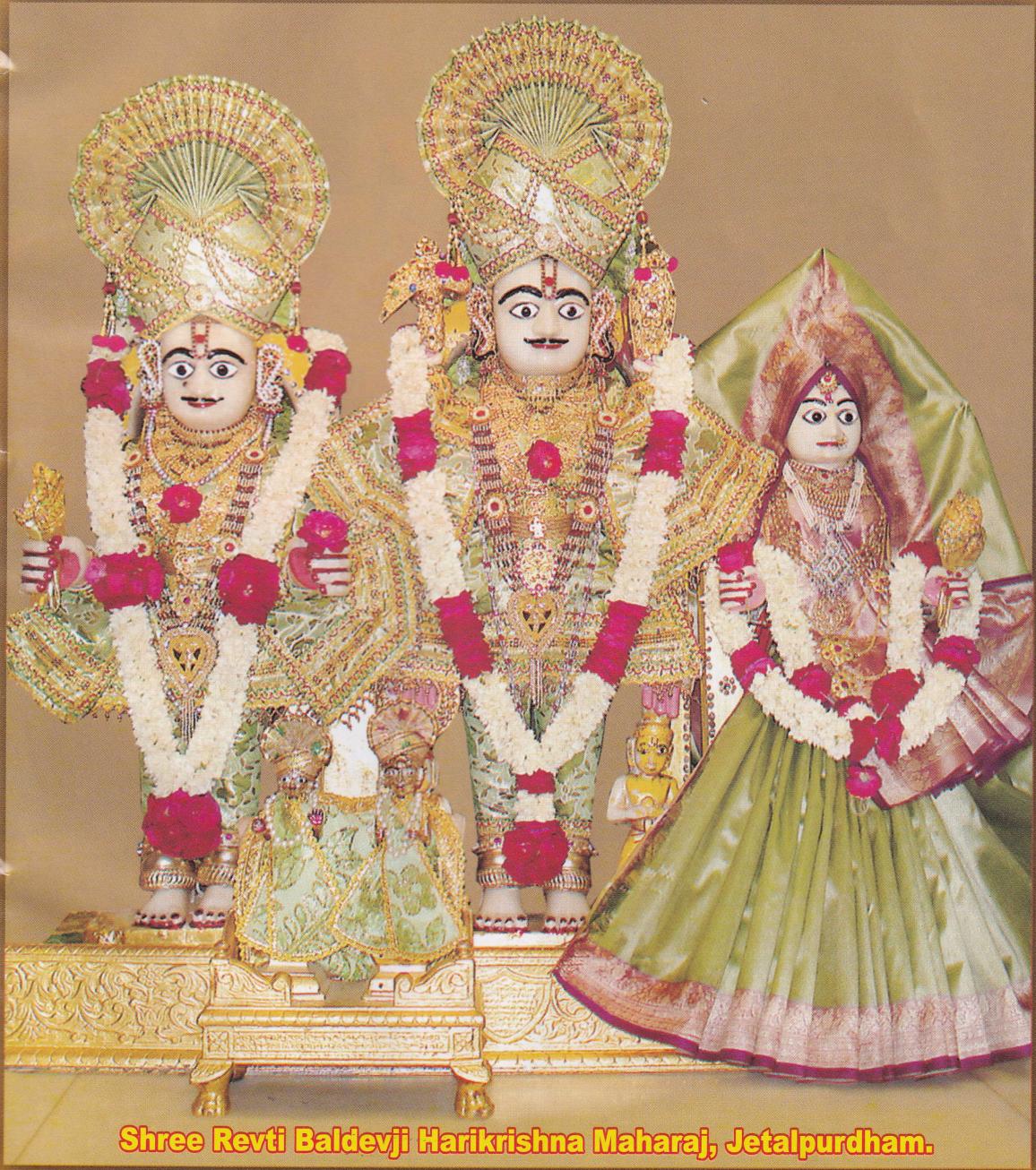


SHREE

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Shree Revti Baldevji Harikrishna Maharaj, Jetalpurdham.

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1. Chandan Vagha Darshan of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj in Vadnagar temple.
2. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing Shodasopchar Abhishek of Shre Gopinathji Harikrishna Maharaj in Idar temple
3. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing Yagna ritual in Idar temple.
4. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessing the host family along with Mahant Swami of Idar, J.K. Swami and Nana P.P. Swami.
5. H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj performing Shodasopchar Abhishek of Shree Radhakrishnadev Harikrishna Maharaj in Haridwar temple.
6. The host family performing aarti of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj in Haridwar temple.



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Maharaj 1008 Shri
Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri,
Shri Narnarayandev Diocese.

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SHREE

SWAMINARAYAN

Official News-letter from Shri Narnarayandevdesh Diocese

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July-2010

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સ્વામનારાયણ

EDITORIAL

Leela of Almighty Lord is really unique and beyond human comprehension. Now it is the rainy season and yet we are experiencing the scorching heat of the Summer. There is no value of the forecast of the Meteorological Department. It appears that, even the predictions of the learned astrologers of the country are not correct. It is Almighty Lord whose Wish prevails!!!

Once Gopalanand Swami was in Gadpur. At that time devotees of *Vanak Desh* had come there to perform *Darshan* of Shreeji Maharaj. These devotees asked Shree Hari when there would be rains? Maharaj said that, he does not know astrology. Gopalanand Swami knows it and therefore they should ask this question to him. When *Haribhaktas* asked the question to Gopalanand Swami, he checked the astrological equations and made calculations and then informed the devotees that, there would be rains on the day after tomorrow. And on that very day, there were heavy rains. Such are the powers of *Paramhamsa* and a saint. Then how powerful the Almighty Lord would be!!! We should be proud of the fact that we have received such Almighty God. You may start a 12 hour or 24 hour *Akhand Swaminarayan Mantra Dhoon* and you will see its result!

Let us perform our ardent worship and *Gurupoojan* of our Guru H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj on the next *Guru Purnima Utsav* as it is our religious duty. Dharmvanshi Acharya Maharaj is our *Guru* and Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has granted us such a *Guru* and therefore it is our moral and ethical duty to perform *Guru-poojan*.

Now from the pious day of *Ashadh Sud-11* there would begin pious *Chatur Maas*. Shree Hari has directed in '*Shiksha Patri*' as to which *Vrata* and *Niyam* can we take during this pious *Chatur Maas*. Let us choose any one of them and perform ardent *Bhajan* and *Bhakti* of Shreeji Maharaj.

Editor
Mahant Swami
Shastri Swami Harikrishnadas

Appointment Diary of H.H. Acharya

Maharaj 1008 Shri

Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri

(JUNE-2010)

1. Graced Madanpur (Kachchh).
2. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Navagam (Tal. Kapadwanj) on the occasion of invocation of the idol images.
3. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Khevadiya (Muli Desh Tal. Morbi) on the occasion of invocation of the idol images.
4. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies) Harshad Conlony, Bapunagar on the occasion of invocation of the idol images
6. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Memnagar on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Khavad, on the occasion of invocation of the idol images.
14. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Prantij, on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
Graced the house of the devotee Sanjaykumar Mulchanddas Modi, New Ranip.
- 15-16. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vali (Rajasthan) on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
19. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Koth (Dholka Desh) on the occasion of Parayan and *Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav*.
20. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Idar, on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
- 21-22. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Chhapaiya, on the occasion of *Patotsav*.
- 23-24. Graced Kachchh (Bhuj).
25. Performed *Kesar Snan* to Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev.
26. Performed *Saint Maha-Diksha* ritual.
27. Graced the house of one devotee in Mahesana.
28. Graced Sapawada village.



For 24 hour live Darshan of Shree Narnarayandev
WWW.SWAMINARAYAN.IN

Time (India) of Aarti : Mangala Aarti : 5.30 hours • Shangaar Aarti : 8.05 hours •
 Rajbhog Aarti : 10.10 hours • Sandhya Aarti : 19.15 hours • Sayan Aarti : 20.30 hours

Shikshapatri

SWAMINARAYAN

The Epistle of Precepts

(based on Shatanand's Shikshapatri
Arthadipika)
By Pravin S. Varsani

Text 37

One shall never go empty handed to a Guru, a deity or a king.

One shall never commit a breach of trust and shall never praise oneself.

Gurudevanrupekshaartham - a **Guru** is one who offers Shree Krishna Mantra (initiation). A **Deva** is one's Ishtadev (personal God) and a **Nrupa** is a King. **Na Gamyam Rikta paribhiha** - These should never be visited empty handed without a gift.

Just as we go to temple for *Darshan* and put money in the money box, take flowers, fruits etc. as an offering, in the same way when going to a Guru or King we should make similar offerings.

Shruti explains, 'Disciples should go to their most learned and spiritual master (*Guru*), taking with them wood for sacrifice (*Yagna*).'**Smruti** says, 'One must never go empty handed to a king, one who delivers religious sermons of a Guru.' Indeed *Shastras* explain that those who go empty handed are disrespectful and so should not even bother going as you are causing insult.

By taking a gift you are proclaiming your faith, devotion, allegiance and duty to such persons. You are displaying your love in a gesture of thanks. We certainly have a lot to thank God, a Guru and a righteous King for, and so a gift is a way of repaying your debt. It is not what you give,

but with what love and devotion you give which is of importance. Bhakta Sudama was poor but gave a handful of rice with so much love that Krishna was awe struck.

Vishvasgaato No Karyaha - One should never commit a breach or trust (*Vishvasgaat*). Saying that you will commit yourself to some act for another and then betraying such trust is *Visvasgaata* and should never be committed. **Smruti** explains : **Sa Mahapaatakin Bhumau Yo Visvasyanyamardayed** - 'Those who breach a trust are great sinners.' It is humane to keep your word and fulfill a promise. It is important to stay true to yourself and others. By so doing one becomes trustworthy and desirable. By breaching a trust, we often hurt others and put them in an awkward position. Building their hopes with your promises, only to be broken can lead to shattering consequences. One who is always true to his word is always famed and adored in this world.

Finally - **Svashladhaasvamukhena Cha** – to never praise oneself – *Vyaas* explains : **Nindanyasyatmanaha Shladha Dvayam Sukruthnashkrud** – 'Those who slander others and who praise themselves destroy their *Punya*.' **Bhishma** adds, 'Those who never slander nor praise themselves attain great qualities achieving everlasting fame and respect.'

Shatanand endorses the fact that one should unreservedly praise others – **Parshladha Tu Yathochitam Karya**. One should readily praise great saints who are 'mountains of spirituality'. By crediting such people, you yourself attain credit and fame. Such people should be highly acclaimed. Self-praise, using 'I' and 'Mine' is very much undesirable. They make a person repulsive. It is always better and indeed proper to praise God rather than

Con. from page 10.....

Importance of Shree Narnarayandev

Shastri Swami Divyaprakashdasji
Guru Mahant Shashi Swami
Harikrishnadasji



It is stated in the great scripture 'Shrimad Bhagwat' that the Lord Shree Narnaryandev incarnated on this earth as the Lord Shree Krishna in Yadukul and as Arjun in Kuruvansh. In 'Vamanpuran' there is a description of a battle between Prahlad and Narnarayandev. When Prahlad could not win the battle then he ardently prays to the Lord, **"Who is capable to win a battle against you in this world? Who is more powerful than you? No one. Because you are the Lord Vishnu, you are Pundarikaksh, Vaman, Nrusingh, Parsuram, Ram and Krishna- you are all incarnations and you are omnipresent everywhere in this world."**

Description of the supremacy of the

Almighty Lord is explained in this way in the scriptures. In every scripture, meaning of the word 'NarNarayan' is explained in detail. There are beautiful explanations at number of places in all these scriptures. For example,

नराणामय नाच्चापि ततो नारायण स्मृतः ।

(महाभारत)

"This Narnarayan is the shelter of all Nar (persons)."

There are words of Brahmaji in 'Bhagwat'. "Am I not born due to you? Are you not Almighty Lord? You are. Because you are the Supreme Soul of all living beings in this world. You are the witness of the whole universe."

In this way Brahmaji has explained the divine and supreme Almighty Lord Narnarayandev.

आपो नरा इति प्रोक्ता आपो वै नर सूनवः ।

अयनं तस्य ताः पूर्वं तेन नारायण स्मृताः ॥

(मनुस्मृतिः १-१०)

Elements which are created due to Paramatma are called *Nar* and the shelter of these *Nar* is known as *Narayan*; and therefore the Lord is known as *Narnarayan*.

For Nitya-Darshan of following temples log on to:

Jetalpur : www.jetalpurdarshan.com

Mahesana : www.mahesanadarshan.com

Chhapai

SARVOPARIKARAY NAMAH: SARVOPARIKARAY NAMAH: SARVOPARIKARAY NAMAH:

- Narayanmuni Swami Guru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji (Ahmedabad)

Shatanand Swami has given the names of Almighty Lord as per His Leela-Charitra. We call it 'Janmangal Namavali'. One of these names is 'Sarvopkaray Namah'. It is described that, Maharaj is very compassionate towards all living beings including the animals and insects. Because the Almighty Lord is always merciful on all without any selfish motif. However, it is but natural for any living being to expect or desire something, especially during this *Kaliyug*. A person never performs any action without any expectation for result or outcome. Even a little kid, who falls down while playing, expects that someone should come to him and uplift him. And therefore, it he does not see anybody around him, the child starts crying. Thus, it is nature of everybody in this world that they keep a selfish motif behind their actions. Whereas Almighty Lord is merciful and compassionate towards everybody; A number of examples of mercy and compassion of the Almighty Lord have been narrated in our scriptures.

Examples: once Shreeji Maharaj was performing Vanvicharan in North Gujarat region. He was accompanied by the saints. Maharaj told the saints that they would go to village Devda situated near Visnagar. While Maharaj was passing by the village Devda, one *Bania* devotee named Harakhsha of the village saw Maharaj and he was very much pleased. He felt greatly relieved as he had had *Darshan* of Almighty Lord. He rushed to Maharaj, fell at the lotus like feet of Maharaj and invited Him to grace his house. Maharaj knew his economic

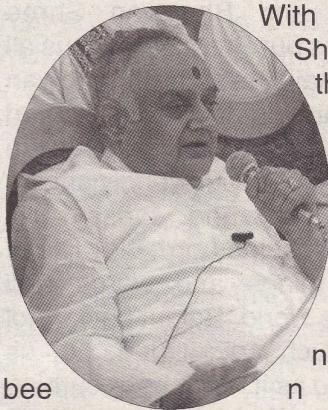
condition and therefore tried to avoid the invitation telling that, he would next time. But the devotee Harakhsha was firm in his decision to invite and serve Maharaj at his residence. Then Maharaj put a condition that, he should prepare only the simple meals like *Daal-Roti* and nothing else. The devotee agreed and Maharaj graced his house along with two *Parshads*. the devotee Harakhsha offered a seat and performed *poojan-archan* of Maharaj.

His wife was very prudent. She decided to prepare and offer the delicious dish to Maharaj. She asked her husband to sell of two big copper utensils and to bring all required grocery items from the sale proceeds of the utensils. Accordingly, beautiful dish was prepared for Maharaj and it was offered to Maharaj as well as *Parshads*. When Maharaj saw a delicious dish, Maharaj refused to accept it saying that, it was already agreed that the simple meals would be prepared. But the devotee Harakhsha ardently requested Maharaj to accept them considering it as *Daal* and *Roti*. Maharaj told him that, he believed him to be a poor person but it appears that he is very rich. Then Maharaj demanded five hundred rupees and then only he would accept the meals. Now the devotee Harakhsha got confused, he rushed into the kitchen to his wife and narrated everything. His wife asked him not to worry. She asked him to mortgage the house and bring five hundred rupees. So ardent and devout was the faith of both the husband and wife!!! Five hundred rupees were offered at the feet of Maharaj. Maharaj became very happy

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Blessings of 6th & 7th Forms of Shree Hari

- Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara (Hirawadi-Bapunagar)



bee Bhuj, which is not only a gem of Bhuj and Gujarat but of the whole of India. On the pious day of *Vaisakh Sud-5* 18/05/2010 invocation of the golden idol images of Narnarayandev was performed and on this occasion a grand *Mahamahotsav* was celebrated in Bhuj from 14th May 2010 to 23rd May 2010. while performing *Darshan* of this *Mahamotav/Samaiyo* as well as the new temple of Bhuj, we feel that grandeur and importance of Shree Swaminarayan has increased much. One is reminded of the words of Shreeji Maharaj told to Aadi Acharya H.H. Shri Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj, "You need not worry. We are with you. At present this Narnarayandev Desh may be dry but in future it will develop and it would be full of prosperity." H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj of Shree Narnarayandev Desh, Ahmedabad, remained present for ten days during this Mahotsav and granted abundant happiness to the saints and devotees. Another specialty of this Mahotsav is that H.H. Shri Acharya

With the blessings of Shree Hari and with the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, a beautiful, marble carved new temple has been constructed in

Maharaj of Shree Laxminarayandev Desh, Vadtal had also remained present and granted blessings and *Darshan* to all the devotees.

**18/05/2010
H.H. Shri Mota
Maharaj (Bhuj**

tem ple): While elected for the first time. our Hon'ble Chief Minister Shree Narendrabhai Modi had come to our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad to perform *Darshan* of the Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev. At that time both of us had availed together the benefit of *Prasadi-Thaal* of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev. While talking with him, we used to call him 'sir' then he stopped me and requested me not to address me as 'Sir' as the seat of Acharya is very pious and on much high level. At that time, while performing *Darshan* of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, term of his office was recharged for a longer period of time. Today again while performing invocation of the idol images of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, he has again recharged his term of his office. Shreeji Maharaj has performed invocation of the idol images of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev at two places- one at Ahmedabad and another at Bhuj. Today the divine light is emitting not only from



the idol images but also from the top of the temple. In future, many devotees and saints would come here to perform *Darshan* of the idol images of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev in this temple. The saints and *Haribhaktas* have rendered their great services with utmost enthusiasm and devotion and they all deserve a praise. It is an humble prayer to Shreeji Maharaj, that the Almighty Lord may continue to inspire these saints and devotees to render their services.

23/05/2010 H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj (Bhuj temple):- A superficial bath in the holy river Ganga does not help us to absolve of our sins but it helps when we carry and cherish in our hearts the piety which we receive from the holy water. Similarly if simply attend *Samaiya-Utsav* and forget after some time then it is of no help. Any *Utsav* is not concluded with its formal concluding ceremony; celebration of that *Utsav* should be continued in our heart. We should leave such *Utsav* and *Samaiya* while preserving the image of the Almighty Lord in our hearts permanently. Large number of saints, devotees, *Haribhaktas*, ladies devotees, Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees and many volunteer devotees have rendered their valuable services for the construction of this temple through their hard work and dedication and therefore all of them deserve all praise of all of us. Many volunteer devotees, while performing their duties and devoted duties, mighty not have seen this *Sabha Mandap*!!! And we might not be taking note of their services but Shreeji Maharaj certain takes note of these devotees.

Many people feel proud when they have developed acquaintance and

personal relations with any politician or any senior official of the Government; but here we have developed acquaintance and relations with Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan then how much honour we should feel in our heart. We all are His sons and Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan is our Protector. Let us all of us be and remain the sons of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan and Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev. Let us keep the Lord in the centre of all our worldly affairs. Our mind, intellect and senses are habituated to detest the Lord, they like to listen to foul things and words and gossiping of this world. But let us control and regulate such an attitude. Let us perform *Satsang* as it helps us in curbing all such attitudes. We have huge volume of literature and audio and video cassettes and Compact Discs about our *Sampradaya*, *Satsang* and *Dharma*. Let us use them in our life on daily basis. While using all these scriptures there increases our *Dharma*, *Bhakti* and *Samskaras*. We can utilize cassettes or CDs of *Parayan* while traveling in our cars or while doing our household work in our houses.

In the pious '*Shiksha Patri*' Maharaj has granted us the essence of all religions and all the scriptures of this world. Sometimes our daily reading of certain *Shlokas* make us forget to recall their importance. We tend to forget to grasp at its essence and we recite such *Shlokas* mechanically as a part of our daily routine. However, following the directions of these *Shlokas* is the reason for our happiness in life. In all the scriptures of our *Sampradaya*, be it '*Shiksha Patri*', '*Vachanamrit*', or '*Satsangji Jivan*' Shreeji

Con. from page 10.....

Ekadashi- a Pious Vrata

- Shastri Abhayprakashdasji Guru Swami Devprakashdasji (Naranghat)

One of the eleven principles explained by *Prem-murti* Sadguru Premanand Swami is about 'non-violence' which we saw earlier. Now let us look at the second principle which talks about monogamy i.e. having one wife only in one's life.

From social and religious point of view, a woman is a wife with whom a person is got married. According to this principle, all other women of this world are either sister or mother for this person. Similarly except her husband all other men of this world are either brother or father for a woman. A family where these principles are followed scrupulously are really divine families like saints and *Sadhus*. Such families are very pious. There are many such families in our society. What should be the behaviour of a person with other women? In this regard there is a beautiful incident narrated in famous '*Sorathi Baharvatiya*' by Zaverchand Meghani - the renowned Gujarati man of letters.

There was Charakha village in *Sorath* region of Gujarat. During the period of 1835 A.D. an ardent of the Lord Suryanarayan Champraj was residing. During those times people used to perform '*Baharvatiya*' (*open revolt against the government to get back the kingdom*) when their land or kingdom were being snatched away or ushered up by the British Government. The British Government took away a small '*Garas*' (*small kingdom*) of this Champraj and therefore he also performed '*Baharvatiya*'. The British Government had declared a prize for a person who would help them to catch this Champraj but all in vain. Meanwhile the British Government came to know that the king Muluwala of Jetpur was a friend of this Champraj and he was helping this Champraj in all regards. Therefore, the British Government sent a

message to Muluwala that either he should hand over the absconding Champraj to the British Government or his kingdom would be taken away by the British Government. But for the king Muluwala his friendship with Champraj was more precious and more valuable than his kingdom and so he refused to help the British Government in this regard.

Now Champraj came to know about this and so he came to his friend king Muluwala and said that it is not proper that



he should lose his kingdom for his friend but his friend did not give in. At last Champraj surrendered himself to the Britishers and the government imprisoned him in Central Jail of Ahmedabad. After some time, Champraj saw hustle and bustle in the jail. He inquired about it with one of the soldiers, who informed him that wife of the jailor was pregnant and it was a time of her delivery. All the doctors have tried their best for her smooth and comfortable

delivery but no one has succeeded and she is crying like anything due to severe pain.

Champraj thought for a while and sent a message to the jailor that, if he can release him for a while, he can help his wife for comfortable delivery. The wretched jailor had no other way except to accede to this proposal as all the doctors had failed in their efforts. On being released from the jail this devotee Champraj immediately rushed to a river brought some water in a bowl and asked the jailor to give it to his wife. The wife of the jailor drank a few drops of water brought by the devotee Champraj and surprisingly it was a normal and comfortable delivery for her. At one time it

was so risky that neither a baby nor the mother would survive. But the divine water of the ardent Champraj saved the lives of the both. When the jailor asked him what he had mixed up with the water then Champraj told that he had simply prayed Almighty Lord that, if he has never looked at any other woman in any other way except his mother and sister then the Lord may save the lives of both the pregnant woman and her baby. And this ardent prayer has worked. This is the power of a pious person. From the worldly angle, he was a 'Baharvatiya' but he was really an ardent devotee leading a very pious life – observing this second principle of Monogamy. All the devotees should take inspiration from such a pious life.

Con. on page 4

Shikshapatri

oneself as it is only through God's support and will that we achieve these results and so the 'I' in such instances is always inappropriate. God is the ultimate cause and effect. He is capable of making the impoverished – wealthy and the wealthy – impoverished in an instance. Therefore we must never become egotistical, self-centered and big-headed so as to loose track of the truth that the Almighty is the

true 'giver'.

These *Shlokas* are truly great as they advise on drawing the better qualities from within, which build a person towards strength of character and good nature. It is these *Shlokas* which really make a person desirable and give fame and so it is important that we obey Lord Swaminarayan's wishes in order to become better people.

Con. on page 8 Blessings of 6th & 7th Forms of Shree Hari

Maharaj has kept the goal of ensuring happiness of all the devotees. And therefore Shreeji Maharaj has asked two boons from His Guru Ramanand Swami that, all the miseries and unhappiness of the devotees and *Satsangis* may be tolerated by Him and that all *Satsangis* may remain happy in their life. Thus, we are not happy due to any of our intelligence and intellect but that is due to blessings of Shreeji Maharaj. Where can one get such a merciful Almighty Lord?

We liked the talk about tree-plantation of Aksharprakashdasji Swami because it is very much essential for all of us to nurture and look after the environment. It is our request to all the saint and *Satsangis* that they may perform all work keeping Almighty Lord in the centre of their life. It is our prayer at the lotus like feet of Shree Narnarayandev that, the Lord may keep all the saints and *Satsangis* happy in their life.

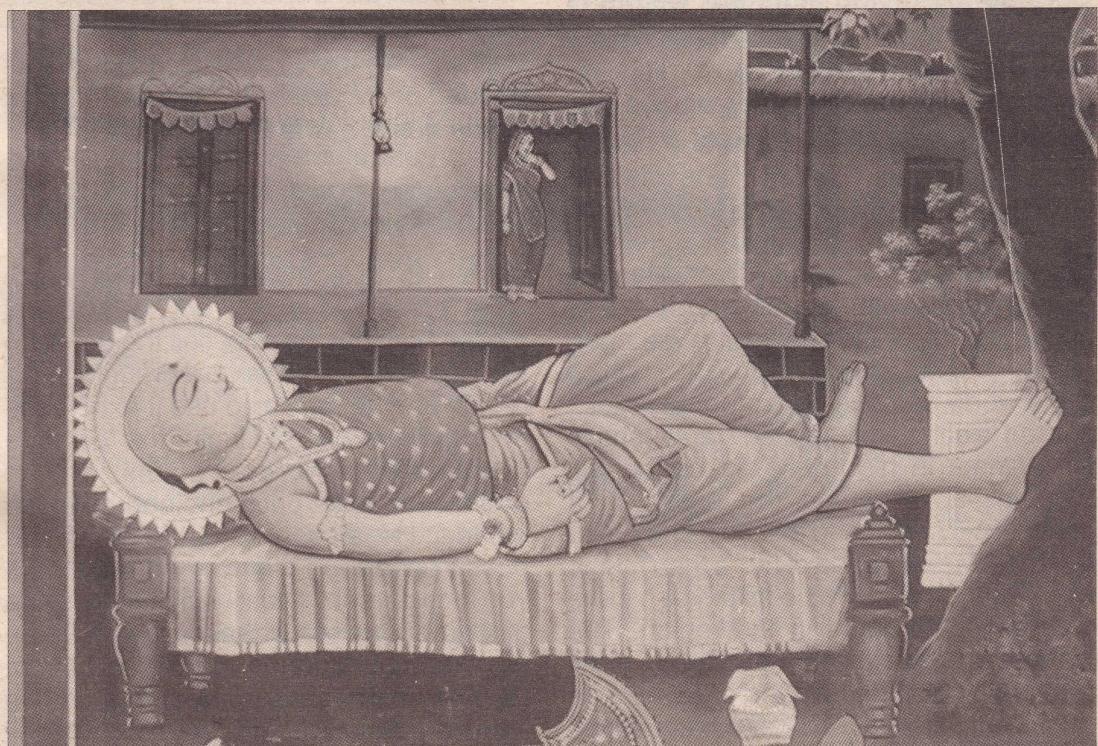
VAJIBA OF VIJAPUR

- Prof. Mahadev Dhoriyani (Rajkot)

Beautiful and vivid description of an ardent of Almighty Lord is that of Vajiba of Vijapur. A person who performs ardent *Bhakti* (worship) of the Almighty Lord gets the best fruits in his/her life. Even the most crooked and evil persons are found cherishing worship of the Almighty Lord in the corner of their hearts. Of late Vajiba of Vijapur realized that *Bhakti* (worship), *Shraddha* (faith) and *Samarpan* (Devotion) are stepping stones towards achieving a place in Akshardham and obtaining pleasure of Shreeji Maharaj. Once she relished the divine pleasure of worship of Almighty Lord, she left all the worldly desires. After performing *Snan* (bath) in the holy water of the pious river

Ganga, she became an ardent devotee of Maharaj. When she had had Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj, all her infirmities were cured of and therefore she developed deep rooted faith in Shreeji Maharaj.

No miracle or any suspicion can shake such a firm faith of a devotee. Even a test of Almighty Lord can also not shake the faith of such ardent devotees. Vajiba of Vijapur was Ekantik Bhakta of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan and she was religious by nature. Vajiba belonged to the caste of carpenter. All the saints who would visit Vijapur would certainly go the house of Vajiba and she used to render her ardent services to these saints.



She believed that there was God in all the saints and therefore they should be rendered all services.' Once Paramhamsa Ramdas Swami went to Vijapur. He stayed for 12 days at the residence of Vajiba. When Ramdas Swami narrated to her the talks about importance of Shreeji Maharaj during his stay, there was complete transformation of Vajiba's life. However, she had yet not performed Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. Now she led a life completely under the directions of 'Shiksha Patri'. Ramdas Swami had explained that, **"By performing day and night Sadhana one can achieve Almighty God. And Sadhana is the most powerful means to achieve Him. It is a highway towards the goal of emancipation in one's life. By performing Snan (bath) our body is purified, by giving alms our wealth is purified and by Sadhana and Dhyana our mind is purified."**

Once Maharaj himself graced the house of Vajiba in the guise of a Sadhu.

Con. on page 6

SARVOPARIKARAY NAMAH:

and accepted the meals. Then Maharaj asked the devotee Harakhsha to come with him. All of them went to Visnagar, where Maharaj purchased Tuver which were worth four five carts. Maharaj got it loaded in carts and directed Harakhsha to store them in his house on his behalf. Harakhsha preserved the grains in a room of his house and locked it and never used it. Thus, a period of more than four to five years passed. In the sixth year, there was severe draught in the region. The devotee Harakhsha thought, now Maharaj should be sent the grains. So he wrote a letter to Maharaj requesting

Maharaj spoke ill words about Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan, which Vajiba could not tolerate and therefore she did not permit shelter to that Sadhu. However, Maharaj was adamant for staying there and therefore Maharaj stayed overnight in a verandah outside the house of devotee Vajiba. At night when Maharaj stretched the legs, it touched the Peepal tree and shifted it away from its place. Vajiba witnessed this miracle with surprise. The next morning Sadhu went away and Vajiba came to Gadhpur to perform Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. In the sabha organized at Gadhada, Maharaj reminded Vajiba that, these were the feet which shifted the Peepal tree. Vajiba was surprised. She repented as she could not recognize Maharaj. Maharaj introduced her to the whole sabha and told all the devotees that they should be ardent devotees like Vajiba of Vijapur. Place of residence of Vajiba of Vijapur is famour in our Sampradaya as the Place of Prasadi.

therein to take away the grains which were preserved in his house. Maharaj replied him that, he may sell the grains to the needy as it was severe draught in his region and he may also use it to help the poor people. Accordingly the devotee Harakhsha sold the grains at the prevalent market price and earned much money. He also helped the poor and needy people. In this way he became a very rich person. Thus, with the blessings of Shreeji Maharaj, the ardent devotee Harakhsha became a rich person out of his own money. It is because of this helping nature of the merciful Shreeji Maharaj.

Celebration of Mahamahotsav of Shree Narnarayandev Nutan Mandir, Bhuj

- Prof. Suryakant Bhatt (Bhuj-Kachchh)



The great *Mahamahotsav* of Shree Narnarayandev Nutan Mandir of Bhuj which is celebrated in a grand manner from 15/05/2010 to 23/05/2010 reminds us of the presence of Shreeji Maharaj who himself had performed the ritual of invocation of his own image. Though lacs of devotees and *Satsangis* from all over the world attended this great *Mahamahotsav*, yet there was all discipline, cleanliness and facilities everywhere. It is just because of the blessings of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev that such a grand arrangement has been accomplished wonderfully. If any learned man of letters starts reporting on this *Utsav*, then he would complete with a huge voluminous report on it.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj did not take rest for a minute and remained present throughout this *Mahotsav*. All the

saints, Mahants, guests, *Haribhaktas*, invited guests, politicians, social workers, representatives of the Media, poets, men of letters and all the devotees and *Satsangis* were very much happy with the pious presence of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj who inspired and encouraged all the artists during *Shobha Yatra* constantly for five hours at a time when the temperature was above 46 degree Celsius.

Accepting the invitation, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shree Narendrabhai Modi also arrived and graced the occasion on 18th May 2010. He was accompanied by other Hon'ble Ministers such as Shree Narottambhai Patel, Shri Vasanbhai Ahir and other officials. The Hon'ble Chief Minister perform a respectful *Vandan* to H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj addressed the *Sabha* organized on the occasion: "When Shri Narendrabhai Modi became the Hon'ble Chief Minister then he had visited our Kalupur temple of Ahmedabad to obtain blessings and perform *Darshan* of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev. With the blessings of the Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev we can see the activities of development which are going on in the State of Gujarat. And now the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi is obtaining the blessings of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev of our Bhuj temple and it is just a coincidence."

On this occasion Mahant Swami

Dharmnandasji offered a cheque to the Hon'ble Chief Minister on behalf of Bhuj temple for 'Kanya Kelvani'. While addressing the devotees, Shri Narendrabhai Modi had hailed and praised the successful activities of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan in the fields of social reforms besides many other sectors. He had also drawn the attention towards the beautiful wooden carvings of our Kalupur temple which delineates the incidents of the revolt of 1857 and for that all the saints and devotees who worked at that time, deserve all praise.

On the pious day of Vaisakh Sud-5 18/05/2010 H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj performed *Mahabhishek* of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev. Thereafter *Annakut Mahotsav* and ritual of installation of *Suvarna Kalash* and *Dhwaj* (Flag) on the dome of the temple were also performed. Wonderful exhibition organized on this occasion was a centre of attraction of all the devotees and visitors during this *Mahamahotsav*. Huge six domes were created and 32 halls were erected under these domes wherein *Leela Charitra* of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan were exhibited in a vivid and lively manner. A laser show of light, the Himalayas, High-Tech Krishi Mela and Balnagari were also the centre of attractions. Every night a cultural programmes were performed by the artists who had come here all over the world. On this occasion *Mahavishnu Yaag* and Shree Narnarayandev Mega Medical Camp were also performed. Furthermore successful arrangements of *Mantra Jaap*, *Akhand Dhoon* was also made. Sprinkling of the flower-petals

through helicopter was also made.

The cows were offered the green grass at all places in the whole of Kachchh region. Furthermore in all hospitals, orphanages and blind schools, *Prasad* of the temple was distributed. A conference of *Satsangi* ladies devotees was also conducted. On this pious occasion all the donors were honoured and they were given the replica of the image of the Lord, shawl and a garland by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and Mahant Swami of the temple. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj of both Ahmedabad *Desh* and



Vadtal *Desh* had remained present. Mahant Shastri Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple, Mahant Swami Dhyani Swami Shri Hariswaroopdasji of Gandhinagar Sector-2, Mahant Swami of Ahmedabad, Kanbha, Mumbai, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Surat, Mumbai, Vadodara etc. had also remained present on this occasion along with their disciples. Mahant Swami Shri Harikeshavdasji of Gandhinagar Sector-23 had also remained present and had delivered a very beautiful speech. Video cassettes as well as literature of *Sampradaya* were also published on this occasion.

સત્સંગ બલવતીકા

SATSANG BALVATIKA

- Compiler Shastri Harikehsavdasji (Gandhinagar)

TOYS OF ASH!

-Shastri Haripriyadas (Gandhinagar)

This is an incident about the village Loya of Surabpu where the wonderful *Shakotsav* of our *Sampradaya* was performed. Once Shreeji Maharaj was sitting at the residence of one *Salat* devotee. Meanwhile a group of people of *Targala* (street show performers) came there and complained to Shree Hari that, devotees of the village do not allow them to organize the street shows and therefore they are starving for no fault of their own. They also complained that, the devotees have warned them not to perform the street shows in future; however they may take the grains to the extent they need to survive themselves.

Shreeji Maharaj smiled and asked them as to which type of shows they perform in the streets. Leader of *Targala* community informed Maharaj that, they perform *Kathputli* and various types of shows. Shreeji Maharaj asked him to perform the show of *Kathputli*. Immediately all the arrangements were made, *Kathputlis* were arranged and behind the curtain, a man controlling and regulating the dance movements of the *Kathputlis* also took his seat and started moving the strings to which all *Kathputlis* were tied. To his surprise, none of them moved an inch. Time and again efforts were made and the settings were re-arranged but nothing worked.

The leader realized and bowed down at the lotus like feet of Shreeji Maharaj. Maharaj blessed him and directed him to

start the show of *Kathputli* again. When the show started, it was performed well, and all the devotees enjoyed the show very much. Then Maharaj asked them to stop the show. The show was stopped, all the performers were called. Shreeji Maharaj preached them the sermons and stated that, everything in this world moves as per the desire and wish of the Almighty Lord. Shreeji Maharaj offered them the meals along with other devotees and also offered them all the gifts offered by the devotees.

Friends! This incident shows that, Life of all living beings including the human beings is in fact in the hands of Almighty Lord and not in the hands of any person. All the human beings are like toys of ash. It is a great show of life which is performed on the stage of this world. Some toys play actively and others play passively. Some may prove to be useful and others to be useless. It is a game of toys of ash in the hands of Almighty Lord!!!

The strings of all these toys are in the hands of the Lord and therefore no one is independent. Some of them play the role of Rama, Sita, Hanuman, Tadka or Ravana but only for a limited period of time of this great Stage Show of Life. Once the show is over, they will have to take leave from the stage. This worldly life is a great stage show and one has to play the role which is assigned to him by the Almighty Lord. In life we also play the role of parents, children, uncle, aunty, etc.

RESPONSE OF ALMIGHTY LORD

- Sadhu Shrirang Maharaj
(Gandhinagar)

It was the time of *Brahm-Muhurt* of early morning. Ten to twelve horse riders came and stopped at the outskirts of the village.

The horse riders as well as the horses were not common ones. These horses were of *Kesar*, *Beri*, *Bodli*, *Fulmal*, *Tajan*, *Vangli* types. One of these horses was *Manki*. And her horse rider was Almighty Shreeji Maharaj.

Two accompanying *Parshads* asked Shreeji Maharaj why they are going inside the village. Shreeji Maharaj said that, one of His devotees is residing in the village and therefore *Darshan* is to be granted to that devotee. These *Parshads* argued that, it is very early and the devotee would not have woken up from his bed.

Shreeji Maharaj and these *Parshads* reached to his residence. Maharaj asked one of the *Parshads* to knock the gate but before they reached at the gate they heard the devotee chanting the name of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan very ardently and religiously. *Parshads* were surprised at this. Meanwhile Shreeji Maharaj himself knocked the gate and the devotee opened the gate. When the devotee saw Shreeji Maharaj at his doorsteps he was overwhelmed with

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pleasure.

What a wonderful experience! Therefore, oh devotees just remember that:

“શાકમાં મીઠું ભૂલાવું ન જોઈએ
શૂન્યની આગળ એકડો ભૂલાવો ન જોઈએ.
જાનમાં વરરાજ ભૂલાવાન જોઈએ.
અને જીંદગીમાં ભગવાન ભૂલાવા ન
જોઈએ.”

If we are firm in our devotion and *Bhakti*, then Almighty Lord would certainly grant us Divine *Darshan* in our life. If we follow all the rules and regulations and directions of our pious scriptures like ‘*Shiksha Patri*’ then the Merciful Lord would certainly extend His Hand towards us and would bless us. And therefore Premanand Swami has sung in one of his *Kirtans*:

“ભજનમાં ભાવ સાચો હોય તો પ્રભુનો પ્રતિભાવ
મલી જ રહે છે.” “ભજનમાં ભાવ સાચો હોય તો
પ્રભુનો પ્રતિભાવ મલી જ રહે છે.”

Sending overseas news and photographs for our Magazine

Satsangis forwarding photographs and news for our magazine are requested that, news may be drafted to the point, precisely and in a concise manner and in legible writing. News should not be drafted in unnecessary lengthy and verbose language. They are also requested to send the News and Photographs in time so that it reaches to our office latest by 20th of the month. News received after 20th of the month will be published in the next issue of the magazine, which may please be noted.

FROM THE BLESSINGS OF H.H. SHRI
GADIWALA
- Compiled by Kotak Varsha Natvarlal
(Ghodasar)

Real Path to emancipation begins from our vital existence and accordingly our *Karma* decides our *Karma-Phal*. This *Karma* is performed through and by our vital existence and we can change or modify it. And for that all of us have to make conscious efforts. Let us understand this with an example. One *Ganika* (a dancer) was staying in a place. One Mahatma was residing in a hut in front of her residence. Time and again this Mahatma used to explain and convince *Ganika* that it was not proper for her to dance in public. But that *Ganika* had no other means of her livelihood and therefore whenever she used to go for her stage performance she used to beg pardon of Almighty Lord for doing all this as she did not have any other means of earning.

Now this Mahatma started collecting a stone for a person before him this *Ganika* used to dance. Then, Mahtama showed to *Ganika* a heap of stones and said that, these were her sins. At this *Ganika* became very unhappy and she repented a lot. After some days both Mahatma and *Ganika* passed away. But Mahatma was taken to the hell and *Ganika* was taken to the heaver. However, on the earth the people were offering garlands to the dead body of Mahatma and no one even looked at the dead body of *Ganika* and the stray street dogs were eating away her body. Observing this Mahatma complained to the Almighty Lord why he is put in the hell when the people on the earth are offering the garlands even to his dead body and this *Ganika* is given a place in the heaven when her body is being eaten up by the

दीक्षायण

BHAKTI-SUDHA

dogs. Then Almighty Lord explained to Mahatma that, outwardly he had not committed any sins and hence the people of the world were offering garlands to his dead body. But in his mind he was always thinking about *Ganika* which is not proper for him and therefore he is put in the hell. On the other hand, outwardly *Ganika* committed sins of dancing in the public, and hence no one looked at her dead body and the street dogs were eating away her body. Whereas in her mind, she was always repentant about what she was doing and therefore she is given a place in the heaven.

Therefore, all of us will have to control and regulate our mind and it is essential that we abstain from all worldly temptations. Just as the parents put a condition before their child that, if he would study properly he would be given a toy. Similarly in the pious '*Shiksha Patri*' Almighty Lord has put certain directions in respect of the code of conduct and we are told that if we lead our life in accordance with these directions, then we would be happy in our life. Thus, Shreeji Maharaj has given us the divine scriptures for our welfare through which we can ensure our emancipation.

CHANTING NAME OF SHREE HARI IS
AT THE ROOT OF PEACE
- Sankhya Yogi Kolilaba
(Surendranagar)

The power of chanting the name of

Shree Hari is really wonderful. It is the duty of Almighty Lord to nourish all living beings of this earth and to grant emancipation to all human beings. On the other hand it is also the duty of every living being to seek shelter under the Almighty Lord, to remain under His directions and also to chant the name of Shree Hari. Initially all these may appear very difficult, we may like to run away from it but that is the real cure of all spiritual ailments just we have *Ayurvedic* medicines and treatments, which cure us of all our physical ailments and sickness. And it is at the root of all peace. Let us understand this with a story.

Sudhanva was the prince of the king Hansdhwaj. He was an ardent devotee of Shreeji Maharaj. The ministers of the kingdom of the king Hansdhwaj were corrupt and cunning. The prince Sudhanva came to know about this. Now the ministers were worried. They feared that, they would be driven away from the kingdom if the prince would disclose this fact to the king. Therefore, the two ministers conspired to kill the prince. Through the order of the king, they made a pronouncement that, before the evening of the next day, all the people of the kingdom must remain present in the *Sabha* of the king and anyone who fails in remaining present would be killed. As per the directions of the king, the pronouncement was made. The king informed the prince about the pronouncement and asked him to remain present in the *Sabha*.

The next day morning, the prince was performing *Pooja* and he slipped into the state of *Samadhi*. He forgot the time and it was already evening when he regained consciousness. He immediately rushed to the *Sabha*, but it was already too late. Now as per the pronouncement he was made to

jump into the burning oil in a huge bowl. The king was very unhappy. But the directions of a king were applicable to everybody without any exception. The devotee Sudhanva was very obedient. So he jumped into the burning oil but to his surprise he did not get burnt. He felt the oil cold. The cunning ministers were surprised at this; they thought that the oil must not be boiled enough. So in order to check it, they threw the coconut fruit into it and the oil spilled over their face and damaged their eyes rendering them blind. They also got burnt severely. After some days, both of them passed away and then they were sent in the hell.

The message we get from this story is that, real happiness and peace of life comes in chanting the name of Shree Hari. So let us become the ardent devotees and perform our *Bhakti* religiously.

OUR FUTURE FESTIVALS

Ashadh Sud-15 : On Sunday 25/07/2010, from 7.30 in the morning Guru Purnima *Mahotsav*, Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad. *Poojan-archan* of our Dharmguru H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj.

Ashadh Vad-2 : On Wednesday 28/07/2010 *Hindola* of Shree Hari Balmukundji in the evening at 5.00 hours.

Ashadh Vad-10 : On Thursday 05/08/2010, *Prakatyotsav* of our future Acharya H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj, Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad.

Chandan Vagha Darshan in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad

In the pious company of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev with the directions of H. H. Shree Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadajji Maharaj, with the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, from the pious day of *Vaisakh Sud-3 Akhatrij*, beautiful and divine *Shangar Darshan* of *Chandan Vagha* of Balswaroop Shri Ghanshyam Maharaj was performed in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad. Under the guidance of Bramchari Poojari Swami Rajeshwaranandji, ardent and devoted devotees rendered their services as the host of this *Darshan* on each day during the whole pious *Adhik Maas*. With a view to offer cold to the deities during the severe heat wave in the Summer season, every year *Chandan Vagha* are offered to Thakorji. In all our temples with dome such as Jetalpurdham, Muli, Dholka, Bhuj, Naranghat, Naranpura, Kankaria, Approach (Bapunagar), Surendranagar, Mahesana, Gandhinagar, Vasna etc. places, *Chandan Vagha Darshan* were offered. (Narayanmunidas)

Darshan of divine drop of perspiration of Balswaroop Ghanshyam Maharaj in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad

It was the divine time of *Mangala Aarti* on the pious day of *Vaisakh Sud-10*! Poojari of Thakorji and saints observed the drops of perspiration on the face of Bal Swaroop Ghanshyam Maharaj in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad. This news spread like anything. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Raja came there to perform *Darshan*. A large number of devotees and *Haribhaktas* from all the villages rushed to the temple to perform *Darshan*. It was really a rare opportunity for the saints and the devotees to have *Darshan* of Balswaroop Ghanshyam Maharaj with perspiration for two days. Even the people who were not devotees of our *Sampradaya*, paid the visit of the temple and performed *Darshan* of Ghanshyam Maharaj. The electronic media and the editors of the daily newspaper also did not miss the opportunity to give full coverage of this wonderful incident. Thousands of devotees availed the benefit of this divine *Darshan*. (Gordhanbhai Sitapara)

Celebration of grand 5th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Haridwar

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadajji Maharaj and the whole



Dharmkul and with the inspiration of Mahant Swami Shyamsundardasji and Mahant of Ahmedabad temple Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, and also with the inspiration of Mahant Swami of Naranghat temple Shri Devprakashdasji, 5th *Patotsav* of Shri Radhakrishnadev Harikrishna Maharaj of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Haridwar was celebrated with great enthusiasm and fervour. Sanhkyayogi Kanba and Sankhyayogi Meghnaba and Sankhyayogi Jayshri (Gadhpur), and Akshar Nivasi Purbai Kanji Hirani, Sut Mavji Kanji Hirani (Mankuva-Mombasa) and Sankhyayogi Rajkunvarba of Morbi temple and the disciple of Akshar Nivasi Sankhyayogi Dholiba of Surendranagar temple (ladies) and Sankhyayogi Ushaba and Mahila Mandal rendered their services as the hosts of this *Patotsav*. On this occasion, Shrimad Satsangi Bhushan Panchanh *Parayan* was also organized from 25/05/2010 to 29/05/2010. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*, who narrated beautiful Gyanganga on the bank of the pious river *Ganga*. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj had graced the inauguration of the *Katha* and granted divine *Darshan* and blessings to the devotees.

On 27/05/2010 at 7.00 a.m. in the morning *Shodasopchar* ritual of Thakorji was performed in *Vedic* tradition by H.H. Shri future Acharya Maharaj. Thereafter *Annakut Aarti* and *Homatmak Mahapooja* was begun. Devotees Shri Sankalchandhai C. Patel (Viharwala), Jayantibhai, Dashrathbhai and Prakashbhai rendered their services as the hosts who were garlanded by H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. During the *Parayan* organized on the occasion, H.H. Shri Gadiwala, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and Shri Raja remained present and granted blessings and divine *Darshan* to the devotees. On this occasion Sadguru Swai Devprakashdasji (Mahant, Naranghat temple), Kothari Parshad Digambar Bhagat of Ahmedabad temple, Bramchari Shri Rajeswaranandji and other saints and Parshads had also arrived on this occasion. The *Sabha* organized on the occasion was conducted by Sadguru Swami Krishnavallabhadasji and Shastri Chaitanya Swaroopdasji (Koteshwar Gurukul). (Sadhu Vrajbhushandasji)

Celebration of 54th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Laloda (Tal. Idar)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Sadguru Shastri Swami Ghanshyamjivandasji and under the guidance of Swami Balkrishnadasji, 54th *Patotsav* of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Laloda was celebrated with great enthusiasm and fervour. With the divine Sankalp of the devotee Shri Kumari Ramilaben the daughter of the devotee Shri Devchandbhai Lavjibhai Patel, the whole *Patotsav* was organized. On 26/05/2010 *Patotsav* of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Thereafter *Annakut Aarti* was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, Swami Ghanshyamjivandasji, Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple and Shastri Swami Akhileshwardasji had delivered inspirational speeches. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the saint Mandal and the host family and the whole village. Devotees Shri Dadyabhai Dvachandbhai, Vitthalbhai DEvchandbhai and Sureshbhai Devchandbhai of the host family performed *poojan-archan-aarti* and obtained the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. The *Sabha* was conducted by Shastri Vasudevcharandasji. (Atulbhai Dadyabhai Patel)

Celebration of 82nd *Patotsav* of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vali (Rajasthan)

With the blessings of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan, with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Swami Debrasaddasji and Kothari Swami Hariprasaddasji to Vali temple and the saint Mandal on the pious day of Jeth Sud-5 16/06/2010, *Patotsav Abhishek* of Thakorji was performed in Vedic tradition by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. On this occasion thousands of *Haribhaktas* of the nearby villages performed *Darshan* of *Patotsav* of Thakrji, *Dharmkul* and the saints.

In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple, Sadguru Shastri Swami Atmprakashdasji of Jetalpurdham, Mahant Shastri Swami Premswaroopdasji of Siddhpur, Mahant Shastri Swami Chandraprakashdasji of Biliya had delivered inspiration speeches on this occasion. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj also graced our *Hari-temples* of the whole Vali region and had performed *aarti* of Thakorji and had also graced the houses of the devotees and *Haribhaktas*. H.H. Shri Gadiwala and Shri Raja also granted *Darshan* to the ladies devotees. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul*, *Satsang* in this region has been increasing day by day. (Kothari Swami Hariprasaddasji, Vali temple)

Invocation of the idol images in Harshad colony temple (ladies)

On completion of 25 years of Harshad colony temple (ladies), a grand *Rajat Jayanti Mahotsav* as well as invocation ceremony of the idol images was celebrated with great enthusiasm. On this occasion *Mahavishnu Yag*, *Shobha yatra*, *Annakut*, Bike rally of the young devotees, Night *Kirtan Bhakti* and *Shrimad Satsangibhushan Saptah Parayan* were organized from 29/05/2010 to 04/06/2010.

Shobha yatra of Thakorji and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj organized on the occasion was really divine and grand wherein camels and elephants were the centre of attraction of all. H.H. Shri Gadiwala also graced the occasion and granted the benefit of divine *Darshan* to the ladies devotees.

Invocation of Thakorji was performed in Vedic tradition by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. On this occasion Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple, and the saints from Naranghat, Muli, Approach (Bapunagar), Bopal, and Nikol had also arrived. The *Sabha* organized on the occasion was conducted by Shastri Satyaprakashdasji of Muli.

While blessings all the devotees H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj had recommended to the all the devotees to have and cherish ardent faith in the Lord Shree Nar Narayandev. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the whole *Sabha* and had directed all the devotees to have ardent devotion in our *Sampradaya*. On this occasion Harshad Colony temple had rendered great services for Shree Swaminarayan Museum. On this occasion literature of our *Sampradaya* was made available at a discount of 30%. Furthermore the life-time members of our 'Shree Swaminarayan Magazine' of Harshad Colony temple also rendered their services for our magazine. Under the guidance of our Devotee Shri Dasbhai and trustees as also with the inspirational services of our Shree Nar Narayandev Yuvak Mandal, the whole *Mahotsav* was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. Devotee Shri Arvindbhai Donga was the Chief host of *Parayan* and many other devotees had also rendered their

services on this occasion. (Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara)

Weekly Dhoon for Shree Swaminarayan Museum

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj the year from March-2010 to March-2011 has been declared as 'Museum Year'. Accordingly Shree Nar Narayandev Yuval Mandal, Bapunagar, organized Weekly Dhoon and Kirtan on every Saturday at night from 9.00 to 11.00 in different areas such as Harshad Colony temple, Karmshakti temple etc. on 22/05/2010 Mahant Swami Laxmanjivandasji of Approach (Bapunagar) temple, Mahant Nana P.P. Swami of Naranghat temple and Shastri Swami Nirgundasji and other saints availed to *Haribhaktas* the divine benefit of their erudite and religious speeches. (Gordhanbhai Sitapara)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Approach (Bapunagar)

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Swami, on the pious day of Jeth Sud-10 (180th Antardhan Tithi of Shree Hari) Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra Dhoon was performed in the morning from 8.00 to 11.00 and with the directions of H.H. Shri Gadiwala Mahamantra Dhoon was performed from 1.00 p.m. in the noon to 7.00 p.m. in the evening in Harshad colony temple (ladies).

Bapunagar Sneh Milan Satsang Sabha

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of adguru Nana P.P. Swami and the devotee Shri Dasbhai, a beautiful Satsang Sabha was organized on Sunday 13/06/2010 in Harshad Colony temple (ladies) in connection with 'Shree Swaminarayan Museum Year'.

At 5.00 hours in the evening, Satsang Sabha was organized in Koteswar Gurukul in the pious company of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. Devotee Shri Purav Patel performed Kirtan-Bhakti; thereafter Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji and Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple delivered a speech nourishing our *Sampradaya*. Thereafter H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj relished reminiscences of His childhood very joyously and blessed all the devotees. Saints of Approach (Bapunagar) temple had also arrived on this occasion. At last all the devotees availed the benefit of Prasad. (Gordhanbhai Sitapara)

H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj in Mubarakpura village

Accepting the ardent request and invitation of

the devotees of Mubarakpura village, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced the village. Mahant Sadguru Swami Devprasaddasji from Naranghat temple and Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji had also arrived to the village. With the inspiration of the saints and the co-operation of the devotees, a new temple is being constructed in the village. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj visited and graced the site of the temple where the work is going on.

On the occasion on *Jivatcharya* of Kamlaba the grandmother of the devotee Shri Lalbhai Keshabhai Patel, *Satsang Sabha* was organized in the pious company of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji and Shastri Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Koteswar Gurukul) performed *Katha-Varta*. Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple delivered an inspirational speech. At last H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*. The *Sabha* was conducted by Mahant Shastri Nana P.P. Swami of Naranghat temple. (Jayvallabhdas)

Celebration of 3rd Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple (Jamfalvadi, Ramol)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and the blessings of *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of sadguru Shastri Swami Nana P.P. Swami of Naranghat temple, *Patotsav* of Thakorji of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jamfalvadi (Ramol) was celebrated on 16/06/2010 with great fervour and enthusiasm. *Haribhaktas* had offered a beautiful *Annakut* to Thakorji on this occasion. A two hour Akhand Dhoon was also performed. In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji, Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji, Shastri Swami Abhayprakashdasji (Koteswar Gurukul) and Shastri Swami Anandpriyadasji of Mahadevnagar had performed Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra Dhoon, Kirtan Bhakti and *Annakut aarti*. *Haribhaktas* of Ramol and Mahadevnagar had availed the benefit of Divine *Darshan* and inspirational speeches of the saints. (Shastri Chaitanyaswaroopdasji, Koteswar Gurukul)

1st Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jesangpura

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, and with the inspiration of Mahand Sadguru Shastri Nana P.P.. Swami of Naranghat temple, 1st Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jesangpura, was celebrated on 11/06/2010 with great fervour and enthusiasm.

(Uddayanbhai Maharaja, Visnagar)

Celebration of 33rd Patotsav of Shree**Swaminarayan temple, Zulasan**

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdasji of Jetalpurdham and Shri P.P. Swami, Shrimad Satsangibhushan Panch Dinantmak *Parayan* was performed from 08/05/2010 to 12/05/2010 on the occasion of 33rd *Patotsav* of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Zulasan. A pious *Pothiyatra* was also performed which was followed by an inspirational speech of the young Shastri Swami Bhaktinandandasji of Jetalpurdham, whose benefit was availed by many *Haribhaktas*.

On 12/05/2010, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the village Zulasan and the devotees of the village performed *Samiayu* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj followed by a grand *Shobhayatra*. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the temple and performed *aarti* of Thakorji. Thereafter *Annakut aarti* and concluding *aarti* of *Parayan* were also performed. The host family had performed *poojan-archan* of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in the *Sabha* and obtained the blessings.

On this occasion Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdasji, Vishwaprakashdasji from Jetalpurdham, Shastri Ghanshyam Swami from Jamiyatpura, Mahant Shastri Swami Uttampriyadasji from Mahesana temple, Kothari J.K. Swami, Vandanprakashdasji from Limbdi had arrived and delivered their inspirational speeches narrating the importance of Shreeji Maharaj and *Dharmkul*. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*.

Accepting the ardent request of the ladies devotees, H.H. Shri Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala graced the occasion and granted to the ladies devotees the benefit of Divine *Darshan* and blessings. (Prakashbhai and Piyushbhai)

Kaliyana (Viramgam)

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the co-operation of all the devotees and *Haribhaktas* of the village, 12 hour *Dhoon* of Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra was performed in front of Thakorji in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kaliyana. A large number of devotees had participated in this *Dhoon*. (Satsang Sevak)

18th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Martoli

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Shastri

A two hour Mahamantra *Dhoon* was performed in front of Thakorji. Thereafter Mahant Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji of Naranghat temple and Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji had narrated beautiful *Katha* which was followed by *Annakut-aarti*. A night *Kirtan Bhakti* programme was also organized on this occasion wherein Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple and Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) had narrated *Katha* of Shree Hari Leela Charitra and blessed all the devotees. In Satsang Diara the artists Shri Dhavalbhai Soni and Kirtankar Shri Purav Patel had performed beautiful *Kirtan-Sangeet*. All *Haribhaktas* had rendered their beautiful services on this occasion. (Kanjibhai-Jesangpura)

Shree Sahjanand Sanskardham Trust, Visnagar

With the directions of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj, primary school in English medium started in Visnagar in the year 1999-2000 which is run under the direct supervision of Dharmvanshi H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Beginning from Shree Sahjanand Elementary School, the educational institute has developed upto Shree Sahjanand Higher Secondary school and at present about more than 1700 children are obtaining school education from the institute.

During the period of a decade, the school has participated in various competitions at district, state and national levels such as Music, Drama, Karate, Skating, Athletics and intellectual development and has won many awards and medals. From this academic year, Standard 11 English Medium Day School is going to start and therefore the students of Visnagar and the nearby villages completing their education of Standard-10 will not have a question of going outside for higher secondary education and thereby they would be saving their unnecessary and avoidable expenses. For our Satsanig students, all arrangements for hostel and lodging with the facilities in accordance with the principles of our Sampradaya have been made.

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, the present Chairman of Shree Sahjanand Sanskardham Trust and with the beautiful management and administrative experience of the devoted staff and well qualified faculties, Standard 11 English Medium Day School of Visnagar will prove to be a blessings for the students of this region

Swami Harikeshavdasji, the learned Kathakar of our Sampradaya, 18th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Martoli was celebrated on 23/05/2010 in the presence of large number of devotees and *Haribhaktas*. The devotee Shri Bhaichandbhai Chaturdas Patel had rendered the services as the host of this *Patotsav*. They had also rendered their services in offering Mahapooja, *Annakut* and *Prasad* to Thakorji. All the devotees availed the benefit of *Prasad* on this occasion.

Shri Raghuvir Swami from Sokli, Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji from Idar etc. saints arrived on this occasion and narrated *Katha*. The *Sabha* was conducted by Kothari Manibhai Patel, (Satyasankalpdasji, Idar and Shreejiprakashdasji, Sokli)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Samau (Chaudhary)

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, 50th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Samau was celebrated on 05/06/2010 with great fervour and enthusiasm. devotee Shri Govindbhai of Akshar nivasi Mafatlal Chhagandas Darji family had rendered the services as the host of the *Patotsav*. On this occasion Mahapooja was also performed. Shatri Parshad Jasu Bhagat (Karjisan temple) had got performed Mahapooja. A large number of *Haribhaktas* from the nearby villages availed the benefit of *Darshan*. (Bhikhhabhai Kothari)

Bhagwat Katha in Sajipur

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Swami Madhavprasaddasji of Prantij temple and Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji of Idar temple, Shrimad Bhagwat Panchah *Parayan* was organized in Sajipur village.

Mahant Shasri Swami Harijivandasji of

Himatnagar temple and Mahant Shastri Swami Ghanshyamprakashdasji of Mansa temple were the spokespersons of this *Parayan*. on the day of concluding ritual, all *Haribhaktas* had performed Samaiyu of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj. In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, saints of Prantij, Idar, Lai, Ahmedabad and Himatnagar temples had delivered their inspirational speeches.

On this occasion H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the host devotees Shri Halusinh and Chatusrhind and Gulabsinh Rathod and also blessed Shri P.K. Patel and Harikrishnabhai who had participated in this *Utsav*. (Dineshbhai P. Patel, Sejipur)

Bhagwat Katha in Dungri

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Jagdishprasad Swami of Idar temple, a *Tridinatmak* Bhagwat Dasam Skanda *Parayan* was organized in Dungri village of Idar Desh.

Mahant Shatri Harijivandasji of Himatnagar temple was the spokesperson of *Katha*. Devotees Shri Baichandbhai, gopalbhai, Popatbhai and Rajendrabhai families had rendered their beautiful services for celebration of this *Parayan* in the sweet memories of their parents Akshar Nivasi Revabhai Nanjibhai and Akshar Nivasi Dhuliben Nanjibhai Patel. Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji, and Bhaktipriyadasji Swami (Lai) and Shatri Swami Shreejiprakashdasji (Sokli) had delivered their speeches in the *Sabha* organized on this occasion. Shastri Vasudevcharan Swami had conducted the *Sabha*. The whole programme was organized by Satyasankalp Swami. (Chetankumar Patel, Netramali)

MULI DESH

Satsangibhushan Katha in Jamsar (Halar)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Narayanprasaddasji of Muli temple, a *Tridinatmak* Satsangibhushan *Katha* was organized in view of *Rajat Jayantii Mahotsav* of temple and also in view of Shree Swaminarayan Museum Year.

Mahant Shastri Swami Harijivandasji of Himatnagar temple had narrated the *Katha* in a very

beautiful and lucid language. Mahant Shatri Hariprakashdasji of Charadva temple had conducted the whole programme and the *Sabha*. A large number of devotees from nearby villages as also the distant places had availed the benefit of this *Katha* and had also rendered their beautiful services. On the last day H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole village. (Arjanbhai Poriya, Himatnagar)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Patdi

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and also with the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Gadiwala, *Haribhaktas* of Patdi an Trent performed Bhuj-Kachchh *Padyatra* along with the chariot of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj. About more than 234 gents and ladies devotees participated in

this divine *Padyatra*. *Padyatra* began on 09/05/2010 in the morning and concluded on 17/05/2010 at Bhuj temple where all the participants of *Padyatra* availed the benefit of divine *Darshan*. *Haribhaktas* of Patdi, Trent, Ubhda, Bamanva, Vanod, Navrangpura, Rampura and Timba villages had participated in this *Padyatra*. (Govindbhai Patel and Naranji Talati)

OVERSEAS NEWS

Shree Swaminarayan Satsang Mandal, Calgary, Canada

With the blessings and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, a weekly Satsang *Sabha* is organized regularly by our Shree Swaminarayan Satsang Mandal of Canada.

Accordingly, Satsang *Sabhas* were organized on 03/04/2010, 10/04/2010, 17/04/2010, 24/04/2010, 01/05/2010, 08/05/2010, 16/05/2010

and 22/05/2010. In these *Sabha* Mahamantra Dhoon, 273 Vachanamrit, Shiksha Patri, Nitya Niyam, Thaal-Aarti and Kirtan-Bhakti were performed in group. All the devotees are taking part in this Satsang activity with great enthusiasm and day by day its popularity and participation are increasing.

SHRI SWAMINARAYAN SATSANG MANDAL, CANADA

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(Jayesh Patel)

AKSHARVAAS

Memnagar-Ahmedabad Devotee Kamlaben Yagnik (wife of devotee Prof. Umeshbhai) has passed away to Akshardham (15/06/2010) while chanting the name of Shri Hari. May the Almighty Lord grant all strength and patience to the devotee family.

Navagam (Dist.Kheda)– Devotee Shri Chandubhai Mangaldas Patel has passed away to divine abode of God (30/05/2010) amidst the chants of Mahamantra.

Timba (Muli Desh) - Devotee Shri Panchalbhai Nathubhai Parmar has passed away to Akshardham (Vaisakh Sud-11 24/05/2010). The whole devotee family is an ardent devotee of Muli Shri Radhakrishnadev and Ahmedabad Shri Narnarayandev.

Mahesana – Devotee Shri Jayeshbhai Nodi (son of our ardent devotee Shri Natubhai Modi) passed away to divine abode of God (21/06/2010) at a very young age after short-time illness. May the Almighty Lord grant the strength and patience to the devotee family

Saraspur-Ahmedabad – Devotee Shri Subhadraben Natvarlal Bhavsar has passed away to Akshardham amidst chants of Mahamantra.

Ahmedabad – Devotee Shri Kantaben Gandalal Modi has passed away to divine abode of God (24/05/2010) while chanting the name of Shree Hari.

Ahmedabad (Siniyawadawala) – Devotee Shri Babubhai Kalidas Malani (Thakkar) passed away to Akshardham (Vaisakh Sud-7, 20/05/2010) amidst the chants of Mahamantra.

Ahmedabad – Devotee Shri Vishnuprasad Motilal Kansara (Visnagarwala) passed away to divine abode of God (Vaisakh Sud-11, 24/05/2010) while chanting the name of Shree Hari.

Karsanpura (Tal. Dist. Mahesana) – Devotee Shri Kalpeshbhai (son of the devotee Shri Rambhai Karsandas Patel) passed away to Akshardham (13/06/2010) amidst chants of Mahamantra.



1. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing *Patotsav Abhishek* of Shree Harikrishna Maharaj in Laloda temple (Idar Desh)
2. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessing the *Sabha* in Laloda temple on the occasion of *Patotav* along with Mahant Swami of Ahmedabad temple, Mahant Swami of Idar temple, Swami Akhileshwardasji, Sami Vishwaprakashdasji and the saints.
- 3-4. H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj granting *Darshan* in the *Sabha* on *Patotsav* of Dholka temple and host devotees availing the benefit



Shree Narnarayandev
Ahmedabad

GURU PURNIMA

Guru Poojan Mahotsav



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008
Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj

It is for information of the whole Satsang that Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has established and granted us H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj from divine Dharmvanshi Dharmkul. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj belongs to the divine tradition of Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya.

On the pious day of *Ashadh Sud-15 Guru Purnima*, all Haribhaktas and devotees of our Sampradaya are cordially invited to participate in the Programme of Guru Poojan of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj of Shree Narnarayandev Desh.

From :-

Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji's
Jay Shree Swaminarayan

Samaiyo in Ahmedabad-Jetalpur temples

Place:

Shree Swaminarayan temple,
Kalupur, Ahmedabad-1.

Divine Occasion:

Ashadh Sud-15 Guru Purnima

Date: 25/07/2010 Sunday

From 7.00 hours in the morning

Museum Year
March 2010 - March 2011



Year 2010-11 "MUSEUM YEAR"

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj the year from March-2010 to March-2011 is declared as *Museum Year*.

Inauguration on 8th March 2011

Samvat 2067 Fagan Sud 3, Patotsav of Shree Narnarayandev

www.swaminarayancity.com.org