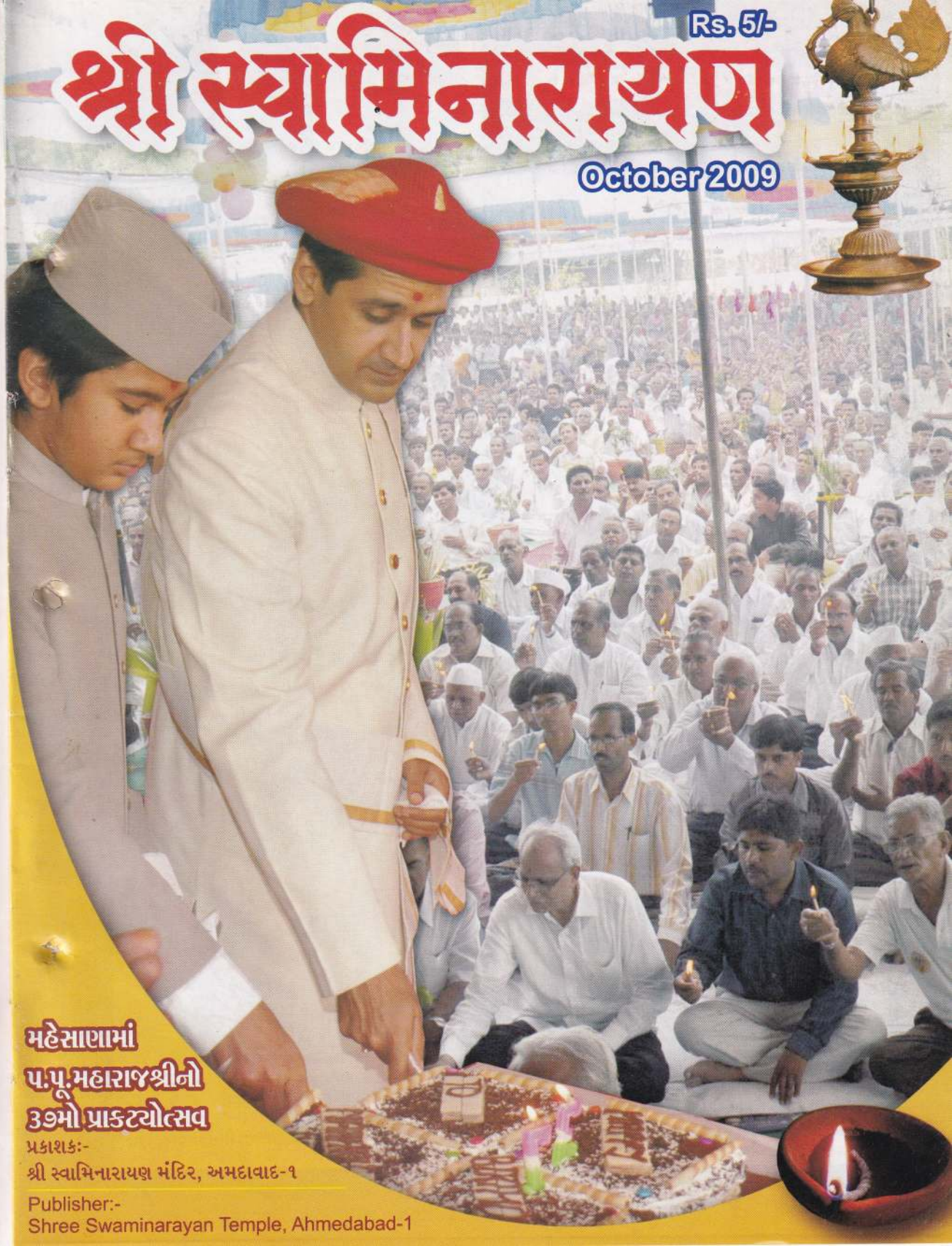
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શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ

October 2009



મહેસાણામાં પ.પૂ.મહારાજશ્રીનો ૩૭મો પ્રાકટ્યોત્સવ

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॥ आशीर्वाद पत्रम् ॥





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Official News-letter from Shri Narnarayandevdesh Diocese

Vol : 3 No : 30 Octotember-2009

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EDITORIAL

'Dipawali' means the festival of Light. It is a festival during which one progresses from Darkness to Light, from Ignorance to Knowledge and from *Maya* to *Mukti*. From thousands of years, lacs of people have been celebrating this festival with fervour and enthusiasm in *Hindu Sanatan Sanskruti*. This festival was being celebrated even during the pious time of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan and it is celebrated even today. Beginning from *Vadh-Baras, Dhan-Teras, Kali-Chaudas, Dipawali, Nutan Varsha, Bhai Bij* and upto *Labh Pancham*- this longest festival of the Indian tradition is celebrated by all of us joyously.

On the pious day of Dipawali, we light the lamps in hour home at the doorsteps and windows and pray to the Almighty Lord that this Light of the lamps may remove darkness and ignorance from our life and enlighten it. There was only one Ravana to be defeated by the Lord Rama. But today there are thousands of evil things representing Ravana in all of us and therefore let us also pray that, we may defeat these Ravanas and establish the Lord Rama in the seat of Ayodhya of our heart. That is our real Dipawali. Dipawali is followed by *Nutan Varsha*. So let us pray to the Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev that this New Year may prove to be the year of happiness, prosperity, health and peace in our life. Just as we cleanse and renovate the utensils and our house during this pious day of Dipawali, similarly let us pray to the Almighty Lord that, our mind and heart may also be cleansed and we may become ardent devotees and all of us always remain very close to the Lord.

Editor
Mahant Swami
Shastri Swami Harikrishnadas



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

(September-2009)

6. Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Torda on the occasion of Satsang Shibir.
8. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Mukeshbhai Ambalal Patel, Ranip.
9. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Dharmprasadbhai M. Shukla, Drive-in Road.

12-13 Graced Chhapaiyadham for Darshan.

15. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Chandrasinh Udesinh Chauhan, Jivrajpark.
17. Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Jetalpur.
    Graced Night Parayan of P.P. Swami organized at Naranpura by the devotee Shri Vadilalbhai Patel (Gayatri Dugdhalaya)
19. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Jitendrabhai Ramjibhai Patel
20. Graced Shreeji Provision Store, Sarkhej.
    Graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Vahelal on the occasion of Yagna and renovation of the temple.
27. Celebrated 37th Pragatyotsav in Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Mahesana in the pious

Suggestion to Haribhaktas to render services 1/10th of their earning

In Shloka-147 of the pious '*Shiksha-Patri*' Shreeji Maharaj has directed that all the devotees and Haribhaktas should render services to the Almighty God to the tune of 1/10th of their annual income in a year. If a devotees is financially weak then he may render services to the tune of 1/20th of his annual income in a year. That means, there are clear directions of the Lord Shree Hari to render services by each and every devotee. The devotees residing in Desh-Vibhag should render their services in the temples of our Sampradaya and should invariably obtain the receipt thereof by offering their *Dharmada* and *Naamvero*. So let us follow these directions of Shreeji Maharaj and be an ardent devotee of Maharaj by offering our *Dharmada* with the beginning of this new year.

CELEBRATION OF 37TH PRAGATYOTSAV OF H.H. ACHARYA 1008 SHREE KOSHALENDRAPRASADJI MAHARAJ IN MAHESANA

-Report compilation by Kamlesh N. Patel (Ahmedabad)

Pragatyotsav of Acharya of Shree Narnarayandev Gadi established by the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan were being celebrated in Ahmedabad. This divine benefit of celebration of Pragatyotsav was granted by H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj by giving consent for celebration of Pragatyotsav in Mahesana- the Centre of North Gujarat and Dandhavya Pradesh. Under the guidance of Mahant Swami Shastri Swami Uttampriyadasji and Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji, Kothari of Mahesana temple, Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal and coordinators contacted the devotees and Haribhaktas of the villages of Mahesana district and appraised them about the celebration of Pragatyotsav. As a result thereof large number of devotees from Balwa-Vadu, Manaekpur-Motap, Unjha, Karsanpura, Martoli etc. villages performed Padyatra up to newly constructed Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Mahesana to avail the benefit of Mahotsav.

On the pious day of Dusshera Aasu Sud-10 28/09/2009, after performing Mangla Aarti of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev in Ahmedabad, H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwalashri, H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Mota Gadiwalashri and H.H. Shri Raja, thus the whole *Dharmkul* graced Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Mahesana. There were so many saints and Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees waiting for *Dharmkul* at the temple that it was very difficult to enter into the temple premises. At 7.00 hours in the morning, *Mahabhishek* of the Lord was performed. There were special arrangements of Live *Darshan* of the whole *Mahotsav* on internet and therefore, all the devotees and *Haribhaktas* of our Swaminaryan *Sampradaya* could avail the benefit of *Darshan* of this Divine *Mahotsav* of *Pragatyotsav*.

In the beautiful *Sabha Mandap* of the temple, the devotees took their seats. With songs, music and cutting of cake and Happy Birthday *Nritya*, the whole atmosphere was charged with divinity. Eyes of all the devotees were stuck upon the smiling face of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj.

Under the guidance of Mahant Shastri Atmprakashdasji of Jetalpur temple, all the saints and devotees of Mahesana, leading Haribhaktas, Haribhaktas and young devotees of Dandhavya Pradesh rendered their great services during the Mahotsav. On this occasion, Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple, saints of all other places and the hosts of the *Sabha* performed *Poojan-archan* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and obtained the blessings.

After the invocation ceremony of the idol images in Mahesana temple on 20th February 2009, a huge piece of land admeasuring 7000 sq. feet was purchased and a registered sale deed document worth Rs.55 lacs was offered to H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj on the occasion of Pragatyotsav Mahotsav. generally only host families of any festival and Mahotsav get the divine benefit of performing poojan-aarti of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj; but here all the devotees availed the divine benefit of performing poojan-archan of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj because arrangements of 25,000 lamps were made by the saints and devotees. The next Janmotsav shall be celebrated by Mahant Swami of Idar temple and Sabarkantha Satsang Samaj in Idar. (Painter Pravinbhai patel, Painter Bharatbhai Bhavsar, Mahesana)

Shikshapatri

The Epistle of Precepts

(based on Shatanand's Shikshapatri Arthadipika)

By Pravin S. Varsani

Text 29

One shall never hear or believe tpartake of medicines containing flesh (hose scriptures in which the existence of Lord Shree Krishna and his incarnations have been skillfully and deceitfully denied or degraded.

Lord Vyaas has explained that other heavens are like hell compared to the great Brahmloka. **Mahabharat** explains, 'Brihaspati's Vayu's, Vishavadeva's Sadhyadeva's Ashvinikumara's Rudra's Aditya's Vasu's and all other Devta's Lokas (heavens) seem like *Narak* (hell) compared to paramatma's Abode.' Thus the Dhaam of Lord Hari is the greatest and best.

Now Shatanand explains the fact that God is one , but at the same time exists everywhere- he is omnipresent. To say that the Sakkaar Lord (having form) can not exist in this way everywhere is completely false. The Sun, Which is real and with form (as a planetary body) is able to be omnipresent through his rays. Thus the Sunlight is able enlighten the world around us.

In this way, the Lord is one in the heaven, but is omnipresent throughout the whole Universe. This is explained in **Svetasvatar Upanishad** also.

God can exist in numerous forms just as the moon can have many reflections of in the river. In this way, God in his numerous forms, is able to reside with in everything and everyone. He is able to take multiple forms and exist separately everywhere. Existing in this way, he gives the fruits of their actions to individuals, as he is witness to their actions. God is with in everything and everything is within God. And so god is omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent- The all power, the all Knower and the all pervader. The Lord is all of these whilst maintaining his Sakaar (with form) nature.

Now Shatanand glorifies Paramatma as none other than Shree Krishna. In the earlier Shrutis, the name Shree Krishna does not appear. However, none should question the supreme Godhead of Krishna thinking that it is somebody else. **Vasudeva Mahatmya** succinctly states: ***Shree krushnaha Param Brahman***- 'Shree Krishna is Parambrahman- the supreme Lord.'

Great Munis and saints such as Vyaas and Shreedhar Swami as well as various Shastras such as the Bhagwat, Puranas etc. have all spoken of Shree Krishna as Parabrahman. In **Shrimad Bhagwat**, God Almighty was often referred to as Shree Krishna even before his Avatar, i.e Krishna was born in *Dwapara Yuga* but reference to Shree Krishan as God is given much earlier in Satya Yuga: **Pruthu Raja's** story reveals- ***Ariradhiyishuha krushnamcharatap uttamam***- Devotion to Lord Shree Krishna is the greatest of penance.' **Ajamil's** story also reveals: ***Ajamilopyathakarya Dutanam Yamakrushnayoha***- Ajamil listened to the servants of Yama and Krishna.' **Bharat's** story also reveals: ***Sa Mam Smrutirmrugdehepi Vir Krushnarchanprabhava No Jahati***- 'Even in the body of a deer, I am not able to forget my devotion to Shree Krishna.'

Indeed Shatanand continues to state quotations from Prahlad Charitra, Dhruvakhyan, Puranjan Akhyan, Yayati Charitra, Vrutrasura Katha, Vyaas- Narad Samvada, Rudera Gita, Prachetas Akhyan, Nimijayante Samvade, Punasavan Vrata,Janmaprakarana, Shree Goswami and shree Vallabhacharya Samavada, who have all spoken of shree Krishan as being God Supreme and the highest aim. Shatanand adds that ***Ramanuja in gitabhays, Shankracharya in Vishnu Sahastranaam Bhashya and Shrredhar Swami in Bhagwat Tika*** have all spoken of Shree Krishan as parabrahman.

Shre Madhusudan Saraawati in his **Gita Bhashya** writes, Radiant with flute in hand, who moves like the rain, with yellow clothing, with beautiful lips (like ripen fruits), with a face like the full moon, like the petal of a lotus flower and who is with beautiful pointed eyes, such is Shree Krishna who is incomparable and unique. None other has such qualities.' 'Those who do not accept Krishna as Parabrahman are *Asuras* (demons).

Shree Krishna is Parabrahman for he himself has said in the **Gita**, 'Those who know of my divine birth and actions are never again born upon this earth after leaving the body. O Arjuna, such persons attain me.' Therefore one

must understand the manifestive form of God (*Avirbhava*), the divine form (*Bhagwat Rupa*), the eternal form (*Nityaparanu*) and the supreme form (*Satchitanand*) of God.

Thorugh Gnaan (knowledge) one must understand the nature of God and never to believe those Shastras which are contrary to true Vedic beliefs. The great Baadrayana (Lord Vyaas), the greatest amongst the knowers of the Supreme commands, 'Truthful, the knower, eternal, blissful, with attractive form, whose greatness cannot be fully comprehended, yet is visible through the Upanishads, who exists in his numerous forms (*Amayikparnu*) and who is supreme (*Satchitanand Roopa*), such is God Supreme as explained in **Vaishnavtoshirni**.

Those Shastras which are contrary to this, which destroy such greatness of God, should never be believed.' Varaha Purana forbids the study of these Shastra, 'Those who reject My true Shastras and read other scriptures are born again and again.' Those who write these refutable Shastras are considered an enemy to true Vedic beliefs. Mahabharat's Mokshadharma (96 Adhyaya_ explains, 'Those who doe not understand the true nature of Shastras are foes of true Shastra. They are considered as thieves. Followers of such refutable philosophies are hypocrites and are deluded into Nirguna (formless) aspects. They are never able to realize the true nature of God. They, with Tamoguni (impure) body, forever stay defiled.'

Shatanand now introduces the concept of Maya. Firstly he explains that Maya is without effect in the heavens. Indeed all such backward forces have no effect there. Maya is described as darkness but is also the cause of creation of the universe, according to the Bhagwat. Maya is the cause of disgrace. Vaishnavtosharni explains, 'Maya is ignorance and an obstacle of unsteadiness. Such Maya (known as *Apara*) is never associated with God.'

This first type of Maya, which results in illusion and arrogance, has been already termed as *Apara Maya*. The second type is termed Para Maya. This Maya is described as the very consciousness of Paramatma & his animate life force. **Shrutis** explain that it is his strength, his active force. They further explain – ***Mayagach Prakrutim Vidhyad*** – Understand Maya to be *Prakruti* (nature, cause of creation, fundamental quality)'.

Shree Vishnu Swami writes, 'The skilful disposition of Lord Satchitanand's power is Maya'. Such Maya is often called Yoga Maya and is his divine sport. Yoga Maya is considerd an integral part of God – it is not separate as it obeys the Lord's wishes always.'

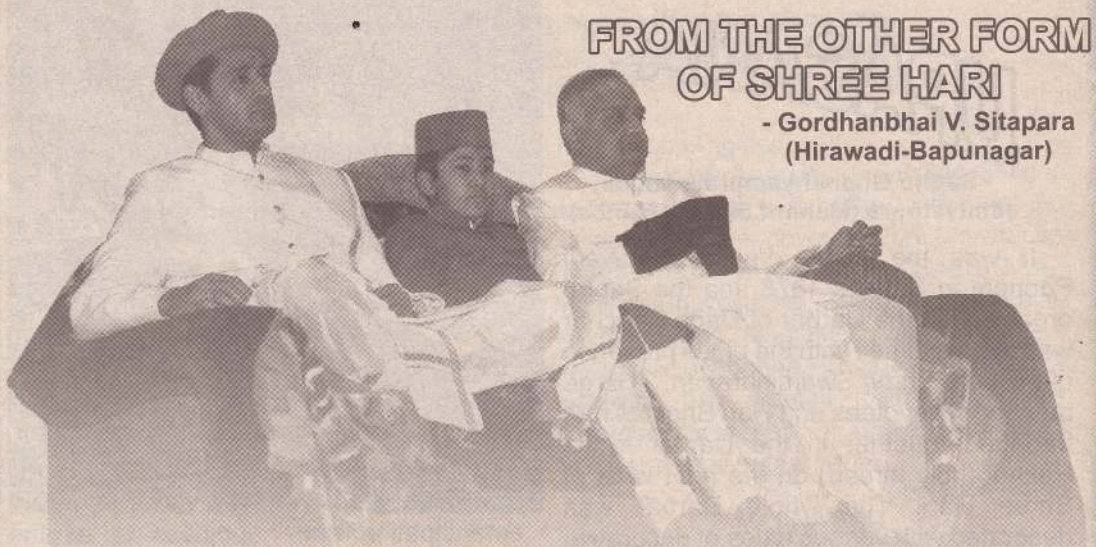
Shree Vishnu's Bhagwati Maya has deluded this world (as it is difficult to understand). Such Maya, through instruction from God, incarnates upon this earth to fulfil the Lord's cause (just as she aided the Lord during Krishna Janma).

Vishvaprakash Kosh explains: ***Maya Dambhe Krupayam*** Cha – 'Maya is hypocrisy and favour.' Similarly Maya has been explained as intellect, compassion and illusion also. Those who are privileged to obtain the heavens become free from Maya inherent in the physical body. God is always beyond Maya as he is supreme and eternal. He is great and beyond ordinary mortal influence. He is the cause of the creation, the maintenance and destruction of this universe and there is nothing beyond this power., therefore one must understand the nature of God as outlines by Sat-Shastras and never be led astray by those false Shastras which teach the wrong Vedantic philosophy.

Swami Shatanand, in this Shloka has gone to great depth and length to clarify the true nature of God. Such subject is difficult to comprehend and indeed comments on in such a small space and so one should refer to the other scriptures relevant to this subject. The commentary of this Shloka is by far the longest in the whole Bhashya of Shatanand's covering wide ranging issues which are interesting and at the same time difficult to grasp. I therefore hope that readers can understand and underlying principles. I hope this has been an accurate translation and the various omissions (due to its length) have not caused too much loss of information.

Live Darshan

- For Live Darshan of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Kalupur, visit : www.
- For Live Darshan of Jetalpurdham, visit : www.jetalpurdarshan.com
- For Live Darshan of Chhapaiyadham, visit : www.chhapaiya.com
- For Live Darshan of Mahesana temple, visit : www.mahesanadarshan.com



FROM THE OTHER FORM OF SHREE HARI

- Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara
(Hirawadi-Bapunagar)

Like Shree Hari, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj is granting divine pleasure and happiness to all the devotees and Haribhaktas of our Sampradaya through his blessings. On the occasion of Karm Shakti Dashabhi Mahotsav and invocation ceremony of the idol images in the new temple of ladies organized on 11/05/2009, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj delivered the speech. Here are the excerpts of that speech:

Ø After invocation of the idol images in the temple, all the devotees should regularly perform *Darshan, Dhyan, Kirtan, Katha, Varta*. An atmosphere of *Satsang* should be created in our home. Our children should be given Samskara of *Satsang*. Gents devotees go to their office or shop and therefore they do not get time. Kitchen and home are under the control of a lady member of the house. Therefore, if the lady member is *Satsangi* then the whole family become *Satsangi*. We have seen many such villages wherein earlier there was not a single *Satsangi* but when one daughter of our devotee got married and went to that village, gradually that family *Satsangi* and in the course of time a temple of Maharaj has also been constructed in that village. All this could happen due to *Satsang* of the daughter of our *Sampradaya*.

Ø If we remain engrossed in worship of the Almighty Lord then we do not fall trap to any vice. Those who have left the Almighty Lord are trapped to many vices. We cannot fight with weapons against our own temperament. Therefore it is essential that we sit silently in temple and self-examine ourselves and try to identify our own vices. We pray to Maharaj, perform *Satsang* daily then gradually we would get rid of our own vices. We must know our own weaknesses.

Ø We should not look at the vices and weaknesses of others. Bhagat does not mean only Haribhagat. Saint, Parshad, Brahmchari and Acharya all our Bhagat of Maharaj. If we look at the good and noble qualities of others, we would imbibe these qualities in us. There is no pleasure in looking at the faults of others. If Shreeji Maharaj would have been present among us in human form then such persons would have found fault in him, too because such persons have developed such a habit in their lives. In Vachanamrit, it is insisted to

Con. from page 16.....

UPASANA

- Sadhu Ghanshyamprakashdas,
Jamiyatpura (Mahant Swami, Mansa)



Dharma-Bhakti with a view to grant

It was the pious day of Shravani Poonam in Samvat 1878 and the Sabha organized in the Darbar of Dada Khachar was overwhelmed with the pious presence of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan. A large number of devotees and Hari Bhaktas had thronged together in the Darbar to tie Rakhdi (holy thread) on the right wrist of Shree Hari. The whole Darbar was decorated with various types of decorative items and it was shining during the day time. Sadguru Anandanand Swami performed poojan of Maharaj with Kesar and Kumkum and tied the holy thread on the right wrist of Maharaj.

All the devotees standing in a long queue were waiting for their turn and when their turn came, they availed the divine dual benefit of Darshan as well as tying the holy thread and obtained the blessings of the Lord. Sadguru Muktanand swami started playing *Sitar* and *Sarod*. Thereafter Maharaj addressed the *Sabha*:

"A devotee should understand Gyan-marg properly. On this path, a devotee may deviate from the Vachana of the Almighty Lord but he should not deviate from the form of the Lord. The Lord Shree Krishna has talked about four types of Bhakta in '***Bhagwat Gita***' "રાખો સ્વામી, આજ તો અમે પરમેશ્વરની વાર્તા કરીશું."

Aart, Jignasu, Artharthi and *Gyani* and among all of them *Gyani* is the best. The Lord has described *Gyani Bhakta* as His own Soul. Therefore all the devotees should obtain knowledge, they should learn about the Form of the Almighty Lord. The Lord incarnated in *Samvat* 1837 in pious *Chhapaiyadham* at the residence of emancipation and happiness to all the devotees. This Almighty Lord is beyond all Maya and intellect and common human comprehension. Those who came in touch with the Lord, they became His ardent devotees. Those who were pious and who could preserve in them an iota of the divinity of the Almighty Lord, they performed great deeds on this earth. They became incarnations of the Almighty Lord for any specific cause or art. The divine power of inspiration of these incarnations guided all the devotees and *Haribhaktas* towards emancipation- the ultimate goal of this human life.

Darshan and poojan of these incarnations of the Almighty Lord is approved by the scriptures and it is a tradition developed as per our directions. But, *Manan, Chintan, Aaradhan* and *Upasana* of this *swaroop* of Atma is of Purna Purushottam Shree Hari only. One must bear this thing in mind in Gyan Marg (on the path of knowledge).

We reside in all the incarnations and idol images permanently and it is a permanent stay. Then it is no more an incarnation but the Other Form of Shree Hari- the Other Form of Almighty Lord. Eight types of such idol images are described in the scriptures:

Chitraman (picture), Kast (made of wood), Pashan (made of stone), Dhatu (made of metal), Reti (made of sand), Mati (made of clay), Manomaya (mental image) and Manimaya (made of precious jewels).

The Almighty Lord also resides in Ekantik Shrotriya and Brahmanist Saint. Shree Hari has clearly stated this in 68th *Vachanamrit* of Gadhda First Chapter. Here Maharaj has warned the devotees to be careful that no any type of *Droha* of the Form of Shree Hari may be committed by them even unknowingly. In *Vachanamrit* of Vadtal 2nd Chapter, Shree Hari has stated that, comparison of a great king with other common king is doing injustice to the great king. Similarly the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan cannot be compared with any other deity. This is not only strange but also improper. The Lord is with a form and therefore to address the Lord as *Nirakaar* is also not proper.

In *Vachanamrit*, Maharaj gives third example and states that, one should not neglect the powerful and start believing in others. The Almighty Lord is omnipotent and controller of this universe and the whole world and He is the inspiration for everything. The Lord Shree Hari has stated that, devotees must bear all these things in their mind, they should cherish ardent faith in the Almighty Lord. This would earn the pleasure of the Lord and then they need not be worried about anything and they need not demand anything because everything would be with him.

Con. on page 11 **SANATAN DHARMA MARTAND ACHARYA PRAVAR 1008 H.H. SHRI DEVENDRAPRASADJI MAHARAJ**

Gopalbhai Dave of Lunawada and knowledge of Gujarati and English languages from Pranlalbhai Dave. He was self trained in music. By inviting Sangeetacharyas and learned persons and listening to Bhajans and Kirtans from them, he used to encourage them all. He had rare gift of identifying various *Ragas*. He was also an expert in horse riding and could control any horse.

He was very emotional towards his parents. During the pilgrimage to Badrinarayan, he himself had lifted *Shibika* of his mother. On the occasion of Trayodasha of his father, he had got performed Chorasi of Brahmins, saints, Haribhaktas and had also organized Satsangibhushan Parayan. On the pious day of Ramnavmi in Samvat 2009, he had performed invocation ceremony of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj in Shree Narnarayandev temple, Ahmedabad. He directed to prepare '*Aksharbhuvan*' in the temple premises. He generously offered *Chakhdi, Charanarvind, Pitambar* & other clothes, *Mala, Berakha* etc. of *Prasadi* of Shreeji Maharaj in this *Akshar Bhuvan*.

On the pious day of Chaitra Sud-10 Samvat 2010, he got performed Upnayan ritual to both Lalji Maharaj H.H. Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Raghvendraprasadji Maharaj in Ahmedabad temple. The title of *'Dharm-martand'* was offered to him by the *Sabha* of the *Pandits* of Kashi. He was very much conscious about education and as a result thereof Sahjanand Arts and Commerce College came into existence. In Samvat 2018, Rajat Jayanti of his being on the Gadi of Sampradaya was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm and all the gifts received on the occasion were generously donated by him in Shree Devendraprasadji Education Trust. At the time of difficulties, necessary help and assistance was offered to the Government. At the time of the attack of China and Pakistan upon India, at the time of natural calamities in South Gujarat, great financial support was extended and thereby a best example of social service was set.

EVERYTHING FROM FAITH

- Shastri Abhayprakashdas Guru Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji (Narayanghat)

As per the scriptures, one must have *Bhagwat Gyan* (Knowledge of the Almighty Lord) to get *Moksha* (emancipation) in life. And only an ardent devotee cherishing firm faith in the Almighty Lord can obtain this *Param Gyan*:

"श्रध्धावान लभते ज्ञानं"

Everything can be done through faith. If there is no faith then any work is done merely superficially; it is not done whole heartedly. While preaching the devotees in Satsang Samaj in Faneni village, the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan has stated how Dharma can develop? Shatanand Swami has referred to this in 2nd chapter of his '*Satsangi Jeevan*'.

A person without faith cannot obtain Dharma. By merely performing tapa or spending money on noble tasks, one cannot obtain Dharma; for that what is required is Shraddha (faith). The place of Shraddha is that of a mother in one's life. Just as a mother nurtures and takes care of her child, similarly Shraddha also nurtures Dharma in human life. Similarly the best means to obtain *Dharma, Artha, Kama* and *Moksha* in life is also *Shraddha*.

In 39th & 40th *Shloka* of 4th *Adhyaya* of '***Bhagwat Gita***' the Lord Shree Krishna has stated that a person having an ardent faith gets *Adhyatma* (spirituality). Similarly in 28th *Shloka* of 17th Adhyaya, the Lord has stated that any noble deed performed and any offering offered without Shraddha is fruitless.

In *Hari Leelamrut*, Viharilalji Maharaj has stated:

"શ્રદ્ધા ઘરે છે. જન ચિત્ત જેહ, ગણાય છે. ઉત્તમભક્ત એહ,
શ્રદ્ધા વિના પૂજન જો કરાય, યથાર્થ તેનું ફળ તો ન થાય.
શ્રદ્ધા વિનાનો જપ જણ્ય કેવો, કરે મજૂરો નૃપ વેઠ્ય તેવો,
શ્રદ્ધા વિનાનો ઉપવાસ થાય, તો ઢોરની લાંઘણ તે ગણાય."

In *Ramayan* also, the best example of *Shraddha* is of *Shabri*. This incident reads like this: In *Satyug*, there was Ashram of Matang Rishi on the bank of the lake Pampa. Shabri used to render her services regularly without knowledge of the *Rishi*. She believed that the Almighty Lord comes to Ashram of the *Rishi*. But as she belonged to *Bhil* community, she was afraid of disclosing herself before the great sage. She used to clean Ashram everyday, collect flowers for *poojan-archan* for *Rishi*. Once *Rishi* thought who is performing all these tasks? When the *Rishi* came to know about *Shabri*, he called her. Shabri narrated everything; she had left her home permanently and she was rendering her services in Ashram with a faith that one day she would have *Darshan* of the Almighty Lord. Matang Rishi was very much pleased with her services and blessed her that she should stay in this Ashram only. One day the Almighty Lord himself would come to this Ashram to grant her *Darshan*. Shabri waited for so many years in the Ashram. Everyday she used to bring the flowers and berries for the Almighty Lord till she became very old. At last the Lord Shree Rama came to the Ashram of Shabri and granted her divine Darshan.

The Lord Shree Swaminarayan also nurtures Shraddha (faith). In 18th Vachanamrit of Sarangpur Chapter, the Almighty Lord states that, only those who scrupulously follow the directions of the Lord and the saints are called ardent devotees. With ardent faith, noble qualities like *Vairagya, Vivek, Gyan* and *Bhakti* develop in a devotee and his evils are burnt. The Lord has stated that, this faith should be firm and unshaken in any circumstances.

SANATAN DHARMA MARTAND ACHARYA PRAVAR 1008 H.H. SHRI DEVENDRAPRASADJI MAHARAJ

- Prof. Suryakant Bhatt (Bhuj)



It is the greatness of our this pious land of Bharat that, it has offered the gift of gems like great personalities, Acharyas and omniscient saints at the time degeneration of the society. Cherishing the principles of mercy, love & Bhakti as prescribed by Shreeji Maharaj Sanatan Dharma Martand Acharya Pravar 1008 H.H. Shri Devendraprasadji Maharaj was born on the pious day of Aaso Sud-15 Sharad Purnima in Samvat 1978 at Ahmedabad. In Samvat 1986, *Upnayan Samskar* ritual was performed to him and in Samvat 1997 he was married to Shardadevi, the daughter of Shri Mavarprasadji Tivari, the President of Kashi Vishwanath temple.

After aksharvaas of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj Shri Vasudevprasadji Maharaj- 4th Acharya of Shree Narnarayandev Gadi, H.H. Shri 1008 Shri Devendraprasadji Maharaj accepted the Gadi of Sampradaya on the pious day of Kartak Vad-Bij Samvat 1993 at the tender age of 15 years and discharged the duties and shouldered the arduous responsibility of Sampradaya incessantly for 32 years. For administrative convenience, a advisory committee was constituted and he also obtained guidance from his mother.

Amongst his advisors were Shri Ravbahadur Chhotalal Nathalal Joshi, advocate Shri Mulchandbhai Asaram Shah, Sheth Shri Vadilal Achratlal Choksi, advocate Shri Manilal Laxmidas Bhalja, advocate Jamiyatrai Dayashankar Pandya etc, H.H. Shri Devendraprasadji Maharaj was like the king Yudhisthir and prudent like an ocean. He was possessing a rare combination of all the human qualities one can expect. He was the master of Hindi, Gujarati, English and Sanskrit languages and expertise in art, music and literature, too. Being a great poet also, he has also created many poems. Among the publication of literature of Sampradaya, he stands at the top. He has got published Gujarati translation of Sanskrit scriptures '*Satsangibhusan*' and '*Harikrishna Leelamrut*'. During his tenure as Acharya, 23,000 copies of '*Vachanamrit*' and 20,000 copies of '*Bhakta Chintamani*', '*Nishkulanand Kavya*' were published. He also got published picture-history of Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj Devendraprasadji Maharaj had obtained the knowledge of Sanskrit from Shastri Girjashankarbhai and Pandit Durganath Jha and as a result thereof he could create Sanskrit *Shlokas*. He had obtained the knowledge of Sampradaya from Shri

Con. from page 9.....

MAKE MY TEMPLE IN YOUR VILLAGE – LORD SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

- Ashwin Mohanlal Kachhia, Chimanlal P. Patel (Bhat)

Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal conducts Satsang Sabha at village Kothamba and also in nearby villages of Shree Narnarayandev Desh. Once upon a time, this village Kothamba was a village having population of Thakor (Pagi) known as 'Merani Muvadi'. One boy Bijal Babubhai of Pagi family was serving in a shop of a Satsangi. This boy, though Pagi by caste, was a great soul and he observed the principles far better than any Brahmin can do. Once the Lord Shree Swaminarayan sat over his bicycle in a divine form. Bijal who was riding his bicycle, felt that someone was sitting behind on his cycle. He asked without turning around who was he and the reply came that the Lord Shree Swaminarayan was there and informed that, at night he would come to his home at about quarter to twelve.

At night Bijal, the pious Pagi, took bath and started performing Mala of the Lord. Exactly at quarter to twelve the Lord granted him Darshan in Divine Light and asked him to observe eleven rules and five Vartamaan and to make the temple of the Lord in his temple. Bijal informed this to his family members. The members of the family tried to take him to Bhuva of his caste but little Bijal refused. When the family members were insisting upon then little Bijal prayed to the Almighty Lord that the Lord may grant Darshan to all the members of his family and then only they would believe him. Though the members of his family could not have Darshan of the Lord but they could hear the Divine Words of the Lord and then all of them became Satsangis.

Then all the leaders of Merani Muvadi came to Kothamba approached Sadguru Shri P.P. Swami at Jetalpur and told him everything. P.P. Swami conducted a Sabha in Merani Muvadi and the whole village attended the village. All the Haribhaktas took oath to observe the rules of Satsang and a planning was made to construct a temple of the Lord as early as possible. Devotee little Bijal showed his willingness to offer his own house for the temple. A plot adjoining the house of Bijal was identified and acquired in the name of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev and construction work of the temple was started.

Economic conditions of the villagers was not much good and therefore donation was collected from Haribhaktas of Kothamba and other devotees close to Shri P.P. Swami and construction work of a new and grand temple was started. All the Haribhaktas, Kothari of temple Govindbhai Kachhia rendered their services. Devotee Shri Manibhai Chhaganbhai Patel also rendered great services.

Invocation ceremony of the idol images of this newly constructed temple was celebrated from 6th May to 8th May 2009. On 6th May 2009, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced the occasion. On 8th May 2009 H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj was welcomed in a grand manner by all the devotees of the village following the tradition of Thakors. Observing Satsang of Thakor family, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj was very much pleased. About more than 100 Haribhaktas accepted *Kanthi*.

With the noble idea of the Lord Shree Hari a new temple has been constructed in the middle of the population of Thakor where a large number devotees from Ahmedabad, Mumbai and other cities come to perform *Darshan.* After hearing the incident of miracle from little devotee Bijal, faith of all of us in *Sampradaya* gets strengthened and nourished.

સત્સંગ સુરભિ

"મારે તો મહારાજને રાજી કરવા છે"

- Atul Bhanuprasad Pothiwala (Ahmedabad)

Kathi Mulu Khachar was a very jolly peson of villag Kambhala. Though he had not satsang of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan but his fast friend Arjan Koli was an ardent devotee of Shreeji Maharaj and therefore time and again he used to ask this Darbar to perform *Darshan* of Maharaj.

Once Maharaj was in Gadhda. Devotees of Kambhala village came to know about this and they made a plan to visit Gadhda to perform Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. Mulji Khachar also joined the group but with a view to test the veracity of the words of his friend Arjan Koli.

Mulu Khachar arrived at Gadhpur to perform Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. In Gadhda Darbar of Dada Khachar was overcrowded with many devotees and Hari Bhaktas who had come to perform Darshan of Maharaj. When Mulu Khachar came, Maharaj welcomed him. The moment Mulu Khachar entered the Darbar, he felt divine pleasure within himself. During the conversion with Mulu Khachar, Maharaj came to know that, he was addicted with many addictions in his life but he was an innocent soul. Therefore Maharaj decided to help him get rid of these addictions and to make him an ardent devotee!!!

When Maharaj asked Mulu Khachar whether he was willing to become Satsangi, Mulu Khachar nodded affirmatively. Then Maharaj directed him to scrupulously follow *Panch Vartamaan*. When Mulu Khachar asked what was *Panch Vartamaan* Maharaj explained him *Panch Vartamaan* in detail. Then Mulu Khachar opened his heart and stated that it was very difficult for him to get rid of *Hukka, Afim* and *Tobacco*; however, he would follow all other directions. Maharaj was very much pleased with his simplicity and honesty. Maharaj blessed him and said that, with *Satsang* of the saints, he would also get rid of even these addictions. Maharaj also asked Mulu Khachar to join him in celebration of *Samaiya* of Vadtal. Mulu Khachar accepted the invitation but he was puzzled as what would happen to his habit of Hukka. Omniscient Maharaj grasped the feelings of the devotee and immediately told him to bring his Hukka with him.

With Mulu Khachar, many other devotees joined the *Sangh* to celebrate *Samaiya* of *Poonam of Falgun.* During the journey, other devotees used to stay away from Mulu Khachar. Mulu Khachar also overheard them gossiping that this man with Hukka does not appear to be a devotee. Everyone remained away from him except Maharaj. Mulu Khachar was very sensitive. He determined to forsake his addiction of Hukka permanently and he threw his Hukka.

The Sangh reached Vadtal. Devotees Charotar welcomed each and every devotee of the Sangh. But they remained away from Mulu Khachar as there was Afim in his mouth. Now Mulu Khachar felt that his addiction of Afim was like a hurdle and he spitted out Afim. He also threw away the packet of tobacco as he felt that this packet may also prove to be a problem. Now Mulu Khachar became a true devotee and Satsangi of Maharaj and he got emancipation in his life.

During the whole Samaiya, Maharaj took great care of Mulu Khacar. He was respected and treated as a guest. During the Samaiya of Vadtal, Mulu Khachar came to know about many things about *Satsang*, *Sampradaya* and Maharaj and gradually his whole life got transformed from within.

When the devotees asked Mulu Khachar how he got rid of his addictions. Mulu Khachar narrated everything in detail. He also clarified that, Maharaj had never asked him to forsake his addictions. It was the satsang of the ardent devotees and great saints which inspired him to forsake these addictions. While describing the Samaiya of Vadtal, there were tears of pleasure in the eyes of Mulu Khachar. All the devotees were overwhelmed with this. Thus, Maharaj had divine powers of helping His devotees get rid of their addictions without any express directions.

સત્સંગ બાલવાટિકા

- Editor : Shastri Harikeshavdasji (Gandhinagar)

BE UNITED AND BE HAPPY

- Shastri Haripiyadasji (Gandhinagar)

Friends ! if you have observed the divine image of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan then it is an Abhay-Mudra holding beads in one hand and granting blessings with other hand and suggesting a divine message for all of us. What is this divine message? Let us try to understand this :

One day four fingers- symbolic of four wives- got together. Thumb is their husband. The first finger explained her importance as her function is to show the path to others. The second finger explained that her function is to perform worship through chanting the name of the Almighty Lord by holding Mala (beads). The third finger explained that, Chandan and Chandlo etc. holy rituals are performed by her. And the last finger explained that, everyone wears a golden ring upon me. Now all these four fingers discussed among themselves that this thumb is useless and it does not look smart being very short. The thumb overheard their discussion and interrupted them. The thumb said that, without him no meaningful action of life can be performed with perfection be it eating the meals, writing on a paper, cleaning the nose during the cold season etc.

But when all the five fingers get united then they form a fist- a united strength which cannot be defeated. Therefore the Lord Shree Swaminarayan has conveyed the message of strength in unity through Abhay-Mudra of His hand. What a divine message for all of us to imbibe in our life !!!

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SATSANG IS AT THE ROOT OF NOBLE QUALITY

- Sadhu Shrirangdas (Gandhinagar)

Just as a plant may wither out without water, similarly our Samskaras may also wither out without *Satsang*. Therefore only Tulsidasji has sung:

"બિનુ સત્સંગ વિવેક ન હોઈ, રામકૃપા બિન સુલભ ન સોઈ"

Without *Satsang* one cannot identify his own mistakes. Therefore in order to get a mirror to look for the self, one should regularly perform *Katha, Varta* and Saint *samagam*. Many devotees cannot identify their own faults due to their pride. It is through *Satsang* then one remains on the righteous path.

In Dhirjakhyan Nishkulanand Swami has narrated a story of the plant of ladies finger and a banyan tree. Once a plant of ladies finger developed under a banyan tree. The new plant was growing like anything and therefore it became proud. The plant directed the banyan tree to be away from its path as it wanted to touch the sky. But the well experienced banyan tree smiled and advised him to wait for just a month and it would make a way for the plant. The moment the month of Bhadarva was over, the leaves of the plant started withering; whereas the age long banyan tree was standing without any damage under the scorching heat. Therefore Nishkulanand Swami has sung:

"ભાદે વડ ભીડો તડો વડે, સામો વડથી વધે વશેક,
નિષ્કુળાનંદ કહે નમૂળીયાંની, અંતે ટકે નહિ ટેક."

Nishkulanand Swami has therefore advised all the devotees and satsangis to become like a banyan tree and not like a plant of ladies finger. Without satsang one gets withered out during the time of crisis in life. And if there is satsang in life there would be success and happiness in life and ultimately a man would get emancipation (*Akshardham*).



FROM THE BLESSINGS OF H.H. SHRI GADIWALA

- Compilation by Kotak Varsha Natvarlal (Ghodasar)

When we sit to perform Pooja every morning then do we observe any difference between us and the Almighty Lord? If we honestly try to answer this question, then the answer would be in affirmative. This difference is due to wall of the thoughts of our mind. In this Kaliyug, we are perturbed with so many worldly thoughts that we cannot concentrate the Almighty Lord and as a result thereof we cannot get divine pleasure and happiness. If we closely introspect ourselves then we find that, our soul and heart warns us against every such deviation but it is our senses which we compel us to indulge in worldly pleasures. The power of these senses is so powerful that we cannot resist it so easily. In the course of time, we became slave to these senses. Our inner self warns us but we do not listen to it and we fall trap to these senses. Our soul is in fact the master of this body and mind; but it loses its control upon the mind and the senses and as a result thereof behaves like a slave of these mind and senses. If we can keep these senses in control, then all our sins are washed away and we come closer to the Almighty Lord and this is essential to get emancipation in life. Thus all our worship should be with our control upon these senses and it should be with a view to please the Almighty Lord only.

When we perform Kirtan-Bhakti then we look around us to ensure that others observe us and notice that we sing beautifully. But this is not correct state of mind. We should perform Kirtan-Bhakti to please the Almighty Lord and not to impress others. There is an example in this regard. Tansen was the great singer in the Darbar of king Akbar. Once Tansen sang a song; Akbar was very pleased with the song. He asked Tansen who taught him the song. Tansen replied that his Guru Haridas. The king expressed his desire to meet the Guru. Both of them went to the Ashram of Guru. In the Ashram Guru Haridas was singing the same song which king Akbar had heard from Tansen. But this was sweeter than the singing of Tansen. When the song was completed, Akbar asked Tansen how it is that the same song is sung sweeter by the Guru. Tansen replied that his Guru sang the song to please the Almighty Lord whereas he (Tansen) had sung the song to please a king on this earth. Therefore there is quality-difference between the singing of the song. The lesson to be learnt from this example is that we should perform Bhajan-Kirtan etc. not to please anybody but only to the Almighty Lord. We should live our life without any expectations. We should accept all happiness and unhappiness with equanimity in our life and we should not allow them to influence our worship and Bhakti of the Almighty Lord then only we would get divine pleasure from such Bhakti.

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VAJIBAI OF VIJAPUR

- Gitaben Liladharbhai Pitroda (Joravarnagar)

Vajibai, a devotee of Suthar community was an ardent devotee of Vijapur villageof Mahesan district. All the Saints and Sadhus who would visit her house would invariably be offered the meals with warm welcome. All the facilities were also offered to them and Vajibai used to render great services to such guests at her home.

Once Sadhu Ramdas came to the house of the devotee Vajibai. The guest was welcomed warmly, a special room was given for the residence. Every night *Katha, Varta* and *Satsang* were performed and

many devotees used to attend the *Satsang* Sabha. Listening to the talks of *Satsang*, the husband of Vajibai also became a devotee and he availed the benefit of Divine Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. Thereafter Adbhutanand Swami graced the house of the devotee Vajibai. The great saint was offered all the services with ardent devotion and bhakti by the owner of the house. Vajibai and her husband had decided to offer services only to the saints and Sadhus of Shree Swaminarayan *Sampradaya* and not to any other saint or sadhu.

Once Maharaj decided to test the worship of these devotes. At night Maharaj graced the house of the devotee at Vijapur as a Sadhu along with Mulji Brahmchari from Gadhpur. When Maharaj introduced himself to Vajibai as a pilgrim of four Dham, Vajibai refused to offer her house as a night stay to the Sadhu and requested him not to roam around like this and to worship the Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan. When the Sadhu tried to argue against Lord Shree Swaminarayan, the staunch devotee Vajibai became angry and asked him to go away. But the Sadhu did not move and tried to persuade the devotee. At this devotee Vajibai lost her temper and simply asked him to go away. At last the Sadhu asked Vajibai to offer him the sweet as they were hungry. Merciful Vajibai offered the meals to Sadhu (Maharaj) and his companion (Mulji Brahmchari). Thereafter once Vajibhai and her husband went to Gadhpur to attend Samaiya. During the Samaiya they had the benefit of divine Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. The devotee Vajibai immediately identified Maharaj who had graced her house as a Sadhu. She begged the pardon and acknowledged that she could not identify Maharaj. Maharaj smiled and blessed her. Shree Hari himself has stated,

"ધન્ય ધન્ય એનો સત્સંગ,
ધન્ય અડગ નિશ્ચય અંગ,
કરી પરીક્ષા શ્રી પરમેશ,
તોય નિશ્ચય ડગ્યો ન લેશ,
વજીબાઈનું ચરિત્ર જે ગાશે,
તેને અડગ નિશ્ચય થાશે,
થાશે પ્રભુમાં પ્રીત અભંગ,
શિર સાટે થાશે સત્સંગ."

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FROM THE OTHER FORM OF SHREE HARI

get rid of such a temperament and those who have succeeded in doing it, they are very dear to Maharaj. Dada Khachar could remain close to Maharaj but Jiva Khachar could not do so. Because Jiva Khachar could not get rid of the weaknesses of his own temperament.

Ø If one gets money, wealth, power and respect in his life and if his faith is not firm in the Almighty Lord, then he becomes proud of himself. Such a person starts finding faults even with the temple. Michel Angelo was a great sculptor. His sculptures are world famous even today. Once a rich man entrusted with him a task of preparing a beautiful statue. The great sculptor started his task. In the midst of his work, the rich man came for supervision. He did not know anything about the art of sculpture but he was proud of his wealth. He observed the statue and suggested a modification in a nose. The great sculptor could grasp that the man did not know anything about the art; but he took his equipments in his hands as well as pieces of marble and feigned modifying the nose of the sculpture. Then he showed it again and got the approval from the rich man. In fact he had done nothing.

सत्संग समाचार

Pilgrimage of H.H. Shri Laxmi Swaroop Shri Mota Gadiwala to America

There are a number of temples of Shri Narnarayandev Gadi in abroad. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Laxmi Swaroop Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Laxmi Swaroop Mota Gadiwala incessantly perform activities of *Satsang* for happiness of Hari Bhaktas. During the last May 2009 to September 2009, H.H. Shri Motagadiwala Shri had graced America. H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala had graced our temples and I.S.S.O. chapters and had granted to the ladies devotees the happiness of divine Darshan and blessings. From 22nd to 24th July H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala had graced our Shri Swaminarayan Temple, Boston and in the house of devotee Shri Rekhaben.

25th & 26th July :- Stay of H. H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Mota Gadiwala Shri was at the residence of devotee Shri Jayaben in New York. Large number of ladies devotees had availed the benefit of *Bhajan, Smaran* of Shree Hari, *Katha – Kirtan* and blessings.

1st to 3rd August :- Graced the occasion of *Patotsav* of our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Boston. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj had performed *Patotsav, Abhishek, Shodashopchar* ritual of Thakorji. On this occasion large number of ladies devotees had performed special *Bhajan, Kirtan* of Shree Maharaj in pious present of H. H. Shri Mota Gadiwala.

4th to 9th August :- Performed *Darshan* in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Chicago and granted blessings for 5 days to ladies devotees at the rate residence of Devotee Shri Naynaben.

10th to 16th August :- All the ladies devotees had availed the benefit of *Katha, Varta* and *Satsang* in the morning as well as in the evening in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Los Angeles.

17th to 23rd August :- *Satsang Sabhas* were performed during the period at the residence of the devotee Shri Bhavnaben Ishwarbhai, Sharmilaben Bharatbhai, Manisha Bhaveshbhai, Shardaben Muljibhai, Kantaben and Manjuben, wherein *Katha, Varta* were performed. Thus, H. H. Shri Mota Gadiwala had granted to all the ladies devotees the benefit of *Bhajan, Smran* of Shree Hari and *Katha, Varta*.

(Leelaben Patel)

VADNAGAR

On the pious day of Bhadarva Sud – 11 Jal-Jilani Ekadashi, procession of Shree Thakorji was performed from Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Vadnagar wherein large number of devotees had participated. The procession started from the Temple at 10 hours in the morning, passed through the main roads of Mator, Ataro, Bhavsar, Odd, Cloth Market, Baroti Bazar amongst chanting of Shree Swaminarayan Maha Mantra and reached to Nagdhar – the place of Prasadi at 6 hours in the evening. Sadguru Shastri Swami Narayan Vallabhdasji and Poojari Shastri Abhshekprasaddasji Swami had performed Jalkrida and Snan ritual in Nagdhara lake. Devotees Dilipbhai Chhanalal Bhavsar and Atulbhai Chhanalal Bhavsar families had availed the benefit of performing *Aarti.* Auchav and Kirtan Bhakti were also performed at the place of Prasadi. Thereafter, all the devotees had availed the benefit of Prasad.

(Shastri Narayanvallabhdasji, Vadnagar)

ZUNDAL

Shastri Swami Abhishekprasaddasji, the disciple of Shastri Swami Narayan Vallabhdasji of Vadnagar had arrived at Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Zundal to perform Katha of Chatur Mass. From Bhadarva Vad –

1 to Bhadarva Vad – 30 every night all the devotees as well as all the young devotees of Shri Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Zundal had availed the benefit of "Shree Hari Aishwarya Darshan" Kathamrut. Sadguru Swami Hariprakashdasji had offered Thaal to Thakorji. *(Devotee Shri Hitesh Patel)*

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE, KANKARIYA

During the pious Shravan Mass H. H. Shri Mota Maharaj had performed Mahabhishek of Siddheshwar Mahadev and concluding ritual of Maha Rudra Yagna as well as Aarti of Thakorji in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Kankariya – the place wherein Shree Hari had performed Choryasi and our Adi Acharya Shree Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj had performed invocation ceremony of Bal Swaroop Shree Kastbhanjan Dev. Kothari Shastri Yagnaprakashdas had performed katha of Shrimad Satsangee Bhushan every morning and evening during the pious month.

Jal-Jilini Ekadashi :- Mahant Swami, other saints and Hari Bhaktas had performed Jalkrida at Kankariya Lake.

Mahila Satsang Sabha :- With the directions of H. H. Shri Gadiwala Shri *Satsang Sabha* of the ladies devotees was performed wherein about more than 500 ladies devotees had participated. While blessing the sabha H.H. Shree Gadiwala Shree had explained to the ladies devotees the importance of Shree Hari and recommended to perform *Niyam, Nishya & Upasana*. Here a beautiful Sabha is organized on every Hari Jayanti. H. H. Shree Gadiwala Shree was very much pleased to observe the construction work of the kitchen of Thakorji and residence of the saints.

With the direction of H. H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Swami Guruprasaddasji and Shastri Swami Anandprasaddasji, Shree Hari Darshan Saptah Parayan was organized at night in Hari Krishna Society and Shastri Yagnaprakashdasji was the spoke person of the Parayan. A large number of devotees and Hari Bhaktas of Kankariya and Maninagar had availed the benefit of Parayan saints from Kankariya Temple and Jetalpur had delivered inspirational speeches on the occasion.

(Shri Nar Narayandev Yuvak Mandal)

SHRIMAD BHAGWAT PARAYAN IN BAMROLI TEMPLE (MADHYA PRADESH)

With the directions of H. H. Shri Achayra Maharaj and inspiration of Sadguru Swami Rajendraprasaddasji, Srimad Bhagwat Panchanh Parayan was organized from 22.08.2009 to 26.08.2009 in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Bamroli. Shastri Swami Satyaprakashdasji (Muli) was the spoke person of the Parayan. Devotee Shri Pravinbhai Mangaldas Umedram Patel family was the host of the Parayan. On this occasion *Abhishek*, *Shodashopchar* and *Annakut* were performed to Shree Radhakrishnadev Harikrishna Maharaj.

Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji of Narayanghat Temple, Ahmedabad, Kothari Parshad Digambar Bhagat and other saints and parshads had arrived on the occasion. During the katha various utsav like Shree Krishno Janmotsav, Rukshmani Vivah etc. were celebrated and Maha Pooja ritual was also performed. Mahant Shastri Swami Laxmi Narayandasji of Bamroli Temple, and the villagers had rendered beautiful services on the occasion. The host of Patotsav, devotees Ganga Swaroop Raiben Sakalchand, Ganga Swaroop Paliben Mangaldas, Jyotiben Parshottamdas Patel of Aksharniwasi Patel Umedram Ranchhoddas family had availed the benefit of rendering their services.

(Rajendraprasad Swami)

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE, KALIYANA (TALUKA VIRAMGAM)

With the directions of H. H. Shri Acharya Maharaj on the pious day of Bhadarva Sud – 11, Sankhya Yogi Babuba, Gangaben, Puriben and Shantaben as well as all the ladies devotees of

the village had performed 12 hours Akhand Shree Swaminarayan Maha Mantra Dhoon at night. The whole temple was over crowded with the devotees. Sankhya Yogi Babuba was the source of inspiration for this occasion. *(Pradip Butiya)*

PATOTSAV PARAYAN IN JAIPUR TEMPLE

With the directions of H. H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Jetlapur Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Aatmaprakashdasji and Sadguru Shastri Swami Purshottamprakashdasji, 6 Patotsav of Shree Radhakrishnadev and the Lord Shree Swaminarayan of Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Jaipur was celebrated on the pious day of Shravan Vad – 5, 11.08.2009. Devotee Shri Subhasbhai Amlal Patel family was the host of the Patotsav. On this occasion Mahabhishek ritual and *Annakut* Aarti were performed to Thakorji. On this occasion a three day Vachanamrit, Ghyan Yagna was also organized and Shree P.P. Swami was a spoke person.

In the sabha organized on the occasion Mahant Swami Guruprasaddasji of Kankariya Temple, Mahant Swami Narayanswaroopdasji of Prayagraj Mahant K. P. Swami of Jetalpur, Brahamchari Poojari Purnanandji, Shastri Swami Madhavjivandasji, Shastri Harivallabhdasji (Mehsana), Shastri Vrajvallabhdasji (Jetalpur) etc. saints had delivered inspirational speeches.

(Mahant Swami, Jaipur)

DIVINE DARSHAN OF SHRI HARIKRISHNA MAHARAJ IN SIDDHPUR TEMPLE

There was our old Shree Swaminarayan Temple in Siddhpur City in Mehsana District. With the course of time the number of Hari Bhaktas increased day by day and therefore, all the Hari Bhaktas requested Shri Narnayandev Pithadipati H. H. Shree Acharya Maharaj (retired) 1008 Shree Tejendraprasadji Maharaj for a new temple on highway and H.H. Shri Achaya Maharaj directed Sadguru Shastri Swami Premswaroopdasji to get constructed a new temple. Accordingly on completion of the construction work on temple, on the pious day of Kartak Vad – 2 last year, Shree Narnarayandev Pithadipati, H. H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj performed invocation ritual of Shri Radhakrishanadev Harikrishana Maharaj. On the pious day of Ashad Sud – 15 Guru Poornima at 5.30 hours in the morning, ardent devotees Shri Dahyabhai Patel, Amrutbhai Patel, Bhaveshbhai Patel, Mohanbhai Patel and Laljibhai Patel witnessed divine Charnarvind of the Lord Shree Harikrishana Maharaj from the throne. The all well surprised and immediately called poojari Kunj Bihari Swami and while opening the locks of the temple they were all surprised. This news spread everywhere in the Sampradaya like anything. H. H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala, H. H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and H. H. Shri Raja performed darshan of divine Charnarvind on Ashad Vad – 1 08.07.2009 and 09.07.2009. H. H. Shri Lalji Maharaj had performed Rajbhog Aarti of Thakorji and granted the benefit of darshan to all the devotees. Thereafter, H. H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced the temple on 08.07.2009 along with other saints and Hari Bhaktas and performed Sandhya Aarti of the Lord Shree Radhakrishanadev Harikrishana Maharaj and also performed Darshan of divine ***Charnarvind***. With a view that all the devotees can perform darshan of divine ***Charnarvind*** glass boxes were prepared for the protection of divine ***Charnarvind.*** A large number of devotees come to the temple for darshan of divine ***Charnarvind*** and even today many devotees still come to the temple for darshan of divine ***Charnarvind***.

(Mahant Swami Divya Swaroopdasji)

PADYATRA FROM SIDDHPUR TEMPLE TO AHMEDABAD TEMPLE

With the directions H. H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Shastri Swami Premswaroopdasji, Mahant Swami Divyaswaroopdasji of Siddhpur Temple, Poojari Bhaktinandandas and 80 devotees of

Siddhpur, Biliya & Umeru had performed Padyatra for darshan of Lord Shree Narnarayandev of Ahmedabad Temple on 21.08.2009. They stayed at night at Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Mehsana and had availed Prasad. The stay of the second night was at Kalol Gurukul and third night at Naranghat Temple. They had performed darshan of Magla Aarti of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev in Ahmedabad and thereafter, H. H. Shri Mota Maharaj had performed Aarti of Thakorji of the Chariot of Padyatra and had blessed all the Padyatries. *(Dashrathbhai Patel)*

LASUNDRA TEMPLE

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Shobhayatri of Thakorji in Palakhi was organized in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Lasundra on the pious day of Bhadarva Sud-11 Jal Zilani Ekadashi. All the devotees of the village had joyously participated in Shobhayatra. Swami Vishwaswaroopdasji and Shri Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal had rendered great services on this occasion. *(Kothari)*

BALASINOR TEMPLE

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Parayan of Bhaktnidhi Grantha by Sadguru Nishkulanand swami was organized in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Balasinor. Shastri Swami Vishwaswaroopdas was the spokesperson of the Parayan. A large number of devotees had availed the benefit Parayan. On the pious day of Jaljilani Ekadashi procession of Thakorji was also organized. Nauka-Vihar of Thakorji was also organized in the premises of the temple; thereafter aarti of Thakorji was performed. All the services were rendered by Ghanshyam Kirana Store.

(Ramesh Bhagat)

KAPADWANJ TEMPLE

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, on the pious dayof Janmastmi, Krishna Janmotsav was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. On this occasion Katha of 08 days was also organized. Shastri Swami Vishwaswaroopdas was the spokesperson of the Katha. A large number of devotees had availed the benefit of *Katha*.

(Kothari Shri Jayraj Trivedi)

VASAI DABHLA TEMPLE

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, 93rd Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vasai-Dabhla was celebratd on 24/08/2009. on this occasion Shastri Swami VAsudevchaandasd and Shreeji Swaroopdas had arrived from Ahmedabad temple and had performed Mahapooja of Thakorji and *Katha, Varta*. All the arrangements for *Annakut* were also made by them. Devotee Shri Vikrambhai had availed the benefit of being the host of the Patotsav. All the Hari Bhaktas availed the benefit of *Katha, Varta* and Darshan of Patotsav. *(Balvantbhai Kothari)*

Nava Vadaj Temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, *Katha* of 'Shrimad Satsangibhushan' was organized during the pious Shravan Maas in Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Nava Vadaj. Shastri Swami Hariomprakashdasji (Jetalpur Vadi), Mahant Shastri Swami Shreejiprakashdasji (Naranpura), Shastri Swami Abhayprakashdasji (Koteshwar Gurukul), Shastri Suryaprakashdasji (Muli) and Chaitanya Swami had narrated the Katha whose benefit was availed by a large number of devotees. On 23/08/2009 Hindola Utsav was organized wherein H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced *'Darbar of Dada'* and availed the devotees benefit of Darshan and blessings. On 30/08/2009 17th Annual Sabha was organized by the devotee Shri Ashokbhai N. Patel in the memory of his mother. *(Shambhubhai Patel)*

Naroda Adishwarnagar Temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, pious Hindola Darshan was organized in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Naroda Adishwarnagar, during the pious Shravan Maas from 12/07/2009 to 13/08/2009. in the evening benefit of Katha was rendered by Shri

Rasikbhai.

From 10/08/2009 to 14/08/2009, *Katha, Varta* were performed by Nana P.P. Swami of Naranghat temple and other saints from 9 to 10.30 at night. Janmastmi Utsav was also celebrated with great enthusiasm. Students who passed with good percentage in Std.10 & Std.12 were distributed prizes.

(Kaushikbhai Patel)

SHIBIR OF SHREE NARNARAYANDEV YUVAK MANDAL, BAPUNAGAR IN TORDA TEMPLE

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Shri P.P. Swami (Kotheshwar Gurukul) on Sunday 06/09/2009, Shibir of Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Bapunagar was organized in Torda temple of Idar Desh.

In the pious place of Sadguru Gopalanand Swami amidst natural climate, the Shibir was organized on an open ground in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. By performing drama and dialogues on the basic tenets of our Sampradaya and on various subjects and also by performing Maniyaro Raas of Saurashtra region, young and enthusiastic devotees had obtained the pleasure of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Thereafter Swami Vasudevcharandasji and Sadguru Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji and P.P. Swami (Koteshwar Gurukul) had delivered speeches on the occasion explaining the importance of Torda Dham.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed all the participants of the Shibir and stated that, whatever is granted by Maharaj is complete and there is no benefit in changing the same. Aarti, Bhajan, Bhakti, Niyam-Chesta etc. are performed regularly in our temples. Thus, all the essential things of our Sampradaya were well explained by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaja and all the queries of the participants of the Shibir were answered by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. On this occasion, arrangements of Mahaprasad were made by Mahant Shri Krishnaprasaddasji of Torda temple and devotee Shri Arvindbhai Donga had rendered the services as the host.

In the concluding part of the Shibir, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, saints and all the young devotees performed Padyatra and Darshan of Lord Ganesha and Lord Shiva at the temple of the Lord Shiva situated on the other side of the bank of the river. On return journey, Bhaktajanas had performed Darshan of the deities in Idar and Sapawada temples.

(Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara)

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE, IDAR

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji, beautiful Hindola of various kind and type were performed to Thakorji during the pious Shravan Maas. In the religious fair organized in the temple premises on the pious day of Janmastmi, a large number of devotees participated. At night 12 o'clock Krishna Janmotsav was celebrated with Bhajan & Kirtan. *(Kothari Satyasankalpdas)*

Bhadardi (Idar Desh)

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced the house of the devotee Shri Pravinbhai Modhabhai Patel on the occasion of Jeevancharya of his mother Ganga Swaroop Gangaben Modhabhai Patel. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple, Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji, Shasri Chhapaiyaprassadasji and member of our Scheme Committee devotee Shri Dr. K.K.Patel and Shri D.K.Patel had delivered speeches on the occasion. At last the whole Sabha was blessed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. With the inspiration of Mahant of Idar temple, this occasion was celebrated with great enthusiasm. On this occasion, Mahant of Torda, Prantij and Sapawada temples, devotee Shri Dr. K.K.Patel, Dahyabhai K. Patel (Netramali) etc. Haribhaktas had remained present. The sabha was conducted by Shastri Harijivandas.

(Kothari Satyasankalpdas)

OVERSEAS NEWS

1st PATOTSAV OF OUR TORONTO, CANADA (I.S.S.O.) TEMPLE

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Acharaya 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and with the co-operation and guidance of Swami Vishwaprakashdasji Guru Mahant swami Atmaprakashdasji and swami Satyaswaroopdasji, 1st Patotsav of I.S.S.O. Toronto, Canada was celebrated with all fervour and enthusiasm from 7th August 2009 to 9th August 2009.

On 7th August 2009, Pothiyatra was performed at 9.00 hours in the morning. At 9.30 hours, poojan of the deities, the scripture and the spokesperson of the Parayan was performed by the host family. Shastri Swami was the spokesperson of this Parayan. At night Kirtan, Bhakti and Aaradhana were performed.

On 8th August 2009, Mahapooja was performed from 9.30 hours to 11.30 hours in the morning. Poornahuti aarti of Mahapooja was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and its services were rendered by the hosts. A huge 80" * 40" wide waterproof tent was prepared in the back side of the temple wherein one act ply, Raas and Garba were performed at night by the devotees and Satsangi children. A beautiful one act play narrating the incident of the pilgrimage of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan of Kachchh region along with Lalji Suthar (Sadguru Shri Nishkulanand Swami) was performed by the young devotees. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the houses of the new devotees in Toronto, Brampto, Cambridge, Watarloo areas and thereby the devotees obtained the pleasure of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj.

On 9th August 2009, *Shodashopchar Abhishek* of Shree Harikrishna Maharaj was performed at 7.30 hours in the morning by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Ritual of *Abhishek* ran for one hour upto 8.30 hours. Hosts of the *Abhishek* also availed the benefit of poojan. Thereafter a huge Satsang Sabha was conducted in the huge tent situated in the back side of the temple wherein concluding ritual of Parayan, poojan of Acharya Maharaj and Dharmkul were performed by the host families. All the guests who had arrived on the occasion from America were honoured.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj addressed the Sabha and directed the devotees to develop in them one quality of a true satsangi, to perform Darshan of the Lord in the temple every day and to contribute in various activities of Satsang as well as its development and at last prayed to the Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev that all the devotees may remain happy in their lives.

Annakut prepared by the ladies devotees was offered to Thakorji and at 11.30 hours, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed Annakut Aarti and Poornahuti aarti of Patotsav. Shree Jagdishbhai Shukla (Umrethwala) had got performed various Vedic rituals, poojan of Thakorji, Pothi, spokespersons and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj as well as Mahap0oja, and *Abhishek*. The hosts who rendered various services during the Patotsav, were offered a DVD Set of the whole Patotsav Mahotsav. arrangements of Mahaprasad were made during all the three days of the Patotsav. Services of preparing Mahaprasad were rendered by volunteer ladies devotees and had obtained the pleasure of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj.

President of Shri Dashrathbhai Chaudhary had furnished information of the institution and had delivered the vote of thanks towards all the devotees who rendered their services during the Patotsav and requested all the devotees to contribute in development activities of the temple. The whole Patotsav was conducted by the devotee Shri Natubhai Patel and had obtained the pleasure of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Services of all the devotees were inspirational. *(Bhailalbhai Patel)*

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE, CHERRY HILL

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, various festivals

like Shree Krishna Janmotsav, Independence Day on 15th August were celebrated in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Cherry Hill, by the local Haribhaktas of Colonia, New York, Parcy Penny. On this occasion Shastri Swami Nirgundasji from Ahmedabad temple, Mahant Narayan Muni Swami of Dholka temple, Mahant Madhav Swami of Vihokan temple and Mahant Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji of Cherry Hill temple were honoured with garlands. About 100 young devotees had peroformed parade and sung the National Anthem on 15th August in the hall of the temple.

All the devotees had performed Darshan of Thakorji in Parna and little children had performed Nritya Natika. Shastri Swami Vishwaprakashdasji had explained the importance of Janmastmi and furnished important information about the independence day. Shastri Swami Nirgundasji had explained the importance of the Lord and Shastri Madhav swami had explained the services. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, activities of Satsang are going on very smoothly. *(P. Shah)*

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE, COLONIA

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Hindola Darshan of Thakorji was performed in our Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Colonia during the pious Shraavan Maas. On the pious day of Janmastmi, Shasri Swami Nirgundasji, Muni Swami (Dholka), Mahant Gyanjivandas of Colonia temple had explained the importance of Janmastmi and the Lord Shree Swaminarayan. Shastri Swami Nirgundasji had narranted Katha of 11th Skanda of Shrimad Bhagwat whose benefit was availed by a large number of devotees. Shree Krishna Janmotsav was also celebrated with great enthusiasm.

Celebration of 4th Patotsav

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, 4th Patotsav of Shri Narnarayn Dev, Swaminarayan Temple, Crolonia, was celebrated on Saturday 4th September 2009 in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Mota Gadiwala, H.H. Shri Binduraja, Shri Suvratkumar and Shri Saumyakumar and Hajuri Parshad Vanraj Bhagat. Poojari saints had performed Mahabhishek and Annakut in Vedic ritual. Large number of saints and Haribhaktas had remained from each I.S.S.O. Chapter. In the pious presence of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala, a one day Satsandg Shiobir was also organized wherein large number of ladies devotees had participated. Ladies devotees of the host family had performed poojan, archan of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala, H.H. Shri Binduraja, Shri Suvratkumar and Shri Saumyakumar.

In the seven day Parayan organized with Shastri Swami Nirgundasji as the spokesperson, all the devotees had participated and had availed the benefit of divine presence of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala on all the seven days of the Parayan. The host family was honoured in the Sabha organized on the occasion.

Shastri Swami Vishwaprakashdasji of Cherry Hill temple, Shastri Swami Ramkrishndasji of Koteshwar Gurukul, Shastgri Madhavprasaddasji of Vihokan temple, Mahant Muni Swami of Dholka temple and other saints had explained the importance of the Lord. A large number of devotees had performed Patotsav-Annakut Darshan and had availed the benefit of *Katha, Varta. (Pravinbhai Shah)*

14th PATOTSAV IN SHRI SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE, STRAYDHAM (U.K., I.S.S.O.)

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri GAdiwalashri and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, Shrimad BHagwat Katha was organized from 08/08/2009 to 16/08/2009 in our Shri Swaminarayan Temple, Straydham. Shri Yogendrabhai Bhatt was the spoke person of the Katha. Accepting special invitation of all the Haribhaktas H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwalashri, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Raja had arrived from Ahmedabad to grace

the occasion.

H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj had performed Mahabhishek Shodashopchar ritual of the Lord Shree Harikrishna Maharaj and on the same pious day the flag was hoisted. In the Sabha organized on the occasion Jaikrishna Swami, Shastri Vishwvallabhdasji and Shastri Vrajvallabh had remained present. Shastri Vjshwavallabhdasji had explained the importance of the Lord Shree Hari and Dharmkul.

Devotees Shri Bhupendrabhai Pandya, Shri Diptiben Bhuendrabhai, Dhilon and Krishna etc devotees of the host family had performd poojan-archan-aarti of H.H. Shri Gadhwalashri and had obtained the blessings. Shri Bhupendrabhai and Dhilon had performed poojan-archan of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and had obtained the blessings. At last the sabha was blessed by H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. All the Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of celebrating Krishna Janmotsav in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. Many devotes had availed the benefit of Shiv-Poojan. Each and every Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of Mahaprasad. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj activity of Satsang is going on very joyously. *(Jayeshbhai Vaghela)*

Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Itaska Chicago

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Shrimad Shikshapatri Bhashya Panchanh Parayan was organized on the occasion of 11th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Itaska. In the Parayan from 28th August to 2nd September 2009, Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) was spokesperson.

On 2nd September 2009 *Shodashopchar* Mahabhishek of Thakorji was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and thereafter Katha was concluded. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, H.H.Shri Acharya Maharaj referred to the noteworthy contribution of the Hari Bhaktas of Chicago during the Dharmkul Vandana Mahotsav and asked them not to fall trap to worshipping any individual. All the devotees were also asked to perform Darshan of the deities in the temple everyday. All the Haribhaktas, volunteers, Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal and the members of the Scheme Committee were blessed. The Presidnet Shri Raisangbhai Chaudhary delivered the vote of thanks to the host family of Patotsav, devotee Shri J.P.Patel, Shri Vishnubhai Patel, Kiritbhai, Govindbhai, Vinodbhai, Harshadbhai and the hosts of Mahapooja, Vishnu Yaag, Annakut and Abhishek. With the inspiration of and guidance of Shastri Hariprasaddasji, J.P. Swami and Poojari Shantiprakash Swami, 11th Patotsav was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. *(Vasant Trivedi)*

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE, HYUSTAN (U.S.A.)

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant K.P. Swami, all the festivals are celebrated with great enthusiasm in this temple.

On Sunday 16th August 2009, Shri Krishna Janmasti was celebrated with great fervour. A large number of Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of this occasion of the Lord Shree Krishna Pragatya and Parna. On 23rd August on the day of Shree Ganesh Chaturthi, poojan-archan-aarti of the Lord Ganesha were performed. On the pious day of Jaljilni Ekadashi, Nauka-Vihar of the Lord was performed in the temple and a huge procession was also organized on the occasion. Ladies devotees had performed Kirtan and Mahamantra Dhoon on this day. All the Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of Darshan and Utsav. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, activity of Satsang is going on very well. *(Ramesh Patel, Secretary)*

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TITLE – 3

(1) Shastri Yagnaprakashdasji narrating Katha in Harikrishna society organized by Kankaria temple in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj & other saints. (2) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj inaugurating residence of the saints and the gate in Vahelal temple. (3-4) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj having a talk with renowned architects, engineers, builders, Mahant Swami & trustee Shri Ratibhai Patel during the Walk Show organized by Ahmedabad Heritage Foundation. (5) Saints & *Haribhaktas* welcoming H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj on the occasion of *Shibir* of Torda temple. (6) Young devotees in original *Kathiyawari Darbar* dress in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj on the occasion of *Shibir* of Torda. (7) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the house of the devotee Shri Pravinbai Patel at Bhadardi (Idar). (8) The host family performing *aarti* of the spokesperson Shri P.P. Swmi and Vyas-Pith on the occasion of *Patotsav* of Jaipur temple.

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Celebration of *Prakatyotsav* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in our temple of Cinnaminson, South Jersey.



Saints Perform Aarti of Annakoot of Patotsav at Cinnaminson, South Jersey Temple.





H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing invocation *aarti* in Parth, Australia along with Shastri Ramkrishnadasji & large number of devotees.





H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing *annakut aarti* on the occasion of *Patotsav* of Chicago temple and Shastri Ramkrishnadasji narrating *Katha*.

Jagadish Offset

Praful Kharsani