* of the year Samvat 1884 in Karmad. Accepting the ardent request of Fuljibai, the sister of Dholera Darbar Jethibhai, it was decided to celebrate *Annakut* at her in-laws in Karmad. During that time, Shreeji Maharaj was performing *Chatur-Maas* in Gadhada. Everyday a *Sabha* was being conducted and Maharaj used to narrate various *Katha, Varta* to the devotees in the *Satsang Sabha*. One day, after the Sabha Sukha Maharaj reminded Maharaj his invitation. Maharaj replied that this time *Annakut* is to be celebrated in the neighbouring place Karmad and therefore the meals of the afternoon would be arranged at the place of Sukha Maharaj.

Sukha Maharaj was stunned at this. He was thinking as to what meals should be prepared. Sura Khachar told him, "The sweets of *Sata* and *Jalebi* and with more affection you can also serve the sweets of *Malpuda* and *Dudhpaak*." Immediately Sukha Maharaj took leave of Maharaj and came home and asked his family members to remain alert as these Kathi Darbar may demand anything at any time.

Shree Hari started his Sangh of Kathi Darbar, Saints and Haribhaktas towards Karmad. They stayed at Botad at night and arrived at Ranpur the next day. The whole *Sangh* led by Shreeji Maharaj passed through the main bazaar of Ranpur and stopped at the doorstep of Sukha Maharaj. The door was knocked. The son of Sukha Maharaj opened the door and he saw Shreeji Maharaj at the doorstep. As instructed to him, the son informed Shreeji

Maharaj while standing at the doorstep that his father had gone to some other village and asked him when he would come at home next time. The omniscient Shreeji Maharaj smiled as he knew that Sukha Maharaj was sleeping in one room of the house.

Listening to the answer of the son, devotee Sura Khachar grudged," This Sukha Maharaj had relished so many dishes of meals at Gadhada. At least he should have remained at home when he knew that Maharaj was to grace his house." Immediately Shreeji Maharaj said, "That is his name Sukha, we wanted to grace him and his house but it appears that his luck does not permit so. Let him remain as he is. Let's go." And Shreeji Maharaj rode his Manki.

While going ahead, Shreeji Maharaj directed the *Sangh* to go to the residence of the devotee Bade Minya of Ranpur. While inquiring about the house of Bade Minya, the *Sangh* knocked the door of Minya. The son Aalam came and opened the door.

Once Bade Minya happened to meet Shreeji Maharaj at village Ugamedi. Bade Minya was overwhelmed with pleasure and requested Maharaj to grace his house at Ranpur which is situated in Mole Salam Chora area of the village. Shreeji Maharaj had remembered the name of Mole Samal Chora area and now he was at the door step of the devotee. When Maharaj asked, Aalam, his son informed that his father had gone to Ahmedabad. The son, who had imbibed noble qualities of Satsang from his father, ardently welcomed Shreeji Maharaj and the whole *Sangh*. Aalam immediately rushed into the kitchen and told everything to his mother. The mother was overwhelmed with pleasure. She heartily welcomed Maharaj, offered the place and requested to take the seat. She immediately made arrangements for the stay of the *Sangh* in the neighbouring houses of the Brahmins. She ordered the grocery items from the *Bania* of the village and got started the preparation of the meals. Till the meals were prepared Maharaj talked with little Aalam with love and affection. The meals were ready and all the devotees and saints as also Maharaj relished the delicious meals which were prepared and served with ardent love and affection.

Today a Muslim mother and son were rendering their great services of offering the meals to Shreeji Maharaj and the Sangh and there Sukha Maharaj and his family failed to render any services!!! While relishing *Mukhvaas* Maharaj asked Sura Khachar who should be given credit for such delicious meals, Bade Minya, his wife or little Aalam? Sura Khachar quipped and replied that the credit should go to Sukha Maharaj who refused to render the services and as a result thereof we could avail such honest and sincere services from the family of Bade Minya!!!

Listening to this Maharaj smiled and said, "This Sukha Maharaj always stayed with us but did not imbibe any quality of Satsang, whereas this Muslim, who had never been to any Sabha or Satsang and yet he rendered great services. What transpires from this is that, only those who possess noble qualities in them can identify the Almighty Lord and the saints. This Muslim family could identify but Sukha Maharaj could not."

The Muslim family went upto the outskirt of the village to see off the Sangh. Little Aalam told Maharaj to keep on coming to their home. The sangh went ahead stayed at Loya at night and went ahead in the morning towards Karmad. Still the house of Sukha Maharaj was closed lest Maharaj may return back to their home! And here little Aalam became rich and great man by obtaining the *Prasadi* of love and affection of Shreeji Maharaj!!!



From the Blessings of H.H. Shri Gadiwla Shri

- Compilation by Kotak Varsha Natvarlal (Ghodasar)

Who has created this world? The answer is Shreeji Maharaj. Maharaj has created it in such a way that, everyone can live in it happily. What an elder member of the family expect from his family? He expects that, all the members in his family should live happily and with unity and with love and affection. But today what is the aim of human life? And how should a human life be? No one knows it and when a man realizes it, his life is about to come to an end. Today if any man goes in search of any job or service, then he is required to give reference of any well known person. What is the reason for it? The reason is that, one worships the Almighty Lord not due to ardent faith in Him due to his inner fear. It should not be. One should have ardent faith in Almighty Lord.

One day a person went to one office for an interview. The interviewer asked him why there was no reference of any well known person in his file? The candidate replies that, his body which is granted by the Almighty Lord is the great reference of the Lord. Thus human body is a gift given by the God, however it is not permanent and it has to be returned to the Almighty Lord. Our body is associated with our soul and therefore we have to inculcate noble qualities and we have to return this body to Almighty Lord. Suppose we have lent anything to any person. Now the borrower spoils our thing and returns it in bad condition. Then shall we accept the thing in the same bad condition? Immediately we would tell that, originally it was not so. It transpires from above that, we have to preserve the borrowed things and if the borrowed thing gets spoilt then we have to replace it with a new thing. Similarly Almighty Lord has given us this human body, now if we fill this body with bad qualities then Paramatma would not bring our Soul with Him and would leave it here only. That means we will have to wander in 84 lac births.

H.H. Shri Gadiwala conclude with the words that emancipation is the goal of human life. And therefore one should not cherish evil qualities like jealousy, quarrelsome nature etc. in human life. Because all these bad qualities carry with them love and hatred with everything. A person cherishes the feeling of love or hatred towards anything due to happiness and unhappiness received by him. But one should look from that angle. One should cherish the understanding that, whatever he receives and gains in life is the fruit of his noble or evil deeds in life and the grantor of this fruit of action (*Karma-Phala*) is the Almighty Lord. If this angle is developed in life, there would be eternal peace in life and the person would get freedom from love and hatred and also from the cycle of birth and death. So let us pray to the Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev that the Lord may grant us t he power to scrupulously follow the directions of H.H. Shri Gadiwala.

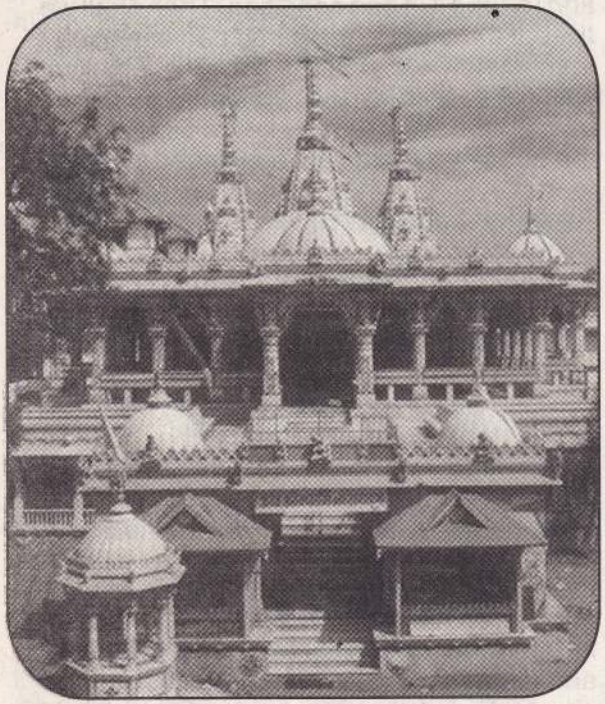
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Mulidham of Shreeji Maharaj

- Sankhya Yogi Kanchanba

(Dhrangadhra Swaminarayan temple)

Zalawad was very dear to Shreeji Maharaj and at Muli Maharaj used to stay two months in a year. *Satsang* and Bhakti of Zalawad were very dear to Maharaj. Once Shreeji Maharaj graced Dhrangadhra place of Zalawad. Here for 24 days, Maharajj had granted Darshan of 24 incarnations of the



Almighty Lord. Let us talk about this rare event.

Once Shreeji Maharaj wrote letters to 18 Haribhaktas of Kathiayad and Zalawad and directed them to immediately go to Govindanand Swami in Jetalpur and to become Sadhu. Accordingly Maharaj came to Dhrangadhra along with these 18 Sadhus and other Haribhaktas. Dhrangadhra is a city of stone mines. A city of Rajwada. In the outskirts of the city there is a lake which is now called Jogasar. On the bank of this lake, Lord as well as the saints came. All the Haribhaktas of the city had made arrangements for the meals of Shree Hari and also availed the benefit of *Darshan* and *Satsang*.

At that time prince Ranmalsinhji of Dhrangadhra wanted to purchase the gold. One Haribhakta of Dhrangadhra by name Muljibhai Oza, who was dealing in the business of the gold was called. During their conversation, the prince asked Muljibhai whether Lord Swaminarayan performs miracles and it is heard that including Aja Patel of the adjoining village Methan, about 18 devotees renounces their home and became Sadhu. Concluding thus, the Prince expressed his desire to perform *Darshan* of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan.

Immediately Hari Bhaktas Muljibhai informed the Prince that at present Shreeji Maharaj had come at the outskirts of Dhrangadhra and that he may go and perform *Darshan* of Maharaj. The Prince Ranmalsinhji and his brother Ladhubha went to the lake riding horse and watched Shreeji Maharaj and other saints.

Shreeji Maharaj was sitting under a banyan tree. Both the princes came down from the horse and observing Maharaj they felt such divine pleasure, which was nowhere in the whole of Brahmand. They also observed all the saints studying Yoga. Thereafter, the prince called Muljibhai Oza, asked him not to allow his Guru (Maharaj) to go away and that all the expenses of the meals of the saints and the devotees would be borne by him. At night the prince was recalling his experience of the meeting with Shreeji Maharaj. He felt that, with the rising of the Sun, he may rush to the lake to perform *Darshan* of Maharaj.

The next day in the morning, the prince sought permission of his father Bapu Amarsinhji to go to the Lord Shree Swaminarayan to perform *Darshan*. Bapu granted permission and asked him to bring along with him the whole procession. Accordingly, the prince brought with him horses, elephants, Palkhi and decorations of Arabi Berakh and came to Shreeji Maharaj. When they came there, Shreeji Maharaj showed him the grandeur of white elephants, horses, plane, chariot, garlands, golden seat etc. which was divine and quite different from the worldly pomp and decorum. Observing this all were surprised and bowed down at the feet of Shreeji Maharaj. The Lord granted the prince *Darshan* of the Lord Shree Krishna playing

flute.

The prince : *"How can the Almighty Lord be realized?"*

Shreeji Maharaj : "*One should perform Archan of the Lord, should perform poojan of Brahmins, to give alms of various kinds, to speak sweet words, to abstain from the evils of violence, theft, deviation from character and morality, drinking etc. if all these are followed scrupulously then one gets the Almighty Lord in this world itself and gets a place in Akshardham after death.*"

The prince kept Shreeji Maharaj in Dhrangadhra for one month and worshipped the Almighty Lord and like the great king Janak, took care of his subject like a son. He performed poojan, organized Chorasi of the Brahmins, distributed various types of precious brazen and copper utensils to the needy people, gave cows in alms and earned fame and name in Kathiawad and Zalawad. During the stay of Shreeji Maharaj, the prince asked him how were 24 incarnations of the Almighty Lord? In answer to this question, Shreeji Maharaj granted the prince *Darshan* of 24 incarnations for 24 days. These incarnations, in their chronology were of the Lord Shree Krishna, the Lord Shree Rama and in the forms of *Machchh, Kachchh, Varah, Hayagriv, Vaman, Kapil, Datatreya, Hamsa, Yagna, Dhanvantari, Mohini, Narnarayan, Rushabhdev, Naradji, Vyas, Buddha, Nrisimha, Pruthu, Sanatkumar, Parsuram and Baldev.*

While staying at the bank of the lake, Shree Hari granted to the devotees and the saints the benefit of Gyan and *Satsang*, encouraged them for the study of the Yoga. Thereafter the lake was rejuvenated and accordingly in the memory of Shree Hari, the lake was named as 'Jogasar'. Even today ladies devotees of Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Dhrangadhra celebrate *Shakotsav* every year on the bank of this Jogasar, sing *Kirtans* of Shree Hari and avail the benefit of *Satsang*. Let us pray to Shree Hari that, like Ranmalsinhji, the Lord may grant all of us the strength of *Satsang*.

Mulji Brahmchari

- Jayshri Suresh Zinzuwadia (Dhrangadhra)



Lord Shree Swaminarayan was very merciful. During his time, the Lord had played a very crucial role in eradicating the social evils which were prevalent in the society. One great devotee who always remained with the Almighty Lord was Mulji Brahmchari.

Mulji Brahmchari was an Aaudichya Brahmin of Machiyav. He was a *Satsangi* from the time of Ramanand Swami. Later on he met with Shreeji Maharaj and became his ardent devotee. He could not live even a single day without performing *Darshan* of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan. While listening to *Leela* and importance of Shreeji Maharaj he did not know when he would slip into the state of *Samadhi*. When Darbar of the village Mahiyav came to know this, the house of the devotee was removed and he was driven out of the village.

Since then the devotee Mulji Brahmchari came to Maharaj and remained permanently in the service of Maharaj. From the day of his expulsion, there was no rain in his village. The people of the village came to know that, there has been no rain because Mulji Brahmchari has been expelled from the village. Darbar sent his men with a letter to Mulji Brahmchari. Maharaj read the letter and directed Mulji Brahmchari to return to Machiyav. When Mulji Brahmchari returned to his village, he was warmly welcomed by Darbar and all the villagers. Mulji Brahmchari offered *Satsang* and rules of the

Lord to the villagers and returned to Maharaj. In the same year there was tremendous rain in the whole region.

Mulji Brahmchari used to live as per the wish of Maharaj. Sometimes Maharaj used to get angry with him or would drive him away; but Mulji Brahmchari took it as the desire of the Almighty Lord. During their pilgrimage to Kachchh, once Maharaj asked Mulji Brahmchari, "How do you consider me?" Mulji Bramchari replied that for him Maharaj was the Almighty Lord." Maharaj said that, he would make Mulji Brahmchari the Lord. Mulji immediately replied that he did not want to become the Lord. Thus Maharaj used to make fun with his this ardent devotee.

Mulji Brahmhari was an ardent devotee of Shreeji Maharaj. Gyan, Vairagya, Atma-Nishtha and selfless Bhakti were his noble qualities. He had firm faith in the Almighty Lord Shree Hari. He believed that, his life was meant only to obtain pleasure of the Almighty Lord and accordingly he lived as per the wish of Maharaj.

Maharaj had granted Mulji the permission to talk with the ladies devotees. Mulji did not know any difference between male and female devotees and he was beyond any human weaknesses. So worthy of respect was Mulji Brahmchari.

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Genuine Saints are the Ornaments of *Satsang*

- Patel Rekhaben Kirtikumar (Unjha)

Purna Purushottam Lord Shree Swaminarayan incarnated as the son of Dharmdev and Bhaktimata. When this merciful Lord graced the village Loj, at that time there were 50 saints who had obtained Diksha from Ramanand Swami. Maharaj nourished them in *Satsang* and made 500 saints from these 50 saints. Maharaj started the great tradition of the saints. Saints can nourish *Satsang*. In villages, in spite of number of efforts of the Haribhaktas, they cannot collect sufficient money for construction of the temple. But when such a call is received from a saint, more than required money is collected. This is the real importance of the saints. Even a stranger would bow down at the feet of a saint. Even the deities are defeated before the saints. Once Maharaj stated in the Sabha that, the saints who remain in obedience of the directions and under the shelter of Dharmakul are the real saints. Maharaj has brought these Nand Saints in *Sampradaya* from Akshardham. No one except the saints can tell good things. In this world no one is our own except the Almighty Lord and the saints. The relations of the world are full of selfishness. The mother brings up her child with an expectation that during her old age, her son would take care of her. Therefore all should remember that, those who offend the saints can never be happy in this world. Brahmanand Swami has sung in one of his *Kirtan*:

પ્રભુ પદ પ્રગટ કરાવતા પ્રીતિ,
ભરમમીટાવત ભારી,
સંત પરમહિતકારી,
જગતમાંહી સંત પરમહિતકારી.

Lord Shree Swaminarayan has directed H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in '*Shiksha-Patri*' that the saints should be viewed with reverence and ardent faith. Sadguru Nishkulanand Swami has stated in his *Kirtan* that:

સંત વિના રે સાચી કોણ કહે સાચા સુખની વાત,
દયા રહી છે જેના દિલમાં નથી ઘટમાં ઘાત.....
જેમજનની ને હૈયે હેત છે, સદા સુતને સાથ,
અરોગી કરવા અભર્કને પાયે કડવેરા કવાથ.....
જેમભમરી ભરે ભારે ચટકો પલટવા ઈયળનું અંગ
સંતો કટુ વચન કહે આપવા આપણો રંગ.....
સંતો જાણે સગા સહુના જીવ જરૂર જાણી
નિષ્કુળાનંદ નિર્ભય કહે આંપે પદ નિર્વાણ સંત વિના
સાચી કોણ કહે સાચા સુખની વાત.

Is the festival of Diwali permanent?

- Shastri Haripriyadas (Gandhinagar)

Haresh : Jay Shree Swaminarayan, Ganesh!!

Ganesh: Oh! Haresh! Jai Shree Swaminarayan. We met after many days.

Haresh : Yes, but what can I do. I was stuck up in such a way that, I did not get time.

One by one problems keep on coming. We feel good for some time during the festival of Diwali and thereafter again the routine schedule.

Ganesh: Look, it is not so.

Haresh : What are you talking? It appears that you are following a different calendar.

Ganesh :No it is not like that, listen to me. The persons, who perform Bhakti, Satsang and Seva in their life, have permanent Diwali at their homes. All the problems remain away from them. Today I happen to read one incident. I share it with you.

Mahanubhuvanand Swami graced the house of one Satsangi. Haribhakta asked Swami where he wanted to go. Haribhakta prepared one cart for Swami. Now this Haribhakta was suffering from *Saranganth*. He could not stand for a longer period of time. And he faced great difficulties while walking. During those times, this disease was incurable and there were no facilities of operation. Therefore a patient of *Saranganth* had to tolerate the suffering and pain of the disease. This Haribhakta knew that, if we would sit on the cart, then he will have to tolerate all the thuds during the journey and yet he prepared himself to see off Swami upto the outskirts of the village. He thought of rendering services to Swami even at the cost of his health. Other persons advised him not to take such pains and to send some other person to see off Swami. But this Haribhakta was firm in his decision. Swami Mahanubhuvanand and this Haribhakta both took their seats on the cart. While passing through a field, one rabbit jumped up and crossed the road in such a way that the bullocks struck with the rabbit. At that time, Haribhakta was not attentive and therefore he fell down from the bullock-cart. He fell down in such a way that, the wheel of the cart crushed his stomach. When Mahanubhavanand Swami witnessed this, he prayed the Almighty Maharaj to protect the devotee who had rendered these services. And there was a miracle. The pain of the disease of Haribhakta vanished and he could walk and run without any difficulty. He got himself cured of but miraculously.

When Mahanubhavanand Swami asked him to take rest, Haribhakta told that he was fine and could walk and run easily. Haribhakta returned with a smiling face. To the surprise of all, he was working in the field and doing all the work. Those who witnessed him working, asked him whether he did not feel any pain. Haribhakta replied that, blessings of the saints and his services had cured him from the disease. When they asked how did he cure himself. Haribhakta told, "Saint like Mahanubhuvanand was sitting in the bullock-cart. New bullocks were in front of the cart, with a miracle he fell down and the wheel of the cart crushed his stomach and he was cured of *Saranganth* miraculously."

Ganesh : Look, Haresh. For common people Diwali comes and goes. But for this

Haribhakta, it was a permanent Diwali. Great difficulty was also overcome and he started performing *Bhajan* joyously. This was the fruit of rendering services. Thus, for those in whose life Almighty Lord, *Bhajan* and *Satsang* are not forgotten, the following words of Brahmanand Swami are truly applicable:

"બ્રહ્માનંદના રે વહાલા, તમસંગ રમતા મારે,
દહાડી દહાડી છે દિવાળી, હૈડામાં મુને વહાલાં."

Haresh : who! Ganesh, you have removed all my worries and brought permanent Diwali in my life. Now I shall never forget *Bhajan, Bhakti, Seva* and *Satsang* in my life.

•

Bhakta can be tested any time

- Sadhu Shrirangdas (Gandhinagar)

Perhaps you may have observed military training. How to hold the weapons in hands, how to catch the enemies, training of the soldiers and their bravery, too. But have you ever observed the training of Dharma? Have you heard about the Test in religion? Perhaps you may not have heard. So let us see how the devotee Tuljaram was tested in Jetalpurdham.

Once the Lord Shree Swaminarayan was sitting in a Sabha in Kotha of Jetalpurdham. For this Jetalpurdham Nishkulanand Swami has written:

ધન્ય ધન્ય જેતલપુરધામ,
વહાલે કર્યું જેને નિજધામ,
તીયાં મરે પાપી નરનાર,
તે તો ન જાય જમને દ્વાર.

There have been so many Charitra of Maharaj and saints in this Jetalpurdham that even a sinner also gets emancipation after death and does not go to Jampuri. Lord Shree Swaminarayan was sitting in such a pious place of Jetalpurdham. There was a huge Sabha. One *Satsangi* Tuljaram of Prantij arrived in the Sabha. When he performed Vandan to Maharaj, Maharaj took his test.

Maharaj paused a question, "Tuljaram! Since when you have been a *Satsangi?*" This was a very crucial question. Tuljaram replied,"Since the time of Ramanand Swami he was *Satsangi,* it would be about twenty years."

Shree Hari asked, "Then did you overcome the affection of the human body? Whether inner awareness has been created or not?" The second question was more difficult and complex than the first one but a studious and alert student can answer it easily. Those who have realized Almighty Lord with the blessings of Guru, can behave very naturally in both the conditions.

Tuljaram replied, "I am Satchidanand. I do not have the dual of happiness and unhappiness. I am your servant and I am *Atma.*"

Answer of Tuljaram was very firm like roaring of a lion. A lion never eats grass; similarly Haribhakta never becomes slave of human body. This was a talk about Sahjanandi lion.

Maharaj directed and brought the sword of Parshad. Maharaj held the sword in his hand and asked Tuljaram, "Oh Tuljaram! Tell me whether you have awareness about the body or the soul?" Tuljaram replied, "Maharaj, I am Atma." Maharaj said, "Then be ready for the sword which is falling upon your head." If there would be any common man, then he would get frightened with the stern voice of Maharaj. But here it was the test of Sahjanandi lion. Tujlaram was firm in his belief. He knew that Kal, Karma and Maya has no impact upon him. For him the Grantor of happiness and unhappiness was one and the same Almighty Lord Shreeji Maharaj and with the blessings of Maharaj he had had the awareness of *Atma* so how can he cherish any affection towards the human body?

Tuljaram replied, "Maharaj, a sword can not cut a soul. And I have nothing to do with

this body."

"બીક તજીને રે, નિત હિંમત સોતો બોલે, •
મસ્તક માયા રે, સર્વે તૃણ જેવું તોલે."

All the devotees present in the Sabha felt the voice of the devotee Tuljaram like a roaring of a lion. And it was a very difficult test being taken by Maharaj himself! Maharaj did not stop there.

Maharaj threatened him but Tuljaram was mentally prepared to welcome the sword. He informed Maharaj that it would be his great luck, if would die with the blow of the sword of Maharaj. Listening to this Maharaj stood up holding sword in his hand. Everyone stood still at this and were curious about what would happen next. Maharaj threw the sword and patted Tuljaram and hailed his worship.

Friends! Ways of the world and worshipper are different. Souls of this world are entwined with the pride and worldly affairs. They are entwined with these worldly affairs in such a complex way that, they cannot come out of it; whereas the devotees of the Almighty Lord are above all these things. They cherish the feeling and belief that, whatever happens in this world, it happens with the wish and desire of the Almighty Lord only. There comes happiness and unhappiness in life just like day and night but those who worship the Almighty Lord ardently are the real devotees. They are the true worshippers of the Lord and only such devotees pass in the religious tests such as Tuljaram had.

SPECIAL SATSANG DURING PIOUR DHANUR-MAAS

FROM 16/12/2009 TO 14/01/2010

The Lord Shree Swaminarayan has granted us a rare benefit of performing special Bhajan-Smaran of the Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev during the pious month of Dhanur-Maas In the pious presence of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Gadiwala. A large number of devotees from little chidren to the old people walking with the support of a stick throng together in Shree Swaminarayan temples early in the morning to perform Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra Dhoon. Therefore it is an humble request of Haribhaktas of local areas of Ahmedabad city that they may not miss this golden opportunity of availing the benefit of rendering their services for *Dhoon* of *Dhanur Maas*.

Special Programmes during Dhanur Maas

5.00 hours	Dhoon in the pious presence of Rangmahol Ghanshyam Maharaj
5.30 hours	Mangla Aarti
5.30 hours	Katha: Hari Gita
6.00 hours	Dhoon
6.30 hours	Shangaar Aarti

Maasik Dhoon Rs. 1500/-

Dainik Dhoon Rs. 100/-

सत्संग समाचार

Celebration of various festivals in Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad during the festival of Dipawali.

In the pious company of Shri Narnarayandev and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and under the guidance of learned Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, the Mahant of Ahmedabad temple and Parshad Digambar Bhagat, the Utsav of Dipawali was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm.

Group Sharda Poojan

As per the tradition of *Sampradaya* and in accordance with the ritual Group Sharda Poojan was performed on Saturday 17/10/2009 at 5.30 hours in the evening by H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj. The whole ritual of poojan continued for more than two hours wherein more than 800 businessmen devotees participated. Many devotees got performed poojan of even their laptops; there was observed nice combination of modernity and religion. Under the guidance of the learned Mahant of Ahmedabad temple, Shastri Swami Harikrishnadas, thousands of devotees witnessed the live coverage of the whole programme with the support of the electronic media like Doordarshan, E-TV, Brij TV, Gujarat Channel and TV-9 Channel.

Annakut Darshan

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performed divine aarti of Chhapan-Bhog *Annakut* Aarti of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev. Live *Darshan* of this aarti could also be performed through Doordarshan, E-TV and TV-9 Channels. Moreover, thousands of devotees also witnessed and availed the divine benefit of *Darshan* of this *Aarti* in the temple.

Mangala aarti of the new year was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj at 5.30 hours early in the morning. On this occasion, thousands of devotees had thronged together in the temple premises. All most all the residents of the local area had availed the benefit of *Darshan* of this Mangla Aarti. Only very lucky souls get such an opportunity to perform *Darshan* and avail the rare benefit of Mangla Aarti of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev on the new year in the temple.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj granted Darshan and blessings to all the devotes in their *Bethak*. Similarly in the Haveli, H.H. Shri Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Raja granted *Darshan* to all the ladies devotees. In the Kothari office, Shri Mahant Swami was granting blessings of the new year to Haribhaktas. Under the guidance of Kothari Parshad Digambar Bhagat, J.K. Swami, Haricharan Swami (Kalol), Baldev swami (Bapu), Yogi Swami, Bhandari Suryaprakash Swami, Natu Swami (Junagadh), Bhushan Bhagat and Chetan Bhagat etc. had rendered great services. Services of Kathiawari devotees was inspirational. By Kartik Sud-3 distribution of *Annakut* Prasad, Calendar, etc. were distributed to the devotees of all the villages of 28 countries. Haribhaktas were also very pleased with such a prompt service. On the occasion of Dipotsavi, beautiful decoration of lights was also organized before Thakorji, in the Sabha Mandap, inner temple and on the gate and thereby all the devotees had availed the benefit of celebration of this divine festival. *(Kothari J.K. Swami)*

Maruti Yagna in Kankaria Temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Swami Guruprasaddasji and Mahant Swami Anandprasaddasji, on the pious day of Kali-Chaudas, Maruti Yagna was organized before Shree Hanumanji Maharj. The Yagna was concluded by Sadguru Shastri Swami Madhavprasaddasji along with other saints. At night *Path* of *Hanuman Chalisa* and *Acchav* were performed by *Aucchav Mandal*. All the devotees joyously performed *Darshan* at the temple.

On the pious day of Labh Pancham, great Samaiya is performed in the pious place of Prasadi in the pious company of Kastbhanjandev. On this occasion, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and the whole Dharmvanshi family had graced the occasion.

Mahabhishek ritual of Kastbhanjandev was performed in Vedic tradition by H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj.

Here in Shree Swaminarayan Temple Kankaria, Bhoomi-Poojan of kitchen of Thakorji, Bhojanalaya and building for residence of the saints was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. On this occasion Mahapooja was also performed. In the huge *Sabha* organized on the occasion, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj had explained the importance of Bal Swaroop Kastbhanjandev and had blessed all the devotees. Thereafter H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the whole Sabha. Saints from Ahmedabad and Jetalpur had arrived on this occasion. *(Narottam Bhagat)*

Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah in Juna Vadaj

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and the whole Dharmvanshi family, and with the guidance of Mahant of the temple Swami Devprakashdasji and Nana P.P. Swami, Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah was organized from 21/10/2009 to 27/10/2009. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Shri Sahjanand Koteshwar Gurukul) was the spokesperson of Katha. In the memory of devotees Shri Keshavbhai Nathabhai Kathrotiya, Nathabhai Dungarbhai Kathrotiya, Ganga Swaroop

Raliyatben Keshvbhai Kathrotiya family had rendered the services as the host of the Bhagwat Saptah.

On 27/10/2009, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had performed concluding aarti of Parayan. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Mahant of Ahmedabad temple, Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji etc. saints had blessed all the devotees. A large number of devotees from Juna Vadaj, Nava Vadaj and the nearby areas had availed the benefit of Katha. By rendering services in this Parayan, devotees Shri Manharbhai and Shri Sanjaybhai Kathrotiya had paid suitable homage to their ancestors. On this occasion the Sabha was conducted beautifully by the young Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdas (Shree Sahjanand Gurukul, Koteshwar).

(Shastri Abhayprakashdas)

Place of Pilgrimage Vahelal Temple

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadhu Chaitanya Muni, inauguration of Shri Vrajendra Entrance Gate and Bhaktraj Jesingbhai Yatrik Bhuvan was performed on 20/09/2009 by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. First of all, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed aarti of Thakorji in the temple of ladies, performed concluding ritual of Yagna and graced the temple of devotees to perform Aarti of Thakorji.

Thereafter, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the new Yatrik Bhuvan and graced the house of the host devotee and graced the Sabha organized on the occasion. In the Sabha, Shastri Swami Hariomprakashdasji (who looks after Pathshala), Shastri Vasudevcharandasji etc. saints had delivered speeches suitable to the occasion. A large number of devotees from various places and villages had arrived on the occasion. The Sabha was conducted by Shastri Swami Ghanshyamprakashdasji of Jamiyatpura (Mansa Mahant). All the expenses of construction of Yatrik Bhuvan was born by the host of Hari Yaag, devotee Shri Jayantibhai Bhalabhai Patel family and his son devotee Dr.Anilbhai (America).

(Gordhanbhai Sitapara)

Celebration of 7th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Karjisan.

7th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Karjisan, which is a place of Prasadi of Shree Hari, was celebrated onn 13/10/2009 with all fervour and enthusiasm.

H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala and Mahant Swami of Ahmedabad temple had graced the occasion. First of all Shastri Swami Narayanvallabhdasji and Parshad Jasu Bhagat had got performed Mahapooja from the wife of the host of Patotsav (as per the tradition of our *Sampradaya*). At 9.00 hours H.H. Shri Gadiwalashri graced the temple and performed aarti of Shri Ghanshyam Maharaj. All the ladies devotees had availed the benefit of blessings. The procession was also organized in the village.

Thereafter Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasjim Shastri Swami Akhileshwrdasji and devotee Shri Prahladbhai Patel had delivered the inspirational speeches. The Sabha was conducted by Shastri Swami Naryanvallabhdasji. The host devotee had offered the gift and garlands to the saints.

Swagat Poojan of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala was performed by devotee Shri Lilaben and had obtained the blessings. All the Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of Divine *Darshan* on this occasion. *(Prahladbhai V. Patel, New Jerseywala)*

Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Dahegam

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj poojanof Shri Hanumanji was performed on the occasion of Maruti Yagna which was organized in the evening from 5.00 to 8.00 on 17/10/2009 in our 125 years old Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Tebla Fali, Dahegam. Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of Poojan in group on this occasion. On the pious day of Diwali, great *Annakut* was performed before Thakorji. Advocate Virbalaben Virendrabhai Bhatt family had rendered the services as a host of *Annakut*. Large number of Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of *Darshan*. *(Arvindbhai Patel)*

Shree Maha Vishnu Yag in New Vanzar Temple (Sarkhej)

With the directions ofH.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Shree Maha Vishnu Yag was organized from 26th & 27th September 2009 in Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Vanzar near Sarkhej. Swami Swayamprakashdasji and the saints and the host family had performed *Abhishek* of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj. Haribhaktas had availed this divine benefit. On 27/09/2009 at 6 hours in the evening, H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj had graced the occasion and had performed aarti of Thakorji and had also performed concluding ritual of Shree Maha Vishnu Yag. The host Shri Rajubhai Thakkar had also availed this divine benefit.

In the Sabha organized on the occasion, the host family had performed poojan archan of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and had obtained the blessings. On this occasion, saints from Ahmedabad, Mahadevnagar, Jaidevpur and Dholka had arrived. The sabha was conducted by Sadguru Shastri Swami Purnprakashdasji. On the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi, there was Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, and on completion of 37 years, a garland of beautiful 37 flowers was offered by the devotees. This beautiful and inspirational arrangement was made by devotee Shri ARvindbhai Parshottamdas Thakkar (Shital Motors Pvt. Ltd). devotees Shri Ramanbhai patel, Nitinbhai, Prakashbhai and all the Haribhaktas of Vanzar village had rendered their great services on the occasion. After the inspirational speeches of the saints, the whole Sabha was blessed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. At last devotee Shri Prakashbhai Thakkar had delivered the vote of thanks to all the devotees who had rendered their services on the occasion.

(Ramanbhai Kothari)

MULI DESH

Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Surendranagar

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Swami Premjivandasji, on the pious dayof Bhadarva Sud-11 of *Jal-Jilni Ekadashi*, a great procession of Thakorji was organized. On the bank of the lake situated in the city, the whole procession had gone and there after performing the ritual of *Jal-Jilni Prasad* of *Chibhda* was distributed whose benefit was availed by the large number of devotees.

(Shailendrasinh Zala)

Celebration of 4th Patotsav of Balol (Bhal) temple of Sadguru Devanand Swami

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, 4th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Balol (Bhal) which is a birth place of great Kavi Sadguru Devanand Swami was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm.

On the occasion of Patotsav, a two day *Gyan-Satra Shibir* was also organized on 29th and 30th October 2009. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Sahjanand Gurukul, Koteshwar) was the spokesperson of *Gyan-Satra Shibir*. All the ladies and gents devotees of the village had availed the benefit of this Shibir. On this occasion great arrangement of Tulsi Vivah was also made. Devotee Shri Ghanshyambhai Jivabhai Chavda and Ranchhodbhai Bhudarbhai Chavda family had rendered the services of the host of Tulsi Vivah. Devotees Vajabhai Arjanbhai Chavda, Bhagwanbha ARjanbha and Chavda Ganeshbha Arjanbha familyof Chavda family (Chavda no Delo) had rendered the services of the hosts of the Patotsav.

With the inspiration of Mahant Swami Dharmswaroopdasji of Nathdwara temple and Hajuri Parshad Vanraj Bhagat, this utsav was organized. On 30/10/2009 H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj as well as the saints had graced the occasion. At that time great Samaiya in a tractor was performed from Primary School to the temple. Thereafter H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had performed Abhishek of Shri Harikrishna Maharaj and had also performed aarti. Thousands of devotees had availed the benefit of *Darshan*. Thereafter, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Anandpura village and performed aarti in the temple. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj also performed *Annakut* aarti of Thakorji in both the temples and graced the Sabha.

In the Sabha, the host Chavda family had performed Group aarti of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and had offered the gift. Thereafter, Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Muli Mahan Shastri Swami Narayanprasaddasji, Charadva Mahant Shastri Swami Hariprakashdasji, Shastri Swami Akhileshwardasji and Shastri Swami Jagatprakashdasji had delivered the speeches. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the Sabha. On this occasion, many devotees had rendered their services in the construction of Shree Swaminarayan Museum.

In the services on the occasion of Patotsav, from Muli Sadguru Swami Laxmiprasaddasji, Swami Dharmpriyadasji, Aniruddh Swami, Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdas (Koteshwar Gurukul) and devotee Shri Bhogilal Bhagat had rendered their inspirational services.

(Khatana Jesangbhai)

OVERSEAS NEWS

Celebration of 37th Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Sine Mension (America)

On the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi, 37th Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj was celebrated in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Sine Mension, America. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, Sadguru Shastri Swami Vishwaprakashdasji had explained the importance of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Local Committee and devotees had performed poojan-archan of the photo of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and had expressed their wishes. Devotee Shri Navinbhai had brought a beautiful cake and all the devotees had celebrated Prakatyotsav with great fervour and enthusiasm. President and devotee Rajubhai, devotees Ashokbhai, Arvindbhai, Ketanbhai, Kartikbhai and Jagdishbhai had performed Group aarti on this occasion.

Celebration of 2nd Patotsav

In the pious presence of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala, 2nd Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Sine Mension was celebrated. On this occasion Shrimad Bhagwat Dasm Skand Parayan was organized. The year being the 200th Janm Dwi-Shatabdi Year of H.H. Shri Aadi Acharya Shri Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj, 200th Group Mahapooja was also organized on the occasion. Sadguru Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji had narrated the beautiful Katha. Many Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of rendering their services of being the hosts of many festivals which were celebrated during the Kathamrit.

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya

Maharaj, on 6th September Mahabhishek of the deities was performed in Vedic tradition by the saints. On this occasion Shastri Swami Nirgundasji from Ahmedabad temple, Shastri Madhav Swami from Vihokan temple, Shastri Swami Siddheshwardasji from Boston temple had delivered the speeches suitable to the occasion. Devotees Shri Rajeshbhai Patel and Baldevbhai Patel had furnished information regarding development of the temple. Services of ladies in the kitchen were inspirational. Similarly services of the Haribhaktas of Vadu, Rajpur and Mokhasan were inspirational. The Sabha was conducted by Shastri Swami Vishwaprakashdas.

Diwali Annakut Utsav

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Shastri Swami Vishwaprakashdasji, festivals from Dhan-Teras to New Year were celebrated with great enthusiasm. On the occasion of Diwali, the temple was decorated with the series of light. Devotee Shri Jagdishbhai (Jasalpur) had rendered great services. On the occasion of *Annakut*, *Satsangi* ladies devotees had prepared the items at home and had offered them in *Annakut* before Thakorji in the temple. On this occasion three aarti were performed whose host was devotee Shri Rajubhai Bhaktibhai Patel. Shastri Swami had explained the importance of *Annakut* on the occasion of Diwali. Many devotees had rendered their services on this occasion and thousands of devotees had availed the benefit of Darshan on this occasion. *(Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji and Kartikbhai Patel)*

Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Itaska (America)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Sadguru Swami Jaiprakashdasji (J.P. Swami) and Shastri Swami Hariprasaddasji and Poojari Shantiprakashdasji, festival of Sharadotsav was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Itaska, Chicago. On this occasion Ras-Garba were also organized whose benefit was availed by a large number of devotees. All the devotees were offered the Prasad of *Dudh-Pauva* and *Jalebi.*

37th Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj was also celebrated by the saints and the devotees by performing poojan and archan of photo of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj.

Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji of Ahmedabad Kalupur temple, Muni Swami, etc. saints availed to the devotees the divine benefit of *Katha, Varta* on this occasion. *(Vasantbhai Trivedi)*

Cleveland (America)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Shastri Swami Dharmvallabhdasji, *Katha of Yamdanda* by Sadguru Nishkulanand Swami was organized in the memory of Aksharnivasi Gangaba by the residents of Columbus devotees Shri Prvainbhai and Bhartiben. Shastri Swami Dharmvallabhdasji was the spokes person of the Katha. Shastri Harinandandas has performed Purahscharan of Shrimad Bhagat Dasam Skanda. The concluding ritual of the Katha of performed on 27th September 2009.

On the occasion of 37th *Prakatyotsav* of our H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, the whole Sabha had performed *Poojan-Archan* of the photo of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and celebrated the *Prakatyotsav* with all fervour and enthusiasm. On this occasion devotee Shri Prakashbhai Patel had sung the Chapter of Importance of Acharya from *Purushottam Prakash* and its benefit was availed by the devotee Shri Hareshbhai. The Sabha was concluded with aarti of Thakorji. *(Prakash Patel)*

Celebration of Vijaya Dashmi Mahotsav in Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Vihokan

On 27th September 2009 all Haribhaktas had celebrated 37th *Prakatyotsav* of our H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, New Jersey, with all fervour and enthusiasm. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, Mahant Shastri Swami Madahvprasadddasji had explained the importance of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj with examples and during the course of the Katha, the day of establishing I.S.S.O. was also described. The host family was honoured by Swami by offering the bouquet and Prasadi. The President devotee Shri Bhaktibhai Patel had made an announcement of the *Utsav.* *(P. Shah)*

Celebration of 4th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Colonia

On the occasion of Patotsav of Shree Narnarayandev of our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Colonia on 4th September 2009, Mahabhishek, Shangaar Aarti and *Annakut* aarti to the deities were performed by our saints. This occasion was graced by H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwalashri, H.H. Shri Binduraja, Shri Suvratkumar and Shri Saumyakumar and Hajuri Parshad Vanraj Bhagat.

With an intention to grant the benefit of *Satsang* to the ladies devotees, a one day *Satsang* sabha was also organized in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala. All the ladies devotees were blessed with the garlands. On this occasion saints from Chrry Hill, Vihokan, Colonia, Chicago, Ahmedabad, Dholka and Koteshwar wherein Shastri Swami Nirgundasji, Muni Swami of Dholka, Gyan Swami of Colonia etc. saints had performed *Abhishek* and aarti of Thakorji and had granted to the devotees benefit of *Darshan.*

In the sabha Shastri Swami Nirgundasji had explained the importance of the Lord Shree Hari. Swami Vishwaprakashdasji of Cherry Hill had also delivered a very beautiful speech. Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji of Koteshwar Gurukul had also narrated the importance of *Leela-Charitra.*

In the Sabha of the ladies devotees, poojan-aarti of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala was performed by

the ladies devotees of the host family and had obtained the blessings.

(Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal)

Satsang Sabha and Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in New York

On Sunday 27th September 2009 the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi, saints and Haribhaktas of all our I.S.S.O. Chapters had got together and had celebrated 37th *Prakatyotsav* of our H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in the main hall of the Lord Shree Ganesh temple situated near Main Street. In the sabha organized on the occasion, Shastri Swami Madhavprasaddasji of Vihokan temple had recommended all the devotees to remain under the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and to obtain the blessings. Swami also stated that, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj is the Other Form of Shree Hari. At last Thaal-aarti etc. were performed to Thakorji and Prasad was distributed to all the saints and Haribhaktas.

(Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal)

Washington D.C.

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, a Satsang Sabha was organized on Saturday 19th September 2009 in the evening from 4.00 to 7.00 hours in one hall of Ilkriz (Merry Land). In the Sabha Dhoon-Bhajan-Kirtan and Katha were performed. H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala had graced the Sabha, which was curiously awaited by all the ladies devotees.

Mahant Shastri Swami Madhavprasaddasji of Vihokan temple had granted to the devotees the benefit of Amrut-Vani through Cell Phone. With the temporary partition for the ladies and gents devotees, H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala had performed aarti of Thakorji.

H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala had celebrated 37th Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj with all fervour and enthusiasm by cutting a cake. For two hours all the ladies devotees had performed *Raas* along with and in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala.

Hajuri Parshad Vanraj Bhagat had performed Amrutpan of Vachanamrut. On Friday 25th September in the evening from 7.00 to 10.00, a Satsang Sabha was organized in the meeting hall wherein *Dhoon-Katha-Varta-Kirtan-Vachanmrut Amrutpan* etc. were performed and at last *aarti* was performed to Thakorji. A large number of devotees had remained present and had availed the benefit.

(Kanubhai Patel)

AKSHARVAAS

Shree Swaminarayan Baug, Memnagar– Rendering their services for the last five generations from the time of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj Shri Vasudevprasadji Maharaj upto the present H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, Hajuri Parshad Hargovind Bhagat Guru Parshad Kesha Bhagat passed away to Akshardham (25-10-2009) while chanting the name of Shreeji Maharaj.

Ahmedabad – Devotee Shri Balvantrai Dashrathlal Kavi [the father of devotee Shri Bipinbhai Kavi and Shri Prashantbhai Kavi (Chicago)] passed away to divine abode of God on Wednesday (21-10-2009) amidst the chants of Mahamantra.

Mumbai- Devotee Shri Jyotiben Dr. Jamnadasbhai Gautami passed away to divine abode of God (08-10-2009) while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

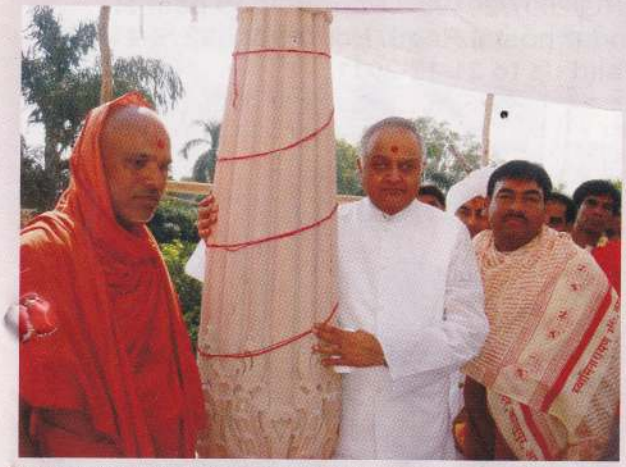
Kanipur- Devotee Shri Ramanbhai Naranbhai Patel passed away to divine abode of God (01-10-2009) while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Jiragadh (Halar) - Devotee Shri Motilal Meghji Tank [father of the Devotee Shri Dayalbhai Tank (Surat)] passed away to Akshardhaam (22-09-2009) amidst the chants of Mahamantra.

Dangarva- Devotee Shri Ramanlal Joitandas Patel [father of Devotee Shri Rakeshkumar Patel (America)] passed away to Akshardham (Thursday, Aaso Sud-12) while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Ahmedabad- Devotee Shri Jethabhai Ranchhodbhai Patel passed away to Akshardham (18-10-2009) while chanting the name of Shreeji Maharaj.

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H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj embracing the pillar of the temple under construction in Prayagraj and thereby blessing the expeditious completion of the work alongwith Shree Narayanswaroop Swami.



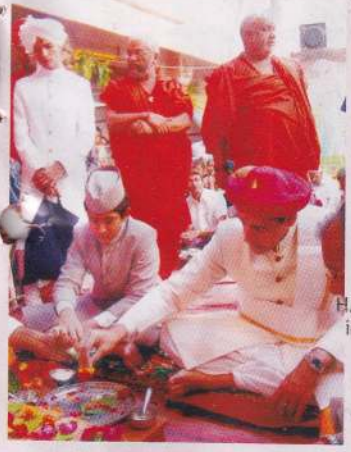
H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performing *Poojan* of the marble carved umbrella at the place of *Prasadi* in Prayagraj where Sadguru Ramanand Swami and Shri Dharmdev had met each other.



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing *Patotsav-Abhishek* of Thakorji in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Surendranagar.



H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj blessing the *Sabha* in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Surendranagar.



H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj & H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj performing *Bhoomi-Poojan* of the residence of the saints in Kankaria temple.



H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performing the ritual of *Poojan* in Chhapaiyadham on the occasion of *Maha-Pooja*.



Mahant Devprakashdasji Swami & Brahmchari Swami Rajeshwaranandji performing *Patotsav Abhishek* of Shree Harikrishna Maharaj in Badrinathdham.



H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performing *aarti* of *Mahapooja* in Chhapaiyadham alongwith the organizer of the Special Train, devotee Shri Prafulbhai Gadhvi family who rendered very good services in Shree Swaminarayan Museum.

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Annakut Darshan in Atlanta I.S.S.O. Chapter.



Annakut Darshan in our Zambia temple.





Annakut Darshan of Thakorji and the huge *Sabha* of Haribhaktas in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Chicago.



Annakut Darshan in Byron (America) I.S.S.O. Chapter.



Annakut Darshan of Thakorji in Naranghat temple.

Jagdish Offset

Praful Kharsani