

SHREE

JAN - 10 - 2010/2010-11 REGD. NO. GILL 582

SWAMINARAYAN

Issue
No - 34
Price
Rs. 5MONTHLY
February - 2010

Invocation of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev of the first ever
Shree Swaminarayan of the world on the pious day of Falgun Sud-3



Museum Year

March 2010 - March 2011

The year of 2010-2011 as 'Museum Year'.

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, the year 2010 - 2011 is declared as '**Museum Year**'. All Haribhaktas are therefore ardently requested to render their services at the lotus like feet of our H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj for completion of construction work of

Shree Swaminarayan Museum'

Inauguration 8th March 2011

Patotsav of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, Falgun Sud-3 Samvat 2067

www.swaminarayanmuseum.com/org

Publisher: Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Ahmedabad- 1



(1) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing aarti on the occasion of Patotsav in Jetpur (Machchhu-Muli Desh) (2) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj lighting the lamp along with Mahant Swami, Dev Swami and Shastri Narayan Vallabhdasji on the occasion of Sneh Satsang Sammelant in village Vadu. (3) Divine Darshan of Balswaroop Ghanshyam Maharaj during Hanur Maas in our Canada, Toronto temple (4) Shri Nana P.P. Swami delivering a speech on the occasion of Paryan of Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. (5) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting Darshan along with Mahant Swami of Ahmedabad temple at village Devipur (Muli Desh) (6) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessing the devotees on the occasion of Shakotsav of Prabha Hanumanji Temple, Miyatpura. (7) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting Darshan along with Dev Swami, Ram Swami and other saints and sribhaktas in Pad-Yatra from Naranghat temple to Shree Narnarayandev. (8) A glimpse of Shibir of children in our Auckland temple.



Shree Swaminarayan

Official News-letter from Shri Narnarayandevdesh Diocese

Vol : 3

No : 34

February-2010

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

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Shri Narnarayandev
Pithadhipati H.H. 1008 Shri
Koshalendraprasadji
Maharajshri

Controlling Editors & Publishers
Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji
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Phone : 22132170, 22136818
Karbhari office : 22121515.
Fax : 22176992.
www.swaminarayan.in
www.swaminarayan.info

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


















































































































































































































































































































































































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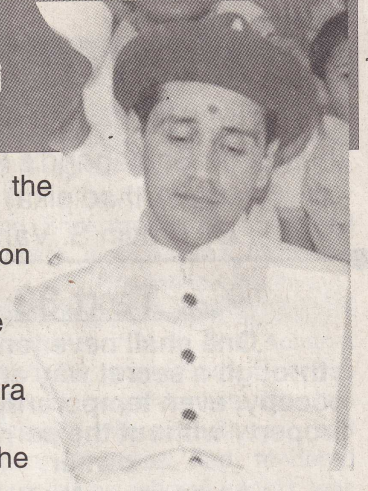
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EDITORIAL

Appointment Diary of H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji (January-2010)



2. Graced Shr Prabha Hanumanji Jamiyatpura on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
3. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Surendranagar on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Motera on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
4. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Dhansura on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
- 5-6 Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Bhuj on the occasion of *Dhanurmaas*.
7. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Chuda (Muli Desh) on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
8. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Mankil (tal. Sanand).
Graced the house of the devotee Shri Pravinbhai Mangaldas Patel, Navrangpura.
9. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Idar on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
10. Graced Vadu village on the occasion of *Satsang Yuva Shibir*.
11. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Mansa on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
12. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Vavol on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
- 14-21 Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Mombasa on the occasion of Golden Jubilee *Mahotsav*.
22. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Mayurnagar (Muli Desh) on the occasion of *Satsang Sabha*.
23. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Torda on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
24. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Jivrajpark on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
25. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Naranpura on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
Graced the house of the devotee Shri Jayantibhai Ramdas Patel (Vaduwalla), Saraspur on the occasion of *Mahapooja*.
26. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Patdi (Muli Desh) on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
27. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Dhariyavad (Rajasthan) on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
28. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Bhimpura on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
29. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Vasna (Ahmedabad) on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
Graced the house of the devotee Shri Arvindbhai Sendhalal Patel, Bopal.
31. Graced Shri Swaminarayan temple, Mahesana on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
Graced J.D. Aasa, Naroda on the occasion of *Yagna*.

Shikshapatri

The Epistle of Precepts

(based on Shatanand's Shikshapatri
Arthadipika)

By Pravin S. Varsani

Text 33

One shall never enter or exit through a secret way and shall not occupy, even temporarily any private property without the permission of its owner.

Adhvarera Na Nirgamyam Praveshtavyam |

The Lord forbids entry thorough an 'adhvara'. Shatanand explains: Adavarereti Alpam Dhvaramdvaram – an Adhvara is a small (or secret) way. The Lord forbids the use of such undisclosed or secretive pathways to and form a house. Such pathways are not for public use and so by using such paths one commits the crime of trespassing.

Yagnavalkya sayas, 'One should never look at a cow feeding her young. Nor enter a town or house through an Adhvara.' This may also be interpreted for safety reasons as using such passageways, which are poorly lighted, can be a danger to oneself.

Manusmruti maintains that the owner's permission should always be sought before entering a bounded house or town. **Kashi Khanda** forbids entering intrusively as well as to lodge in a school for even one night without permission. Those who lodge without permission can be cause the owner to become enraged, resulting in them being thrown out. This will brew anger within those thrown out which will lead to tragic consequences, explains Shatanand. For this reason, the owners' permission should be taken always.

Yogeshvara explains, 'One should renounce (stay away from) another's bed,

another's seat, another's garden (or farm), another's house and another's vehicle. Only if they are offered, should they be used. Also, one must never partake in any good (except *Prasad*- remnants of *Yagna*) without the consent of its owner.

'**Sthane Saswamike**' is used to indicate places that have owners. Therefore it is logically deferred that there must exist places which do not have owners and so may be entered without permission. **Vashista Muni** explains theses: 'The jungle, a river, mountains, caves, religious places and holy ground. these places are without an owner.'

Our future Festivals

Falgun Sud-2:- On Tuesday 16/02/2010, Suvarna Jayanti (Golden Jubilee) Patotsav Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Charadva.

Falgun Sud-3:- On Wednesday 17/02/2010, 188th Patotsav of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad.

Falgun Sud-4:- On Thursday 18/02/2010, Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Sapawada.

Falgun Sud-5:- On Friday 19/02/2010, Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kankaria and Choryasi.

Falgun Sud-7:- On Sunday 21/02/2010, Patotsav Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Khan. **Note:-** Next year Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav of the temple would be celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm.

Falgun Sud-8:- On Monday 22/02/2010, Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Approach (Bapunagar).

Falgun Vad-2:- On Tuesday 02/03/2010, Shree Narnarayandev Jayanti and grand Fuldolotsav by H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj in Ahmedabad temple.

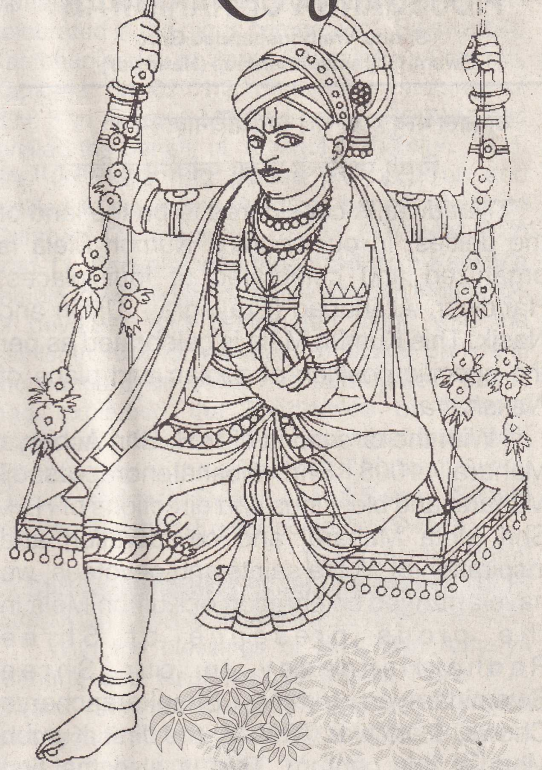
Falgun Vad-8:- On Monday 08/03/2010, Patotsav Mahotsav of Shree Revti Baldevji Harikrishna Maharaj in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jetalpurdham.

Pushpdolotsav and Rangkrida

- Shastri Swami Abhayprakashdasji Guru
Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji (Naranghat)

There was chaos and lack of religion during the time of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan just before about two hundred and twenty five years. From the day of his incarnation, the Lord Shree Swaminarayan had been eradicating these evils and had been establishing religion in the society. The Lord Shree Swaminarayan observed that, the festivals which are meant for innocent joy and pleasure, are not being celebrated properly and for the purpose they are meant for. It was also found that the people were doing something else in the name of religion. Thus pure and serene tradition of festivals was being destroyed. On the pious day of Janmastmi- the day of incarnation of the Lord Shree Krishna, Lord found people playing gambling in stead of worshipping. In the name of Shivratri people were taking liquor, Ganja, Charas etc. at night. Moreover during the festivals like Navratri and during other Yagnas, people were sacrificing the innocent and dumb animals.

In stead of enjoying innocently the festival of Holi with colours, the people were found abusing followed by throwing mud upon one another. The Lord Shree Hari thought that, the festivals during which the Almighty Lord is to be pleased with worship, are being abused by the people and therefore first of all it is required to purify these festivals by removing evils which have crept into them. With such a divine intention, the Lord Shree Hari started celebrating festivals with bright and glorious tradition. Not only people enjoyed them much but they also witnessed the purity and sheer joy and innocent celebration in it. Whenever Maharaj use to celebrate any festival, he used to send an invitation to all the devotees in the country as well as in abroad well in advance. The festivals of Ramnavmi, Janmastmi, Diwali



and Annakut etc. were started being celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm.

When the Lord Shree Swaminarayan graced Ahmedabad for Patotsav of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, then Ekantik ladies devotees performed Poojan of Shreeji Maharaj. Thereafter on the next day early in the morning Maharaj himself performed Mahapoojan of the idol images of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan, as it was the pious birthday of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev. Thereafter a seat was offered to the deities in *Hindola* and many *Pakvaans* were offered and *aarti* was also performed. *Bhajan-Bhakti* were being performed with musical instruments. Saints and Bhaktas started sprinkling *Gulal* everywhere.

Thereafter Maharaj took his seat upon the

Con. from page 14.....

KUMBH-MAHAPARVA OF 2010 IN PIOUSGANGA OF HARIDWAR

- Sadhu Vrajbhushandas Guru
Swami Shyamsundardasji (Haridwar)

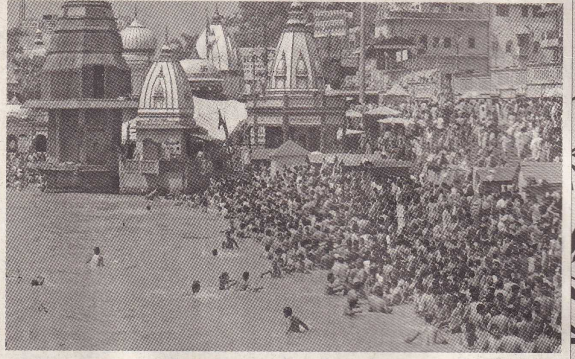
अकाल मृत्यु हरणं सर्वं व्याधिविनाशनम् ।

विष्णु पादोदकं पीत्वा पुनर्जन्म न विदते ॥

Haridwar is considered to be the land of the deities. In our country, Kumbh Mela is organized and celebrated at four places. Haridwar, Allahabad (Prayagraj), Ujjain and Nasik. This Kumbh Mela is celebrated as per the specific position of zodiac and place of *Nakshatra*.

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and co-operation and inspiration of all the saints and devotees, we have arranged celebration of Kumbh Mela in the pious presence of Shree Radhakrishnadev in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Shankaraacharya Chowk, Haridwar. This is the first Kumbh Mela of this century. This is also the first Kumbh Mela of the new state of Uttarakhand which is carved out from Himachal Pradesh. Thousands of devotees and Haribhaktas are expected to avail the divine benefit of this Kumbh Mela. Therefore, with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Mahant Swami of our temple in Haridwar has organized Katha, Varta, Dhoon, Bhajan, Group Mahapooja and Group Janmangal Path etc. during this Kumbh Mela. It is an humble request to all the devotees to render their services for the grains like wheat, rice, pulses, Ghee, oil, jaggery, sugar and other grocery items of the kitchen and to avail the divine benefit of rendering services on this pious occasion.

**Importance of Kumbh Maha-Parva
Snan**



अश्वमेधसहस्राणि, वाजपेय शतानिच ।

लक्षप्रदसिणां भूमेः कुम्भस्नानेन तत्फलम् ॥

(Vishnu Purana)

One earns noble fruits by taking one Kumbh Snan during this grand festival which is equivalent to performing *Japa* for 01 crore years while sitting amidst the water of the pious river Narmada.

सहस्रं कार्तिके स्नानं माधे स्नान शतानिच ।

वैशाखे नर्मदा कोटिः कुम्भ स्नानेन तत्फलम्

(Skanda Purana)

One earns noble fruits by taking one Kumbh Snan during this grand festival which is equivalent to giving away 01 crore cows in alms.

DETAILS OF KUMBH SNAN

14th January Makar Sankranti, 15th January Mauni Amaas Surya Grahan., 20th January Vasant Panchmi, 30th January Maghi Purnima, 12th February Maha Shivratri (First Shahi Snan), 15th March Somvati Amaas (Second Shahi Snan), 16th March Navratri Parambh, 24th March Ramnavmi, Shree Hari Jayanti & Prakatya Divas of the Lord Shree Rama and the Lord Shree Swaminarayan, 30th March Vairagi Akhada Snan, 14th April Mesh Sankranti (Third Shahi Snan), 28th April Vaisakh Adhik Maas Purnima, 14th May Adhik Maas Purna, 16th May Akshay Tiritiya Purna, 20th May Ganga Jayanti, Samapan of Mahakumbh Mela,

Wave of Pleasure

TAPASVI SAINTS

- Shastri Harijeevan Swami (Himatnagar Mahant)

Once Maharaj invited all the saints to Gadhada on the festival of *Hutasani (Holi)*. Receiving the invitation all the saints rushed towards Gadhada just as all the rivers flowing towards the ocean!!!

On their way the saints graced the village Kundal. When Maharaj learnt this, he himself graced the village Kundal riding the horse and graced the house of the devotee Mamaiya Patgar. At that time the saints were observing strict *Vrat* of *Khatras* and therefore salt-less item called *Thuli* was prepared for the saints. Both the saints as well as Maharaj accepted the meals of salt-less *Thuli*.

Witnessing this Sura Khachar and other Kathi devotees cherished feelings of compassion towards the saints. Sura Khachar put down his turban and ardently requested Maharaj to look at the lean bodies of the saints and to be merciful. Brahm-Muni was also moved observing the saints. At night Swami performed a drama in the Sabha of Kariyani. In the Sabha he made a sign with his hand as if no one is looking at him and asked for his Vina which he started playing while singing Kirtan in front of Maharaj. When Maharaj asked the reason for such strange behaviour of the saint, Mahabhuvanand Swami informed Maharaj that due to austere *Vrata* of *Khatrasa*, this swami and his companion saints have lost their eye-sight. The merciful Maharaj granted the saints freedom from *Vrata* of *Khatrasa* and all the saints were offered the delicious meals prepared by the devotee Jiva Khachar.





SHREE HARI IN MULI

- Chandrakant Mohanlal Pathak (Gandhinagar)

While performing Snan in river Bhogavo, a young person asked a local person, "Is there any house here where there can be a night-stay?" the local person was the devōtee Harakhji Khatri who asked, "Who are you?" the young person replied, "I am Brahmaputra, a Brahmchhari, a Brahmswaroop and perform Satsang of good person." Harakhji Khatri asked, "I am asking are you a Brahmin?" the young person replied, "Yes, I am." Harakhji Khatri said, "There is one Ghela Joshi in the village. He is very pure and pious. You can go and stay there."

Shree Hari inquired in the village and reached at the house of Ghela Joshi. The Brahmin welcomed him warmly. There was a huge neem tree in the verandah. The Brahmin offered him a seat under the tree and served him with a glass of water. When Maharaj took rest, the Brahmin asked, "Whether you would prepare your meals yourself or would you accept the meals from my kitchen?" the young person said, "Today, there is fasting of Ekadashi." The Brahmin said, "Then I bring something from the village which you can have."

The Brahmin rushed to the village and brought the sweet and offered it to Maharaj. Maharaj offered it first to the Lord Vishnu and then accepted it. Amrutba, the wife of the Brahmin, offered a bowl full of fresh curd.

Any incident becomes a talk of the town in a little village. Some of the villagers came to

know that a divine Brahmchhari has come to the house of the devotee Ghela Joshi and Brahmchhari is worthy to perform *Darshan*. All the villagers started thronging together around the house of Ghela Joshi. Coincidentally another Brahmchhari came in the village and he also came to the house of the Brahmin Ghela Joshi. Since the house of the Brahmin was very big, he was also offered a stay in a room beside the room of the Lord Shree Hari. He was also offered the meals. After some time, this Brahmchhari started talking about Philosophy of Atma and Paramatma in front of the villagers.

At that time Shree Hari said that, Yog cannot be realized through mere talks. It has to be experienced and realized by the self. And without such Siddhi one cannot have Atma-Darshan. But it is very difficult to realize Yog in life. Thereafter Shree Hari performed Choryasi Asanas, Noli, Kunjar, Neti-Khasti, Vrajoli, Aamroli, Khechri etc. types of Yog in front of all the villagers. The villagers were surprised to witness this. However, they were laughing cherishing the belief that, these things cannot be performed by a common man. Therefore Shree Hari said that it is very difficult for a common man to perform all these Yogic Kriya; for them an easy method of Atma-Darshan is required to be demonstrated.

Another Brahmchhari thought that his influence is getting vanished in front of Shreeji Maharaj. So he resorted to Jantar-Mantar. He asked Amrutbai to bring any brazen utensil from the kitchen. When a brazen glass was brought, this Brahmchhari performed Jantar Mantar upon the glass and the brazen glass turned into a golden glass. Shree Hari said that, all these things are futile, real gold and silver lying in Vachana (sayings) of the great persons. The Brahmchhari retorted that, those

who speak cannot do anything, and those who can do, they never speak. And asked Shreeji Maharaj to do something in stead of speaking.

Shree Hari replied, "With the blessings and powers of our Guru, we can do anything. Nothing happens in this world without our wish and desire. You may look into our mouth." Telling this, Maharaj opened his mouth. All the villagers also peeped into the mouth of Maharaj and to their surprise they saw the hills of gold and silver. They also saw the divine light emitting from the body of Maharaj. It was a divine experience for the villagers who were present on the occasion. With such divine Darshan, all the villagers slipped into the condition of Samadhi, and during their Samadhi, they had had Darshan of their own personal gods and deities. All the villagers bowed down at the lotus like feet of Shree Hari.

Shree Hari said, "Oh, villagers! With the blessings and powers of our Guru, we have got all the treasure without asking for the same. But we are not interested in it. We are interested in the worship of the Almighty Lord." When Shree Hari touched a marble stone with his feet, the marble stone turned into a golden stone.

This was a very small village and so the king of the village came to know about this whole incident. The king came to Maharaj with his Darbari and performed poojan, archan of Maharaj. By observing the divine face of Maharaj, the king could realize that this must be a great man. The king bowed down at the feet of Shree Hari and offered the gifts to Maharaj. However, Maharaj talked with the king in a very simple way and while observing the respect of a king. Maharaj also blessed all Darbaris. The Darbaris requested Maharaj to grant them *Darshan* of Maharaj.

Shree Hari said, "Just look at us. Those who have ardent faith in us will be granted *Darshan* of Mandavrajii." Darbars sat praying

with closed eyes and they had *Darshan* but they could not tolerate the severity of the Divine Light. Therefore, they requested to grant them *Darshan* of soft Form of Maharaj. In no time, there was coldness emitting from the Divine Light and all the Darbars had had divine Darshan of Mandavrajii.

With this miracle, there was pleasure and joy in the whole of the villager. At night Ghela Joshi told his wife, "Shree Hari is the Almighty Lord and it is beyond doubt. Let us offer them meals tomorrow which is the pious day of Ekadashi. The Lord would be pleased with us and would bless us with happiness of child." Amrutba was very much pleased with the proposal.

The next day early in the morning, Amrutba took bath, and prepared delicious meals with pious body and mind. Ghela Joshi brought the things of Pooja and offered hot water to Shree Hari for bath. Mahaprabhu performed the daily rituals. Thereafter a new cloth was offered as a seat to Maharaj and placed a Thaal in front of Maharaj. The Thaal consisted of various delicious items. The husband and wife both ardently requested Maharaj to accept the meals. Shree Hari accepted the meals and stated that the meals were very beautiful.

Thereafter Ghela Joshi performed Pooja of Shree Hari and offered the gifts and bowed down at the feet of Shree Hari. When Maharaj asked him if he wished anything. The devotee Ghela Joshi requested that they may be granted the happiness of a son. Maharaj blessed and said that he would have three sons and the elder son would continue and preserve the family. Ghela Joshi was very much pleased and once again bowed down at the lotus like feet of Shreeji Maharaj. This is an incident of Samvant 1859 the year in which for the first time Shree Hari had graced the pious land of Muli Desh.

Brahmanand Swami was born on the pious day of Vasant Panchmi Samvat 1828 (A.D. 1772) at the residence of Barot Shambhudan and Lalubha at village 'Khan' in Shirohi district at the foothills of Mount Abu. His name was 'Ladudanji' and he was a very bright child with an attractive face.

On the strength of his great intellectual powers, the child completed his study in Gujarati in a very short span of time. All the expenses of his further studies in 'Pingal Shastra' were borne by the King Rana of Udepur. He had undertaken in-depth studies of Pingal and Sanskrit Shastras at village Dhamadk (Kachchh). He was also awarded with many prizes and honours and had also earned the title 'Raj-Kavi' (The State Poet').

In Bhuj he came to meet the Lord Shree Sahjanand Swami. With Darshan of Maharaj his eyes were wet with pleasure. While going towards Gadhada, he had thought in his mind that, he would believe Maharaj to be Almighty God if he would get Darshan of **Sol Chinha** in the lotus like **Charanarvind** of Maharaj. When he had had Darshan of this, he uttered spontaneously the following Kirtan:

“આજની ઘડી રે ધન્ય આજની ઘડી.....”

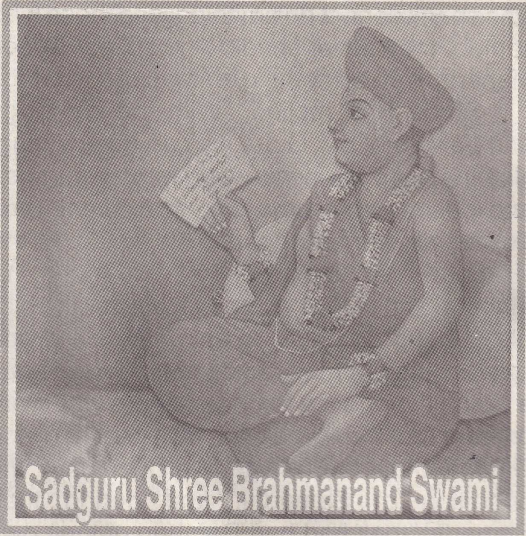
Since then he had developed firm faith in Maharaj, abandoned the precious costumes and ornaments received by him offered them at the lotus like feet of Maharaj and expressed his desire in front of Maharaj to obtain Diksha. Maharaj granted him Diksha and his name was re-christened as 'Brahmanand Swami'.

Brahmanand Swami had made in-depth studies of Marvadi, Vrajbhasha, Kachchhi, Gujarati, Sanskrit etc. languages. His poetic powers and the art of extempore were exceptional and unique. He also knew the experiments of *Shatavadhan*.

One finds Bhakti, Gyan, Vairagya, Tapa, Sanyam and Sahupadesh in the Kirtans and Padas created by Brahmanand Swami. Style of expression of emotions, affections, expression of the tender feelings and tender sensations was unique in his Kirtans.

- ‘લટકાળા તારે લટકે રે, લેરખડા હું લોભાણી રે...’
- ‘રે શિર સાટે નટવરને વરીએ.....’
- ‘રે સગવણ હરિવરનું સાચું,
બીજુ સર્વે ક્ષણભંગુર કાચું.....’

Brahmanand Swami had taken great pains for construction of temples of our Sampradayas at the



famous places of pilgrimage like Vadtal, Junagadh, Muli etc. Shree Hari and Brahmanand Swami were like friends. In 'Vachanamrut' Maharaj has stated, **“Brahmanand Swami is Yati like Hanumanji...”**

Brahmanand Swami had constant Darshan of Maharaj in all the three states of his consciousness. He had created about 17 scriptures and more than 10,000 Kirtan. One finds the strong waves of Love and Affection in the ocean of heart of Brahmanand Swami and it is found well expressed in all of his Padas. One of his Padas Brahmanand Swami has expressed his feelings as under:

“આ તન રંગ પતંગ સરીખો,

જતા વાર ન લાગેજી;

અસંખ્ય ગયા ધન સંપત્તિ મેલી,

તારી નજરું આગેજી...”

With the inspiration and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj Shree Tejendraprasadji Maharaj, a temple of our Shree Swaminarayan is constructed at village 'Khan' the birthplace of Brahmanand Swami. This temple would complete 25 years next year. With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav (Silver Jubilee) would be celebrated the next year with all fervour and enthusiasm. Let this village 'Khan' may prove to be a Valley of Satsang forever!!!

- Prof. Mahadev Dhoriyani (Rajkot)

Seat of Dharmvanshi Acharya of Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya

- Prof. Suryakant Bhatt (Bhuj)

Almighty Lord Shree Swaminarayan incarnated on this earth in human form and established *Sanatan Vedic Dharma*. The Lord also suggested a noble path of Sadachar & Sadvartan (noble conduct & noble deeds) to the people of this world. For the welfare and emancipation of his followers the Lord himself performed three mysterious *Sankalps*- i.e. establishment of (i) The Scriptures (ii) Temples of Deities and (iii) Seat of *Acharya*. Many people in this world introduce themselves as 'Gyanacharya, Yogacharya, Dharmacharya etc. nowadays in the universities the degrees of Nyayacharya, Sahityacharya, Vyakaranacharya conferred upon the students. Moreover, at many places Sanyasis and devotees shouldering domestic duties and also the ladies devotees perform duties as Acharya. But the seat of Acharya in Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya is the best and unique due to its many idiosyncrasies.

Shree Sahjanand Swami established the Seat of Dharmvanshi Acharya as the Guru of all the devotees and Haribhaktas. For smooth administration of Sampradaya, the Lord himself established two seats at Ahmedabad-Shree Narnarayandev Desh and at Vadatal- Shree Laxminarayandev Desh. The Lord himself has got written *Desh-Vibhag Lekh* and insisted the devotees to remain scrupulously under the directions of *Dharmvanshi Acharya*. Nowhere in this world, the Lord himself has established the seat of *Dharma-Pada*. It is with a noble intention of protecting and preserving *Dharma* that the Lord established the Seat of *Acharya* in *Grihasthashram* and established *Gadiwala* as the Guru of the ladies devotees.

Narayan, who is Grihasthashrami, has been established as *Aadya-Guru of Sampradaya*. Among all *Sampradayas*, Vyasji is considered to be *Guru* of all *gurus* and *Acharya* of all *acharyas*, and Vyasji himself was a *Grihasthashrami*. Even great Muni Vashistha and Yagnvalkyaji were also *Grihasthashrami*. Moreover, Janak-videhi- the guru of Shukdevji was also Grihasthashrami. Manu, Atri, Vishnu, Harik, Yagnavalkya, Angiya, Yam, Aapstamb, Vyas, Katyayan, Samvart, Parashar, Brihaspati, Shankh, Ushanas, Daksh, Likhit, Satatap, Gautam and Vashista are the great twenty personalities of Vedic period which preached humanism through the scriptures. All of them were *Grihasthashramis*.



Whether future Acharya should be selected from amongst Tyagis or Grihasthashramis? Whether selection to be made from Dharmkul or to think otherwise? In order to decide on these questions, Shree Hari conducted a huge Sabha of Tyagis and Grihasthashramis in Vadatal. Following the healthy tradition of Democracy, the opinions were invited and called for on the issue. But, on the behalf of all the devotees and Tyagis, Shree Muktanand Swami, popularly known as 'Mother of Satsang' prayed with folded hands to Shree Hari: "***Dharmdev was Grihasthashrami and he was granted by Shree Ramanand Swami a special right of making disciples by granting Diksha and also to preach them the scriptures. In fact Tyagis should abstain from woman, wealth, honour and temptations arising from five senses. A person sitting on the seat of Acharya has chances of all these things and therefore it is not proper to select a Tyagi for the seat of Acharya.***" Muktanand Swami also said,

"Oh Lord, please select as a tradition a noble Grihasthshrami person from Dharmkul which is in the interest of all of us."

The fame and name of Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya was spreading across the State of Gujarat like anything and therefore with a view to have smooth administration of the Sampradaya only two seats of Acharya were established by the Lord Shree Swaminarayan himself at Ahmedabad of Shree Narnarayandev Desh and at Vadatal of Shree Laxminarayandev Desh. After 45 years of the time of the Lord Shree Swaminarayan on this earth, two Britishers Sir Monier Williams, an erudite person in Sanskrit and Henry George Briggs, the great historian, had come to the visit of India. They have recorded that, during the last quarter of the 18th-century, there were about one thousand *Sadhus*, three hundred *Brahmcharis*, three hundred *Parshads*, two hundred *Hajuri Sevaks* and more than five lacs *Grihasthi* families in Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya.

The unique thing about Desh-Vibhag Lekh got written by the Lord Shree Swaminarayan is that, there is description of who can be Acharya of Sampradaya. In the self-written '*Shiksha-Patri*' there is reference of Acharya on both Gadis- Shree Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj as Acharya on the seat of Shree Narnarayandev Desh Gadi and Shree Raghuvirjiprasadji Maharaj on the seat of Shree Laxminarayandev Desh Gadi. There is also a special reference of the duties and the rules to be performed and observed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Gadiwalashri. They have to invariably follow the rules prescribed for the Grihasthis and they have also to accept and observe all other rules. The method of selection of Acharya of Sampradaya is also very unique. Only the present Acharya can select and appoint the next Acharya of the Sampradaya. If he has a son, who is religious and capable in all respect, then he can grant this seat of Acharya to him after obtaining written sanction of the devout and honest leading devotees, Tyagi and Grihasthi Haribhaktas of Sampradaya.

If Acharya of Sampradaya has more than one son then it is not as a rule that only an elder son can be granted the seat of Acharya. The more capable and suitable son can be granted this seat of Acharya. However, seat of Acharya cannot be granted from the family of the daughters. If Acharya has a son, who is not capable, or if Acharya has no son, then any male member of the Dharmkul, who is capable in all respects, then such a person of Dharmkul can be

granted and offered the seat of Acharya after obtaining written sanction of the honest Grihasthshrami and Tyagis. A person as Acharya must from the family of Dharmdev only and selection must be made from only amongst the male members of Dharmkul. Moreover the minor age of such a person does not be construed as an obstacle in such selection.

Diksha and Guru Mantra to Sankhya Yogi ladies and other ladies devotees can be granted only by the wife of Acharya that means only by H.H. Shri Gadiwalashri. The seat of Acharya is very pious and great in all respects because it is the Other Form of Shree Hari. The Lord Shree Hari himself has poured His own divinity into this pious seat of Acharya. Establishing the seat of Acharya is not political in nature; in fact it is transferring the Seat of Religion. A common human soul cannot shoulder the religious responsibilities attached with Dharm-Gadi. In Vachanamrit-16 of Gadhada Middle Chapter, the Lord Shree Swaminarayan himself has stated, "Lord is H.H. Protector of Religion." Acharya is also the Form of the Lord and therefore he is also known as H.H. Protector of Religion. Shree Hari has established this Seat of Acharya for the purpose of protection of religion only. As a permanent remembrance to this direction of the Lord, Acharya is known as H.H. Protector of Religion. The word 'Shree' means 'wealth' means the devotee of the Almighty Lord. As per the Hindu Scriptures the number '9' is considered to be very pious and a complete number. Therefore '1008' is written before his name. In Shloka-84 of '*Shiksha Patri*' Shree Hari has described that Acharya is the Other Form of Shree Hari only and therefore He should be paid special reverence & cherished special respect.

This Sampradaya is no Guru-oriented. Acharya does not join the devotees or Haribhaktas into himself. He always joins the devotees directly to the Almighty Lord Shree Hari. By preserving and scrupulously following the directions, all the devotees and saints can obtain the pleasure of Shree Hari. Only Acharya has got the legitimate right to perform invocation ritual of the idol images. This right is reserved with Acharya only. This pious seat of Acharya was established by the Lord Shree himself on the pious day of Kartik Sud-11 Vikram Samvat 1882 in Vadatal and a necessary documentation was carried out and in this regard the Lekh, signatures of the witness besides the consent of the evidences on the day of Magsar Sud015, Vikram Samvat 1883 in Darbar of Dada Ebhal in Gadhda.

THIS IS OUR TITLE

A very lean body, so much so that one can even count the bones from the body. Black-brown hair, age 18 years and a personality so attractive that everyone would stop to have a glimpse of it. On the pious day of Shravan Sud-10 Samvat 1856 Nilkanthvarni was climbing the great mountain Girnar of Junagah. All the saints and Sanyasis were granted the benefit of Darshan.

After Nilkanthvarni graced the peak of Datatreya, he came to Jayaga of Dharmdas near Godhavav. Here incessant service of offering the meals was going on. With a noble view to grace such pious places and persons, Nilkanthvarni would accept just an iota of the meals.

In this place of offerings, all the saints and Sadhus used to come regularly for the meals. Nilkanthvarni took his seat in a row. Meanwhile one Vairagi Bava and made Nilkanthvarni to stand up to give him his seat. This happened with Nilkanthvarni at other place, too. But Nilkanthvarni was cherishing the noble aim that he should grace such place and person so that thousands of people who come at the place for the meals, can get emancipation. Therefore, Nilkanthvarni took his seat at other place but there also it was repeated. Thus, the Lord had to move seven times.

Nilkanthvarni could not take the meals but he left the place without any grudge towards anybody and came to the temple of Lord Hatkeshwar. He was followed by one Sanyasi of the age of sixty years who had witnessed the rude behaviour of Sadhus with Nilkanthvarni. This Sanyasi was so much moved from within that even he did not take the meals. Nilkanthvarni took his seat in the premises of the temple. This Sanyasi liked the nature and attitude of Nilkanthvarni very much and therefore he stayed there with Nilkanthvarni. Meanwhile one Nagar devotee of the Lord Hatkeshwar came to the temple for Darshan. The Sanyasi called him and asked him to offer the meals to that Balbrahmchari.

Immediately the Nagar devotee came to

Satsang Surbhi

- Atul Bhanuprasad Pothiwala (Ahmedabad)

Nilkanthvarni, bowed down at the lotus like feet and he experienced tremendous peace within himself. With folded hands the devotee requested Nilkanthvarni to accept his attention and meals. The Lord granted the request.

The Nagar devotee rushed to his home, got prepared the delicious dish and returned to the temple and offered the dish to Nilkanthvarni. Nilkanthvarni accepted the Prasad from it and gave away the whole meals to Sanyasi and also offered the Prasad to the devotee, who was very much moved while accepting the Prasad. The mind of the devotee was filled up with the thoughts of Nilkanthvarni throughout the day. At night during his sleep, Nilkanthvarni granted him Darshan in the form of the Lord Shiva. Here in the temple, Sanyasi performed Satsang with Nilkanthvarni. Simple matters, narrated in simple style were internalized by Sanyasi very easily and without much efforts. He stayed with Nilkanthvarni till Bhutnath and Khengaravav places of the Himalayas.

From there, this Sanyasi had come to Gujarat and here he coincidentally met with the Lord as Varnivesh. While taking leave Maharaj, the Sanyasi had requested that just like Hatkeshwar temple, the Lord may also offer him the meals at the end time of his life. And the Lord blessed him.

From there both of them separated. It was the year of Samvat 1874. It is the time when Harivar was staying in Gadhpur from Jeth to Aaso Maas. Maharaj was staying in Akshar-Auradi after performing Sandya Aarti. Katha was being narrated during the pious Chatur-Maas. Maharaj was sitting in the Katha among many saints and devotees. Maharaj was narrating His Own Form and all the saints and the devotees sitting in the Sabha were listening to him patiently. During the Katha, Maharaj put

a complex question of Philosophy before the Sabha and asked to find out its answer and went away from the place for a while. The devotee Damodar of Ahmedabad was waiting for Maharaj holding a lantern in his hand.

Both of them came to the residence of Bhakta Dada. Meanwhile someone knocked the door. On opening the door, a Sanyasi in saffron garb just fell down unconscious at the doorstep. He had been searching for the place of Nilkanth Swaminarayan. He had come to Gadhada from the Himalayas.

He was the same Sanyasi who had accompanied Nilkanthvarni in Hatkeshwar temple. In the light of the lantern, Shreeji Maharaj recognized Sanyasi, brought a glass of water and offered him the water. Still Sanyasi was lying with closed eyes. Maharaj asked Damodar Bhakta to bring a loaf from Laduba.

Immediately Laduba prepared the loaf, poured Ghee into it and also gave some *Bhaji* (a vegetable item prepared from edible leaves

grown in the field). Maharaj offered the meals to Sanyasi alongwith a cup of milk. Sanyasi accepted the meals, opened his eyes as he got some strength.

On opening his eyes, Sanyasi inquired about Lord Nilkanth Swaminarayan. Maharaj smiled and introduced himself. Sanyasi was very much pleased with surprise to see a grown up and young Nilkanthvarni in front of his eyes.

Maharaj introduced Sanyasi to Damodar Bhakta and asked him to arrange for the residence for Sanyasi and returned to Sabha. During the Sabha, Maharaj inquired about the health of Sanyasi, it was learnt that Sanyasi had passed away to Akshardham. Maharaj asked the devotees to make arrangement of the funeral ritual of Sanyasi next day in the morning which was attended by the saints and devotees in large number. In the Sabha Shreeji Maharaj said that, all the devotees who once join themselves with the Almighty Lord, the Lord helps them to cross the ocean of Maya.

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Pushpdolotsav and Rangkrida

throne. Meanwhile the great devotee Joban and Kuberbhai etc. devotees brought the pots full of saffron colour water and filled up the big tanks with colourful water. The devotees of the village brought big gunny-bags filled up with Gulal and started playing with Maharaj by sprinkling these colours. Maharaj also sprinkled the colours upon the devotees and all started playing with colours.

Rampratapbhai and Iccharambhai, Muktanand Swami and Gopalanand Swami, Brahmanand Swami and Nityanand Swami, Shatanand Swami and Satchitdanand Swami, Sura Khachar and Somla Khachar, Alaiya Khachar and Bhaguji, Vasta Khachar and Zinabhai, Pragji Purani and Mayaram Bhatt, Jobanpagi and Kuberbhai- all started playing with colours.

Somla Khachar poured the pot of colourful water upon Sura Khachar and Sura Khachar smeared the whole body and face of Somla Khachar with red *Gulal*. Observing this

Brahmanand Swami went away from Nityanand Swami and held Sura Khachar and smeared his face with red colour. Sura Khachar took hold of Brahmanand Swami and threw Gulal upon his face. The colour went into the eyes and Swamiji could not see anything. With closed eyes Swami tried to catch Sura Khachar. Maharaj was observing all these. At last Maharaj came there and poured the whole pot of colours upon the head of Sura Khachar. Thus, all the saints and devotees and Maharaj played Holi with colours joyously and thereafter performed *Snan* in the pious water of the river Sabarmati on Naranghat.

In this way, Maharaj granted us a tradition of innocent and joyous celebration of the festivals by removing all the evils from these festivals. We are also celebrating our festivals in the same tradition which is established by Maharaj and let us preserve our this great tradition.

Satsang Balvatika

- Compiler Shastri Harikehsavdasji (Gandhinagar)

BE PUNCTUAL & ALERT IN TIME -Shastri Haripriyadas (Gandhinagar)

Time is the most precious wealth in this human life. A student who fails in his examination realizes the value of lost of his one year. When one labourer does not get the wages for the hard work of the day, he realizes the value of one day. A student appearing in the examination realizes the value of one hour. A passenger missing the train realizes the value of one minute and a player losing the gold medal in the Olympic Games realizes the value of one second.

On Ashadh Sud-10 Vikram Samvat 1849 Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj left home early in the morning. Ghanshyam Maharaj went to the forests of Himalayas and lost the way. After the roaming of three days, fell down on the fourth day. Lord stood up slowly, went to the river flowing from the Himalayas and drank water on completion of Pooja. In the evening, Ghanshyam Maharaj took rest under one shady tree. This shady tress was a residence of one Bhairav- the master of all evil spirits. The voices of the ferocious animals like tiger and the night-birds like owl were coming from all directions. It was the dark night of Janmastmi. There were roaring all around followed by the lightning in the cloudy sky. Shree Hari was resting under the shading tree closing his eyes and remembering Hanumanji. Hanumanji came there and sat beside Ghanshyam Maharaj.

Meanwhile Bhairav came there. His eyes were blood-red and holding a strange pointed weapon in his hand. His teeth were pointed and coming out of his mouth giving him a frightful look. His voice was like braying of a donkey and height was like a camel. When he came there, and roared loudly. Hanumanji also replied him in equally roaring voice. With the voice of Hanumanji, all the four directions started echoing and the evil spirits were started shivering. Little Ghanshyam woke up from *Samadhi*. When Bhairav asked the evil spirits to

eat up the monkey and the young boy, Hanumanji took a huge and gigantic shape and struck upon the head of Bhairav. Vomiting blood from the mouth, Bhairav managed to run away from the place. Observing this, all other evil spirit simply ran away and hid themselves behind the shady trees and caves of the forest. The whole night Hanumanji stayed with Shree Hari and in the morning brought the fruits and offered them to Shree Hari and then went away.

Hanumanji is a devout in his services and also a soldier in protecting others. If we peep into the great epic Ramayana, Hanumanji has performed all the tasks well in time. Punctuality is the virtue, one should learn from Hanumanji. He searched out Sitaji in time, crossed the ocean in time, burnt the golden Sri Lanka in time, brought the herbal medicines from Dronachal hill of the Himalayas for the wounded and unconscious Laxmanji and saved his life in time, came to Ayodhya and conveyed the message of arrival of Lord Shree Rama to Bharatiji in time. Similarly, Hanumanji punished Bhairav in time and brought the fruits for Ghanshyam Maharaj in time. Therefore those who understand the importance of time, they should not be lazy in worshipping and rendering services. One should understand the importance of time and should perform Bhakti-Bhajan-Niyam-Pooja besides his studies and should earn the pleasure of the Almighty Lord.

Dear children-friends, today in every house and on every writs we find one clock and watch; yet the daily schedule of the people is very chaotic. This clock or watch is merely as a show-piece. But let us understand the importance of time, and also the importance of performing our work and duties in time and be happy in our life.

HAIL THIS TRUST!

- Sadhu Shrirang Maharaj (Gandhinagar)

There is a beautiful incident of village Botad. To perform Satsang in the youth and to preserve it consistently is just like walking on the edge of the sword. It was a time when the saints used to propagate Satsang even while tolerating the harassment of the evil and crooked persons. One young man named Bhaga Doshi became a devotee with the Satsang of the saints. Everyday he used to perform Nityapooja, Path, Stotra, Katha-Varta

etc. But his own father did not like all this. He used to oppose these rituals and insist his son to abandon them telling that it was not their religion. The father also threatened to cut off their relations, if his son would not abandon these rituals.

The young devotee Bhaga Doshi continued with his Bhajans and all other rituals of Satsang and did not listen to his father. The father resorted to all types of tricks and efforts but in vain. Day by day the anger of the father was increasing. During that time, Shreeji Maharaj graced the village Botad.

Immediately the young devotee Bhaga Doshi rushed to Maharaj, performed Dandvat Pranam and started Satsang with Maharaj. Meanwhile all other devotees brought the grocery items as offering to Maharaj and obtained the permission of Maharaj for offering the meals to the saints. One by one the devotees were sanctioned permission to offer the meals to the saints. The young devotee Bhaga Doshi also thought to offer the meals to the saint; but he remembered the rude behaviour and attitude of his father towards Sampradaya and Satsang. He was puzzled as what to do.

One day he brought the grocery items without obtaining permission of his father and offered them at the feet of Maharaj. The omniscient Maharaj asked him whether he had obtained the permission of his father. The devotee confessed that he had not obtained the permission. So Maharaj refused to accept the items and did not give permission to the young

devotee Bhaga Doshi for the meals to the saints. On the contrary, Maharaj asked him to take back the things and beg pardon of his father for not obtaining his permission. The young devotee hesitated for a while; but he was obedient of all the directions of Maharaj.

Bhaga Doshi returned home, sat in a corner and started crying. His father asked him the reason for his crying. Bhaga Doshi confessed that, he had not asked for his permission prior to offering the grocery items to Maharaj. He also said that, Lord Shree Swaminarayan had asked him to beg pardon of his father and refused to accept the things for which no permission was obtained from home.

These words of Bhaga Doshi pierced through the heart of his father. He repented for his adamant and rude behaviour. Now he was confirmed that Shree Swaminarayan was genuine Lord. So the father asked the son to take the grocery items and both the father and the son came to Lord Shree Swaminarayan, bowed down at the feet of Maharaj and became an ardent Satsangi.

Those devotees who are ardent devotees of the Almighty Lord and who follow as per the directions of the Lord, they never come across any unhappiness in their lives. Sometimes, it may appear very difficult and arduous to follow the directions but one should cherish the faith that:

“હું હરિનો હરિ મમરક્ષક, એ ભરોસો જાય નહિ,
જે હરિ કરશે તે મમહિતનું, એ વિચાર તજાય નહિ.”

The devotees who remain under directions of Maharaj with firm faith, they become happy in all respects in their lives.

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Bhakti-Sudha

to the saints, but since the Lord came to take her, her wish to offer the meals to the saints has remained unfulfilled. Immediately, Maharaj asked her to return to the earth lest the people would burn her body.

Here on the earth, the relatives and neighbours made all the arrangements to perform funeral ritual of the dead body of the devotee Fulbai. All of a sudden, Fulbai wakes up, opens her eyes, narrated everything to the relatives and the neighbours and asked them to call the saints so that she can fulfill her desire.

All were surprised. The next day the saints came to the residence of the devotee Fulbai accepted the meals which was offered to Thakorji. After the meals, Fulbai offered them beautiful clothes. When the saints went away to the temple, Fulbai took her seat on the floor, closed her eyes and started chanting the name of Shree Hari. After some time, she passed away to Akshardham. Lord Shree Swaminarayan and the saints are so great that they fulfill all the desires and wishes of their ardent devotees even by performing such miracles!!!

FROM THE BLESSINGS OF H.H. SHRI GADIWALA 'HOW IS OUR LIFE?'

- Kotak Varsha Natvarlal (Ghodasar)

Life is a result of happiness and unhappiness. That means a cycle of noble deed and sins, affection towards happiness and reaction against unhappiness, good-bad etc. keeps going on in our present life. In this human life '*Punya*' (Noble deeds) and '*Paap*' (sins) are two seeds, '*Satva, Rajas and Tama*' are three roots. Tens senses of '*Shrotra, Tvak, Chakhsu, Rasanai, Dhran, Vakra, Pani, Paad, Vavu, Upastha* and four inner self '*Mana, Buddhi, Chitta, and Ahamkar*' etc. are the branches. And as a result of this grown up tree, fruits of '*Punya*' (Noble deeds) and '*Paap*' (sins) grow to the tree.

It is for a person to decide which type of fruit he selects from the tree. That means the fruits are the result of our own action and deed. If we would perform good deeds then the tree will yield good fruits and if we would commit sins then the tree will yield the fruits accordingly. Thus, one can achieve the Almighty Lord in his life through his noble deeds. Therefore there is no need to search for the Lord anywhere outside. The Lord is here only within ourselves. But to identify Him, we will have to overcome our four inner enemies called '*Kam, Krodh, Lobh, Maan*' etc. if we can win over them then only we will be able to perform *Darshan* of the Almighty Lord within ourselves. And we can achieve *Akshardham* during this life time only.

Many a question arises in our heart how is *Akshardham*? *Akshardham* is very peaceful and bright. Its brightness is more than the light of more than one crore suns. And the Divine Light emitting from the Almighty Lord is much more than this *Akshardham*!!! Lord Shree Swaminarayan, *Akshardham* and His *Muktas* are divine. They are beyond *Jiv, Ishwar, Maya and Brahma*. Thus, when a person attains *Akshardham*, he obtains the divine form and then he can render his incessant services to the Almighty Lord. After the destruction of the whole universe, the Divine World of *Akshardham* survives. And therefore if a man makes sincere and devout efforts then he can get *Akshardham*.

MIRACLES OF SHREE HARI

- Sankhya Yogi Kanchanba (Dhrangadhra)

In this Kaliyug, people have forgotten

Bhakti-Sudha

religion and the Almighty Lord. Their life style has become perverted. There has not remained any purity in their meals, food, clothes and consequently in their thoughts. Not giving due importance to the deed of humanity, *Darshan* of Lord and *satsang* of the Saints people have started living an idle life saturated with artificial comforts. It is during such critical time that, the Lord Shree Swaminarayan has shown mercy upon all of us and has performed many divine miracles with a noble view of granting happiness and emancipation to all the human beings. Here is one such miracle.

Many *satsangi* devotees were residing in *Dhunva* village of *Bundel Khand*. Once saints graced the village for the purpose of *Satsang*. Devotee *Fulbai* was also living in this village. She prepared the meals and the clothes to offer to the saints. Thereafter she sent a message of invitation to the saints through one devotee of the village. The saints accepted the invitation and sent the message accordingly. *Fulbai* was very much happy with acceptance of her invitation.

After some time devotee *Madhubhai Brahmin*- one of the leading devotees of the village- came to the saints and ardently requested the saints to accept his invitation for the meals. Devotee *Madhubhai* was very learned person and also an ardent devotee. The saints accepted the invitation. *Madhubhai* was very much happy with the acceptance of his invitation.

The saints thought that, now they should send a message to the devotee *Fulbai* that her invitation has been postponed for a day as invitation of the devotee *Madhubhai* has been accepted. The message was conveyed to her accordingly. At night on the same day, *Fulbai*, who was very old, passed away to *Akshardham*.

In *Akshardham* she had divine *Darshan* of the Lord Shree *Sahjanand Swami* along with *Muktas* and *Paramhansas*. *Maharaj* asked her whether any of her wishes had remained unfulfilled of her human life on the earth. Devotee *Fulbai* told that, she had kept everything ready to offer the meals and clothes

Con. from page 16.....

સત્સંગ સમાચાર

Shrimad Bhagwat Panchanh Parayan in Ahmedabad Temple

In the pious company of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev and H.H. Shri Dharmvanshi Acharya Maharaj, with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and guidance of Mahant of Ahmedabad temple Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Shrimad Bhagwat Panchanh Parayan was organized from 18/01/2010 to 22/01/2010 by the devotees Parshad Mahadadev Bhagat Guru Mahobatsinh Bhagat and Hajuri Parshad Vanraj Bhagat Guru Shamal Bhagat in the memory of Aksharnivasi Parshad Shri Mahobatsinhji Bhagat, who passed away on 02/01/2010. Devotee Mahobatsinhji Bhagat had been rendering services as Parshad to Dharmkul for the last five generations. Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) and Shastri Swami Ghanshyampakashdasji (Mahant, Mansa temple) were the spokesperson of Parayan. Shastri Swami Swami Bhaktivallabhdasji was the spokesperson of Samhita-Path. On the first day and the last day Thaal was offered to Thakorji, Dharmvansi and the saints. On the concluding day of the Parayan, Shastri Swami Nirgundasji, Mahant Swami of Ahmedabad temple, Brahmchari Swami Vasudevanandji etc. saints had recalled and praised the great services rendered by the Aksharnivasi Parshad. At last H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj had recalled many incidents of 'Darbar' of Aksharnivasi Bfagatji and had praised the services rendered by him to Dharmkul and had blessed his disciple Mahadev Bhagat. On this occasion, many saints and devotees had remained present. (Ajitsinh Darbar)

Padyatra from Narayanghat Temple to Narnarayandev Temple

On the pious day of Posh VAd-11 Ekadashi, 01/01/2010 during the pious Dhanur Maas, H.r.i. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed Mangla Aarti of Thakorji at 5.15 hours in the morning and inaugurated Padyatra of Darshan of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev from Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranghat to Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur Naranghat

Mahant Swami DEvprakashdasji, Nana P.P. Swami and other 12 saints and more than 4000 Haribhaktas had joined the Padyatra which was concluded with Darshan of Shangaar Aarti of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev.

(Shastri Abhayprakashdas)

Sneh Satsang Sammelan at Vadu of Dandhavya Pradesh

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendrprasadji Maharaja and with the pleasure of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendrprasadji Maharaj, the first Yuva Sneh Satsang Milan was organized in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj on Sunday 10/01/2010 from 8.00 to 12.00 in Shree Narnarayan Vadi. Many young devotees from various villages of the State of Gujarat had participated in Satsang Sneh Milan. Saduguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) had insisted all the devotees to render services and perform Satsang while remaining under the directions of Dharmkul. Thereafter Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji (Asarava Gurukul) had explained Niyam, Nishchay, Paksha, Aagya and Upasana were explained with the principles of our Sampradaya. Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, the Mahant Swami of Kalupur temple had praised the services being rendered by the young devotees of the village Vadu.

At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced the village and had inspired all the devotees through His pious presence. He had also narrated the famous example of the mischievous monkey and had stressed the importance of firmness of mind which helps in imbibing the principles of real Satsang and had also blessed all the devotees. Sadguru Shastri Swami Vishwaswaroopdasji Guru Sadguru Swami Suryaprakashdasji had beautiful services during this Yuva Shibir. Nana P.P. Sabha (Narayanghat temple) had conducted the whole Sabha and Sadguru Brahmchari Swami Poojari Rajeshwaranandji (Poojari of Shree Narnarayandev) and Kothari J.K. Swami etc. saints had also participated in Yuva Shibir of

Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Vadu.

(Shastri Abhishekprasaddas, Vadnagar)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vavol

Sankhyayogi Zaverba rendering services to Sankhyayogi Surajba had organized Shrimad Satsangibhushan Panchanh Parayan from 08/01/2010 to 12/01/2010 in Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies), Vavol. Sadguru Shastri Swami Narayanvallabhdasji, Vadnagar Gurukul, was the spokesperson of Parayan. H.H. Shri Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala had also graced the Parayan. On 11/01/2010 H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj had graced the village Vavol and had blessed all Satsangi Haribhaktas. On this occasion, Mahant of Ahmedabad temple Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji and Mahant of Naranghat temple Sadguru Swami Devprakashdasji had lighted the lamp and had inaugurated the Parayan. Mahant Swami of Ahmedabad temple had praised the services of Satsang Samaj of village Vavol. Accepting the invitation of the host devotee family, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj had graced the Parayan on 12/01/2010. A grand Samaiyu of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj was performed by all the satsangi devotees of the village. Thereafter H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the temples of ladies devotees and performed Aarti of Thakorji, performed concluding aarti of Parayan and had also performed poojan of the spokesperson of the Parayan. On behalf of the host of the Katha Sankhyayogi Zaverba and also on behalf of Aksharnivasi devotee Patel Kalidas Charutbhai and Aksharnivasi devotee Patel Popatlal Kalidas, devotee Shri Chimanbhai Kalidas Patel and Kantibhai Kalida Patel and Mahendrabhai Kalidas Patell and Keshabhai Kalidas Pate and Ramanbhai Kalidas Patel and Ramanbhai Kalidas Patel etc. devotees had performed poojan-aarti of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Shastri Swami Narayanvallabhdasji had delivered a speech in the Sabha organized on the occasion. Thereafter H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had praised *Satsang* of the devotees of the village. Sadguru Shastri Swami Abhishekprasaddasji and Sadguru Shastri Swami Vishwaswaroopdasji had conducted the Sabha. (Shastri Swami Narayanvallabhdasji)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kankaria

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Dhanur Maas Dhoon Mahotsav was celebrated in the pious company of Balswaroop Kastbhanjandev in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kankaria. On 02/01/2010 with the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, many devotees had availed the benefit of '*Khichdi Mahotsav*'. H.H. Shri Gadiwala had graced the occasion and availed to the ladies devotees benefit of *Divine Darshan*. On the pious day of *Ekadashi Posh Vad-11*, *Padyatra* was organized from Kankaria temple to Ahmedabad temple wherein thousands of devotees had participated along with the saints. In '*Khichdi Mahotsav*' of Makar Sankranti thousands of devotees had participated. Saints had explained the importance of '*Khichdi Mahotsav*'. This occasion was celebrated with great fervour in the presence of Mahant Swami Guruprasaddasji, Swami Anand Swami, Shastri Yagyaprakashdasji and Poojari Dev Swami.

(Gaurangbhai Patel)

Shrimad Bhagwat Panchanh Parayan in Motera

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Shastri Nana P.P. Swami, Shrimad Bhagwat Panchanh Parayan was organized from 24/12/2009 to 28/12/2009 in the temple premises of the Lord Shree Someshwar Mahadev.

With the noble intention of the devotee G.S. Kamlaben Kantibhai Patel his son Devotee Shri Dharmeshbhai Kantibhai Patel was the host of the Parayan in the memory and first Punya-Tithi of his father. Thousands of devotees had availed the benefit of Parayan.

On the occasion of concluding ceremony of Parayan, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj had graced the Parayan along with the saints. The whole host family and the devotees of the village were blessed. Mahant of Ahmedabad temple Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Atmprakashdasji of Jetalpurdharn, Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji of Naranghat temple, Brahmchari Swami Rajeshwaranandji and Mahant Swami Guruprasdasji of Kankaria temple had arrived on this occasion. Accepting the invitation of ladies devotees, H.H. Shri Gadiwala had also graced

the Parayan. at night the programme of *Bhajan-Sandhya* was organized wherein the famous artists Shyam-Saumil Munshi had rendered beautiful Kirtans. On 28/12/2009, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced the concluding ritual of the Parayan and had blessed the whole Sabha. The Sabha was conducted by Shastri Chaitanyaswaroopdasji. (Vrajbhushandas)

Parayan at night at Motera

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul and with the inspiration of Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji and Nana P.P. Swami of Naranghat temple, Shrimad Shikshapatri Bhashya Navanh (Night) Parayan was organized from 26/12/2009 to 03/01/2010. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) was the spokesperson of the Parayan. Large number of devotees had availed the benefit of this Parayan. The occasion of concluding ceremony of Parayan of divine Shakotsav were graced by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. A grand Shobha-yatra was also organized on this occasion. The chief host devotee Shri Dwarkadas Ishwarbhai Patel and devotee Shri Bharatbhai Prabhudas Patel had performed aarti and poojan of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and had obtained the blessings. Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji Mahant Swami of Ahmedabad temple and Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji had delivered very inspirational speeches. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole Sabha. Thousands of devotees had participated in Shakotsav organized on the occasion. Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal had rendered very inspirational services on these occasions. The Sabha was conducted by Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdas (Koteshwar).

(Shastri Abhayprakashdas)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dangarva

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of the saints of Biliya and Vali (Rajasthan), a beautiful Katha was organized from 25/11/2009 to 29/11/2009 in Shree Swaminarayan temple in connection with Shatabdi Mahotsav of Shree Kastbhanjandev. Shastri Swami Chandraprakashdasji of Biliya was the spokesperson of the Katha. Many saints had arrived at this place on the occasion. H.H. Shri

Acharya Maharaj had graced the occasion and had blessed all the devotees. Haribhaktas of Dangarva and settled in Ahmedabad had also organized a Padyatra on this occasion followed by a grand Yagna. Many devotees had availed the benefit of Darshan on this occasion.

(Chhanalal Patel)

Village Mankol, Sanand

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Shri P.P. Swami of Jetalpurdham and devotee Shri Ghanshyambhai of Shiyal village on 08/01/2010 H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced the village Mankol situated on the bank of the Nal-lake near Sanand. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, P.P. Swami, Nana P.P. Swami etc. saints had explained the importance of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. In the Sabha many new people had become the devotees of our Sampradaya by accepting Kanti from H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had also graced the houses of the devotee Shri Kalubhai Rajubhai Solanki and his sons devotees Shri Hasmukhbhai and Anilbhai and other Haribhaktas. On this occasion services of the devotee Shri Arvindbhai Kanjibhai (Shiyalwala) was inspirational; Shri Shyam Swami, Brahmchari Rajeshwaranandji, J.K. Swami, Muni Swami and V.P. Swami of Jetalpurdham had arrived on this occasion.

(Chimanbhai Patel, Bhatwala)

CELEBRATION OF SHAKOTSAV IN OUR TEMPLES

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Narayanghat

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Sadguru Swami Devprakashdasji and Mahant Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji, on Saturday 02/01/2010 in the evening, Grand Shakotsav was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj on the bank of the pious river Sabarmati. Devotees Shri Sankalchandbhai Chhagandas Pate through devotee Jayantibhai, devotee Shri Prakashbhai and Dasrathbhai (Super Marble Viharwala) were the hosts of this Shakotsav and the devotees Shri Keshubhai Rudjibhai Chauhan, through devotees VFijay, Kalpesh and Ronak (valsad) etc. family was the co-host on this occasion., Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar

Gurukul) had explained the importance of Shakotsav.

On this occasion Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Shastri Swami Nirgundasji, Shastri Swami Narayanvallahdasji of Vadnagar, Mahant Shastri Swami Shreeiprakashdasji of Narayanpura, Kahant Swami Guruprasaddasji of Kankaria and Anand Swami etc. saints had delivered beautiful speeches on this occasion. Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal had rendered inspirational services on this occasion.

(Shastri Abhayprakashdas)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Idar

On 09/01/2010, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj had performed Shakotsav in the pious presence of Shree Gopinathji Harikrishna Maharaj. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji and many saints arrived from various places and also the host family had performed poojan of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and had obtained the blessings. While conducting the Sabha, Shastri Swami Harijivandasji had informed the Sabha that one Shibir of the whole Sabarkantha Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal is organized on 21/02/2010. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the whole Sabha. All the Haribhaktas of Sabarkantha had availed the benefit of Divine Shakotsav.

(Sadhu Satyasankalpdas)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ghatlodiya

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, on 06/01/2010, grand Shakotsav was performed by H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj in Naranpura Pragatinagar Community Hall. The host devotee Shri Gandabhai Kalidas Patel had performed poojan-archan-aarti of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and had obtained the blessings.

In the Sabha organized on the occasion, Shri Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji (Ahmedabad), Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji and Nana P.P. Swami (Narayanghat), Mahant Shastri Swami Shreejiprakashdasji (Naranpura), Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar), Swami Jagatprakashdasji and Swami Swyamprakashdasji (Jaidevpura) etc. saints had delivered inspirational speeches. At last H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj had graced the Sabha. About more than 2000 devotees had availed the benefit of this

Divine Shakotsav.

(Shaileshbhai Patel)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Bopal

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj pious Dhanur Maas was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. On this occasion Katha of Shrimad Bhagwat Dasam Skanda was narrated by Shastri Vrajvallahdasji. On Sunday 27/12/2009, grand Shakotsav was celebrated whose divine benefit was availed by many devotees.

(Pravinbhai Upadhyay)

Kalol Shrinagar Temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, on 29/12/2009, grand Shakotsav was celebrated in Kalol Shrinagar temple. Devotee Jasu Bhagat, Poojari Hitendra Bhagat and Sankhyayogi ladies devotees had rendered services on this occasion whose benefit was availed by many devotees from the nearby villages.

(Dharmabhai Patel)

Karjisan temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, on 20/12/2009, grand Shakotsav was celebrated on the bank of the lake Vaghroda of Prasadi with the inspiration of Parshad Jasu Bhagat and by the devotees Shri Arvindbhai Gandabhai Patel and Ghanshyambhai. Many devotees of nearby ten villages had availed the benefit of this Divine Shakotsav.

(Patel Ranchhodbhai)

Dhansura Temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Shastri Swami Vasudevcharandasji, on 04/01/2010, grand Shakotsav was organized in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dhansura. The devotee Shri Maharbhai Hirabhai Patel family was the host of the Shakotsav. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced this occasion along with Brahmchari Rajeshwaranandji, Mahant P.P. Swami of Naranghat temple, J.K. Swami, Mahant Swami of Idar and Vishwavallabh Swami etc. saints who had delivered inspirational speeches on this occasion. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the Sabha. On this occasion Satyasankalpdas of Idar, Sukhnanddas, Shreeji Swami and Paresh Bhagat had rendered their services.

(Somabhai Patel)

MULI DESH

Samaiyo of Vasant Panchmi in Mulidham

In the pious presence of Shree Radhakrishnadev Harikrishna Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj Shree Tejendraprasadji Maharaj, Samaiyo of Vasant Panchmi was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Mulidham.

At 6.30 hours in the morning, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performed Shodashopchar Mahabhishek of Shree Radhakrishnadev Harikrishna Maharaj in Vedic ritual. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj gave very relevant examples and blessed the devotees of Zalavad. At 12.000 hours in the noon, after many years, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj played Rangotsav with the saints and Haribhaktas. In this Samaiya more than 50,000 devotees had remained present as it was reported by many devotees.

Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji of Muli temple and other saints had made beautiful arrangements during the Samaiya. On the occasion of Patotsav-Abhishek, Poojari Jayprakashdasji of Shree Radhakrishnadev had made beautiful arrangements.

(Sadhu Premswaroopdasji)

On 03/01/2010, grand Shakotsav was celebrated by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Surendranagar of Muli-Desh.

In the Sabha organized on the occasion, Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadaji, Ram Swami of Dhrangadhra, Shreeji Swami of Naranpura, Satyasankalpdas, Jishnu Swami, Bhaktihari Swami, Shreeji Swami (Halvad), Raju Swami from Ahmedabad, Suryaprakash Swami from Muli, K.P. Swami from Ratanpar and many other saints had arrived on this occasion. The learned saints had praised both Shakotsav as well as Satsang of Zalawad. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the Sabha.

With the inspiration of Mahant Swami Premjivandasji, the whole Mahotsav was celebrated with great enthusiasm. Poojari Shantiprakash Swami, Poojari Hbakti Swami and devotee Kanu Bhagat had rendered great services on this occasion.

Devotees Shri Kantibhai Joitaram Patel,

Ahmedabad, Navinbhai Mandaliya, Morbi, Manojbhai Parmar of Surendranagar, Bharatbhai Patel of Rajkot, Vallabhbbhai and Pinakinbhai and Mahendrabhai Patel of Surendranagar and many other unknown devotees had rendered their services on the occasion of Shakotsav. More than 16,000 Haribhaktas had enjoyed Shakotsav.

(Shailendrasinh Zala)

Celebration of Patotsav Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies), Chuda

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Swami Premjivandasji, on 07/01/2010 Patotsav-Annakut and Shakotsav were celebrated by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj.

Swami Krishnavallabhdasji, Satyasankalp Swami, Shanti Swami, K.P. Swami, Jishnu Swami etc. saints from Surendranagar had arrived on this occasion. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had preached the noble conduct and had blessed the whole Sabha. Kothari Ghanshyambhai, Dr. Bharatbhai Kheradiya and Rajubhai Soni had rendered beautiful services on this occasion.

(Shailendrasinh Zala)

Celebration of Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies), Akhiyana

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and inspiration of Mahant Swami Premjivandasji (Surendranagar), on 09/12/2009 Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies), Akhiyana was celebrated. Akhiyana is the birth place of Sadguru Shri Harinarayandasji Swami. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj had performed Patotsav. On this occasion Annakut and Shakotsav were also organized. Ram Swami of Dhrangadhra and Shastri Satyasankalpdasji of Muli had explained the importance of festival. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the whole Sabha. The Sabha was conducted by Swami Krishnavallabhdasji.

(Shailendrasinh Zala)

Inauguration of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Devipur

Considering the request of the devotees of the village, after acquiring the land for

construction of Shree Swaminarayan temple, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the Bhoomi Poojan ritual at village Devipur situated near Charadva. Bhoomi Poojan and Shakotsav Mahotsav were organized. On this occasion Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji from Ahmedabad, Shreeji Swami from Halvad and P.P. Swami had delivered inspirational speeches. More than 7,000 to 8,000 devotees had availed the benefit of this occasion. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the whole Sabha. Under the guidance of Swami Krishnavallabhdasji, young devotees of Devipur and Charadva had rendered beautiful services. (Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Charadva)

Patotsav in village Jetpur-Machchhu

On the occasion of 4th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jetpur-Machchhu, grand Shakotsav was organized. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced the occasion and had performed aarti of Thakorji in the temple.

Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad

temple, Mahant DEvprakahshdasji of Narayanghat and Shreeji Swami of Muli had delivered inspirational speeches in the Sabha organized on the occasion. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the Sabha. The Sabha was conducted by Swami Krishnavallabhdas of Surendranagar.

(Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Jetpur)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dhrangadhra (Ghanchiwada)

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala, and inspiration of Sankhyayogi Kanchanba, Sankhyayogi Hiraba and Sankhyayogi Bhagwatiba, on the bank of lake Jogasar, grand Shakotsav was celebrated by Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ghanchiwada, Dhrangadhra. Many devotees had availed its benefit. Sankhyayogi ladies devotees had explained the importance of Shree Hari and Dharmkul. (Jayashri S. Zinzuwadia)

OVERSEAS NEWS

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Colonia

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, in the Sabha of Ekadashi organized on 12th December 2009 was graced by H.H. Shri Binduraja, Shri Suvratkumar and Shri Saumyakumar. Shastri Swami Dharmvallabhdasji and Shastri Harinandandas from Cleveland and J.P. Swami from Chicago had arrived on the occasion. The saints had explained the importance of Ekadashi whose benefit was availed by many devotees. (Pravinbhai)

Shakotsav in Toronto Canada temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, on Sunday 03/01/2010 grand Shakotsav was performed in front of Thakorji in Shree Swaminarayan temple. Beautiful Shangaar was also offered to Thakorji on this occasion. The host Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of rendering services. Shastri Swami Satyaswaroopdas had explained the importance of the Almighty Lord and Dharmkul and Shakotsav with examples on 01/01/2010 the first day of the new year, a beautiful cultural programme of the children was also organized. The participating

children devotees were given away the prizes by the devotee Shri Dashrathbhai Chaudhary. The website of Toronto temple is www.issocanada.org (Bhailalbhai Patel)

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

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, on Friday 11th December 2009 a Satsang Sabha was organized in the evening from 7.30 to 10.30. Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji had arrived in the Sabha from Cherry Hill and had narrated *Katha-Varta*. Large number of devotees had availed the benefit of Satsang. (Kanubhai Patel)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Hyustan

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Anandjivandasji everyday Dhoon was performed during the pious Dhanur Maas. On the pious day of Makar-Sankranti, Swami had explained the importance of alms which was warmly welcomed by all the devotees. Here all the festivals of our Sampradaya are celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm and Anand Swami beautifully

narrates *Katha-Varta* to all Haribhaktas.

(Rameshbhai Patel)

**Satsang Sabha in our new temple, Phoria
(I.S.S.O. Chapter) (America)**

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, Shastri Swami Nirgundasji of Ahmedabad and Mahant Muni Swami of Dholka have established a Mandal on the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi- the Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Many devotees are settled here. about more than 50 devotees regularly attend the Satsang Sabha of Sunday and also guides the next and new generation to join it.

(Rameshbhai Patel)

Sane Joshe (I.S.S.O. Chapter) (U.S.A.)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, Shastri Dharmkishor Swami of Los Angeles temple had arrived and had explained the importance of the scripture *Shiksha-Patri* on the pious day of *Shiksha-Patrai Jayanti*. This Sabha was organized at the residence of the devotees Rajeshbhai and Dhruvanben in the evening wherein Dhoon, Kirtan and Katha of the Miracles of Shree Hari were performed. Katha and Kirtan were also performed on the pious day of Makarsankranti. Another Sabha was also organized at the residence of Madhubhai and Chetnaben.

(Prashant Dholakiya)

**SOLAR-GEM WINS 2010 AUSTRALIAN
INNOVATION SHOOT OUT**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj devotee Shri Khimji Vaghjiani, has been rendering services of our Sampradaya and Satsang in Australia for many years. He is also CEO and C-founder of the Solar-Gem, one of the leading technology companies in Australia. Solar-Gem provides modular solar-powered off-grid lighting and electricity systems, pre-pay tariffing systems, and high-efficiency LED lighting modules targeting the 1.6 billion people without access to power. This Solar-Gem company of our devotee won the 2010 Australian Innovation Shoot out Competition which was recently organized in January-2010 in USA. As the winner of the 2010 Innovation Shoot Out, Solar-Gem received a prize package designed to help it launch its business in the United States. Support includes legal, financial and marketing consultation worth approximately \$40,000.



AKSHARVAAS

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur– Parshad Shri Mahobatsinh Bhagat (Guru Parshad Kesar Bhagat) who had been rendering services to Dharmkul for five generations, passed away to Akshardham on Posh Vad-2 (02-12-2009) while chanting the name of Shri Hari. With this there has been great loss of a devoted Parshad in Ahmedabad, Shree Narnarayandev Desh.

Mahadevnagar (Lilapur, Tal. Lakhtar) – Devotee Shri GAneshbhai RAnchhodbhai Patel passed away to divine abode of God (13/01/2010) amidst the chants of Mahamantra.

Ahmedabad- Devotee Shri Jayantilal Jivanlal Soni (Sundariyanawala) passed away to Akshardham (01/01/2010) while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

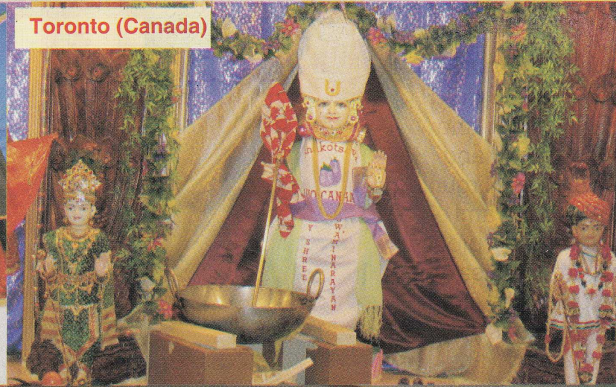
Kuha - Devotee Shri Rikinhbhai Bipinbhai Patel, passed away to divine abode of God (17/01/2010) while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Editor, Printer and Publisher : Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji for Shree Swaminarayan Temple Kalupur, Ahmedabad.
Printed at Shree Swaminarayan Printing press, Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad (GUJARAT) Pin-380 001 and
Published at and for Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad (GUJARAT) Pin-380 001.

With the blessing of 6th, 7th and 8th successor of the Lord Shree Hari, grand Shakotsav were celebrated in our temples all over the world.



Sinemension (America)



Toronto (Canada)



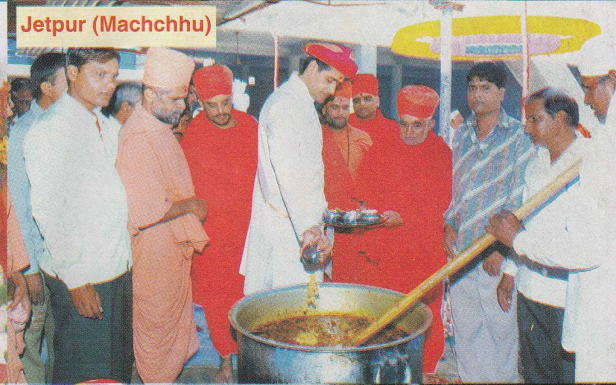
Kankaria



Mansa



Motap



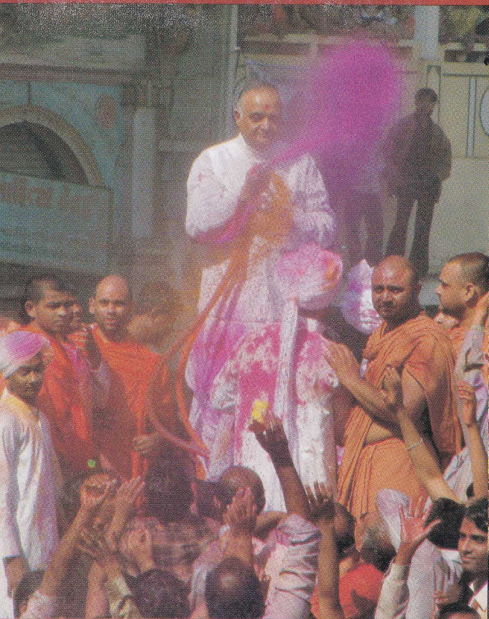
Jetpur (Machchhu)



Delwada



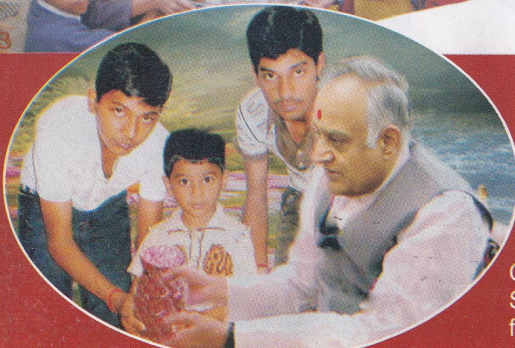
Ghatlodiya



1After many years H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj played Rangotsav on the occasion of Samaiya of Vasant Panchmi in the pious company of the Lord Shree Radhakrishnadev, Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Mulidham.



H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performing Janmangal Path inaugurating chanting of 11 Janmangal Path everyday till the day of inauguration of Shree Swaminarayan Museum by Yuvak Mandal in Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Ghatlodiya.



Children of village Gavada are offering a Kumbh to H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj which contains the amount from their savings for Shree Swaminarayan