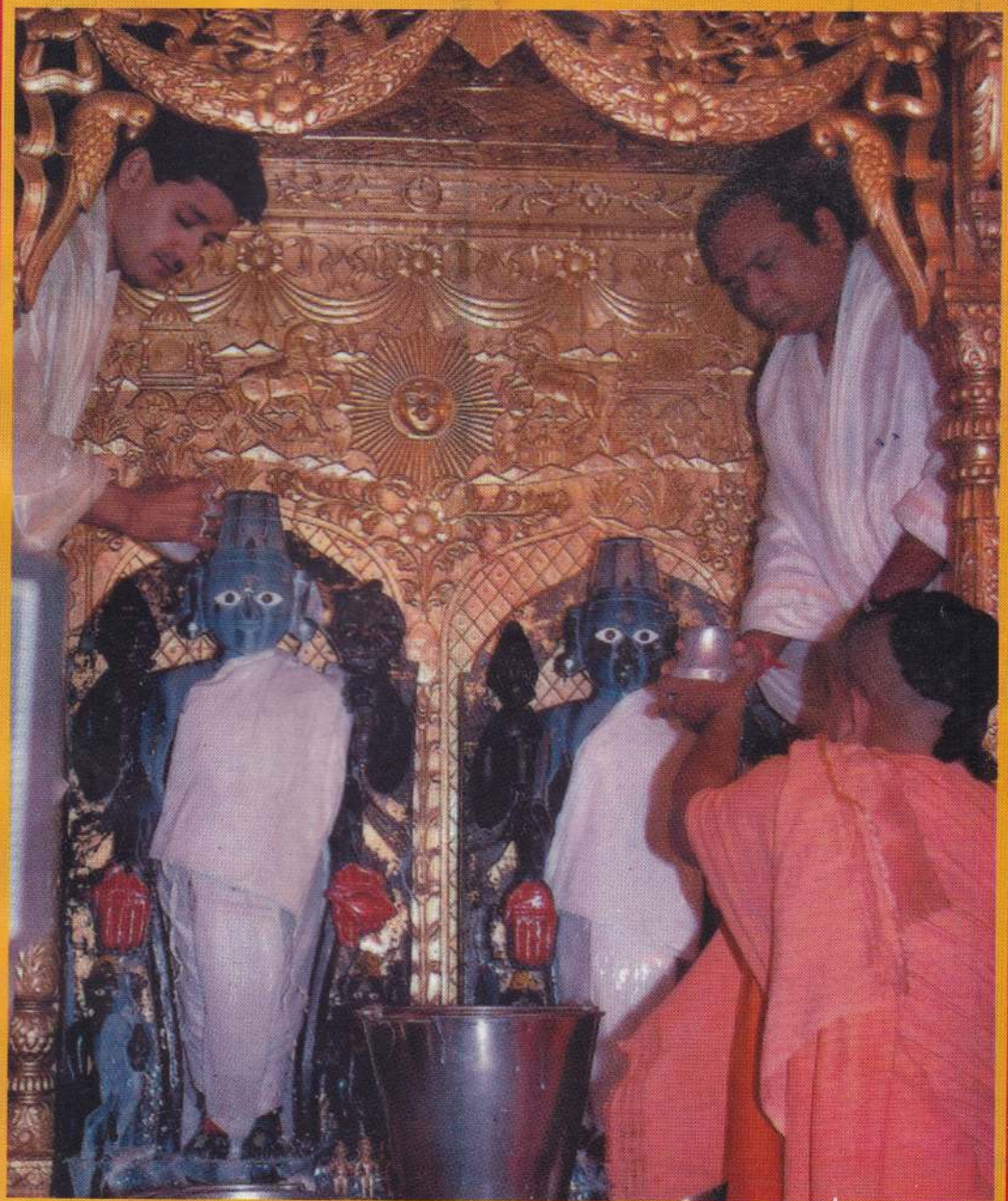
SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ

APRIL 2005



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H.H. Acharya Maharajshri presents Patotsava Aarti to God at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Ranip, Ahmedabd.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri presents Patotsava and Annakut Aarti to God at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Sapawada (S.K.)





H.H. Acharya Maharajshri submits Patotsava
abhabhishekam to Lord Shri Balswaroop Kashtabhanjandev



The devotees and brahmins have received Chauryasi Mahaprasadam at Shri Kankaria Temple.



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EDITORIAL

Bhagwan incarnates himself on the earth to emancipate souls from the cycle of births and deaths. Bhagwan in his human form on the earth, installs axiomatic Bhagwat Dharma and by his most religious life, He directs others to live in accordance to Bhagwat Dharma. Lord Maryada Purushottam Rama and Lord Purna Purushottam Shri Swaminarayan were incarnated on same day of the month i.e. on ninth day of the bright half of Chaitra. This is a miraculous coincidence. Such cosmic wonder impress us deeply to strengthen within us the decorum, esteem and selfless love for Bhagwat Dharma and householder duties. The sixteen Samskars of Hindu life hold paramount position in Hindu religion. Some major Samskaras like Chaul Samskara, Upanayana Samaskara and Lagna Samskara are still very important in our society and householder life, because they stand rock firm on reason and logic. The Samskara of Upanayana (sacred threads ceremony) invokes knowledge - knowledge of the ultimate truth - within the celibate boy and fills his heart and soul with celestial bliss. The ultimate knowledge help the soul to realize God. The enlightened soul attains ultimate benediction in holy presence of divine. God's incarnation stands for salvation of the souls and soul should not forget his supreme aim. We too aspire for ultimate salvation.

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



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

March - 2005

1. Did Patotsava Mahabhishekam of God dwelling in Narayanaghat temple.
   Graced the house of Shri Baldevbhai Patel (Itadara wala) Nava Vadaj, Ahmedabad.
2. Graced village Singali (Kapadvanj) and presented Aarti to Lord Ganapatiji and Hanumanji.
3. Graced Patotsava Parayan organized at our Swaminarayan Temple, Narayanpara, Kadi.
4. Gracious presence at the Parayan sessions held at the residence of Shri Vasudevbhai Gajjar, Dharampur, Kadi.
5. Graced foundation laying ceremony of Swaminarayan Mandir (proposed), Morvi.
6. Graced Parayan - session at Bavla.

11-12. Graced annual Patotsava at Charadava and Bhuj Temple.

13. Presented 183rd Annual Patotsava Abhishekam to Lord Narnarayandev and initiated Sant Maha Deeksha to the new saints.
    Gracious presence at the auspicious ceremony of laying foundation of Shri Swaminarayan Museum. The foundation was laid ceremoniously by H.H. Lalji 1008 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri.
14. Did Patotsava Abhishekam of Lord Thakorji dwelling at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Sapawada. (S.K.)
15. Did Patotsava Abhishekam of Lord Balswarup Kashtabhanjandev dwellings at Swaminarayan Mandir, Kankaria.
    Gracious presence at the community feast of the eighty four sub-castes of Brahmins The feast was organized at our Kankaria Temple.
16. Graced "Lallubhai and Sons" at Mehasana during his religious tour of Khan-Rajasthan, on occasion of Annual Patotsava of God at the temple.
17. Presented Patotsava Abhishekam to God dwelling in Swaminarayan Mandir, Khan, Rajasthan.
18. Graced Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Ranip, on occasion of annual Patotsava.
    Graced the house of Shri Bharatbhai K. Patel Ranip, Ahmedabad.
21. Graced the place of Shri Prabodhbhai C. Jhala, Gandhi Road, Ahmedabad.
22. Presented Patotsava Abhishekam to God at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Jiragadh, Muli.
23. Graced the dwelling of Shri Parsottambhai Harjibhhai Shingala, Bapunagar, Ahmedabad.

24-25. Graced Fuldol-Utsava at Sukhpar, Kutch.

27-3-05 to 4-4-05. Religious tour of USA.

DHARMADA - DONATION

निजवृत्युद्यमप्राप्त धनधान्यादितश्च तैः ।
अर्प्यो दशांशः कृष्णाय विंशोंऽशस्त्विह दुर्बलैः ॥

The Satsangi householders shall offer to the Lord one tenth of their earning in terms of money or food-grains, from their own profession or business. Those who are economically weak, shall offer only one twentieth part of their earnings.

(Shikshapatri : 147)

Lord Shri Swaminaayan Bhagwan, by His specific order, directs all the devotees to do Dharmada (one tenth or one twentieth part of the earnings). This Dharmada needs to be paid to Lord Shri Narnarayandev or Shri Lakshminarayandev, in whose territory the Satsangi lives.

The donations made to an educational institution, Gurukulam or to a temple can not be treated as a Dharmada, Houscholder devotees are required to do Dhamada at the Kothar office of Shri Narnarayandev, against an authentic receipt. Dharmada may be donated in cash or kind.

Our Satsang is spreading far and large with tremendous growth and development.

The devotees – Satsangis working elsewere and abroad, may be in need of proper guidance. Hope, this clarifies the postion and duty.

The devotees, desiring to donate some extra besides statutory 'Dharmada,' may contact Acharya Maharajshri for an objective guidance in regard to a proper institution, Gurukul, temple building or social service-projects. Such guidance will add value in your additional donations.

- Mahant Swami



SHRI SWAMINARAYAN MUSEUM

- Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara

H.H.Acharya Maharaj Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri had put in magnanimous efforts by gracing every village, town and every house of his devotees to emancipate his faithful followers. Contemporary Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri follows this great tradition to emancipate his devotees. They desire to benedict all their followers. S.G. Nishkulanand Swami says :



તમને માનશે પૂજ્શે જેહ રે,
મોટા સુખને પામશે તેહ રે ॥૧૨॥
અન્ન ધન આપશે અંબર રે,
પશુ વાહનને વળી ઘર રે ॥
ફળ ફુલ દલ જળ દેશે રે,
તે તો અખંડ ધામને લેશે રે ॥૧૩॥
એહ આદિ જે આપસે વસ્ત્ર રે,
એવા ઘરધારી જે ગૃહસ્થ રે ॥
વળી પધરાવશે પોતાને ઘેર રે,
કરશે સેવા વળી સારી પેર રે ॥૧૪॥
વળી કરશે સનમાન એનું રે,
મારે કરવું છે કલ્યાણ તેનું રે ॥
એમ આચારજ્થી કલ્યાણ રે,
થાશે સહુ જીવનું સુજાણ રે ॥૧૫॥

(Those who worship you (Acharya) with due respect shall be favoured with my eternal pleasure. Those who gift you food grains, attires, domestic animals, vehicles, flowers , fruits, water or wealth, shall be consigned to divine abode of God. Those householder devotees shall be benedicted by me, who have invited Acharya to their dwellings to gift them various things with due respect. Thus the devotees shall be benedicted by the Acharya of this diocese.)

H.H.Acharya Maharajshri favours this satsang in accordance to this devotional song by his constant religious tour of Shri Narnarayandev Desh. His selfness efforts aim at the highest good of his devotees.

H.H.Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj has strengthened the satsang in India and abroad by founding hundreds of temples-small, big and magnificent. He had installed in them the divine forms of Lord Shri Hari, he had celebrated bi-centenary celebration, Shatamrit Mahotsava, Silver-Golden Jubilee Celebrations, Platinum Jubilee celebrations

and other such majestic festivals to give devotional pleasure to his satsangis.

The devotees were favoured in like manner in ancient time of Lord Shriji Maharaj. S.G. Nishkulanand Swami sings the praises of Lord Shriji Maharaj :

આ તો અનેક રીતશું,
આવ્યા ઉધ્ધારવા અવિનાશ ॥
જેમ જ્વાળા બાળે શુધ્ધાશુધ્ધને,
શુધ્ધાશુધ્ધ પલાળે મેઘ ।
શુધ્ધા શુધ્ધ સમઝે નહિ,
જ્યારે વાયુ વાય કરી વેગ ॥
એમ આજ તાર્યા છે અપાર રે,
ગુણાગુણ ન જોયા લગાર રે ।
જેમ મોટો સદાવ્રતી હોય રે,
તે તો ભૂખ્યાનું મુખ ન જોય રે ॥
તેમ આજ સદાવ્રત મોટું રે,
બાંધ્યુ છે તારવા જીવ કોટયું રે ।

(God has graced the earth to emancipate souls. The flame of fire burns pure and impure without any discrimination and a rain soaks pure and impure without any discrimination between them. A wind takes pure and impure in it's wave without any discriminative knowledge or reasoning. God has favoured all of us equally without any discrimination. Here is a free inn and the meals of benediction are served without looking at the faces. This free inn of the benedictory meals, aims at ultimate emancipation of living beings.)

H.H.Acharya Maharajshri walks steadily on the path of universal welfare, paved by his great father Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan.

The festive event of Annual Patotsava of Lord Narnarayandev dwelling in Ahmedabad Temple, was celebrated on auspicious 13.3.2005 this year in a grand way by laying foundation stone of Swaminarayan Museum. H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri graced the campus of Swaminarayan Museum and laid most ceremoniously the foundation stone of the buildings of Shri Swaminarayan Museum. H.H. Acharya Maharaj Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri graces this place daily to boost the morale of the team engaged in planning and organization of the spectacular project of Shri Swaminarayan Museum. A cottage has been built at the place of Museum to house the office of H.H.Acharya Maharajshri. H.H.Acharya Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri graces the office and blesses his visiting devotees daily during 9 to 11 a.m.

This penance of him is quite different and unique in comparison to the penance performed in ancient time by the great rishis and ascetics.How is it so ? The infinite number of souls, visiting the museum for the time immemorial, shall be benedicted eternally by a darshan of the Prasadi items adorned personally by Lord Shri Hari. The museum it self shall be divine and majestic like the prasadi items housed therein. The devotees and aspirants from India and abroad shall be redeemed by a Darshan of the museum.

The objects touched by Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan are not now gross or elemental. Those are divine and redemptive due to majestic touch of Lord Shriji Maharaj-Lord Purushottam Narayan.

We are used to purchase image of God and Nitya-Pooja-Peti from the Sahitya Kendra of the temple. The items purchased from there are nothing more than a shopping, but it become sacred and holy when we submit it at the abode of Lord Narnarayandev. Lord Narnarayandev invokes his divinity in the image and Pooja Peti and those would be

transformed in to a celestial prasadi by holy touch of H.H.Acharya Maharajshri the descendent heir of Lord Shri Hari. The photo and things procured earlier from the store are not now the gross elements, but a divine prasadi of Lord Shriji Maharaj. Here below are a few examples in majesty and divinity of the prasadi items.

1. The house of Beniben at Jetalpur was possessed by a witch. Beniben was a pious and God fearing woman. The witch in her invisible form lived freely at that house and harassed the family by her witch craft and black magic in darkness of night. The witch was used to carry at night the buffalo calf from the courtyard to the upper storey of the house, and in the morning Beniben and the neighbours were bringing the calf downstair. This became a routine and spread panicky and anxiety among the residents. In her extreme anxiety, Beniben conveyed her agonies to devout lady Ganagaba. Gangaba grasped the core of the problem and went to the house of Shri Ashjibhai to fix the problem. She procured from there a slab, on which Shri Hari had his daily bathing, and got the stone fixed at the house of Beniben. The nuisance of the evil spirit ended forever by the divine powers of prasadi stone. This house with the prasadi stone fixed to its wall exists these days at the Patidar Waas of Jetalpur. Shri Keshavlal Khodidas Patel holds this family legacy.

2. S.G. Swaroopanand Swami dwelled always as pure consciousness. He never recognized his body of the gross elements and introduced himself as pure consciousness. When others had any physical pain, he always said to them that they were pure consciousness-soul, infinte and eternal like the space. How could a rodent cut and bite the space? But Maharaj disliked such concept, and by his free will he sent ailment in body of S.G. Swaroopanand Swami. Swami screamed and convulsed in unbearable pain. Maharaj came to wish him good health and asked him, 'How are you Swami ? Have the rodents cut and bit the space ?' 'Maharaj ! It pains, I can't bear it ! Please help me,' prayed Swami. Maharaj said in compassion, 'Swami ! Concentrate meditatively on the rooms of Dada Khachar, its corridors, roof and the margosa tree at the courtyard. Concentrate meditatively to discard agonizing pain. Maharaj cured him by such meditation. This proves that prasadi items are far more emancipating than the state of pure consciousness.

3. The patients possessed by devilish evil spirits, when come to Lord Hanmanji at Sarangpur Dham, the poojari of the temple, most often takes them first to the prasadi items of Lord Shriji Maharaj, makes them to sit under the prasadi bed stead or under the prasadi bullock-cart, installed ceremoniously at the Hari Mandir. Priest compels them to touch holy prasadi. Evil spirits can not bear the heat and divine majesty of the prasadi items. The evil spirits scream, convulse and lose their evilpower. At later stage it becomes easier for Lord Hanumandada to kick off the evil spirit from the patient.

4. H.H.Acharya Maharajshri had resolved firmly to install a permanent museum of the prasadi items of Lord Shri Hari. Maharajshri desires to maintain those prasadi items under most scientific and protective cover giving complete view and darshan.

અશન વસન ભૂષન, વાહન વાસન જેહ ।
પુરુષોત્તમને સ્પર્શતા, થયાં શુધ્ધ સહુ એ તેહ ॥
માયિક તે અમાયિક થયાં, થયાં ગુણમય ગુણાતીત ।
સ્પર્શતા પરબ્રહ્મને, સહુ થયાં પરમ પુનીત ॥

(Furnishing, clothes, ornamental items, vehicles and graced items have become holy and redemptive by holy touch of Lord Purushottam. This gross matter is now divine, sublime and majestic. These are transformed in to divine by holy touch of Supreme consciousness.)

The visitors at the temple shall be benedicted by a darshan of these objects.

The museum shall be housed amidst the serene natural charms of trees, bushes flowering plants, fountains and streams. Like the divine abode of Lord Purushottam Narayana which was described earlier Shri Hari in the Vachanamrita, this divine abode of the Prasadi items shall be the supreme seat of serenity and celestial bliss. The visitor devotees shall be benefitted personally by their walk at the museum complex and benedictory Darshan of the prasadi items :

વળી કલ્યાણકારી જે વસ્ત્ર (પદાર્થ રે) રે,
તે પણ પૃથ્વી પર છે સમસ્ત રે ।
બહુ તે વડે થાશે કલ્યાણ રે,
સ્પર્શિ પામશે પદ નિરવાણ રે ॥
પણ અવતારના જે અવતારી રે,
વાત તેની તો જાણજો ન્યારી રે ।
જાણો પુરુષોત્તમનો સ્પર્શ રે,
તે તો સહુ થકી છે જો સરસ રે ॥
અમારા અંગસંગની વસ્તુ,
રાખી જીવના કલ્યાણ કાજ ।
ફરી ફરી ફેરો પડે,
એવું કરવું નથી આ વાર ॥
સહુ જીવનો સામટો,
આજ કરવો છે ઉધ્ધાર ।
તેહ સારૂ છાપી દીધાં ચરણ રે,
જે છે સુખના કરણ રે ॥

(The preasadi itmes of Lord Shri Hari shall be benedictory to the soul, by virtue of holy touch and blissful darshan of the item. Lord Purushottam Narayan – Shri Hari is almighty supreme and causes incarnations to benedict mankind. His prasadi items redeem the souls by holy touch and darshan of the item. Lord Shri Hari has blessed the devout souls by gifting to them His prasadi itmes. Now stop the wheel of re-birth and deaths by darshan of the prasadi itmes. God desires to benedict everyone by prasadji of His foot prints.)

These holy items are spread temple to temple and house to house in entire Desha of Lord Narnarayandev. Now the Mahants, saints, temples and Satsangi families need to be extra generous to handover this prasadi itmes to Lord Shri Hari's descendent son – Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj. Those items were given by God and now, God Himself receives it with pleasure to redeem infinite number of souls for the time immemorial. If not donated now, there shall be no room to repent in days to come in each your forthcoming visit of the Museum. Those are most fortunate who thread a needle in the spark of a lightning. Grab this life time opportunity and donate the presadi itmes.

વળી અમારા અંગનું અંબર રે,
બહુ સ્પરશેલ સારું સુંદર રે ।
એહ પ્રસાદીનું જેહ પટ રે,
મળે ટળે સર્વે સંકટ રે ॥
એહ વસ્ત્ર અનુપમ અતિ રે,
થાય પૂજ્યાં પરમ પ્રાપ્તિ રે ।
અતિ મહાત્મ્ય એનું અતુલ્યે રે,
કહો ક્યાંથી મળે એહ મૂલ્યે રે ॥
જે જે અમારા સંબંધની વસ્તુ રે,
ન મળે ગોતતાં ઉદેને અસ્ત રે ।
જાણ અમ સંબંધિની જે જે રે,
છે એ કલ્યાણકારી માની લિજે રે ॥

તે તો રાખી છે અમે અપાર રે,
સહુ જન અરથે આ વાર રે ।
નખ શિખા લગી નિરધાર રે,
રાખી સ્પરશિ વસ્તુ કરી પ્યાર રે ॥
સ્પરશિ થીજે બહુ પરકારે રે,
અડી હોય જે અંગે અમારે રે ।
તે તો સર્વે છે કલ્યાણકારી રે,
માટે રાખી છે અમે વિચારી રે ॥

(Bhagwan says, 'I have kept these prasadi, items for benediction of mankind. Attires, prasadi clothes and other fabric are holy, divine and majestic. These are unique and uparalleled in ulitmate benediction of the souls. Thousands of prasadi itmes such as nails, hair lock and other very personal items have been made available by me for salvation of the devout souls. The souls shall be benedicted by a holy touch or a darshan of the prasadi items)

God has given those items to take good care of it. These items are meant for ultimate benediction of mankind. We as a true devotee, saint or temple, sould act like a most obedient caretaker and pass it on to God's own son – Acharya Maharajshri, for ultimate benediction of mankind. The satsang at our family level may be very strong contemporarily, but in years and generations to come, this strong Satsang may recede to a thin and liquid level, and in such changed time, the items respected now, may be lost or soiled in stormy winds of adverse time ! Be wise, give a thought to this and donate the prasadi item to the museum.

This monumental architecture should be the number one in Ahmedabad and for that, we all should come forward to donate liberally. This is personal service to Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan. Do it heartily and with love. We are only an instrument in this majestic development, act whole heartedly. This is proper investment of your material wealth. Goddess Lakshmiji will reside forever at your home, if donated generously and happily towards the cause.

H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Rakeshprasadji Maharajshri of Shri Lakshminarayandev Diocese had observed that Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajjshri has put in his best efforts as Lalji Maharaj of Shri Narnarayandev Desh Diocese and had continued his dedicated services with greater force and zeal as the Acharya and now these days he shows similar enthusiasm and spiritual power in implementing his resolute about "Shri Swaminarayan Museum". In his blessed words, H.H. Acharya Maharajshri has blessed to this satsang the blessings of Goddess of wealth and prosperity.

Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri has said that he had not found out the activity of Museum to spend his free time of retirement but has withdrawn himself from the busy schedule of preceptorship and had opted for retirement to invest every minute of his life in this most majestic project of museum. Devotion is another name for unbroken love for God. Lord Shriji Maharaj has said in Vachamnarit (Jetalpur session) : To act at the pleasure of God and to do service of God is a kind of devotion.

H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri has blessed the auspicious foundation laying ceremony of the musecum complex. 'This is not a personal work, but an open opportunity for everybody to earn pleasure of Lord Shriji Maharaj. For this, if needed, I am prepared at my personal level to spend rupess ten crore for this museum. Lord Shri Hari has said about Dharmvanshi Acharya Maharaj :

જેમ એ વાળે તેમ વળજો રે,
એના કામકાજમાં ભળજો રે ।
એની માનજો સહુ આગન્યા રે,
વર્તશોમાં કોયે વચન વિના રે ॥

(Follow his orders and share in his plans. Abide to his orders, without any disagreement.)

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri has resolved to construct Museum. We Satangis are required to share in this great task by our humble contribution in cash and kind. This is life time opportunity to please Lord Shri Hari by our humble service to our Guru. This is the time to follow the order.

Place :
Shri Swaminarayan Museum
Behind Narayanpura A.E.C.,
Opposite Terf School Ahmedabad-380 013.
Phone : (079) 27419597 Fax : (079) 27499597

SHRI SAHAJANAND GURUKUL, ASARVA

(Sponsored and owned by Shri Narnarayandev Diocese)

The Gurukulam with fulfledged High school operates from the old residecne of the Acharya Maharajshri - a prasadi place of Lord Shri Hari - Swaminarayan Wadi, Asarava.

Admissions are available in Class 1 to 10 in Gujarati Medium with boarding service for class 5 to 10. Homely care, wholesome meals, follow up of academic progress and all round development of pupil, are the plus points of this Gurukulam.

For Admissions contact :

Samchalaka
Shri Sahajanand Gurukul,
Asarva, Ahmedabad-16.

Statement about the ownership and other particulars about the magazine entitled `Shri Swaminarayan' as required to be published in the first issue of every year after the last day of February.

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I, Shastri Swami Nirgundasji do hereby declare that the details declared above are true as per my information and understanding

11-3-2004

Sd/- Shastri Nirgundasji
Mahant
Shri Swamianarayan Mandir, Kalupur, Ahmedabad-1.

AN UNUSUAL TEST

- Shastri Hari Swami

The event was unique and quite exciting. It looked like a test of intelligence. All the students were eligible for the test. Only one question was to be asked in that test and it was to be answered in Yes or No. The test was for sixty five marks and students were to be tested individually by asking same question ! It looked very easy and simple !

Five hundred students stood for the test. A long queue was formed out side the hall. The hall was large and empty. A chair was fixed for the examiner right at the center of the hall and a small table was placed in front of the chair, to keep examination records. Besides the desk, but at a little distance it, a weight of fifty kilo was placed on the floor.

The first candidate came to the examiner. Examiner said, 'Tell me, can you lift this weight of fifty kilograms?' Boy looked at the weight and said, 'Yes, I can.' The boy got sixty-five marks for answering in 'Yes'. The weight was not to be lifted, only question was to be answered! Then came the next one. He too was tested in like manner by asking the same question and got full marks – sixty-five marks answering it in 'Yes'. Whoever on answered in 'Yes', got full marks- sixty-five marks, for their answer.

Friends, now is a real surprise. There were many candidates who answered it in 'no' – a bold and clear No, and that too instantly on the spot. Each one from them answered precisely 'No. I can not carry it.'

Can you imagine ! What were their scores ? Were they declared unsuccessful or like? No, It was not so. Don't commit a blunder of false assumption . Whoever answered in a clear cut 'no', got thirty-five marks. The test was not ended there. Still a large lot was pending.

Besides those two groups, the group who said 'yes' and the group who said 'No' – there was a third group. The candidates of the third group answered neither in 'Yes' nor in 'No'. They were fence sitters! They said, 'Sir, I am not sure, whether could it be lifted or not.' Guess the scores they secured for such answers. They all were declared failed!

In this unusual testing, those were declared successful, who answered outrightly in 'No' and refused to lift the weight, but those who failed to say in 'Yes' or 'No' were declared unsuccessful – fail. In fact, this was the uniqueness of this test.

In this unusual test, no body was required to lift the weight. The candidate was required to answer in 'Yes' or 'No' in regard to his capacity to lift the weight. Those who responded in 'Yes' were ranked at the top-first class, because they were firm in their resolute. Those who answered in 'no' were declared successful but in pass class, because they too were firm in their decision. Those others, who were indecisive and weak in regard to their self-confidence, were declared unsuccessful – fail cases. Thus the wisdom and intellect prevailed upon matter.

Be firm and decisive if you want to be happy in your life. Be decisive if you wish to progress in your life. The success of any work, whether it is householder duty, social work, religious work or a scientific research – the success of it depend solely in your self confidence and firmness. God listens to those of his devotees, who are firm and stead fast in regard to their resolute. S.G. Brahmanand Swami sings :

એ હોય હિંમત રે નરને ઉરમાંહી ભારી,
દઢતા જોઈને રે તેની મદદ કરે મોરારી.

(Lord Shri Hari looks at the firmness and courage of his devotee and helps him in his devotional ways)

God tests his devotees to evaluate strength of his firmness. Act consciously and firmly to earn the pleasure of God.

HYPOCRISY CAN NOT LIVE LONG

- Sadhu Shrirangdas



There was a large and dense forest. The land near the forest was farm land. Farmers were tilling the land to cultivate various crops for their livelihood but they lived under constnat fear due to dense forest near them. They were scared of carnivorous animals like lions and others living in the forest. were a direct threat to their lives and live stocks, but were worried more due to the another kind of animals who were an indirect threat to their sustainance. Those were the jackals, moving in packs to slip cunningly in the fields to damage the crop by biting at the stems of sugar cane. Such damaged crop was decaying very soon. The farmer's on their constant vigil, were used to chase the packs of jackals as soon they enter the field, and in most of the cases the animals were forced by the farmers to leave the field without any damage.

Once a shrewd jackal thought on the issue and found that the farmers who were chasing them fiercely, were scared of lion. They hid themselves and shut the doors and gates as and when they saw a lion crossing their farm. They see their death in a ferocious lion. Lion it self is a great animal. This majestic lion eats bellyful in his beast venture.

Poor jackal gave a good though to it and decided to be like a lion. That was the only way and means to instill fear in the villagers. All were to run away in fear if they found him in the form of a lion. But how to change himself in a lion ? He thought much about it, but found no means to transform himself. Jackal loitered here and there in such confused state of mind and looked anywhere and everywhere to get a solution. Lo and behold ! There near a cave in the deep forest, he found a perfect hide of a dead lion. He wore it on his person, and went to a nearby pond to check his reflection. As he gazed at his image, he found it perfectly like a lion.

Now he was a lion – ferocious and daring. Not only the farmers, but all wild animals were to run away by fear of him. Now there was no risk in having sugar cane at the fields. Wild goats and small animals ran away in fear when they saw this pseudo-lion ! Now the jackal in the lion's skin, believed himself a perfect lion and marched confidently at the sugarcane field. The farmer saw him from a distance and hid himself behind the door. The jackal in a lion's skin, looked here and there with pride and courage and pounced upon the crop to eat sugarcane. The farmer peeped from the crack when he heard strange noise of crackled sugarcane. He saw lion eating his standing crop of sugarcane. It was strange and unnatural. How a lion eat it ? He gathered that one who eats sugarcane, can not be a lion.

(Cont. on Page No. 14)

DIVINE MIRACLES OF LORD SWAMINARAYAN

- Dineshbhai K. Bhagat

Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan had supported the art of sculpture and architecture by encouraging construction of the splendid temples. He preached in varnacular to help and redeem common man by his simple teachings. The Vachanamrits have dignified Gujarati language by its unique majesty. He wrote Shikshapatri a very small scripture of only 212 shlokas, but treasured in it the nectar of all the scriptures. Man lives a happily by practising Shikshapatri in his life. Shikshapatri transforms the man into an ideal citizen and a responsible householder.

Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan has founded a well knit system of the Samaiya and celebrations to bring unity and equality among his satsangis. Thus the Satsang and Satsangis are a well knit organization effective in every walk of human life. Thus the Satsang operates at a larger plane to encompass mankind without any discrimination founded on any race, colour or region. Lord Shriji Maharaj has a large group of enlightened poets and saints who at the will of God, wrote devotional songs and Kirtans to enlighten future generation. Great saintly poets S.G. Muktanand Swami, S.G. Brahmanand Swami, S.C. Premanand Swami, S.G. Nishkulanand Swami, S.G. Devanand Swami, S.G. Bhumanand Swami and S.G. Manjukeshanand Swami are chief among them. The listeners and devotees these days feel elated by listeing Bhajans and Kirtans of S.G. Brahmanand Swami in a television or redio transmission. Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan wields his divine powers to help his faithful devotees. There are many such episodes describing majesty and divine miracles of Lord Shri Hari. Here are a few from those innumerable divine leelas :

1. Shri Kriparam Vipra from Madhavas and Shri Khushalbhai Vipra of Lunavada were firm devotees of Lord Shri Hari. They both went to Vadtal to do darshan of Lord Shriji Maharaj and on way to Vadtal, they halted at Boriavi to have meals. They camped near a pond, had ablutive bathing and cooked meals to present thaal to Lord Thakorji. They had meals and cleansed utensils at the pond, but by mistake, Kruparam Vipra lost his plate in the pond. They came to Vartal and did darshan of Shriji Maharaj.

Here at Madhavas, Shriji Maharaj in guise of a Brahmin, went to the house of Kriparam and gave the plate to the mother of Kriparam. When she inquired, he said that the plate was sent by her son.

When came back from the pilgrimage, his mother said to Kruparam, 'why did you sent the plate with that Brahmin ? Kriparam replied that the plate was not sent to you but was lost in the pond at Boriavi.' Lord Shriji Maharaj was come to her to give that plate !

2. A limbless and infirm child was born to the family of Bhukhandas at Meu. Fiathful devotee Bhukhandas came to Shriji Maharaj and submitted his prayer. Bhagwan asked him to bring the child to him. When they brought the infant, Shriji Maharaj took the child on his lap and he looked at the child with compassion and love. He then said to Bhukhandas that child was perfectly alright and there was not deficiency in him. While saying so, Shriji Maharaj pulled each his limb with in from the torso of the child. Child was healthy and fit ! Parents realized the divine majesty and miracle of Shriji Maharaj.

3. Sheth Mankechand of Sayla and Sheth Talasha of Limbdi went to Loya to do darshan of Shriji Maharaj. At their mind, they resolved that the sweet dish of Sutrafeni if shall be

offered instantily to them by Shriji Maharaj, they will accept him as God. Maharaj by his divine powers knew about their resolute. A large pot of Sutarfeni was being served to Maharaj by a devotee from Surat, when these two aspirants entered the assembly. Shri Hari looked at them with compassion and offered Sutarfeni to have it. Shriji Maharaj fulfilled the wishes of his true devotees.

4. Shriji Maharaj with his retinue of the saints and devotees were on a religious tour from Adhoi to Kanthkot in desert region of kutch. Some decoits of Miyana community pounced upon them at night to robe Maharaj and his devotees. The robbers when saw Shriji Maharaj, they saluted most hunbley and did darshan of their, Khuda in the divine form of Shriji Maharaj. Instead of a loot, they showed them the direction and guided on the road road to Kanthkot.

5. Shriji Maharaj at village Tera, woke up at midnight and desired to leave the place with his retinue. Villagers were much embarrassed, as the gates of the fort were closed for the night, and can not be opened before sunrise. They convey the problem to Shriji Maharaj and submittied politely to wait until day break. Shriji Maharaj said to them, 'No Problem, if gates are closed. I will leave right now even if gate are locked.' Shriji Maharaj, led the retinue and left Tera. Local devotees realized divine miracle of Shri Hari when Shri Hari and retinue disappeared through the closed doors !

6. Shriji Maharaj dwelling at Mandvi, desired at midnight to visit village Don. Devotees conveyed their helplessness as the fort gates were locked for the night. They prayed, 'Maharaj ! This is midnight. Gates of the fort are locked for the whole night. We can not leave the fort.' Maharaj took with him his four attendants and passed with them through the closed doors of the gate.

Lord Shriji Maharaj grants with compassion and mercy the wishes of his faithful devotees. The miracles and divine episodes, as mentioned above, are being experienced these days by the devotees of him.

(Cont. from Page No. 12)

HYPOCRISY CAN NOT LIVE LONG

Friends ! The farmer understood that one who ate sugarcane was not a lion. The slave of the sense objects can not be a leo Haribhakta.

The jackal in skin of a lion, got a thorough pounding and beating at the hands of farmer and his family. They broke almost every bone of him. Poor beast jackal dragged himself out from the field in heaves and sighs and repented a lot for his misadventure that attracted more beating and no food.

One can not become a lion without his birth in a lion family, and a born lion can not dream even of having sugarcane. A lion bears starvation of hundreds of days, but never thinks of having grass or vegetation. In similar way one can not be a true satsangi by putting on a guise of a satsangi. To be a true satsangi, one has to restrain his sense organs and baser instincts by the means of penance, Japa, devotion and meditation. These are the real means transforming a soul into a devout soul-a true satsangi. Do devotion and relish eternal pleasure of God.

Reprint of Old Publications

Vachanamrit Adhyayan, Aishwarya Darshan and Chovis Ekadashini Katha are now availabe in it's reprint. The devotees are requested to collect it from the counter of Sahitya Kendra. *- Editor*

For the Pilgrims of Pulhashram (Nepal)

As per the rules of Nepal Government, the pilgrims are requiredto keep with them their identity card or passport or licence, approved by Government authority. For detailed information, contact : 0097761522651 Shrijiprakash Swami.

"स्वश्लाघा स्व मुखेन च ।"

SELF PRAISE

- Prof. Mahadev Dhoriani

Bhagwan Shri Sahajanand Swami says in his Shikshapatri (Shloka : 37) :

गुरुदेवनृपेक्षार्थं न गम्यं रिक्तपाणिभिः ।
विश्वासघातोनो कार्यः स्वश्लाघारच मुखेन च ॥

(None shall approach a preceptor, a deity or a ruler empty handed. One shall not commit a breach of trust and **shall never indulge into one's self praise. (Sholka : 37)**

Shriji Maharaj asks us precisely to stay away from self praise. It is very easy to win the world and not difficult at all to acquire knowledge of all the scriptures, but it is most difficult and next to impossible to remove from the heart the instinct of self praise. People like their praise and admiration and in the case of many like us, they like to admire himself in front of others. Shikshapatri acts like a warning signal to alert us against such self praise. Man should free himself from the clutches of self praise.

To praise or admire some one is a positive aspect of personality, and to be praiseworthy is equally good, but it becomes harmful and dangerous when one longs for a praise or admiration from the others. Regarding self praise, if one repeats his achievements and works out self praise in excess, he himself reduces the importance of his own accomplishment. It will disclose his shallowness – cheapness.

Man likes his praise. It is one hundred percent true. And the effect of such a praise is not same and equal on all the people. A wise person becomes more polite by such an admiration and a fool becomes egoist and his small mind loses consciousness by such a praise. Praise or admiration we tendered, should not be less than their obligations to us.

We should learn to be extra polite on listening to our praise or admiration from the others. We should not boast of it, and as a good conversationist we should be extra cautious in praising a man when he is found to be a fool or egoist. The words of praise or admiration makes him more egoist to act senselessly.

We should not praise in excess. If found good qualities in a person, try to inbibe instead.

A generous donor will not stop donating, if his acts are not praised. Because it is his inherent virtue. A gem will not stop shining, if not admired its luminosity.

It is an art to digest admiration and praise. It requires extra consciousness – alertness. If not alert and well composed, slightest of admiration may cause ego within. Such ego leads to false pride.

False pride itself is a host of destruction. Such a proud man believes that others than him are small and inferior. Be extra-polite if listening to your praise. Politeness is a must. Rude and rough people can not get a room among wise people. If some one praises you, ask him politely to show you the areas where you can improve upon. Request them to not to admire you.

Some talkative people use such false praises as a means to extract desired works from the others. They praise and admire them for their non-exhistent virtues and quealities and extract from them their improper work. Therefore, one should be extra-cautious and reserved in regard to such

pool of praises.

'I did it.' 'Only I can no it.' 'I' is the sharpest and most injuring word in the list of pronouns. Don't praise your self. Don't use first person singular. It is like donkey praising it's own tail. Listeners are always hurt by this word. Avoid or omit this pronoun in your dialogue with the others.

The simple maxim addressed in shloka 37 of Shikshapatri, carries most fascinating preaching of grate gravity. Saintly poet Narsimha Maheta says :

"હું કરું, હું કરું એ જ અજ્ઞાનતા,
શકટનો ભાર જેમ શ્વાન તાણે,
સૃષ્ટિ મંડાણ સર્વ એણી પેરે,
જોગ જોગેશ્વરા, કો'ક જાણે."

('I' or ego of the self is the sign of ignorance. The man in such a state of mind is like a dog who walks under a cart and boasts that the cart was carried by him. The earth and universe are sustained by the supreme consciousness, known only to afew great rishis.)

'I' is eternal but 'My' is most destructive. Entry of ego pollutes reasoning and wisdom of the man, but hypocrisy is more destructive than self ego. Ego sustains hypocrisy. Like cancer, the ego is a terminal desease. Don't sustain ego.

Due to some false notion, man develops superiority complex for the self. Ego is born from such superiority complex. Such a man indulges in self praise. Ego causes feelings of loss.

Difference of opinion is a product of ego. It is a product of a suspicious mind. Conflict of ego creates divisive crack in our life. Therefore forget about ego and start living with a new beginning. Selfless pleasure attains highest hight in absence of ego.

Ego and hypocrisy pulls the man down from his highest hight. It destroys peace of mind. An egaist man thinks always about the ways and means to sustain his ego.

An egocentric man shall be thrown out from the society. People like to distance themselves from him. Ego and pride bring fall of the man. Some are prond of their knowledge some are prond of their charms and some are proud of their wealth. Such people are not tired of their self praise.

A man should not sit near his ego or 'I' and should not allow ego to sit in him ! He should live in company of his God. He should delute his ego in divine form of Shri Hari. God is all knower. God fulfills wishes of his true devotees.

Man cries in his ailment. He roams and loiters due to his ego and he loses the battle of life due to his self praise. Be free from your ego, pride and hypocrisy.

CREATIVE LIFE

Former Acharya Maharaj – H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri has dedicated himself absolutely to the mission of "Shri Swaminarayan Museum." The museum plans are in progress. His holiness graces the office at the following address :

SHRI SWAMINARAYAN MUSEUM

Behind AEC Narayanpura,
Opp. Terf School, Ahmedabad-13.
Ph. : 24719597 Fax : 27499597
Visiting Time and Darshan : 9-00 to 11-00 a.m.

Thus Spake H.H. Acharya Maharajshri

- Complied by Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara

'This festive event belongs to Maharaj. It is Maharaj's own occasion and we are here to please Lord Shriji Maharaj. This shall be the aim here and everywhere. The devotees at Loya brought from their houses the things of their choice to organize the first Shakotsava of the Sampradaya. Some came with turmeric, some with chillies, some with sweetners and some with other condiments. This worried Maharaj ! What taste was to develop from the assortment of the condiments ! However, to fulfill the wishes of his devtees, he added all these condiments in thevegetable. Those who preferred particular taste, were worried now for the taste of the vegetable. Some liked sweetness, some preferred a hot dish ! As S.G. Purushottamprakashdasji has said before, everyone at the celebration enjoyed that taste of his choice with the grace of Lord Shriji Maharaj.

As it is applicable to the contemporary Satsnag, I have narrated this to you. Whoever comes to the Satsang with whatever resolute, he gets it fulfilled by the grace of Maharaj. A devotee receives eternal happiness by his virtuous and divine resolutes, and those are always at pain who come with a malafide intention. Submissive and trustworthy follower are benefited with the virtues of God, Acharya and saints. One shall be happy forever, if he lives according to the limits prescribed by Shriji Maharaj. Maharaj has favoured us with eternal pleasure and happiness.

Beginning should be right now. Such beginning and such celebrations shall not be by the money or body, but by heart and soul. Celebrations and festivities become eternally pleasurable when it is hearty and soulful. Maharaj is to dwell here. The intoxication of the meeting between soul and God, is the best moment of ultimate happiness. Bodies come and go. A large number of Shakotsava and Parayan-sessions can not awake a soul in deorment state, but a spark of enlightenment can do it. Arujna realized it in a fraction of second, how many parayans had he heard ? A single word of the scriptures like Vachanamrits or Satsangi Jivan if tinkled the soul or heart, it shall be enough for the enlightnment.

Recitation of Name has nothing to do with benediction, but the name that recited when percolates in the deepest recesses of soul and heart, it transforms the soul in an enlightened consciousness. The smallest Satsangis from this place are always present with dedication to do service of Shri Hari and Satsang. There may be events like Platinum Jubilee, Golden Jubilee, Silver Jubilee or Patotsava, may be the works and services like plastering, cleaning, sweeping or small messonary works, but Satsngi volunteers from this place are readily available at the venue. I have observed their dedicated services. Maharaj too has taken note of it, with soulful satsisfaction that His devotees are at service of Him. Let it be a virtuous habit. The service rendered to Satsang is a solid wealth of a Satsangi soul. Brinjols and loaves in Shakotsava are not great or majestic, but the majesty and glory is of the Prasad we had at the Shakotsva. Prasad purifies our heart and soul and gives soulful satisfaction. I pray to Lord Narnarayndev with my hearty wishes to this Satsang. May our Installation ceremonies concluded smoothly. Blessings.

News And Notes From Shri Narnarayandev Desh

AHMEDABAD REGION

The 183rd Annual Patotsava of Lord Narnarayandev

Lord Narnarayandev at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Kalupur, Ahmedabad has received ceremonious annual Patotsava-Abhishekam from Hthe Acharyas of both the deshas, H.H. Acharyashri.Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri, H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri, H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Rakeshprasadji Maharajshri (Shri Lakshminarayandev Diocese) and H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri (Shri Narnarayandev Diocese). Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan himself has installed here the idol of Lord Narnarayandev by embracing it with devotional love. Thousands of aspirants and Satsangs from India and abroad were present on this festive occasion.

An assembly was organized on this occasion to sing the praises of Lord Narnarayandev Hrikrishna Maharaj. The Acharya of both the dioceses graced the assembly. H.H. Lalji Mahrajshri accompanied them at this festive session with the senior Acharya Maharaj Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri. Host family of Shri Vithalbhai Khodidas, Mansukbhai and Narayanbhai Dabhi (Gadhada) have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by presenting Aarti Poojan to the Dharmkul of both the dioceses.

Sestive service of Patotsava Annukut was organized jointly by Shastri Swami Uttampriyadasji, Swami Brahmviharidasdi, Shastri Satyaprakashdasji, Muktajivan Swami, Shastri Golokviharidasji and Parashda Rasik Bhagat from Muli Dhaam.

- Kothari Dharmprakashdas

Kankaria Temple Celebrates Annual Patotsava and serves Choryasi feast meals to all the Brahmins

Lord Balswaroop Kashtabhanjandev - personal deity of Dharmkul - was installed here at this temple by the first Acharya of Shri Narnarayandev diocese H.H. Acharya Shri Ayodhyaprasadji Maharajshri. Shri Kankaria temple has celebrated annual Patotsava and had presented sumptuous Choryasi feast meals to all the Brahmins with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri. The Choryasi feast was organized at the banks of Kankaria Lake where Lord Shri Hari had organized a grand choryasi way back in 18th centrury A.D. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the occasion and presented Abhishekam to his family God – Lord Hanumanji. A Satsang Sabha was organized on this grand occasion to sing the praises of Lord Shri Hari. The Sabha was attended by the saints and Mahants of Maha Mandirs and Scholar Brahmin, besides thousand of devotees and Brahmins. H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprsadji Maharaj and H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri have favoured the satsang by their blessed presence and personal blessings. Respected Gadiwalashri was present at the celebrations to fevour her female aspirants and devotees. With a hearty consent from the senior saints Shastri Swami Harigovindasji and S.G. Shastri Swami Madhavprasadasji Swami, the events were organized decently by Mahant Swami Guruprasaddasji and Mahant Swami Devkrishnadasji. Sheth Shri Bharatbhai, Shri Bhavanibhai (Military stores), Shri Harikishanhai Pitamberdas Thakkar, Shri Jigarbhai Dipakbhai Patel (Kubadthal), Shri Govinbhai Chaturbhai Patel (Dudhwala) and others have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by hosting various events Thousands of Brahmins have blessed the Satsang happily and with contentment by receiving Samptuous fesat meals and cash-gifts.

- Kothari Anand Swami

The Satsang (Religious) examinations conducted by Shri Narnarayandev Desh Diocese

Educational cell of this diocese conducts tests and examinations based on religious topics

of this sect. Formal text books and reference books have been produced by the temple to enlighten new generation of the Satsangis entering in benign fold of the sect. The examinations are conducted every year at the temples and Gurukuls of Shri Narnarayan desh Diocese.

The examination was conducted on 19-12-04, last year at the 31 centres spread in Gujarat and other states. Following are the results and marits of that exam.

Date of examination	:	19-12-04
Students Applied	:	2075
Students Appeared	:	1693
Students Passed	:	1443

Merit List

Bal Satsang-1

1. Kakadia Vishal (Asarva Gurukul) 100%
2. Savaj Rakesh (Asarva Gurukul) 100%
3. Ramani Hardik (Asarva Gurukul) 99%
4. Patel Hiren (Dhrangadhra Gurukul) 99%
5. Morvadia Parsottam N. (Dhrangadhra Gurukul) 99%

Kishor Satsang-2

1. Randadia Bhavdip B. 100%
2. Kothia Navalkumar H. 98%
3. Padsala Nihar R. 98%
4. Patel Nirav D. 98%
5. Miss Bhumika R. 97%

Satsang Parichaya-3

1. Patel Shashank R. (Asarva Gurukul) 100%
2. Patel Himansu J. 98%
3. Jadia Bharatkumar M. (Asarva Gurukul) 98%
4. Karkar Manojkuar B. 95%
5. Thumar Kishor M. (Asarva Gurukul) 95%

Satsang Pravin-4

1. Devani Chirayu P. 99%
2. Chauhan Amidhar K. 95%
3. Aslalia Kavinkuamr B. (Asarva Gurukul) 91%
4. Patel Rashmi K. (Asarva Gurukul) 85%
5. Patel Kalpesh V. (Asarva Gurukul) 83%

Satsang Parangat-5

1. Patel Jatin P. (Meghaninagar) 95%
2. Prajapati Ganpat K. (Dangarva) 91%
3. Shastri Mafatlal S. (Dangarva) 91%
4. Shastri Rameshbhai S. (Dangarva) 90%
5. Parmar Shankarsinh S. (Dangarva) 90%

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri conveys his hearty blessings to all the candidates and appeals to the Shri Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal (Local units) to open new centers and enroll maximum number of candidates for this spiritual examinations. Come forward for enhancement of knowledge and enlightement. Forthcoming examination shall be held on 18-12-05.

Convener, Eudcation call, Swaminarayan Temple Kalupur, Ahmedabad,

Red Carpet Welcome to H.H. Acharya Maharajshri by Idar Satsang

H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri received here red carpet welcome and in a welcome procession he graced the town of Idar. This was the first visit of His holiness as the Acharya of Shri Narnarayandev Diocese.

A grand welcome procession started from Ambika ginn, was joined by thousands of devotees, aspirants and saints riding cars, scooters and well decorated tractors presenting stills from the religious scriptures.

The Satsangi youths in guise of Hanumanji, Ganapatiji, Shri Krishna, Rama and Shiva were the centire of the public attraction. His holiness Acharay Maharajshri graced the chariot and led the of procession to give devotional pleasure to his saints and devotees.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the inner temple of Lord Gopinathji Harikrishna Maharaj and presented ceremonious Aarti to indweller God. A special assembly was organized to sing praises of God and Dharmkul. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the assembly and received flower garland and honour from Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji. The Satsang of Idar region received hearty blessings from H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. Senior devotee Shri Kantibhai R. Patel and family have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by presenting a thirty two feet long flower garland to Maharajshri. The sabha was conducted by Shastri Swami Harijivandasji and in his enlightening discourse, the glorious

majesty of Satsang, Shri Hari and Dharmkul were explained to the devotees and aspirants. Enlightening discourses were delivered by the saint. from Ahmedabad, Himatnagar, Torda, Muli, Laloda, Sapawada, Mahundra and other places. Mahant Swami of Idar Temple appealed to the Satsang to maintain greater faith and trust in this Satsang of Lord Shri Hari. The vote of thanks was passed by Shri Dahyabhai (Netramali), and Mahaprasadam was distributied to the devotees and visitors.

- Sadhu Satyasankalpadas.

Patotsava Rituals at Torda Temple

The fifty second annual Patotsava of this temple was celebrated here with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshrj. The idols of Lord Ganpatiji and Hanumajji were installed most ceremoniously on this auspicious occasion.

The events and celebrations were organized by the saints and devotees under inspirational guidance from Mahant Swami Krishnaprasaddasji and Shastri Swami Parmeshwardasji. Invocation ceremonies of Lord Ganpatiji and Lord Hanumanji, Patotsava Abhishekam of Lord Gopal Lalji Harikrishna Maharaj, Hanumat-Charit-Parayana, Maruti Yagya, Maha Pooja and Annakut were organized on this occasion. The seat of the reader priest was graced by Shastri Harijivandasji. The Katha Sessions were hosted jointly by the families of Shri Gunvantbhai and Dhavalbhai Soni in memory of (Late) devout lady Kantaben Bhogilal Soni, and by the family of Shri Bhavik Kanaiyalal Soni in memory of (Late) devout lady Vidyalakshmiben (Bindu) Kanaiylal Soni. Devotee Shri Kantibhai Joitaram Patel and family have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by hosting Maruti Ygya, and Shri Khimjibhai Bhagwandas Patel and family have earned the pleasure of Shri by hosting Patotsava Celebrations.

Auspicious eighth day of the bright half of Maha was the lucky day for the residents of Torda. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the temple early in the morning and presented Mahabhishekam and Annakut Aarti. His holiness invoked Lord Ganpatiji and Hanumanji and concluded thereafter the holy fire of Maruti Yagya by offering sacrifice of coconut to fire-God. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri was honoured thereafter by the devotees by profuse garlanding of flower garlands. An occasional Satsang was organized to enlighten devotees and aspirants. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the Sabha and blessed the devotees. The Sabha was conducted by Mahant Swami Anandijvandasij (Himatnagar Temple). H.H. Acharya Maharajshri has conveyed his pleasure for the all round growth and development of the temple services.

- Shastri Anandjivandasji

Annual Patotsava : Sapawada

Annual Patotsava of Lord Dharmdev Bhaktimata Harikrishna Maharaj dwelling at Sapawada temple, was organized on auspicious 14-3-05. H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri graced the temple and presented Mahabhishekam to indweller God. A grand Shobha-Yatra was organized on this occasion to welcome H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. The events were organized by the saints and devotees under able guidance from Mahant Swami Premswaroopdasji. Devotees Shri Mohanbhai K. Patel and family have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by hosting Patotsava celebrations. Abhishekam and Annkut-aarti were presented by H.H. Acharya Maharajshri to give devotional pleasure to his faithful devotees. An occasional Sabha was organized to receive blessings from the seventh descendent heir of Lord Shriji Maharaj. The Sabha was conducted by Swami Vasudevcharandasji. *- Kantibhai Patel*

Installation Ceremonies at Shri Saminarayan Mandir, Nandol

Installation ceremonies of the idols of God were organized here with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. Shrimad Satsangi Jivan Parayan was organized on this occasion to sing the praises of Lord Shri Hari. The seat of the reader-priest of the parayana was graced by learned, scholar Shastri Swami Satsangibhushandasji. The pothiyatra events were hosted jointly by the devotees Shri Manilal Naranbhai Patel (USA), Shri Rajendrabhai Manibhai Patel (USA) and Shri Nitinbhai M.

Patel presently at Ahmedabad. The rituals of Vishnu Yaag were hosted by Shri Shaileshbhai K. Patel and Shri Bhadreshbhai K. Patel.

The events were orngnized by the saints and devotees under able guidance from Dhyani Swami Hariswaroopdasji.

Patotsava Celebrations at Modasa

The eighth annual Patotsava abhishakam was presented here to indweller God with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri and with due inspiration from H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri. The saints and devotees were guided by S.G. Shastri Akhileshwardasji (Mathura) and Mahapooja and Annakut were presented to please Lord Thakorji. The saints were honoured with flower garlands by Kothari Shri Kantibhai Prajapati. A large number of devotees were present on this occasion to receive pleasure of Lord Shri Hari.

- Narendra Bhagat, Mathura

Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Meu

The eleventh annual Patotsava of God at Meu Temple (for the gents) and the fifth annual Patotsava of God at the ladies temple were celebrated here with devotional fervour and due blessings of H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji Maharajshri. The events like Shakotsava and Group Maha Pooja were organized on this occasion to earn the pleasure of Shri Hari.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced this small village to give devotional pleasure to his faithful devotees. A colourful welcome procession was organized to receive H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the procession and blessed his aspirants waiting at the road side. Thousands of devotees thronged the procession and received their supreme preceptor with great devotional fervour. Shri Shankarji Baldevji Zala has earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by hosting Shobha Yatra and presenting poojan–Aarti to Acharya Maharajshri.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the temple and presented Patotsava Aarti to indwelling God. Hundreds of devotees were benefitted by this redemptive view.

An occasional Satsang was organized to sing the praises of God and Dharmkul. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the Sabha and received honouring flower garlands at the hands of semior saint Shyamcharan Swami. The Sabha was conducted by Shastri Swami Akhileshwardasji.

Parayan Satsang was organized on this occasion and enlightening discourses were delivered by reader-priest Swami Harijeevandasji. The event was hosted by the devotee Shri Dasharathbhai Dahyalal Bahvsar and Shri Rameshbhai P. Bhavsar to earn the pleasure of Shri Hari. The hosts have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by presenting poojan-arti to H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. The Annakut services were executed by Swami Narayanswaroopdasji (Mahantshri Prayag) and Mahant Swami Narayanprasadasji (Mehsana).

- Poojari Sarveshwardasji

Aroda (old) Temple

The Shakotsava and Satsang Sabha were organized here with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri.

The saints and devotees were inspired by Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji of Idar temple for these grand celebrations.

A special Satsang was organized on this occasion to sing the praises of Shri Hari. Shastri Swami Harijivandasji and Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji graced the Sabha and enlightened the devotees by describing glory and majesty of Lord Shri Hari. Mahant Swami's of Torda and Idar Temple have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by presenting festive arti to Lord Thakorji. The devotees Shri Mukeshbhai, Haribhai, Navinbhai Jethabhai Sheth, Kachrabhai and Kothari Swami have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by their devotional services at the venue.

- Sadhu Satyasankalpadas

Prantij Temple

Mahapooja was presented here to Shri Hari in benign presence of H.H. Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri favoured his devotees by presenting festive Aarti to Lord Shri Hari.

A Satsang Sabha was organized on this occasion to sing the praises of Lord Shri Hari. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the Sabha and received flower garland and poojan Aarti from Mahant Swami and the trustees of This temple. Enlightening discourses were delivered by the saints and Mahant Swami of Himatnagar Temple. The Sabha was ended with the blessings from H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. Shri Babubhai Shah and Shri Lalbhai Pandya have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by their service at the temple.

- Chetan Swami, Prantij

Patotsava – Parayan at Narayanpura (Kadi) Temple

The religious events of Patotsava and Shri Satsangi Bhusan – Saptah were organized here with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. Patotsava Mahabhishekam was presented most religiously to Lord Thakroji sitting at both the temples. Shrimad Satsangi Bhushan Parayan of seven days durations was organized on this occasion in memory of S.G. (Late) Swami Harijivandasji. The seat of the chief reader priest was graced by Shastri Swami Shrijiprakashdasji. The scripture was read by S.G. Shastri Swami Bhktiprakashdasji.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced this village on 3-3-05 to bless his faithful devotees. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri was received with great honour in a colourful welcome procession.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the temple and presented Patotsava and Annakut Aarti to Lord Thakorji and concluded thereafter the sessions of Sastsangi Bhushan Parayan.

An occasional Sabha was organized to sing the praises of Lord Shri Hari. H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the Sabha and received Poojan-Aarti from the host families.

Shri Swaminarayan Museum of the prasadi items of Lord Shri Hari is a sublime thought perceived deeply by Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri. This village has desired to participate actively in construction and development of Swaminarayan Museum. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri was invited here on this occasion to enlighten the devotees about the sublime concept of Maharajshri. The devotees were greately elated by the presence of senior Maharajshri. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri was received at the Sabha by presenting Poojan Aarti and flower garlands. Generous donations were announced by the devotees for the construction of museum, and prasadi attire of Lord Shri Hari were presented to Acharya Maharajshri by devotee Shri Ishwarbhai (Dharampur wala). The Sabha was addressed by S.G. Shastri Swami Nirgundasji. The saints from Chhapaiya, Vadnagar, Ahmedabasd and Muli were present on this occasion. The Sabha was ended with the blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. Maharajshri has admired the devotional services of S.G. (Late) Harijivandasji Swami.

- Shastri Anandjivandasji

Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Haridwar (U.P.)

Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan has fulfilled the resolute of H.H. Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj with the construction of the splendid temple of Lord Swaminarayan Bhagwan dwelling at Haridwar H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji has conveyed his benedictory consent to install and invoke idols of God at the Haridwar temple.

Auspicious evetns shall be organized on 17-5-05 (9th day of the bright half of Vaishakha) and week long celebrations shall be concluded on 23-5-05. Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah, Maha Vishnuyaag and otehr religious events shall be organized on this occasion with the due inspiration from Kothari Swami Swayamprakashdasji and Parshad Kothari Ghanshyam Bhagat (Muli Dham). The Dharmkul and Mahant Swamis from Maha Mandirs shall be present on this occasion. All are cordially invited to celebrate this event in benign presence of Dharmkul. A formal invitation shall be posted to the aspirants in days to come.

On behalf of Scheme Committee
and
Murti Pratishta Mahotsava Samiti.
Shastri Swami Vishwaprakashdasji
Mahant Swami, Haridwar
Phone : 9837261107

MULI REGION

Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Surendranagar

The auspicious rituals of the threshold and door frame of the dome of the new temple were organized here most religiously at the temples of Lord Ganapatiji and Lord Hanumanji. The thresholds and frames were installed ceremoniously by S.G. Mahant Swami Premjivandasji. The event was organized on 13-3-05 in presence of hundreds of devotees.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri has consented to attend ceremonies on auspicious on 17-11-05 to invoke Lord Hanumanji and Lord Ganpatiji.

- Shailendrasinh Jhala

Third Annual Patotsava at Tapovan Mandir, Limbdi

The third annual Patotsava and Annakut festival were organized here at the Tapovan Temple. The events were organized with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. The saints and devotees were inspired by Mahant Swami Narendraprasadji Swami (Muli Dhaam) to organize the events.

H.H. Acharya Maharajshri graced the temple and presented Patotsava and Annakut Aarti to Lord Thakorji. Local unit of Shri Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal and local devotees have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by their service at the celebrations. The Sabha was ended with the blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. *- Kothari Maneklal Soni*

Kamkavati (Dhrangdhra)

A Satsang Sabha was organized here to sing the praises of Lord Shri Hari. Enlightening discourses were delivered by S.G. Bhakti Swami and Nilkanth Swami to discuss glory and majesty of Lord Narnarayandev Harikrishna Maharaj. The devotees have reaffirmed their faith and trust in the sect and the diocese. Dhoon, Bhajan and Katha Kirtans were presented by the saints and devotees to please Lord Shri Hari.

-Rameshbhai

Lilapar (Teh. Halvad)

A Katha Satsang was organized here to sing the praises of Lord Shri Hari. Enlightening discourses were delivered by Shriji Swaroop Swami and Bhaktivihari Swami to explain glory and majesty of Shikshapatri and Kirtanas and devotional songs of S.G. Bhramanand Swami were expaliend in details to narrate glory and majesty of Dev, Acharya and Satsang.

Similar Satsang session was organized on 16-3-05 at Ranjitgadh and episodes from the religious scriptures were narrated to high light the values and virtues. Local units of Shri Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal has participated actively in this programmes.

A three days Satang was organized at Shriji nagar (Teh : Halvad) by the same group of the saints and glory and majesty of Lord Swaminarayan, Dharmkul and satsang were explained to the devotees. Dhoon, Bhajan and Katha-Kirtan were presented by the saints to please Lord Shri Hari. The Satsang Sessions were organized by the saints with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharjshri.

- Shri Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal

OVERSEAS

Chicago (ISSO) Temple

A festival Shakotsava was organized here with the due blessings of H.H. Acharya Maharajshri. The saints and devotees were inspired by Mahant Swami Shastri Dharmvallabhdasji

The Shakotsava (dated 26-2-05) was celebrated as per ancient tradition amidst the Kirtans sang by devotional singers. Ancient view of Lord Shri Hari Harikrishna Maharaj – flavouring the vegetable of brinjols were presented once again in front of eyes, by the devotional songs of Shaktosava sang by saitns and devotees.

The glory and majesty of the Shakotsava was explained to the devotees by Mahant Swami Shastri Dharmvallabhdasji. Enlightening discourse was delivered by him to explain glory and majesty of Shri Hari and Dharmkul. The prasadm of Shaktotsava was distributed to the devotees at the end to Nitya Niyam and Aarti.

Mahashivaratri was celebrated on 8-3-05 by presenting attires of Shiva to Lord Harikrsihna Maharaj and Poojan-Archan Aarti were presented thereafter to Lord Shankar Bhagwan. Poojan Rituals were conducted by traiditonal

Brahmin-priest. Shri Ashwinbhai and his family have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by hosting this event. Shri Nana Bhagat, Dhirubhai Vasantbhai Trivedi and Chakoriben have earned the pleasure of Shri Hari by their devotional service. Shri Harjibhai Kutchi, Baldevbhai, Vishnubhai and others have co-operated in lighting service. Thousands of devotees have benefited by these religious celebrations. The Satsang activities are progressing very well with the due blessings of H.H.Acharya Maharajshri and H.H. Lalji Maharajshri.

- Pravinbhai Bhagat, Ghanshyambhai

Return of Undelivered mail

There are thousands of subscribers residing abroad. The temple has to pay very high postal charges towards air-mail of this magazine.

A large number of undelivered issues are coming back with a note of "not found." As and when you shift or change your residence, please let us know well in time about your new address. This will save our postal expenses and wastage of printed matter.

E-mail number has been indicated on the first page of the magazine. Subscribers are requested to inform us at that number, with your latest postal address and your subscriber number.

Please inform your friends and neighbours about this serious problem and remind them about their new address. *-Editor*

Poblic Notice

As directed by Dr. Narendra K. Amin, Asst. Commissioner of Police, Crime Branch, Ahmedabad-City, viz letter No. A.C.P./CR/370/05 dated 9-3-05, the individuals listed below have been reported involved vide Crime Branch Police Station C.C.R. No. 5/05 :

1. Kanu Bhagat (Dholka)
2. Nilkanth Swami (Pethapur wala)
3. Chetan Swami (Vehlal wala)
4. Mukund Swami (Dholka)
5. Bapu Swami (Dholka)
6. Madhavdas Swami (Chandlodia)
7. Nana P.P. Swami (Koteshwar Gurukul)
8. Raju Driver (Koteshwar Gurukul)

Despite the orders from the institution to report at the earliest, they have preferred to abscond.

The Tyagi Panch of Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Kalupur have terminated them forthwith. Therefore, the institutions and shrines of Shri Narnarayandev Desh Diocese shall not schield or support them by any means.

By Order
Sd/-
Chief Karbhari
Shri Swaminara-yan Mandir,
Kalupur, Ahmedabad.

AKSHARVAAS

Shri Swaminarayan Baugh, Ahmedabad : Parshada Nathu Bhagat passed away (20-3-05) to Akshardham amidst constant chants of Shri Haris' divine names.

Dangarva : Patel Dahiben Jethabhai passed away (9-2-05) amidst the chants of Shri Haris' divine names.

Ahmedabad : Smt. Indiraben D. Bhagat (wife of Shri Dineshbhai K. Bhagat) passed away to Akshardham amidst the chants of Mahamantra.

Ahmedabad : Shantaben Prabhulal Vakil (Mother of Shri Bhratbhai P. Vakil) passed away (8-3-05) to Akshardham amidst the chants of Maha Mantra.

Umedgarh : Jaskaranbhai Motibhai Patel passed away to Akshardham amidst the chants of Mahamantra.

Harsurpur Devalia : Ranbaiben Khodabhai (Mother of Shri Jaskubhai Vala, Kalupur Mandir, Bhandar) passed away (2-2-05) to Akshardham amidst the chants of Shri Haris' blissful names.

Jiragadh-Halar (Muli Desh) : Kirtankar Parshottambhai Karshanbhai Manani passed away (23-3-05) to Aksardham amidst constant chants of Shri Hari's blissful names.

Nava Vadaj : Devotee Shri Babubhai Ravjibhai Kathiria (Turstee, Nava Vadaj Mandir trust) passed away (20-3-05) to Aksardham amidst constant chants of Mahamantra.



H.H. Acharya Maharajshri invokes Lord Thakorji at Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Dhariawad (Rajasthan).



Chief Guest Shri Agrawalji (Divya Bhaskar Group) addresses Patotsava Sabha benign presence H.H. Acharya Maharajshri.



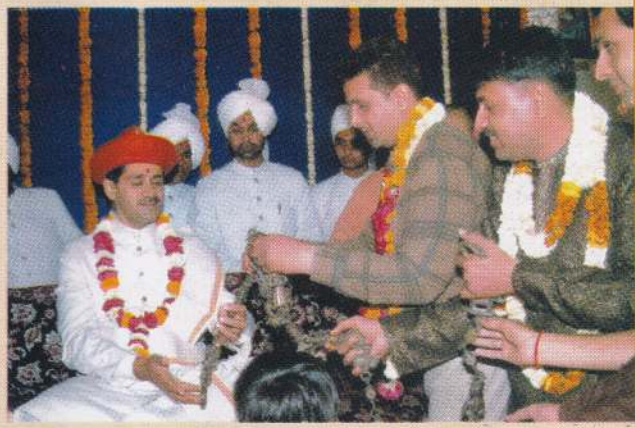
Traditional Shobha Yatra at Dhariawad.



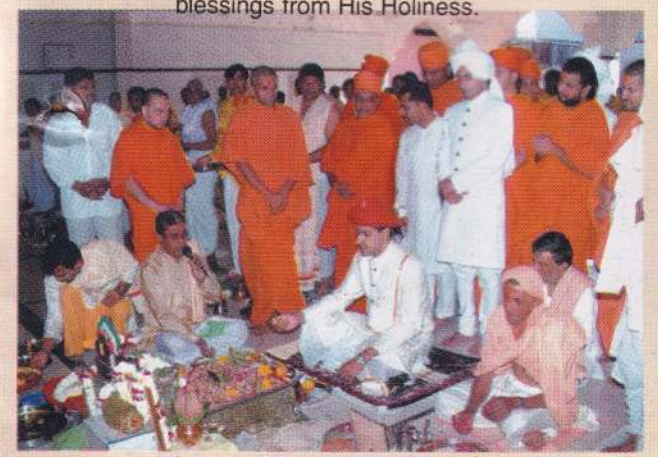
Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Dhariawa Distt : Udaipur, Rajasthan.



Muslim community at Idar felicitates H.H. Acharya Maharajshri with flower garlands and receives hearty blessings from His Holiness.



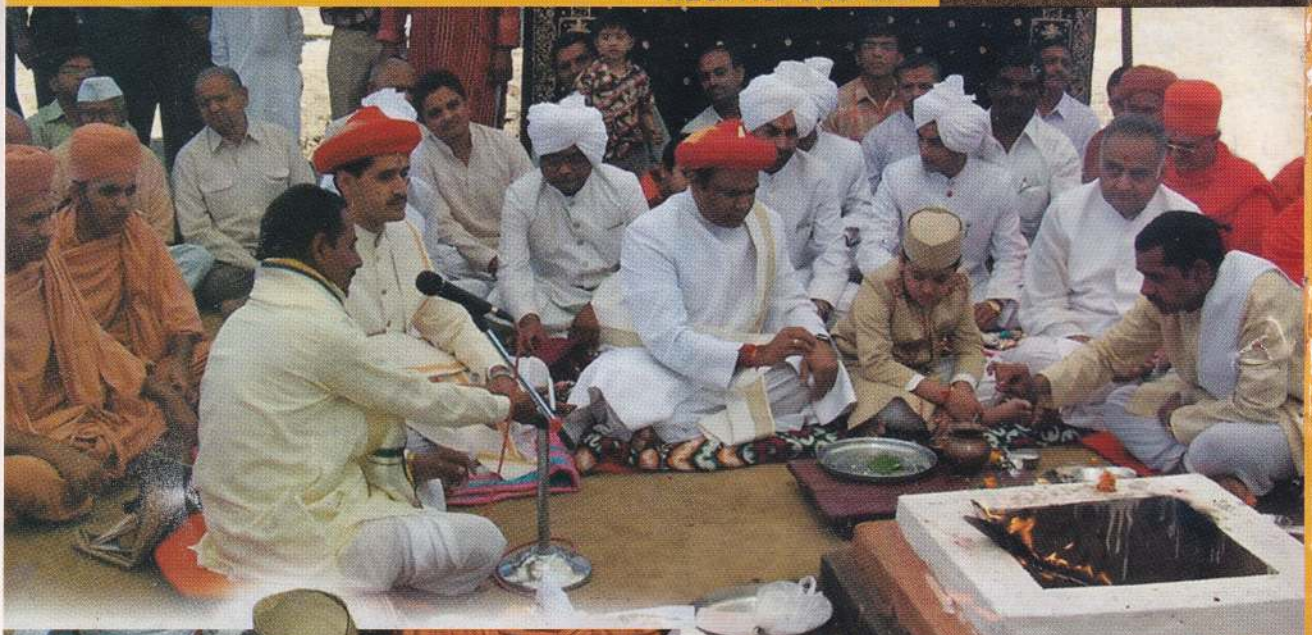
Shri Vithalbhai Dabhi and family have received eternal pleasure of Shri Hari by presenting "Prasadi - Chain" of Lord Shri Hari to H.H. Acharya Maharaj for the proposed museum

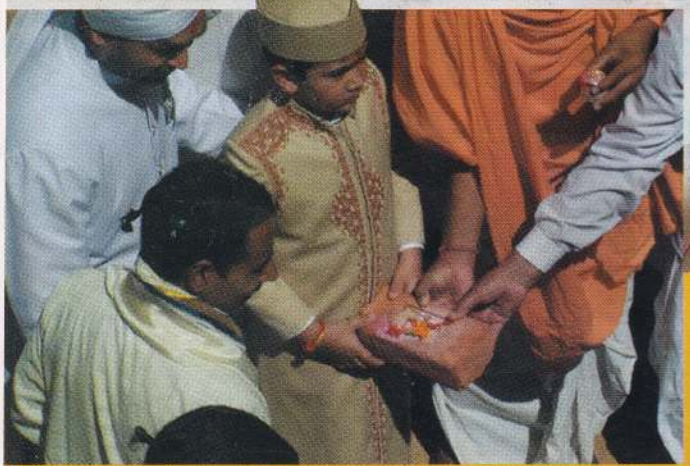


Group Mahapooja is being performed in benign presence



H.H. Acharya Maharajshri presents concluding Aarti to the











The views of the foundation laying ceremonies of Shri Swaminarayan Museum. The rituals were performed by H.H. Lalji 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharajshri in benign presence of the Acharyas of both the Deshas and visionary Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri. The rituals were performed on auspicious Patotsava day of

raful