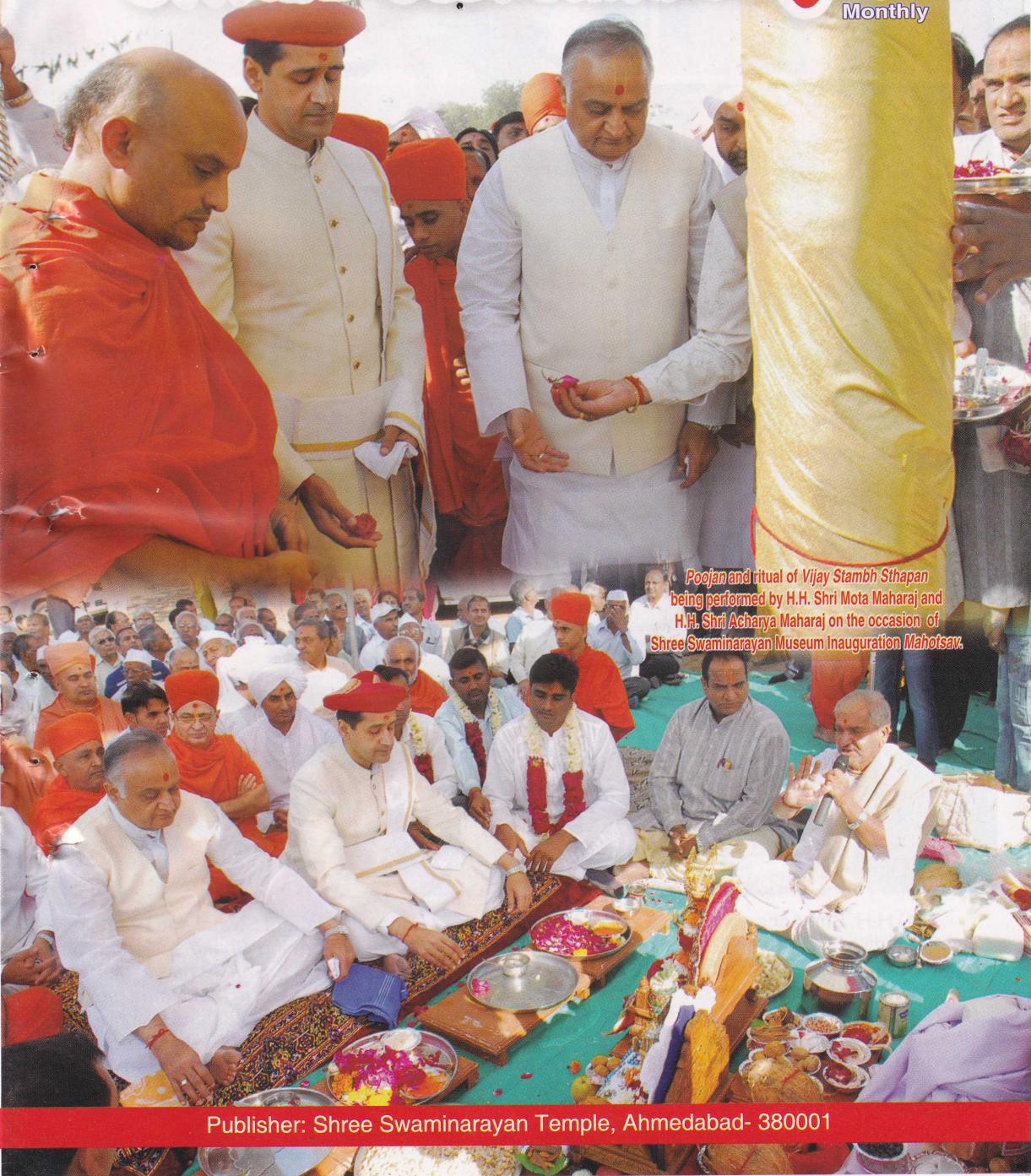
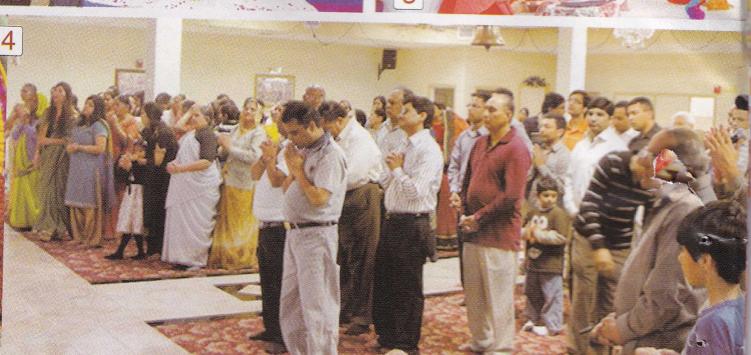


SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

Monthly



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(1) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing *Shakotsav* alongwith Mahant Swami and Bramchari Raju Swami in Dahegam temple. (2) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing *Shakotsav* alongwith Muni Swami and Bramchari Raju Swami in Manekpur temple. (3) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed *Vaghar* of *Shakotsav* alongwith Shastri Shreejiprakashdasji Swami in Makakhad temple. (4) *Haribhaktas* performed *Darshan* of *Shakotsav* before Thakorji in our Lakeland temple. (5) *Shakotsav Darshan* before Thakorji in our Toronto temple. (6) Saints and *Haribhaktas* performing *Dhoon* in our Leicester temple during the pious *Dhanur Maas*. (7) Poojari Swami performing *aarti* of Thakorji during the pious *Dhanur Maas* in our Chicago temple and Shastri Dharmvallabhdasji on the occasion of *Uttarayan*.



SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

Official News-letter from Shri Narnarayandevdesh Diocese

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February-2011

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Founded By H.H. Acharya
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શ્રી સ્વામનારાયણ

EDITORIAL

We all are now eagerly awaiting for Shree Swaminarayan Museum Inauguration *Mahotsav*. When Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan was on this earth before 230 years, Shree Hari graced many villages and places. Shree Hari was very much pleased with many saints and Haribhktas, poor or rich and offered them Things of *Prasadi* which are invaluable. The only letter in our *Sampradaya* with signature of Shree Hari, nail, bones, jaws of Shree Hari, clothes, ornaments, and utensils used by Shree Hari, and many other rarest of the rare Things of *Prasadi* are going to be displayed in our Shree Swaminarayan Museum. With the noble aim of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration and directions of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, and with the co-operation and services of mind, body and money of Haribhaktas and devotees all over the world, our Shree Swaminarayan Museum is now ready. Inauguration *Mahotsav* will be performed and Shree Swaminarayan Museum will be open for the devotees and visitor from the pious day of 189th *Patotsav* of Shree Narnarayandev on *Falgun Sud-3* 08/03/2011. It is an humble prayer at the lotus like feet of Almighty Lord Shree Narnarayandev that, we may get such strength during this pious occasion that, our *Niyam*, *Nischay* and *Paksha* may be strengthened.

Editor
 Mahant Swami
 Shastri Swami Harikrishnadas

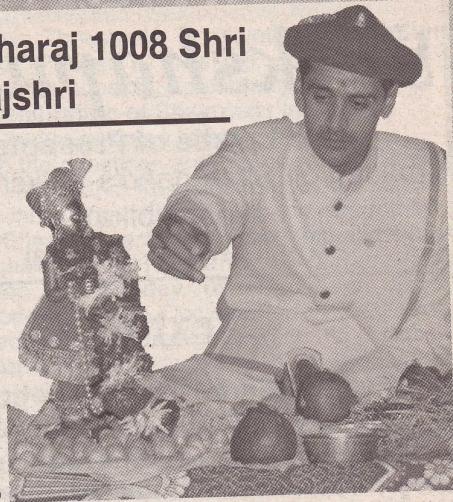
Appointment Diary of H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri

(JANUARY - 2011)

5. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Hareshbhai Bhavsar, Nava Vadaj on the occasion of *Mahapooja*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Manekpur, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
6. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Makakhat, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
7. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Amrutbhai Sendhabhai Patel, Kundal on the occasion of *Katha*.
9. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Nava Vadaj, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Delvada, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Karmshakti Bapunagar, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
10. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Mansa, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
11. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Shivabhai Ramabhai Chaudhary, on the occasion of *Katha*.
12. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Maniyor (Idar Desh), on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
13. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Zolapur (tal. Sanand), on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dahegam (Tebla Fali), on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
15. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad, and performed *Purnahuti* ritual of *Dhanur Maas Dhoon*.
16. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Dhirubhai Hirjibhai Khokhar, Nikolgam road.
17. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Suryanagar (Muli Desh) on the occasion of *Dhoon*.
19. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Muli, on the occasion of *Mahapooja*.
20. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Chimabhbhai Babaldas Gajjar, Bardolpura. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Kamleshbhai Bachubhai Patel (Dinguchawala), Naranpura.
Graced the village Por (Dist. Gandhinagar) on the occasion of *Katha*.
21. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Ramanbhai Shamalbhai Patel, Bayad.
22. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Meu, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ghatodia, on the occasion of Shri *Janmangal Group Path*.
23. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Khimjibhai Bhagwandas Patel family at village Meda on the occasion of *Guru Mantra Mahotsav*.
30. Graced Shree Prabha Hanumanji temple, Jamiyatpura, on the occasion of invocation of the idol images.

Appointment Diary of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj

1. Graced Shree Swaminarayn temple, Zundal, on the occasion of *Parayan*.
2. Graced Shree Swaminarayn temple, Naranghat, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayn temple, Motera, on the occasion of *Shakotsav*.



Shikshapatri

The Epistle of Precepts
(based on Shatanand's Shikshapatri
Arthadipika)
By Pravin S. Varsani

Text 44

My Sat-Shudra disciples who are
devotees of Shree Krishna and
Observing their Dharma, shall wear a
Tulsi Kanthi and shall mark
The Tilak similr to those of Brahmins,
Kshatriyas and Vaishyas.

*Sachudraha Krushnabhaktaa Ye Taistu
Malordhvapundrake /
Dwijatitadvare Nijadhasmeshu
Sansthitaiha ||*

Shatanand explains that there are two types of **Shudras** – *Sachudra* (or *Sat-Shudra*) and *Asachudra*. Shree Hari has defined a *Sachudra* as a *Krushnabhakta* and *Nijadhasmeshu Sansthitaiha* – one who is a faithful Krishna devotee and who is true to his duty. *Smritis* further explain:

*Vishudhvanavasamjato Nivruto
Madhmaisataha /
Dwijabhakto Varigvritiha Sachudraha
Samprakirtitaha ||*

'Those who are born in a righteous family, who refrain from meat and alcohol, who are devoted to Brahmins and who serve Vaishyas are considered as Sachudra.' Those who do not live according to this code of ethics are considered as Aschudra. A Shudra should be understood as a person of the fourth caste.

Shatanand explains a Shudra as any 'low born' and therefore is not exclusively a member of the fourth caste and as such a

child born out of an affair is considered a Shudra. However, there are two types of children born – *Anulomaja* and *Pratilomaja*. The following explains the various Shudras or low born. The first are born out of *Anuloma* or true marriage and therefore are Sachudras.

Murhavshakti – a child from a Kshatriya mother and a Brahmin father. **Ambashta** – Vaishya mother and Brahmin father, **Nishad or Parshav** – Shudra mother and Brahmin father, **Mahishya** – Vaishya mother Kshatriya father, **Ugra** – Shudra mother and Kshatriya father. **Karana** – Shudra mother and Vaishya father.

Now are explained those born from a *Pratiloma* marriage – Asachudras : **Suta** – Brahmin mother and Kshatriya father, **Vaidehic** – Brahim mother and Vaishya father, **Chandal** – Brahmin mother and Shudra father (such a Chandal as considered as lowest type), **Magadh** – Kshatriya mother and Vaishya father, **Kshata** – Kshatriya mother and Shudra father, **Ayogav** – Vaishya mother and Shudra father. Further more, the child of a mahishyo father and Karana mother is a **Rathkar**. In this way are defined Sachudras and Asachudras. Those Sachudras who are Krishna devotees, who wish for salvation, who serve the upper three cases and who obey their personal duty have the right to *Diksha*, *Tulsi Mala* and *Urdvapundra*.

Therefore **Narad Panchratra** explains, 'Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vishyas and Shudras who desire salvation (Mumukshu) should wear the *Tulsi Mala*, *Urdvapundra* *Tilak* and the *Vaishnav Mantra* (*Diksha Mantra*).'

It was the aim of Lord Swaminarayan to return to the true Vedic teachings and therefore he taught the true Dharmas for Shudras, giving them back their rightful place in society.

(Con. from page 7..)

Jap Mala

- Sadhu Purushottamprakashdas (Jetalpurdham)



In Vedic tradition, *Mala* is considered as symbol of *Siddhi* of *Mantra* and also a symbol of God for *Siddhi* on spiritual path. During the time, when idol images were not easily accessible for a believer, he had to remain satisfied with *Mala*.

There are two types of *Mala* (beads). One which we have to wear; we call it *Kan thi*. The another one is *Jap Mala*. In *Shloka-41* of 'Shiksha Patri', Shree Hari has stated:

"Those of my Brahmin, Kshatriya and Vaishya disciples who have been initiated into the devotion of Shree Krishna by their Guru shall always wear around their neck a double Kan thi prepared from Tulsi wood and shall mark their forehead, chest and both arms with a Tilak."

In *Vaishnavi Ramanuji* tradition, double *Kan thi* is considered as symbol of soul and supreme Soul and thereby feeling and relation of Master and servant between the Almighty God and devotee is strengthened. Through emancipation of this soul, one should attain Almighty God and for that purpose he should adopt *Kan thi*. In *Adhyay-81* of Chapter-4 of 'Satsangijivan', Shatanand Swami has stated,

"While Acharya of both Desh asked Shree Maharaj about the ritual of Diksha, Shree Hari replied that, a man intending to obtain Diksha should first take bath and then hold holy fruit in his hands and pray with folded hands to

Almighty Lord seeking His Shelter and should perform Sankalp (take vow) that Almighty Lord Shree Krishna may protect him from Kaal, Maya, Paapkarma (sins) and Yamdut and all types of fear."

काल माया पापकर्म यमदूत भयादहम् ।

श्रीकृष्णादेवं शरणं प्रपन्नोऽस्मि सप्तातुमाम् ॥२७॥

Then Guru should apply *Tilak* with *Prasadi* of *Keshar*, *Kapur* and *Chandan* on his forehead and offer him Double *Mala* (*Kan thi*) of *Tulsi* wood. As a symbol of *Diksha* this *Mantra* and *Mala* are kept by him. After obtaining *Diksha*, this *Kan thi* should always be kept with. If the thread of *Kan thi* is damaged then the thread can be changed but not the beads of *Kan thi*. These beads should never be changed. If *Kan thi* is lost somewhere, then one should go to Guru and obtain a new one, should perform *poojan* with *Tilak*, *Aksha*, *Pushpa* and then it should be worn. Length of *Kan thi* should be upto the heart and not longer one. Through constant touch of each bead of *Kan thi* with the blood veins, it helps smooth blood circulation. Beads of *Tulsi* wood is the symbol of happiness of Almighty Lord.

It is stated in 'Skanda Purana',
शयने भोजने स्नाने तथा चोत्सर्गकर्मणि । न
त्यजेन्तुलशीमालां त्यजंस्ता दोष भाग भवेत् ॥

One should not be away with *Kan thi* even while performing daily chores. It is also stated in *Skanda Purana* that, Almighty Lord is pleased if one wears *Kan thi*. In *Padma Purana* it is stated that, meals taken by the person without *Kan thi* around his neck are not acceptable. Just

like *Yagno Pavit*, *Kanthy* must always be worn.

It is stated in *Garuda Purana*:

तुलशीकण्ड संलग्नां विसर्गाद्येऽपि न त्येजत् ।

ना शौचं धारणे तस्यो यतः सा ब्रह्मरुपिणी ॥
पूजाकाले तथा ध्याने संध्यादीनि त्य कर्मणि ।

तुलसी दधते कण्ठे ते भक्ताः हरि वल्लभाः ॥

Those who hold *Kanthy* around his neck, while performing *Poojan*, *archan*, Almighty Lord is always pleased with him. One *Mala* is worn and another *Mala* is kept for performing *Mantra Jaap*. *Jap Mala* of 108 beads is considered best, of 57 beads medium and of 27 beads lower one. One can perform *Mala* even in his right palm.

There are various types of *Mala* such as *Tulsi*, *Silver*, *Rudraksh*, *Pearl*, *Darbh* (grass), *Shankh* (conch), *Kamal Kakdi*, *Halda* (Turmeric), *Baheda*, *Chandan* and *Vaijayanti* etc.

Japa performed through *Mala* should not be counted even with the fruits, flowers, grains etc. it must be remembered that, *Japa* is not for counting.

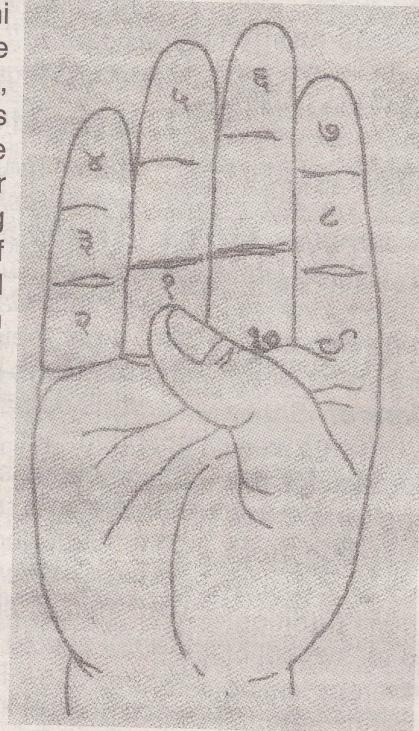
There are certain rules for performing *Mantra Japa* through *Mala*. It is prohibited to perform *Mala* while walking. However, *Mantra* can be chanted through *Mala* while walking. One should sit at one place and perform *Mala* as without a seat, one does not get any result of such *Mala* or *Japa*. *Mala* should be kept in *Gaumukhi*. *Mantra*

Jaap should always be kept confidential or it should be performed while covering it by cloth. It is stated in the *Scriptures* that, *Mala* and *Mundra* (money) should be shown to *Guru*. There is peculiar shape of *Gaumukhi* like mouth of a cow. Those who perform *Mala* or *Japa* while keeping *Mala* open, they do not get its result.

While performing *Japa* in the morning, *Mala* should be kept at the height of our navel, in the noon at the height of our chest and in the evening at the height of our nose. *Mala* should not be performed in hurry nor while shaking head. It should begin while performing *Vandan* reverently. One should not speak or talk with anybody while performing *Mala*. There should be complete discipline. *Mala* should not be performed in the bed while sleeping. *Mala* should be performed only after taking bath. On completing *Mala*, we should keep the bead in

the temple of our home.

Appropriate fingers of right hand should be used while performing *Mala*. We should not allow the last finger of our right hand to touch the beads as it spoils the whole *Japa*. There is great importance of place where *Mala* should be performed. If *Mala* is performed in *Gaushala* then it gives 100 times more result than one performed in house; still 100 times more if it is performed in forest and still more 100 times if it is performed at the place of pilgrimage,



on the peak of the mountain, on the bank of the river, in Devalaya and in front of the idol image of the God it gives result in an ascending order.

Poojan of *Mala* should be performed and the following *Mantra* should be chanted:

ॐ अक्षतालधिपतये सु सिध्धिदेही देही सर्व मंत्रार्थ

साधीनी साधय साधय सर्व सिध्धिपरकल्पय

परिकल्पय मे स्वाहा: ।

जपकाले च सिध्धर्य प्रसीद मम सिध्धये । अविघं

कुरु माले: त्वं गृहणामिदक्षिणे करे ॥

There are three types of *Japa*. In *Nrisinha Purana* it is stated that *Vachik*, *Upashu* and *Mansik*, *Vachik* means to speak very slowly, to speak in such a way that another person does not hear it, to chant *Mantra* in such a way that lips are not moved. One should not allow the *Mala* to drop from hands and if it drops accidentally

then one should repent it 108 times.

यस्मिन् स्थाने जपं कुर्यान्ति तद्धक्षका न नत्पलम् ।

तन्मृदालक्ष्म कुर्वीत ललाटे तिलका कृतिम् ॥

By touching the clay of the place where *japas* are performed, one should speak thrice the words '*Bhu: Bhava: Swaha:*'. One should not stand up while performing *Japa* and this should be done regularly.

Mala Japa is a king of *Yog Sadhana*. It is not leisure time activity. In the Indian Astrology, with the help of 27 *Nakshatra*, 12 *Rashi* and 9 *Graha* and their place, the past, present and future of a person are foreseen. There are 27 *Nakshatra* in one direction and thereby total of all four directions (East, West, North and South) comes to 108. and therefore there are 108 beads in one *Mala* and there cannot be any compromise in this number. A Graph is also given in this article to show how to perform *Japa* with the help of our hands.

Con. on page 4

Text 45

My disciples who belong to the substrata of society shall wear a

Sanctified double rosary of sandalwood around their neck and shall

Place only a round mark on their forehead but not a *Tilak*.

This *Shloka* is in reference to *Asachudras* and others. They too have the right to serve God but in their case they should not mark the vertical *Tilak*. They should wear only the *Chandlo*. All, regardless of their birth have right to serve and worship the Lord. Even the worst of sinners are cleansed through the worship of God. *Asachudras* do not have the right of *Poojan* or *Murtis*, but do have the right of

Poojan of Murtis, but do have the right of *Darshan* and *Naamasankirtan* and therefore need not wear the vertical *Tilak*.

Brahman Purana explains, 'Yagna, donation, penance, offerings, study and ancestral rites performed without the *Urdvapundra* bear no fruits.' *Shudras* do not have the right to perform any of these acts therefore it is not necessary for them to wear the *Urdvapundra*.

The Lord in this way gives the true Vedic teachings for *Shudras* explaining their rights and duties. A *Shudra* can never be called an '*untouchable*' if he is a faithful devotee of God. Those, regardless of caste who act willfully, breaking the '*Panchvartmans*' are arguably the true *untouchables*.

Nindat Nahi Koi Devku

- Shastri Abhayprakashdasji
Guru Swami Devprakashdasji (Naranghat)

Saint Sadguru Premanand Swami of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan is now explaining rule nine: '*Nindat Nahi Koi Devku*'. Here Swamiji warns against 'Devninda' (to speak foul words about the deity). It means that, we speak ill and foul words about those whom we do not like. This is a very bad habit.

There are some people who take pleasure in speaking ill and foul words about others. They worship the gods and goddesses of their like and choice. But they are found abusing deities and gods and goddesses of other religion and of other people. This is not proper. And therefore, Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has stated in *Shloka 23 of 'Shiksha Patri'*:

"When passing by temples of Lord Shiva and other deities, one shall bow to them and pay due reverence to the deities therein."

Even in *Shloka 84 of 'Shiksha Patri'*, it is stated:

"My disciples shall reverently worship the five deities Vishnu, Shiva, Ganapati, Parvati and Surya."

Moreover, Shree Hari established the idol images of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev. But there are some people, who either ignorantly or intentionally abuse the deities established by Shree Hari Himself. But committing such sins, these people will not get anything. They will never be able to please Shree Hari.

Therefore, one should never abuse any deities. Even in *Shloka-21* Shree Hari has stated:

"देवतातीर्थविप्राणां साध्वीनां च सतामपि ।

वेदानां च न कर्तव्या निन्दा श्रव्या न चं कचित् ॥

"One shall never slander deities, places of pilgrimage, Brahmins, devout wives, priests or the holy scriptures, nor listen to such slander."

Shree Hari has prohibited not only speaking such abuses but also listening to such abuses from others. Because, listening to such foul words or abusing is like committing such sins ourselves.

Like deities, one should not abuse the places of pilgrimage, Brahmins. These Brahmins have been studying the Vedas and thereby they have been helping in preserving Samskaras in our society and therefore they are our pious assets and we should not allow them to be abused by others.

We should also not listen to the abuses about the saints as they are direct messengers of Almighty God and we should not abuse the scriptures as they have science and spirituality very harmoniously blended in them.

It is stated in Skanda Purana:

"श्रुति भूदेव देवानां नृप साधु तपस्विनाम् ।

पतिव्रतानां नारीणां निन्दां कुर्यात् कर्हिचित् ॥

"तीर्थानि देवप्रतिमा निन्देयुर्ये कुबुद्धयः ।

तेषां तु जारजातानां वंशच्छेदो भवद्धुवम् ॥

Those people who abuse the places of pilgrimage, they get their whole heirs destroyed and therefore even by mistake one should not abuse such places of pilgrimage.

Unique definition of 'Satsang' & its Commentary

- Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara (Hirawadi-Bapunagar)



Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has stated, "It is our wish and desire to spread Satsang in every leaf." Shree Hari has granted so many Utsav in our Sampradaya that we can spread Satsang in every leaf and in every corner of this world through these Utsav and festivals. Lacs of people throng together during such Utsav-Samaiyo and everyone will remember and chant the name of Shree Hari. Such a grand Utsav namely Shakotsav was recently celebrated in Sunday 09/01/2011 jointly by all Swaminarayan temples of Bapunagar area.

This Shakotsav reminds us of the famous Shakotsav of village Loya, which was performed by Shree Hari. Alongwith H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj- the whole Dharmul graced this occasion of Shakotsav of Bapunagar. All the Three Other Forms of Shree Hari performed Vaghari of Shakotsav; they also blessed the Sabha organized on the occasion. Noteworthy thing about this Shakotsav was that about more than 51,000 (fifty one thousand) Haribhaktas and ladies devotees availed the benefit of Prasad of

Shakotsav.

While addressing the Grand Sabha H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj stated that, "There are so many devotees and people availing the benefit of Prasad of Shakotsav that, it is difficult to say whether this is Utsav or Samaiyo of Shakotsav. While defining the term 'Satsang' H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj stated that, "Many learned people define the term 'Satsang' differently but in our view the activities in which we can remember Shree Hari are Satsang and the activities in which we forget Shree Hari are 'Kusam'.

If we think over this, then this one statement tells us so many things in a very simple and lucid way. The very objective of any Utsav or Samaiyo is to remember Shree Hari. Otherwise all other festivals are simply the occasion of get together crowding the people at one place. In Utsav or Samaiyo of our Sampradaya we organize the programmes such as 'Katha, Parayan, Vishnu Yaag, Dhoon, Kirtan, Sabha, Abhishek, Annakut of Thakorji, Group Mahapooja, Group Mahaprasad. Here Hari is in the centre of all such occasions. If we keep the idol image and name of Shree Hari in our heart and mind then every such occasion would become meaningful.

We should also keep the name and image of Shree Hari before our eyes in all other day-to-day activities of our life. When we get up in the early morning, we should remember the name of Shree Hari, while taking bath we should chant the name of Shree Hari, we should clean the place where we perform poojan archan of Shree Hari

and we should also chant Pada of Nitya Naiyam remembering Shree Hari.

When we are preparing the meals in the kitchen, we should remember Shree Hari as if we are preparing and offering Thaal to Shree Hari. We should earn our livelihood and money ethically and we should also offer 1/10th or 1/20th of our earnings in Dharmada. While performing our duties at our work-place we should chant the name of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan and we should also observe all the directions given in the pious 'Shiksha Patri' as it is considered as remembering the name of Shree Hari.

We should not talk with others unnecessarily; if we do so or if we get involved in the frivolous activities like abusing others, watching television programmes are reading news-papers or read the books which take us away from Shree Hari in any way then it is a kind of 'Kusang'. Any activity which is devoid of name and directions of Shree Hari is called 'Kusang'. But if we perform *Darshan*, *pooja*, *Dhyan*, *Naam Smaran*, *Kirtan* of Shree Hari it is called 'Satsang'. Activities of listening or reading *Katha-Varta* and *Charitra* of Shree Hari and by following the directions of Shree Hari given in the pious 'Shiksha Patri' are also included in the definition of 'Satsang'.

At last if we remember the worlds of Shree Hari in *Vachanamrit* of *Gadhada Middle Chapter* then Shree Hari says that, "Nothing in this world is more arduous and difficult than concentrating our mind in Shree Hari. And those people who can concentrate their mind in Shree Hari there is nothing greater achievement. Those people who can do this then if they wish to see *Jiv* (soul), *Ishwar* (god) *Maya* and *Brahma*, they can see them easily.

Moreover they can also see *Vaikunth*, *Golok*, *Brahm-Mahol* etc. The essence of all this is that, while performing every activity of our life we should remember and chant the name of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan. We should not forget Him in happy or unhappy occasion such as birth, death, marriage etc.

OUR FUTURE FESTIVALS

Patotsav of our Shree Swaminarayan Temples

Mada Vad -1/2 : Saturday 19/02/2011

Mahesana

Mada Vad -3 : Sunday 20/02/2011

Limbdhi

Mada Vad-5 : Tuesday 22/02/2011
Naranghat (Ahmedabad)

Mada Vad -6 : Wednesday 23/02/2011
Morbi

Falgun Sud-2 : Sunday 06/03/2011
Charadva and Pathotsav of Shri Harikrishna Maharaj, Bhuj.

From 05/03/2011 to 09/03/2011

Shree Swaminarayan Museum

Inauguration Mahotsav

Falgun Sud-3 : Tuesday 08/03/2011
Patotsav Mahotsav of the Lord Shree Narnarayandev, Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad.

Falgun Sud-4 : Wednesday 09/03/2011
Sapawada

Falgun Sud-5 : Thursday 10/03/2011
Kankaria

Falgun Sud-8 : Sunday 13/03/2011
Approach (Bapunagar)

Falgun Sud-15 : Saturday 19/03/2011
Mukutotsav Poonam, Shree Narnarayandev Jayanti Fuldotsav At 12.00 hours in the noon

Shiksha Patri- Wonderful Boon

- Prof. Suryakant Bhatt (Bhuj- Kachchh)

The main aim of the Lord Shree Sahjanand swami was to uplift the worldly and spiritual life of the people of this world. During His incarnation on this Earth, His aim was to grant emancipation to all the souls of this universe and this is reflected in every word, preaching and sermon of Shree Hari. Social welfare, personal development and emancipation were harmoniously blended together. In all Sampradaya of Hindu Dharma, Moksha (emancipation) is considered to be the ultimate goal of human life. The ways to achieve it are various. The path of Moksha is a spiritual path and the whole life of a person remains fragrant who follows it scrupulously. Simultaneously, people around him also get the spiritual fragrance from him.

During the initial period of the time of Shree Hari, the condition of Dharma (religion) was very dizzy in the society. The ways of worship were not so pure. There was a practice of sacrifice of the animals in Yagnas and there were all social evils prevalent in the society. In the pious company of Shree Sahjanand Swami, thousands of people felt the spiritual height

and upliftment in themselves and thereby they realized that, the Way of Moksha or Mukti is very easy. Sahjanand Swami preached the religion to all the people in their day to day life and make their conduct and routine life very pure, pious and religious. He strengthened the ethics through noble conduct of the people; thus, he not only preached through words but also showed an example through His own conduct as well as the conduct of the saints and the devotees.

In Samvat 1882

(1826 A.D.) Shreeji Maharaj created divine 'Shiksha Patri' on the pious day of *Vasant Panchmi* Maha Sud-5. Directions contained in this scripture are relevant even today as they are perennial in nature. Many devotees and *Haribhaktas* perform *poojan-archan* of the pious 'Shiksha Patri', they chant the *Shlokas* and every year 'Shiksha Patri Jayanti' is celebrated on the pious day of *Vasant Panchmi* at various places all over the world. The style of 212 *Shlokas* of 'Shiksha Patri' is very simple and easy to understand even for the uneducated persons. Noble conduct is at the base of our Sampradaya. While



defining 'Dharma' it is stated:

"Conduct endorsed by Shruti and Smruti is real Dharma. This Dharma encourages and strengthens the noble conduct. A follower of Dharma has to take five vows : (1) To abstain from drinking liquor (2) To abstain from eating flesh (3) To abstain from theft (4)

To uphold the character (5) To abstain from religious conversion. Besides these five vows, Tyagis or saints should also observe five *Vartman* (principles) of *Nishkam, Nispreehi, Nirlobh, Nihswad and Nihsneh*.

From *Shloka-11* onwards, various types of directions are given in the pious '*Shiksha Patri*'. Shreeji Maharaj has also preached not to commit suicide. It is also directed not to speak such words which may offend others and also not to make false allegations against others. It is further directed not to speak or listen any foul words about the deities, place of pilgrimage, Sati, Sadhu, Vedas and the Brahmins.

From *Shloka 123* to *134* of '*Shiksha Patri*' directions are issued for the rules to be observed by Acharya of Sampradaya and his wife who is known as Gadiwala in our

Sampradaya. Here duties to be performed by Dharmkul as Grahasthi and other special duties are narrated.

From *Shloka 175* to *202* of '*Shiksha Patri*' duties to be performed by Naishthik Brahmcharis are narrated. A careful study of

'*Shiksha Patri*' reveals that Shree Hari has directed to perform all the duties of daily life very diligently such as using clean clothes and utensils, to sieve the water with a piece of cloth & it is also stated what is an ideal schedule of the day. Besides this, it is also narrated about the special care to be taken during the times of Solar and Lunar eclipse. Chatur Maas etc. Duties of Brahmcharis are also narrated in detail. Shree Sahjanand Swami

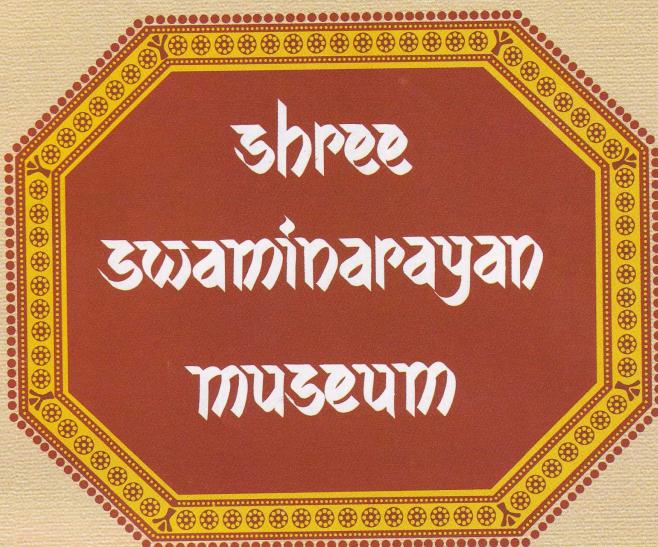
has explained the forms of 'Ishwar' (god), Maya, Jiv (soul) Gyan (knowledge) Dharma (Religion) and Vairagya (Renunciation). Thus, this pious '*Shiksha Patri*' is a wonderful boon in human life for the welfare and emancipation of all the souls of this world. Shree Sahjanand Swami has stated that, "our words themselves are our own Form." and has directed all the devotees and Haribhaktas to follow it scrupulously.

Pride of our Sampradaya

Our devotee Shri Naranbhai Bakorbhai Patel (Unava, Dist. Gandhinagar) and Kothari of Sabarmati temple has been awarded with 'Dharti Ratna' Awarded for the year 2010/2011 by Ashirwad Education Trust and has been given the award by Her Excellency the Governor of Gujarat Shri Kamalaji for his noteworthy services in the fields of health and education. For this achievement, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj are very much pleased and blesses him.



Divine Dream of H.H.Acharya Shree Tejendraprasadji



Inauguration Festival

Date : 8th March, 2011 (Shree NarnarayanDev Patotsav)

I N V I T A T I O N

Chairman
H.H. Acharya 1008 Shree Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshree

Date : 5th March to 9th March 2011

Shree Swaminarayan Museum Inauguration Mahotsav Programme

Date: 05/03/2011 (Saturday)

Morning	8.00 hours
Morning	8.45 hours
Morning	9.00 hours
Morning	9.15 hours
Morning	9.30 hours
Noon	12.00 hours
Noon	3.30 hours
Evening	6.30 hours
Night	8.30 hours

Pothiyatra

From the residence of the host to place of *Mahotsav*
 Inauguration of Main Entrance Gate
 Inauguration of Temple
 Beginning of *Akhand Dhoon*
Dip Pragatya of *Mahotsav* - Beginning of *Katha*
Katha Viram
 Beginning of *Katha*
 Concluding ritual of *Katha*
 Cultural Programme

Date: 06/03/2011 (Sunday)

Morning	6.30 hours
Morning	7.00 hours
Morning	9.00 to 12.00 hours
Noon	3.00 to 6.00 hours
Night	8.30 hours

Abhishek of Rangmahol

Mahapooja at the place of *Mahotsav*
Katha
Katha and *Rajat-Suvarna Tula* Ritual
 Cultural Programme

Date: 07/03/2011 (Monday)

Morning	7.30 hours
Morning	9.00 to 4.00 hours

Beginning of *Yagna*
Vastu-Poojan : Museum

Date: 08/03/2011 (Tuesday)

Morning	5.00 hours
Morning	6.30 hours
Morning	9.00 hours
Evening	6.30 to 8.00 hours
Night	8.30 hours

Mangala Aarti of Shri Narnarayandev
Mahabhishek

Shangar Aarti and *Annakut Darshan*
 Museum Inauguration *Mahotsav* **Place** : Museum
 Cultural Programme

Date: 09/03/2011 (Wednesday)

Morning	9.00 hours
Morning	9.30 hours
Morning	10.00 to 12.00 hours

Concluding ritual of *Akhand Dhoon*

Concluding ritual of *Yagna*

Sabha and Concluding ritual of *Mahotsav*

Every Morning 9.00 to 12.00 hours

Katha and honour of the host devotees

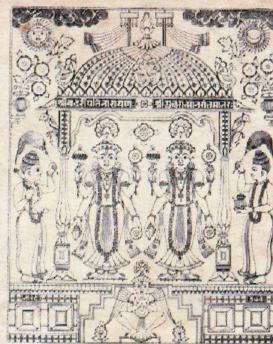
Every Noon 3.30 to 6.30 hours

Katha and honour of the host devotees

During the whole *Utsav*, various social welfare activities are also organized such as *Akhand Dhoon*, Blood Donation Camp, Diagnosis Camp, Freedom from Addiction *Yagna* and *Vidya Sahay*.

* * * * *

Tejendraprasadji



The dedication of Shree Swaminarayan Museum (unique & first of its kind in the history of Swaminarayan Sampradaaya) to the followers, shall start from 5th March 2011 till 9th March 2011

The inauguration ceremony shall be on the 8th March 2011.

You are most cordially invited to grace the occasion by your presence and participation.

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વહી અમારા અંગનું અંબરરે, અહુ સુપરશોષ સુંદરરે ।
એહુ પ્રસાદિતું છેહુ પટરે, મણે ટણે સર્વ સંકટરે ॥૧૪॥
એહુ અનુત્પત્ત અતિરે, ધાય પૂછતા પરમ પ્રાપત્તિરે ।
અતિ મણુત્ત્ય એનું અતુલ્યરે, કણે ક્યાંથી મળે એ તુલ્યરે ॥૧૫॥
દે દે અમારા સંધિની વસ્તુરે, ત મળે ગોતતા ઉદ્દે અસ્તરે ।
દાણસ અમ સંધિની દે દે રે, છે એ ઉલ્લાણ કારી ભાની સિદ્ધેરે ॥૧૬॥
તે તો રાખી છે અમે અપારરે, સહુ છન અણ્યે આ વારરે ।
તખ શિખા ખગી નિરધારરે રાખી સુપરશિ વસ્તુ કરી પ્યારરે ॥૧૭॥
સુપરશી ચીન્દ દે અહુ પ્રસરે, અણી હોય દે અંગે અમારે ।
તે તો સર્વ ઉલ્લાણ કારી રે, માટે રાખી છે અમે વિચારી રે ॥૧૮॥

"Purushottamprakash" : Chapter 47

Festival Place
Ganesh Hosing Co.ltd. Sarkhej-Gandhinagar Road,
Between Thaltej Sola Road, Ahmedabad

Shree Swaminarayan Museum
B/H Torrent Power, Opp. Term School, Naranpura, Ahmedabad - 13

Organize by
Shree Swaminarayan Temple,
Kalupur, Ahmedabad - 380001 Tel: 22132170

Glimpse of Dasabdi Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Los Angeles

With the blessings of Shree Hari and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, 10th Patotsav of the Lord Shri Radhakrishnadev Harikrishna Maharaj was celebrated from 10/12/2010 to 19/12/2010 in the pious company of H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala. The devotee Shri Anandibej Natvarlal Patel was the chief host of this Dasabdi Mahotsav. On the first day of Patotsav invocation of Shri Ganpatiji Maharaj was performed by Bhajan Sandhya by the singers Shri Vinodbhai Patel and Shri Dineshbhai Gadhi.

On Saturday 11/12/2010, Shri Hanuman Vandana programme was organized. Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah Parayan was also organized on this occasion. Sadguru Swami Shreejiprakashdasji (Mahant, Naranpura) was the spokesperson of this Parayan. The devotee Shri Ronakbhai Satishbhai Patel had rendered the services as the host of this Parayan. Pothiyatra was also performed with great fervour and enthusiasm, whose live telecast was also made.

On 12/12/2010 Dip Pragtya was performed Mahant Shastri Swami Ramanujdasji along with Mahant Swami of Detroit, Chicago and Florida temples. Bhagwatacharya Shri Yogendrabhai Bhatt had performed all the rituals on this occasion.

The day of 14/12/2010 was very precious for all Haribhaktas and devotees of Los Angeles and I.S.S.O. When H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj arrived at the air port of Los Angeles, Shastri Swami Ramanujdasji, Shastri Dharmkishordasji and all other Haribhaktas including devotees and saints of Downee temple under Vadtal, performed warm welcome

with garlands and performed Samaiyu.

Beautiful Maruti Yagna was organized in the temple. Shri Yogendrabhai Bhatt was Acharya of this yagna. The devotee Shri Ranjanben Umakant Patel was the chief host of this Yagna. At 4.00 hours in the evening, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced the inner temple where grand samaiyu in accompaniments of musical instruments was performed amidst chanting of Swaminarayan Mahamantra. The concluding ritual of Yagna was performed by offering the holy fruit.

On 15/12/2010 Pradurbhav was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in Katha. The devotee Shri Shilpaben Sureshbhai Patel was the host of Janmotsav Aarti on this occasion. The devotee Shri Kamlaben Ishwarbhai Patel who rendered their services as the hosts of poojan of Dharmkul, performed poojan-archan of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and obtained the blessings. H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala also graced the Sabha and blessed the ladies devotees on this occasion.

On 17/12/2010 a cultural programme was organized at night wherein Shri Jagdishbhai Trivedi the comedian of Surendranagar entertained all the devotees and Haribhaktas. Singing of Bhajan and Doha was also performed on this occasion. The devotee Shri Jankiben Ketanbhai Sharma rendered services as the host of this cultural programme.

On 18/12/2010 ritual of Maha Vishnu Yaag was got performed by Shri Yogendrabhai Bhatt. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performed concluding ritual of this Yagna by offering the holy fruit. The devotee Shri Jyotiben Prahladbhai Chaudhary rendered the services as the host of this Maha Vishnu Yaag.

SIMPLE WAY TO OBTAIN MOKSHA**-Shastri Haripriyadas (Gandhinagar)**

Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has shown the path of peace, happiness and *Moksha*. By following this path that means by performing reading of *Leela Charitra* and through *Sankirtan* and *Satsang* one achieves this. Though one may not have read any scriptures like *Vedas* and *Puranas*, yet if one has read any one *Charitra* of Shree Hari then he gets emancipation in this life. Let us recall and cherish one such *Charitra* of Shree Hari.

Friends! We do not know when Shree Hari will be pleased with us and how. But once He is pleased, nothing else requires to be done in this life. This is an incident of the great devotee Dada Khachar.

Once Shreeji Maharaj called all saints to Gadhpur. Beautiful meals were got ready and were offered to the saints. Various types of items were offered to the saints in their meals. The curd was offered in abundance. After the meals, Shree Hari poured the curd upon the head of Mahanubhavanand Swami. All saints and *Haribhaktas* laughed at this.

Co-incidentally Muktanand Swami and Brahmanand Swami were narrating the talk of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan to Chela Khachar and therefore they had not witnessed the act of pouring the curd upon Mahanubhavanand Swami. Therefore they requested Shree Hari to show them *Charitra* again. Shree Hari promised to do that.

The next day while offering the meals to the saints, Shreeji Maharaj told the saints that He would eat as many *Jalebi*, as they will eat. Then all started eating meals. Meanwhile Shreeji Maharaj brought milk and poured it upon the head of Mahanubhavanand Swami. All saints

શાસ્ત્રિ બાળવતીકા**SATSANG BALVATIKA****- Compiler Shastri Harikehsavdasji (Gandhinagar)**

including Brahmanand Swami laughed at this.

On the third day while offering the meals to the saints, Shreeji Maharaj poured the pot full of milk upon the head of Brahmanand Swami. All the saints and the devotees laughed at this.

There are innumerable such *Charitra* of Shree Hari. If we read or cherish such *Charitra* then we get Him in our life. Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has performed many such divine *Leela* on this earth during His time which were witnessed and relished by his contemporary saints and *Haribhaktas*. All these *Charitras* are written and compiled in book form.

In *Shrimad Bhagwat* also, the king Parikshit asked a question to Shukdevji : "What should be done by the person whose last moment of life is very close?" then Shukdevji answered the question : "Such a person should perform *Sankirtan* of *Leela Charitra* of Almighty Lord so that he can get emancipation."

And therefore everyday we all sing :
 "જનમયાં કૌશલ દેશ વેષ બટુનો લઈ તીર્થમાંડી કર્યા,
 રામાંદ મણ્યા સ્વર્મ ચલાવ્યો યણાહિ મોટા કર્યા.
 મોટાધારચ્ચાં રહ્યાં ગઢપુરે, બે દેશ ગાડી કરી,
 અંતર્ધાન થયા લીલા હરિ તણી સંકેપમાં ઉચ્ચરી."

So we must invariably perform *Sankirtan* of *Leela Charitra* of Shree Hari. Importance of such *Leela Charitra* is beautifully narrated by Shree Hari Himself in 'Vachanamrit'.

AJAT VAIRINE NAMAH :**- Sadhu Shri Rangdas (Gandhinagar)**

Dear devotees! there are 108 names of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan in *Janmangal Stotra*. We all know that each of these names is very meaningful. One such name is '**Ajat Vairine Namah** : ' it means one who has no feeling of animosity towards anybody. The ignorant souls believe that Lord is his enemy; many demons also believe like this. But Almighty Lord does not think like this.

One day, door of one devotee was knocked in the evening at 8.00 hours. When the door was opened, a stranger was there at the doorstep. The stranger requested that he may be allowed to stay one night in his house. The stranger was about seventy years old. The devotee was melted to look at the old man. He warmly welcomed the old aged stranger and made

WAVE OF PLEASURE**DHRUT-BHOJAN****- Shastri Harijivan Swami (Mahant, Himatnagar temple)**

Once Shree Hari developed fever in village Methan. The devotee Jijiba offered Ghee to Maharaj and Maharaj accepted it. Devotees Kakabhai and Punjabhai of Methan rendered their ardent services to Maharaj.

Everyday Jijiba use to offer hot Ghee to Maharaj and Maharaj used to accept it. After some days the fever was cured. Maharaj graced the village Methan once again and also graced the house of the devotee Jijiba. The devotee again offered hot Ghee to Maharaj. Maharaj said that, he did not want hot but cold ghee.

Devotee Kakabhai offered the bowl of Ghee to Maharaj and Maharaj started relishing Ghee. Meanwhile devotee Malu Patel came to perform Darshan of Maharaj. He had cloth covered loaves in his hands and he was going to the farm for agricultural work. Maharaj asked him what was in his hands. The devotee opened the cloth and showed the loaves. Maharaj demanded the loaves and started eating the loaves with Ghee. Maharaj

all arrangements for his meals and night halt. Then the devotee performed *aarti* of Thakorji and offered *Thaal* and performed *Stuti* and *Prarthna* of night. The old aged stranger asked what he was doing with all these things. He said that there is nothing like god on this earth. Initially the devotee kept mum but when all such talks of the stranger become intolerable for him, the devotee drove the old aged stranger out of his home and abused him like anything.

At night, Bhagwan Shree Hari granted *Darshan* to the devotee in his dream. Bhagwan told to the devotee that, he could not tolerate the atheist words and talks of the old aged stranger, whereas He has been protecting him for the last seventy years. Thus Bhagwan Shree Hari is '*Ajatvairi*'. He has no feeling of animosity towards anybody.

demanded more Ghee from Kakabhai as many of His companions were also to join Him. Devotee Kakabhai brought huge vessels full of Ghee and offered it to Maharaj. Maharaj and the saints and the devotees relished loaves and Ghee.

While taking meals Sura Khachar commented upon Alaiya Khachar and said that, he should not eat more Ghee as his lean body will not be able to digest it and he would spoil his health. Maharaj could not hear the conversation and therefore asked Sura Khachar to share it with all the saints and devotees. Sura Khachar narrated it. All laughed at it.

Meanwhile devotee Kana Patel came to perform Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. He saw Maharaj eating Ghee. This ghee was spilling over the neck and he thought, Ghee being precious should be used carefully and it should not be wasted like this and went away. Maharaj asked who went away and other devotees replied that devotee Kanabhai Patel went away. Maharaj asked all saints and devotees not to disturb others. He got prepared *Kulen* from the remaining Ghee, jaggery and *Bajra* flour and offered it to the horses.

GRANTED DIVINE PLEASURE

- Sankhya Yogi Kokilaba,
(Surendranagar)

One old woman was an ardent devotee in village Mankuva. Once Shreeji Maharaj graced her house. While leaving her house, Shreeji Maharaj asked her whether can anyone be His companion? The old woman said that he had only son Natha. She asked Natha to accompany Shree Hari!!! Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan took Natha with Him. On the way, Natha asked whether He was Lord? Shree Hari smiled and said 'No'. The same question and answer were repeated quite a few times. Both of them reached at the village Begadiya. Shreeji Maharaj asked Natha to offer water to the horse. Natha rode on horse Manki towards the lake. While trying to drink water, both of them started getting drowned in the deep water. Shree Hari was at a distance of one hundred and fifty feet. By stretching His hand, Shree Hari saved both Natha and the horse. Natha came to Shree Hari and again asked the same question. Shree Hari smiled and said that, 'Yes.'

HAVE MERCY ON US

- Patel Nishaben Vishnubhai
(Gulabpura)

Once Shreeji Maharaj graced Bhuj. Bhaktas warmly welcomed Shreeji Maharaj and performed beautiful Samiyo. Maharaj was in white clothes, riding the horse. The procession reached at the house of the devotee Surajba. Maharaj graced the house of the devotee and stayed there. Devotee Surajba and all other devotees performed *poojan-aarti* followed by *Dhoon*. In the *Sabha* Maharaj narrated *Katha-Varta*. The next day devotee Surajba prepared *Hindola* of flowers and offered to Maharaj. Devotees performed *Vad* in accompaniment of the musical instruments. Many devotees from nearby

ભક્તિસુધા

BHAKTI-SUDHA

villages availed the benefit of this occasion and performed divine *Darshan* of Shree Hari. They bowed down to Maharaj and requested, "Maharaj, Have Mercy on us!" Maharaj smiled and blessed them with the same words.

While returning home, these devotees discussed the meaning of the same words which were uttered by Maharaj to them. They all returned to Maharaj and asked the meaning of the words uttered. Maharaj again smiled and said that, even he needed mercy of others!!!

Haribhaktas were more confused. They told Maharaj that, they did not understand anything. Then Maharaj explained it with an example. Maharaj said that, human body is five feet long and the heart is very small. And He has to stay in that small heart and He liked his house clean. So all should keep their heart clean. They should not store ill feelings in it otherwise it will not be possible for Him to stay in that house. So in that sense, Shree Hari had asked the devotees to Have Mercy! All *Haribhaktas* were very much happy to see the ardent love and affection of Shree Hari towards them.

VICHARAN OF SHREE HARI IN MULI DESH

- Bhavsar Pallaviben Vijaykumar

Sarvgyanand Swami narrated the incident to Pruthivijit: "Bhagwan Shree Hari stayed for a night at Dhrangadhra. In the early morning, Jijiba of Methan was performing *Dhyan* of Shree Hari and she got divine *Darshan* of Shree Hari in her

Dhyan. She saw Shree Hari coming bare footed from Dhrangadhra. Jijiba was the daughter of the king Chitradutt of Methan village. She had renounced the worldly life from her early childhood and was leading a pious and religious life while chanting the name of Shree Hari. Jijiba narrated the incident to her cousins Kakabhai and Punjabhai and asked them to send the horses to receive Shree Hari. Kakabhai went towards the West and reached near the village Gala. At the outskirts of the village, there was a lake where Shree Hari was taking bath. Kakabhai saw the divine glow of light in the eastern horizon. He immediately turned around and started walking towards the western direction. There also he saw the divine glow of light in the western horizon. After some time, he had divine *Darshan* of Varnivesh. Now he realized that, the words of his cousin Jijibhai were true. Kakuji rushed and bowed down at the lotus like feet of Shree Hari.

All *Haribhaktas* of the nearby villages came to know about this incident. They all rushed to the house of Kakubhai to perform *Darshan* of Shreeji Maharaj. In the early morning devotees Govindram, Devram, Jivram, Jaduram, Kakaji, Punjaji, Halaji, Jivaji, Krishnaji, Mavji, Hirji Ajubhai came alongwith their families to perform divine *Darshan*. They all performed grand *Samaiyu* of Shree Hari and Group *poojan-aarti*. Beautiful meals were also prepared on this occasion.

In the evening, a grand *Sabha* was organized. Many saints and *Haribhaktas* were present there. Shreeji Maharaj said that, He wanted to celebrate grand *Utsav* of *Ekadashi* in Siddhpur a divine place of Kapil Muni. Shree Hari told that, many devotees, saints, Muni were to participate in this *Utsav*.

Listening to this *Ekadashi Utsav* of Siddhpur many devotees of Halvad and nearby villages started their preparations to

participate in this *Utsav*. Shivram Sharma Narayan Joshi among many other devotees were to join the participants.

LEELA OF SHREE HARI IN VADNAGAR

- Patel Rekhaben Kirtikumar (Unjha)

While going from Unjha to Mahesan by rail, Vadnagar comes on the way. It is an ancient Taluka place of Mahesana district situated on the highland. There is a beautiful temple in Vadnagar where the idol images of *Prasadi* of Lalji Maharaj and Harikrishna Maharaj are situated. H.H. Shri Acharya Shri Keshavprasadji Maharaj had offered these idol images in *Samvat 1922* to perform worship and *poojan*. Invocation of the metallic idol images of Shri Harikrishna Maharaj was performed in *Samvat 2018* on *Jeth Vad-11* by H.H. Shri Acharya Shri Devendraprasadji Maharaj. It will complete 50 years in this *Jeth Maas* in *Samvat 2068* and therefore *Suvarn Jayanti Mahotsav* is going to be celebrated.

Shree Hari has graced this village many times and therefore it is a pious place of *Prasadi*. There is an ancient temple of Hatkeshwar Mahadev in Vadnagar. It is a very beautiful temple with artistic carvings. Shree Hari used to grace this temple quite often. Shree Hari has performed *Darshan* of the deities in this temple. There is a *Samira* (Sharmistha) lake towards the East. This lake is also of *Prasadi* as Shree Hari has performed *Snan* alongwith five hundred *Paramhamsa*.

Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has graced the village Vadnagar many times alongwith saints and *Parshads* and has sanctified the land of this place. Many *Leelas* are also performed at this village. Whenever Shree Hari has graced Visnagar village, this place is also graced. Many *Sabhas* are conducted by Shree Hari on the bank of the lake of Vadnagar.

News And Notes

From Shri Narnarayandev Desh

Shakotsav at village Maneckpur

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji of Naranghat temple and Sadguru Shastri Nana P.P. Swami, grand *Shakotsav* was organized on 05/01/2011 by Shree Swaminarayan temple, Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Maneckpur and the whole Chaudhary Atsang Samaj. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed *Vaghari* of *Shakotsav*.

Devotee Shri Chaudhari Manubhai Anchhodhai (America), Chaudhary Natvarbhai Sabubhai (America), Chaudhary Ramanbhai Potibhai, Chaudhary Miteshkumar Amrutbhai, Chaudhary Dineshbhai Amrutbhai (America) and Chaudhary Dilipbhai Baldevbhai had rendered their services as hosts of this *Shakotsav*.

Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Naranghat), Sharmchari Rajeshwaranandji, Swami Jayprakashdasji, Sadguru Shastri Swami Gajeejprakashdasji (Naranpura Mahant, Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul), Swami Ramkrishnadasji, Shastri Manshyamprakasdasji (Mansa Mahant) had arrived in the *Sabha* organized on the occasion. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had blessed the whole *Sabha*. The *Sabha* was conducted by Shastri Nana P.P. Swami. Large number of devotees of Maneckpur and nearby villages had availed the benefit of divine *Shakotsav* and *Prasad*. *Haribhaktas* had rendered their services of about more than three lac rupees for Shree Swaminarayan Museum.

(Shastri Chaitanyaswaroopdasji)

Celebration of Grand Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranghat

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Swami Devprakashdasji and Sadguru Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (P.P. Swami) of Naranghat temple, grand *Shakotsav* was celebrated on 02/01/2011.

Devotee Shri Patel Somabhai Bhagwandasoksi (Viharwala) (through devotee Vinodbhai),

Indravadanbhai, Nirma and Raj (Naranpura) etc. families rendered their services as the hosts of *Shakotsav*. The *Sabha* started with *Kirtan Bhakti* of Nand Saints. Thereafter, all the saints explained the importance of *Shakotsav*. H.H. Shri future Acharya Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj graced the *Sabha* and performed divine *Vaghari* of vegetables. The host devotees offered garland-Dhabli (blanket) of *Prasadi* and obtained the blessings.

Under the guidance of the saints, Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal had made beautiful arrangements of meals wherein about more than twelve thousand devotees took the meals simultaneously. Services of Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Naranghat, was inspirational. Sadguru Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) had conducted the *Sabha*.

(Poojari Balswaroop Swami)

Shrimad Shikshapatri Bhasya (night) Navanh Parayan and Shakotsav at Motera

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Sadguru Mahant Nana P.P. Swami (Naranghat), Shrimad Shiksha Pari Bhasya Navanh Paryana and grand *Shakotsav* were celebrated in the village Motera from 25/12/2010 to 02/01/2011.

With the noble aim of the devotee Ganga Swaroop Sankuben Bhimabhai Patel, Akshar Nivasi Bhimabhai Nathabhai Patel, Shamalbhai and Chhabildashbhai Patel had rendered their services as the chief host. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) was the spokesperson of *Parayan*. For the first time our future Acharya H.H. Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj graced the village Motera and performed divine *Vaghari* of *Shakotsav* on this occasion. Many *Haribhaktas* rendered their beautiful services in Shree Swaminarayan Museum and obtained the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. Many saints had arrived from various places. H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*. About more than 6000 *Haribhaktas* availed the benefit of *Prasad* of *Shakotsav*. Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) had conducted the *Sabha*.

(Swami Rushikesprasadadas)

Celebration of Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dahegam (Tebla Fali)

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji (Ahmedabad), Sadguru Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji (Naranghat) and with the co-operation of all *Haribhaktas*, grand *Shakotsav* was performed on 12/01/2011 in the evening at 6.00 hours. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed divine *Vaghari* of *Shakotsav*.

In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasi (Ahmedabad), Sadguru Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji (Naranghat), Sadguru Swami Jagatprakashdasji, Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishandasji (Koteshwar Gurukul) etc. saints delivered their inspirational speeches. Brahmchari Poojari Swami Rajeshwaranandji, Swami Jayprakashdasji, Swami Vishwaviharidasji, Yogi Swami etc. had also arrived from various places. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*. The *Sabha* was conducted by Sadguru Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Koteshwar Gurukul). Devotee Kothari Arvindbhai Amin and devotee Harshadbhai Patel, Store Keeper (Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur) and many other *Haribhaktas* and ladies devotees rendered their beautiful services. All *Haribhaktas* availed the benefit of *Prasad* of divine *Shakotsav*.

(Swami Jayprakashdasji)

Celebration of pious Dhanur Maas in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jetalpurdham

In the pious company of Shri Revti Baldevji Harikrishna Maharaj and with the blessings and pleasure of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Atmprakasdasji and Shri P.P. Swami and with the guidance of Mahant Swami Krishnaprakasdasji (K.P. Swami), Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra *Dhoon* was performed in the *Sabha* Mandap of *Prasad* from 17th December to 15th January. Saints of Jetalpur temple and Aksharmahol Vadi, student *Batuk* and many *Haribhaktas* of the nearby villages availed the benefit of *Dhoon* early in the morning in the severe cold. Many *Haribhaktas* availed the benefit of rendering their services for *Dainik Dhoon* and *Maasik Dhoon* on this occasion. (Shastri Bhaktinandandas)

Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah Parayan in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kankaria

With the blessing of the Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Swami Guruprasaddasji and Sadguru Mahant Swami Anandprasaddasji, Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah *Parayan* was organized in the pious company of Balswaroop Kastbhanjandev. Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji was the spokesperson of *Katha*.

On 13/01/2011 H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced *Dhoon* and blessed all the devotees. On the pious day of *Uttarayan* Mahant Swami Guruprasaddasji and Mahant Swami Anandprasaddasji had organized *Khichada* whose benefit was availed by the thousands of devotees.

H.H. future Acharya 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj performed *poojan* of *Vyaspith* and the spokesperson on 12/12/2010 the very first day of

Parayan and while blessing all the devotees explained the importance of *Katha* and importance of place of *Prasadi*. On 13/12/2010 H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala, Guru of the ladies devotees graced the occasion and blessed the female devotee Shri Savitriben Gopaladas Patel (Kankaria, present America) and all the ladies devotees. Devotees Jayeshbhai, Gunvantbhai Patel and their relatives availed the benefit of *Katha* where *Shrikrishna Janmotsav* was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. Beautiful arrangements of *Prasad* were also made. Pious *Dhanur Maas* was celebrated with great fervour. On 09/01/2011 thousands of *Haribhaktas* along with the saints performed *Padyatra* upto Shree Narnarayandev temple, Kalupur and availed the benefit of divine *Darshan*.

(Dr. Hiren Patel)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranpura

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Shreejprakashdasji and in the pious company of Balswaroop Shri Ghanshyam Maharaj, Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra *Dhoon* was performed in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranpura. Since the construction of the temple H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graces this temple from Shree Swaminarayan Baug to perform *Aarti*. Nana Pooja Rushi Swami offers beautiful clothes to Ghanshyam Maharaj. Large number of devotees rendered the services for *Dainik Dhoon* and *Maasik Dhoon* during the pious *Dhanur Maas*. (Kher Bhagat)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Gomtipur

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala, Shree SWaminarayan *Dhoon* was performed in the pious *Dhanur Maas* in the morning from 5.30 to 6.30 hours.

(Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Nandal

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and blessings of the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Shastri Swami Harikeshavdasji, Shastri Swami Haripriyadasji and Shwami Shri Rangdasji (Section-23, Swaminarayan temple, Gandhinagar) grand *Shakotsav* was celebrated by all *Haribhaktas*. Many devotees rendered their beautiful services on this occasion. About more than 500 *Haribhaktas* availed the benefit of *Shakotsav* and performing divine *Darshan* of the place *Salki of Prasadi*. (Kothari, Nandal)

Shakotsav in Himatnagar

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Shree Swaminarayan *Dhoon* was performed by *Haribhaktas* of Himatnagar before Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj. Mahant Shastri Swami Harijivandasji narrated *Varta* of Sadgruru Nirgundasji Swami during the whole pious *Dhanur Maas*. Grand

Shakotsav was also performed wherein thousands of devotees and *Haribhaktas* availed the benefit rasad of *Shakotsav*. Mahant Swami Jagdisprasad dasji of Idar, Poojari Swami Yatprakasdasji narrated Leela of *Shakotsav* of three Hari. The whole arrangements were made by Mahant Swami and devotees had also rendered their beautiful services on this occasion. (Amrutbhai Patel)

Ladies devotees of Shri Ghanshyam Mahila Mandal had organised Group Mahapooja in Torda temple wherein 160 ladies devotees had participated. The whole programme was conducted by the devotee Shri Labhuben and Kalpanaben.

(Vinaben Soni)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vasai (Dabla)

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Acharyaj, *Haribhaktas* had performed Shree Swaminarayan *Dhoon* during the pious *Dhanur Maas*. Shri Ghanshyam Mahila Mandal had also performed Mahamantra *Dhoon* in the noon from 3.00 to 4.00 hours. (Bhupeshbhai Bhavsar)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kaloli (Jetalpur Desh)

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Acharyaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Shri P.P. Swami and Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakash dasji, Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra *Dhoon* was performed during the pious *Dhanur Maas*. Saints of Jetalpur Aksharmahol Vadi had also arrived and participated in this Mahamantra *Dhoon*. (Jayantibhai Thakkar)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ghatlodia

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Acharyaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, Shri Janmangal 11 Path is being performed regularly every Saturday by *Haribhaktas* on the occasion of inauguration of Shree Swaminarayan Museum in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ghatlodia. On Saturday 22/01/2011 H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced this occasion of Shri Janmangal Path and blessed all *Haribhaktas* and Shri Nar Narayan Devak Mandal. On this occasion devotee Shri Chanabhai Saheb family performed *poojan-archan*. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. (Shastri Swami Chaitanya Swaroopdasji, Koteswar Gurukul)

Suvarna Jayanti Mahotsav of Shri Ghanshyam Maharaj in Vadnagar

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasad dasji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and our future Acharya H.H. Shri Vrajendraprasad dasji Maharaj, Suvarna Jayanti *Mahotsav* (50 years) of Shri Ghanshyam Maharaj will be celebrated in the company of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj from Friday 27/03/2011 to Thursday 31/03/2011. Before it is cordial invitation to all saints and *Haribhaktas* to avail the divine benefit of this Suvarna

Jayanti *Mahotsav* wherein *Katha*, *Parayan*, Hariyag, *Abhishek Darshan* of Thakorji, *Annakut Darshan*, Grand Exhibition and cultural programmes would be organized.

(Mahant Swami Sadguru Harisevadasji, C/o Mahant Shastri Narayanvallabh dasji, Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vadnagar, Dist. Mahesana. Contact : 02761-222080, 222851)

Panchanh Parayan in village Kundal

With the blessings of Almighty Bhagwan Shri Swaminarayan and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Swami Devprakas dasji and Sadguru Swami Purushottamprakash dasji (P.P. Swami) (Mahant, Naranghat temple) and on the occasion of Shree Swaminarayan Museum, 'Dhiraj Akhya Panchanh Parayan' was organized in the memory of Akshar Nivasi devotee Shri Sendabhai Baysangdas Pate from 03/01/2011 to 07/01/2011. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala graced this occasion and blessed all the *Haribhaktas* and ladies devotees. Many saints from various places arrived on this occasion and delivered their inspirational speeches. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj was very much pleased with the devotee Shri Amrutbhai family. (Shastri Abhayprakas das)

Shrimad Satsangjivan Panchanh Parayan in Por (Gandhinagar)

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasad dasji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakash dasji (Mahant, Naranghat temple), Shrimad Satsangjivan Panchanh Parayan was organized from 19/01/2011 to 23/01/2011.

With the noble aim of *Sankhya Yogi* devotee Shri Gangaba (Bhagat), Akshar Nivasi Manibhai Kachrabhai Patel family and Akshar Nivasi Somabhai Kachrabhai family had rendered the services as hosts of the *Parayan*. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*. The whole *Dharmkul*, graced the *Parayan* and blessed all the devotees. On the second day H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the village and blessed all the devotees. Thereafter H.H. Shri Gadiwala graced the occasion and blessed the ladies devotees. Purnahuti ritual was graced by H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj along with the saints. *Haribhaktas* of the village had rendered their beautiful services for Shree Swaminarayan Museum. The whole *Sabha* was conducted by Sadguru Shastri Swami Chaitanya Swaroopdasji.

(Swami Rushikeshprasaddasji)

First Night Satsang Sabha in New Ranip

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri

Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Naranghat temple), first night *Satsang Sabha* was organized on Sunday 03/01/2011 in New Ranip, Ozone Residency, Chenpur Gam Road area.

The devotee Shri Mayanbhai Modi performed *Kirtan* of Nand Saints. Thereafter Shree Swaminarayan *Dhoon* was performed. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji and Sadguru Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji explained the importance of Shree Hari with examples. Sadguru P.P. Swami explained the importance of original Sampradaya and Shree Narnarayandev Desh Gadi. The host of the *Satsab Sabha* devotee Shri Madhavlal Patel (Marusanawala) family performed *Aarti* of Thakorji.

(Swami Rushikeshprasad dasji)

Visnagar

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, *Satsang Sabha* and *Kirtan Sandhya* was organized during the Pious *Dhanur Maas* from 27th to 29th December 2010 in Patel Vadi. Bhajanprakash Swami of Muli performed *Katha-Varta* and *Kirtan Bhakti* on this occasion.

(Kothari Kantibhai)

Dhanur Maas and Shakotsav in Bopal temple

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, *Haribhaktas* performed *Dhoon*, *Kirtan*, *Katha* and *Bhajan* during the pious *Dhanur Maas* in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Bopal. Shashi Swami Vrajvallabhdasji narrated *Katha* of *Dhirajakhyan* by Sadguru Shri Nishkulananji. Mahant Swami Harivallabhdasji and saints rendered their beautiful services on this occasion. On 09/01/2011 grand *Shakotsav* was performed by H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. Devotees Shri Arvindbhai Sendhabhai Patel, Shri navindbhai Sendhabhai Patel, Bopal and Chairman of ADC bank the devotee Shri Raghuvirsinh Chauhan and all devotees of Shri Baleshwar Vihar Mitra Mandal render their beautiful services on the occasion of *Shakotsav* and obtained the blessings of Shri Ghanshyam Maharaj.

(Pravinbhai Upadhyay)

Celebration of Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, New Vadaj

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Naranghat temple), grand *Shakotsav* was celebrated on Sunday 09/01/2011 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, New Vadaj. The saints explained the importance of *Shakotsav* through *Katha-Varta*. Thereafter H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the occasion and performed *Vaghar* of

Shakotsav. Thousands of devotees availed the benefit of *Prasad* of Thakorji. (Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji, Koteswar)

Celebration of Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Delvada

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Naranghat temple), grand *Shakotsav* was celebrated on Sunday 09/01/2011 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Delvada. *Kirtan Bhakti* were performed in the *Sabha* organized on the occasion. Thereafter H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the occasion alongwith the saints. These saints delivered their inspirational speeches. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed *Aarti* of Thakorji and performed *Vaghar* of *Shakotsav*. The *Sabha* was conducted by Shastri Swami Vishwaswaroopdasji and Shastri Swami Abhayprakashdasji. (Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji, Koteswar)

Celebration of Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Sabarmati (Ramnagar)

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Naranghat temple), all *Haribhaktas* celebrated *Shakotsav* on Sunday 09/01/2011 in Shree Sahjanand Gurukul, Koteswar. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performed *Vaghar* of *Shakotsav*. *Haribhaktas* performed *Kirtan* in the *Sabha* organized on the occasion. At last H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*. Many devotees rendered their beautiful services for Shree Swaminarayan Museum and obtained the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. About more than 1500 *Haribhaktas* of Sabarmati area availed the benefit of *Prasad* of *Shakotsav*. (Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji, Koteswar)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Prantij

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, saints and *Haribhaktas* celebrated *Shakotsav* on Sunday 09/01/2011 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Prantij. *Katha-Varta*, *Kirtan*, *Dhoon* etc. were also performed on this occasion. With the inspiration of Mahant Swami Madhavprasaddasji, devotee Shri Kantibhai Madhavdas Patel availed the benefit of host of *Shakotsav*. About 2000 devotees availed the benefit of *Shakotsav*.

(Kothari Haribhai Modi)

Celebration of Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jivrajpark

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru P.P. Swami (Naranghat) *Shakotsav* was celebrated on Sunday 23/01/2011 in the evening in Shree Swaminarayan temple

Jivrajpark.

Every year *Shakotsav* is celebrated in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jivrajpark. On this year also H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed *Vaghari* of *Shakotsav*. Large number of devotees were present on this occasion. Mahant Swami Shastri Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple, Poojari Brahmchari Rajeshwaranandji of Shree Nar Narayan Dev and many other saints arrived on this occasion. Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji of Koteswar Gurukul explained the importance of *Shakotsav* and furnished detailed information about inauguration of Shree Swaminarayan Museum. Services of Shree Nar Narayan Dev Yuvak Mandal were inspirational.

(Shastri Swami Chaitanya Swaroopdasji)

Celebration of grand *Shakotsav* in Makakhad

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of *Akshar Nivasi* Sadguru Swami Bhagwatprasad dasji and *Akshar Nivasi* Sadguru Swami Gopalprasad dasji and under the guidance of Sadguru Shastri Swami Shreeji Prakash dasji of Naranpura temple, *Shakotsav* was celebrated on 06/01/2011 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Makakhad. Saints from various places arrived on this occasion and delivered their inspirational speeches and also obtained the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. (Swami Balswaroopdas, Muli)

Celebration of *Shakotsav* by Saints of Jetalpurdham

With the blessings of Shree Hari and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakash dasji of Jetalpur temple Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakash dasji (P.P. Swami), and with the co-operation of the saints of Jetalpur, *Shakotsav* was celebrated in the following villages. Many devotees had availed the benefit of rendering their services as hosts of *Shakotsav*:

(1) 26/12/2010 Narayannagar (2) 26/12/2010 Zulasan, Kalol (3) 02/01/2011 Trent (Viramgam) (4) 03/01/2011 Shiyal (Nal kantha area) (5) 09/01/2011 Gamdi (Dascroi) (6) 09/01/2011 Kothamba (Panchmahal) (7) 22/01/2011 Jetalpur Aksharmahol Vadi. (Mahant Swami K.P. Swami, Jetalpur)

MULI DESH

Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies) Morbi

With the blessings of Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Mota Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala and with the inspiration of *Akshar Nivasi* Sadguru Shastri Swami Gopalcharandasji and with the noble aim of *Akshar Nivasi* Sankhya Yogi Gholiba and with the inspiration

of her disciples Sankhya Yogi Rajkunvarba and Sankhya Yogi Ushaba, Rajat Jayanti *Mahotsav* Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies) was celebrated. This temple was 80 years old and hence it was renovated. In connection with inauguration of Shree Swaminarayan Museum, this Rajat Jayanti *Mahotsav* was celebrated.

Shimad Satsangjivan Panchanh Parayan, Tridinatmak Hariyag and 25-Vachanamrit Samhita Parayan etc. were organized on this occasion. Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteswar Gurukul) and Sadguru Shastri Swami Dharmjivandasji (Muli) were spokespersons of this *Parayan*.

H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Mota Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala graced this occasion and granted blessings and *Darshan* to devotees. saints from Ahmedabad, Chhapaiya, Haridwar, Muli, Jetalpurdham, Naranghat, Kankaria, Nathdwara, Dhrangadhra, Charadva and Makansar had arrived. More than 100 Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees from various places had also arrived on this occasion. Sadguru Shastri Swami Suryaprakash dasji (Wankaner) and Sadguru Swami Devprakash dasji (Naranghat) and Jaykrishnadasji had organized the whole programme very beautifully.

Many *Haribhaktas* rendered their beautiful services for Shree Swaminarayan Museum. *Swayamsevak* (volunteer) devotees rendered their beautiful services for five days on this occasion.

(Pranjivan M. Makasana)

Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies) (Dhrangadhra, Ghanchiawad)

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala and with the inspiration of *Sankhya Yogi* devotees Shri Kanchanba, Hiraba and Bhagwatiba, grand *Shakotsav* was celebrated on 26/12/2010 at Jogasar lake of *Prasadi*. Shreeji Maharaj had graced this Jogasar lake for six months and had performed *Jalkrida* alongwith saints and *Haribhaktas*. Here disciples of *Akshar Nivasi Sankhya Yogi* Sitaba and *Akshar Nivasi Sankhya Yogi* Gauriba are doing activities of *Satsang* very beautifully. About more than 500 ladies devotees availed the benefit of *Shakotsav*.

(Anilbhai Dudhrejiya for ladies devotees)

Shakotsav in Ratanpar

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of the aged Saint Swami Nar Narayan dasji, *Shakotsav* was celebrated on 09/01/2011 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ratanpar. On this occasion Shastri Swami Satyasankalpdasji and Shastri Swami Suvrat Swaroopdasji of Surendranagar temple narrated *Katha-Varta* to the devotees. with the

inspiration of Kalu Bhagat, Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal had rendered beautiful services on this occasion.

(Shailendrasinh Zala)

H.H. Shri Gadiwala graced Wankaner

With the directions of H.H. Shri Gadiwala and with the inspiration of *Sankhya Yogi* Kamalaba of Surendranagar temple, beautiful *Satsang Sabha* was organized in Wanakaner. Grand *Shobha-Yatra* of H.H. Shri Gadiwala was performed in company of *Dhoon* and *Kirtan* at 9.00 hours in the morning. H.H. Shri Gadiwala graced the inner temple, performed *aarti* of Thakorji and performed *Vaghar* of *Shakotsav*. *Sankhya Yogi* Kokilaba, *Sankhya Yogi* Ushaba, *Sankhya Yogi* Jayaba and *Sankhya Yogi* Vijayaba performed *Katha-Varta* and *Kirtan-Bhakti* on this occasion. At last H.H. Shri Gadiwala blessed the whole *Sabha*.

(Harshaben Soni)

Invocation of idol images in Bhadreshi

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadaji Maharaj and with the co-operation of Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji and other saints construction of new temple was completed in Bhadreshi the village of *Prasadi* which was graced by Shree Hari. Accordingly on the pious day of Kartak Vad-10 01/12/2010, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed ritual of idol images in Vedic tradition. On this occasion Panchdinatmak *Satsangjivan Katha* and Tridinatmak Hariyag etc. were organized. Swami Ramkrishnadasji was the spokesperson of *Katha*. Freedom from Addiction and Cleaning the village etc. social programmes were also organized on this occasion.

Accepting the invitation of the ladies devotees, H.H. Shri Gadiwala graced the occasion and granted *Darshan* and blessings to the ladies devotees. Under the guidance of Swami Dharmnandas and Swami Bhaktvatsaldas, all *Haribhaktas* of the village had rendered their beautiful services and showed their ardent faith in Shri Radhakrishnadev, Muli and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*.

(Kothari, Bhadreshi)

H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced Pune

Accepting ardent invitation of *Satsang Samaj* of Pune, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced Pune along with the saints from 29th October 2010 to 31st October 2010. Kothari Nirlep Swami welcomed H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj by offering the garlands.

In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, Shri P.P. Swami of Jetalpurdham, Mahant Swami of Muli and saints of Junagadh and Mangrol furnished information about Shree Swaminarayan Museum. While blessing the *Sabha* H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj recalled the past events and stated:

"Marriage of our father was in Varanasi and therefore a grand procession was organized in Varanasi. Many Parshads and Haribhaktas

participated in the procession with swords and guns in their hands. On that day there were many other marriages in Varanasi and therefore procession of other marriages were also organized in the city. These Parshads and Haribhaktas joined the procession of other marriages and but they found it later on.

Message : So we must know in our life where we are going.

One Professor was traveling in a train. A ticket checker came and asked for the ticket. The professor searched but could not find the ticket. The ticket checker waited for some time; he went away and came after some time; but the professor could not present the ticket. The ticket checker told the professor that he presumes that being an educated person, he must have purchased the ticket. But the professor said that, he wanted to find out the place which is written on the ticket and where he wanted to drop down.

Message : So we must know where we are going.

One Sheth got one plan of bungalow prepared through an architect. When the architect prepared and showed the plan, Sheth asked him to show a ceiling fan in the plan. The architect said that he would do it but with a notice at the bottom that, the fan is placed upon instruction of Sheth as he did not agree with showing the fan in the map.

Message : That means, when an architect does not want to change his principles and rules. Then how can we change the principles and rules which are laid down and prescribed by Almighty Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan.

So all *Haribhaktas* should remain ardent devotees of Shree Hari and should also perform *satsang* while remaining faithful to *Gadi* of *Narnarayandev Desh* and *Laxminarayandev Desh*."

Thereafter, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced the houses of many devotees and *Haribhaktas* and blessed them.

(Jitendrabhai Soni, Pune)

OVERSEAS SATSANG NEWS

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Itasca Chicago

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Dhanur Maas was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Chicago. Under the guidance of Mahant Shastri Swami Dharmvallabhdasji and Poojari Swami Harinandandasji every day early in the morning Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra *Dhoon* was performed after *Mangala Aarti*. Thereafter *Shangaar Aarti* and *Rajbhog Aarti* of Thakorji was performed. Mahant Swami narrated *Ktha* of Shree Harigita by Sadguru Nishkulanan Swami. Announcement was

made about appointment of the devotees Shri Jagdishbhai as the President of I.S.S.O. by H.H. Shri acharya Maharn and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj. Devotees Shri Ghanshyambhai (Mota Bhagat), Pravinbhai (Nana Bhagat), Vishnubhai Soliya, Dineshbhai Joshi, Bharabhai Amin, Thakorbhai Patel, Harikrishna Patel, Vikrambhai Patel and devotee Shri Purvish Patel and Viek Brahmbhatt congratulated the devotee Shri Jagdishbhai in the *Sabha*. Mahant Swami honoured Shri Jagdishbhai by offering him garland. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, activity of *Satsang* is going on very well.

(Vivek Brahmbhatt, Yuvak Mandal)

On the last day of Dhanur Maas, Annakut Darshan was performed in the temple. Swami Swyamprakashdasji had also arrived from Detroit. Many *Haribhaktas* rendered their services on this occasion.

Under the guidance of Mahant Swami, *Yuva Shibir* was organized wherein many saints, young

devotees and children had participated. Shastri Dharmvallabh Swami, Poojari Swami and Swamprakash Swami explained Dharma, Niyam, Panch Vishay, and devotee Shri Nirav Patel explained the importance of *Thaal-Mansi Pooja*. Devotees Milan Patel, Hiren Patel, Mitul Patel rendered their speeches on this occasion. *Yuva Shibir* was conducted by devotees Sanjay Soni and Vivek Brahmbhatt in both Gujarati and English languages

(Vasant Trivedi)

Washington D.C. I.S.S.O. Chapter

With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, activity of *Satsang* is going on well in Washington D.C. *Satsang Sabha* was conducted well and regularly on 3rd December, 18th December and 15th January 2011 wherein *Dhoon, Bhajan, Kirtan, Nitya Niyam*, reading of Vachanamrit 273 and *Thaal Aarti* of Thakorji were performed in group by *Haribhaktas*. Many *Haribhaktas* availed the benefit of this *Sabha* which were continued for four hours. (Kanubhai Patel)

AKSHARVAAS

Ahmedabad Sadguru swami Mukundjivandsaji Guru Muni Swami Keshavpriyadasji (Patdiwala) (100 years) has passed away to *Akshardham* on 05/01/2011 while chanting the name of Shree Hari.

Motap – Devotee Shri Puriben Kashiramdas Patel (mother of devotee Shri G.K. Patel (Vimal Paints) and Member of the Scheme Committee has passed away to Divine Abode of God on Samvat 2067 Posh Vad-10 28/01/2011 while chanting the name of Shreeji Maharaj. This has caused great loss in *Satsang* of village Motap.

Pratappura - Devotee Shri Kantaben Mohanbhai Chaudhary (sister of the devotee Shri Jasubhai Amruthbhai Chaudhary) passed away to *Akshardham* on 28/12/2010 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Ahmedabd (Gorasu-Dholera) – Devotee Shri Hariprasadbhai Girjashankar Raval (father of the devotee Shri Ketanbhai Raval) passed away to Divine Abode of God on 08/01/2011 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Ahmedabad (at present New Jersey) – Devotee Shri Lalitaba (wife of former Shastri devotee Shri Hariprasad Dalsukhram Joshi) passed away to Divine Abode of God on Magsur Sud-12 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Ahmedabad (Bopal) - Devotee Shri Ramlaxmi Narhariprasad Bhatt [mother of devotee Shri Devrangji (Ustad Saheb)] passed away to *Akshardham* on 09/12/2010 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Ahmedabad : Devotee Shri Ashokbhai Dahyabhai Thakkar (Shree Nar Narayan Ayurvedic Pharmacywala) passed away to Divine Abode of God on 15/01/2011 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Dharampur (Gandhinagar) - Devotee Shri Rana Pratapji Motiji passed away to *Akshardham* on 25/11/2010 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Vihar - Devotee Shri Jadiben Babula passed away to *Akshardham* on 21/12/2010 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Mansa - Devotee Shri Ganeshbhai Tribhovandas Patel passed away to *Akshardham* on 15/01/2011 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Balva - Devotee Shri Chaudhari Premabhai Bhemaji passed away to *Akshardham* on 22/01/2011 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Balva - Devotee Shri Chaudhari Mohanbhai Govaji passed away to *Akshardham* on 17/01/2011 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.



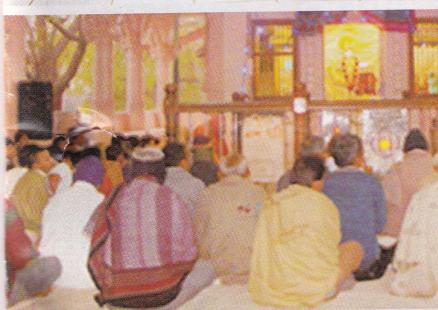
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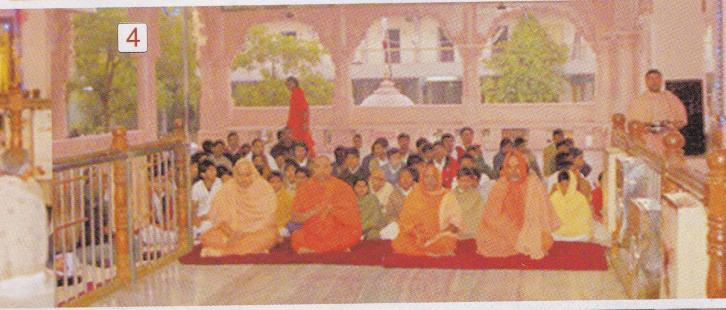
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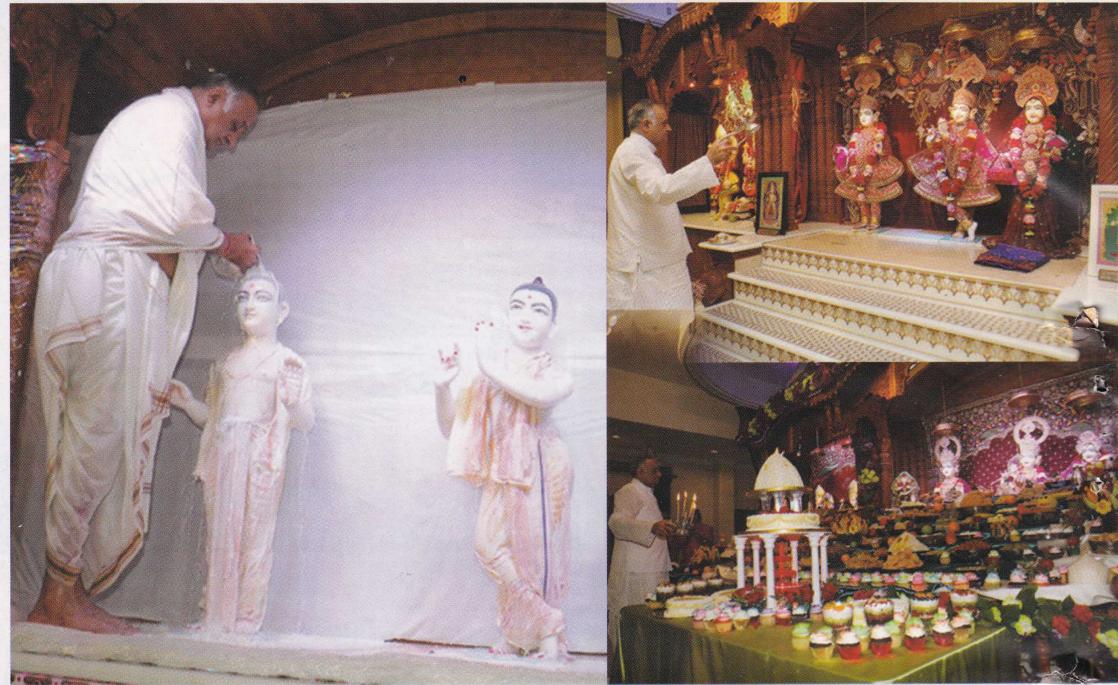
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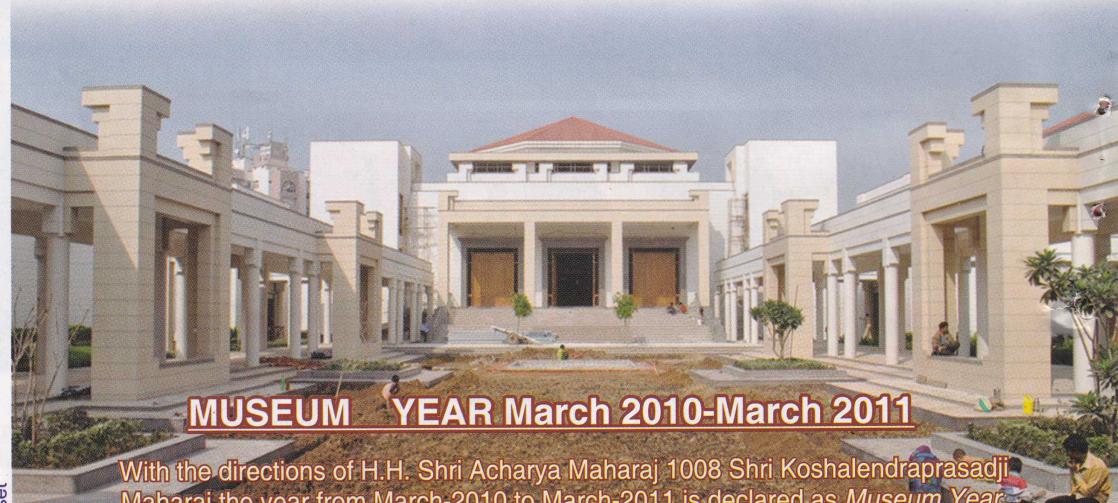
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(1) Hariom Swami and Shri Atmaprakas Swami (Muli Mahant Swami) performing *Katha* in the pious presence of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj in our Poona temple accepting invitation of *Haribhaktas* of Halar. (2) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting *Darshan* in Kankaria temple on the occasion of *Dhoon of Dhanur Maas*. (3) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj granting *Darshan* to devotees along with Mahant Swami in Por temple on the occasion of *Parayan* and *Haribhaktas* performing *Group Aarti*. (4) Shri P.P. Swami, Shri Atmprakash swami and saints and *Haribhaktas* performing *Dhoon* in Jetalpurdham during the pious *Dhanur Maas*. (5) Swami Narayanprasaddasji (Mahant) donating blood in Blood Donation camp organized in Mahesana. Devotee Dr. G.K. Patel donated blood for 160 times and established new record. Shastri Atmaprakasdasji granting blessing on this occasion.



H.H.Shri Mota Maharaj performing Abhishek, Shangar-Annakut Aarti of Thakorji in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Los Angeles on the occasion of Dasabdi Mahotsav.



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 of Shree Swaminarayan Museum on 8 March 2011
Samvat 2067 Fagan Sud 3, Patotsav of Shree Narnarayandev

www.swaminarayanmuseum.com/org