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# SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

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41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of  
H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj.



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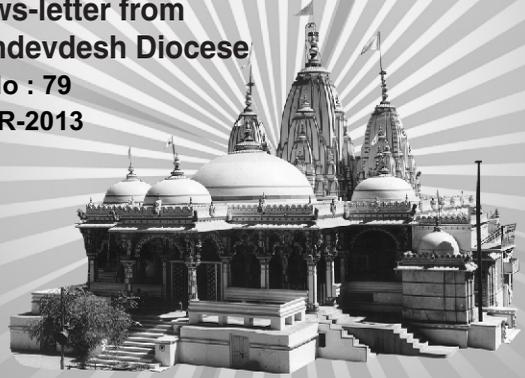




# SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

Official News-letter from  
Shri Narnarayandevdesh Diocese

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# ॥ अरुम्दीयम् ॥

## EDITORIAL

Jay Shree Swaminarayan of new year Samvat 2070 to all readers, writers and devotees who have been rendering their services directly or indirectly to our 'Shree Swaminarayan' magazine.

Last month, 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj was celebrated with the great fervour and enthusiasm. Shreeji Maharaj loved Utsav were very much and similarly Utsav are also very dear to Other Forms of Shreeji Maharaj. On the occasion of Janmotsav, thousands and lacs of devotees would get together, would render their beautiful services and thereby they understand the essence and importance of Utsav-Samaiya. And when any of such Utsav is remembered at the last moment of their life, they would get emancipation. With this noble aim, Shreeji Maharaj has inspired all for celebration of Utsav. In December-2014 grand Mahamahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad will be organized on completion of renovation work of the inner temple. This Mahamahotsav would be celebrated under the auspices of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul. Therefore, all devotees and Haribhaktas are cordinally invited in advance to participate and to avail the benefit of this divine Mahamahotsav.

Once again, Jay Shree Swaminarayan of New Year to all.

Editor  
Mahant Swami  
Shastri Swami Harikrishnadas

## Appointment Diary of H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharajshri (October- 2013)

8. Graced the house of the devotee Shri Shobhan Dineshbhai, Science City.
9. Graced houses of the devotees in Gandhinagar.
10. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Devrasan, on the occasion of Patotsav.
- Graced the house of the devotee Shri Ramanbhai Patel (Bhaupurawala) on the occasion of Mahapooja.
13. Celebration of 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav at Gandhinagar in the



pious presence of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and the saints and Haribhaktas.

15 October 2013 to 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013. Pilgrimage to America for nourishment of Satsang.

### APPOINTMENT DIARY OF OUR FUTURE ACHARYA 108 SHRI VRAJENDRAPRASADJI MAHARAJ (October- 2013)

13. Celebration of 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj at Gandhinagar.
18. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranghat on the occasion of Sharadotsav.

# Shikshapatri

## The Epistle of Precepts

(based on Shatanand's Shikshapatri  
Arthadipika)

By Pravin S. Varsani

### Text-99

**The tenth Skanda shall be esteemed as my Bhakti Shastra, the fifth Skanda as Yoga Shatra and Yagnavalkya Smruti as Dharma Shastra.**

Yagnavalkya Dharma Shastra contains all of the characteristics of Dharma Smrutis, namely Achara – behaviour, Vyavahar-business affairs, Prayaschit – code of expiation, Kala – time and Karma- code of action and its results.

The tenth Skanda of Bhagwat displays Bhakti. The intense love and devotion that the Gopikas had for Shree Krishna is evident here. A question is raised through- how did the Gopis, without the true knowledge of the form of God, devote themselves to him? Shatanand answers, 'Bhakti, evendevoid of knowledge, derives fruits.' 'What I am like? What I am? What my natuere is? - Whether a persion has such knowledge or not, and yet worships me with all intent, is my greatest devotee.'

Brahma has said, 'One should put less effort into acquiring knowledge andjust bow (before God).' furthermore, it is explained that Gnaan and Vairagya (renunciation) are not the means to salvation but Bhakti towards the Lord is the greatest goal.

Parikshit asked the question: 'The Gopis saw Krishna as merely as handsome man and were drawwn to this feature. How then did they attain the state of Sayujiya Mukti (state of being one with God)?' Shuka answers: 'God's incarnations are for the salvation of mankind. He is both free from qualities (nirguna) and with qualities (Saguna) and as such, it is difficult to

understand his true nature. Those who lust for God, have anger, fear, affection, friendship or unity for God all redeem themselves and attain him.'

The tenth chapter of Bhagwat displays the essence of Bhakti. Shatanand identifies four places where love for God Krishna was the greatest and thus provides evidence of such love: Vraj, Mathura, Dwarika and Hastinapur.

The love of the people of Vraj: 'O Nanda! We the people of Vraj have unrenouncable affection for your son.'

The love of the people of Mathura: 'Just as one becomes elated after the return of stolen possessions, the people (of Mathura), after many days of separation became overjoyed at the sight of Balarama and Krishna.'

The love of the people of Dwarika: 'O lotus eyed one! Whenever thou tgo to the land of Kuru or Madhu, to meet thy friends, the slightest moment seems to last aeons.'

The love of the Pandavas if Hastinapur: 'Just as a body arises once, endowed with a an Atma, the Pandavas on seeing the Lord of the universe- Mauunda arose together at once.'

The Pandava's Bhakti was based uon affection for God explains Narad: 'The Gops with lust, Kansa with fear, Sishupala and other kings with envy, Yadavas with association, you the Pandavas with affection and we (the Munis) with devotion, see God in our different ways.'

in this way the Pandavas decided to renounce their kingly duties and retreated to the forest immediately on hearing of Lord Krishna's demise. Shatanand concludes that because of the documented imense love displayed in these four placs, the tenth Skanda is adop0ted as Bhakti Shastra, as briefly explained here.

Secondly, Lord Swaminarayan accepated Shrimad Bhagwat's fifth Skanda as his Yoga Shastra. Hiranyagarbha

(Brahma) is the first Acharya of Yogashastras. He has explained Yoga to be the concentration of the mind (Chitta) upon Lord Shree Narayana.

At the time of death, it is commanded that one should concentrate the mind upon God with great concentration. Therefore it is important that we practice such concentration or Yoga before the time of death, so that when the time comes, we are able to fulfil such task. It is said: *Vishayavishtachittanam Vishnavaveshaha Sudoorlabhaha* – ‘Those that have their mind engrossed in the senses, find it difficult to concentrate the mind.’

Prahlada states: ‘Who can renounce the various attractions and attachments of life if he is a slave to his senses? Who can renounce their attachments to other people? Who can renounce their attraction to the opposite sex, to their friends, to the ‘sweet talk’ of others? All are attached and bound to their children, their brothers and sisters, their parents and the need for having the best out of life. Who is able to renounce the luxuries of life and overcome their taste for the finger things in life? Nobody!’

For such reason, the Upanishads, Gita and Bhagwat explain that those Yogis who overcome their senses, desires and attachments are truly great. By singing God’s name, listening to the pastimes of the Lord and by associations and service to Yogis, one’s mind becomes firm. Those that meditate upon the lotus feet of God are able to concentrate their mind upon God at the time of death, such that they have unshakeable devotion.

Bhagwat Patanjali has here mentioned as the teacher of various forms of Yoga. The fifth Skanda of Bhagwat explains stories of great Yogis of the past and for this reason it has been adopted as Yogashtra. The exemplar set by these Yogis should be used for personal improvement. The first story in the 5<sup>th</sup> Skanda is of King

Priyavrata, who developed great concentration for Lord Vasudeva and whose every action was focussed upon God. It is then explained how worship of other Devas, other than God Supreme, will derive only ordinary fruits, even though the person may be adept in Ashtanga Yoga (Eight fold Yoga), through the story of Agnidhranu, son of Priyavrata.

From there, the story of Nabhi Raja, Agnindra’s son is explained, who used Samadhi-Yoga (the highest Yogic state) to engross himself in God. Nabhi’s son Bhagwan Rishabdeva was then born. He like his forefathers also displayed great Yogic control. Indeed, he is said to have mastered fully, all of the Yogic practices.

Rishabdeva then gave birth to the great Bharat. Bhagwat fully documents the life of Bharat and his Yogic disciplines. He is explained as the greatest of Yogis, who was endowed with the greatest qualities. For such reasons he has been termed as Yogeshwar. His story is such that it will remove all obstacles.

After the story of Bharat, Yoga and its nature is explained. Yoga is endorsed in the Shastras, as through such intense concentration of the mind, one establishes God firmly in their hearts. By so doing one can then perform Bhakti-Yoga or devotion to God.

Then are given details regarding the nature of hell by Shree Shehnaag. Patanjali is explained as an incarnation of Shesha, who is himself a Yogeshwar. He is glorified as a great devotee of Lord Vasudeva and is fully explained in the third Skanda. Shatanand explains other great Yogis as Maye, Bali and Prahlad.

This is whole-heartedly the endorsement of Lord Swaminarayan. Others have not accepted these Skandas as Bhakti and Yogas Shastras and so it is unique to our Sampradai and our master whose insight into these matters continues to benefit us today.



# JANMOTSAV BECAME MAHOTSAV

- Atul Bhanuprasad Pothiwala (Memnagar-Ahmedabad)

Generally Janmotsav of any person is an occasion of celebration for that family. But when it comes the matter of our Sampradaya, then Janmotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj – being the Head of the whole Sampradaya family, becomes unique Utsav for the whole Satsang family.

41<sup>st</sup> Janmotsav of H.H Shri Acharya Maharaj 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Prasadji Maharaj was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in the evening from 4.15 hours to 8.15 hours on the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi, on Sunday 13/10/2013 at Ramkatha Ground, Ch-road, Sector-11, Gandhinagar, in the pious company of the whole Dharmkul and among Dharmnishtha saints and devotees and Haribhaktas. Those who came and participated in this Janmotsav were very lucky as it was not simply Janmotsav but a wonderful Mahotsav.

Before two years devotees and Haribhaktas of Ahmedabad and the whole Dandhavya (North Gujarat) Desh demanded that 41<sup>st</sup> Janmotsav may be celebrated among the devotees of villages of 41 Samaj. Permission of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj was obtained and proposal was placed before H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Change is always loved by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and accordingly green signal was obtained from him and all the

saints and devotees started preparations.

It is crystal clear belief of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj that, celebration of Janmotsav is only a reason for rendering our ardent services to the whole Satsang Samaj and to perform Bhajan-Bhakti. Beautiful arrangement was made and various types of religious and social programmes were organized and performed during the last 18 months.

## RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMES

- 1) 11 crore 41 lac 41 thousand Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra Lekhan
- 2) 41 thousand Group Path of Janmangal Namavali
- 3) 141 minute Akhand Dhoon in 41 villages
- 4) 41 Satsang Sabha in 41 villages
- 5) 141 Pooja Peti distribution
- 6) 4100 Pathof Shree Vachanamrit
- 7) 4111 Haribhaktas to perform Padyatra (Darshan of Shree Narnarayandev)
- 8) 1141 life time subscriptions of 'Shree Swaminarayan' magazine

## SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

- 1) 41 Free Medical Camps
- 2) 1141 bottle blood donation
- 3) 141 youth availing the benefit of Freedom from Addiction Campaign

- 4) 41 villages Cleanliness Campaign in Village (through voluntary involvement)
- 5) 41000 tree plantation
- 6) 41 tricycle distributio to physically challenged people
- 7) 4100 orphan children availing the benefit of healthy meals
- 8) 4100 students availing the benefit of kit of educational kit and facilities.

On the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi, the whole premises was full of Haribhaktas and ladies devotees by 4.00 hours in the evening. At 5.00 hours all Other Three Forms of Shree Hari graced the occasion and Swagat-Samaiyu was performed by the saints and devotees. Devotee Shri Purv Patel and his companions performed beautiful Kirtans of Nand saints.

Large photo-image of Shree Narnarayandev was placed on the huge throne of eagle shape. In the centre of the stage thrones of All Three Other Forms of Shree Hari were placed accompanied by the sitting arrangements for the saints. About 171 saints had arrived and participated in this Mahamhotsav.

At sharp 5.30 hours, programme of Janmotsav started. Shastri Swami Shree Ramkrishnadasji (Ram Swami-Koteshwar) conducted the Sabha beautifully. First of all Gor of the temple Vachaspati Shree Mishraji performed Swasti Poojan in Vedic tradition. Thereafter all the saints, trustees, the host devotees performed group aarti of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. At 6.00 hours religious and social

programmes organized on this occasion were offered. A video clipping of 8 to 10 minues explaining these programmes was shown in the Sabha. The young devotees like Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Koteshwar), Shastri Swami Vrajbhusandasji (Naranghat), Shastri Swami Divyaprakashdasji (Naranghat), Shastri Swami Dharmpravartakdasji (Guru Swami), Swami Madhavpriyadasji (Siddhpur), Swami Harikrishnadasji (Approach), Shastri Swami Gopaljivandasji (Muli), Shastri Swami Kunjiviharidasji (Kalupur), Shastri Swami Narayanmunidasji (Kalupur), Swami Rishikeshprasaddasji (Isand) rendered their beautiful services for the success of all these beautiful programmes.

At 6.30 hours the speeches of wishes by the saints and other dignitaries were started. Shri Shankarsinh Vaghela, who is the member of our family, had also arrived on this occasion, said that, there is magnetic power in the language, behaviour and personality of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj which has preserved the tradition and heritage of Sampradaya. Such a pious language and behaviour are very rarely found in the familieis of religious heads.

Saints from various places had arrived. Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Kalupur temple, Mahant Swami Shree Atmaprakashdasji from Jetalpur, Devprakash Swami and Shatri P.P. Swami (Naranghat), Mahand Dharmnandandasji from Bhuj temple, Parshad Jadvji Bhagat had also arrived. Saints from Vadnagar, Muli had also arrived. Saint mandal of



Bramchari Swami Rajeshwaranandji, saint mandal of Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Shree Satsangbhushan Swami on behalf of Saint Mandal of Dhyani Swami had arrived. The chief host of Janmotsav devotee Shri Dahyabhai Narandas Patel (Mansawala), the chief host of Bhojan-Prasad Ghunghat hotel family, Gandhinagar and hosts and co-hosts of various other programmes had also arrived on this divine occasion.

**Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji (Mahant Swami, Kalupur temple)** : Saints were busy for the last one and half year in the arrangement of Janmotsav. This wonderful get together of large number of devotees is the result of incessant and hard work of the young saints. This is like campus of Shree Narnarayandev and one cannot perform such divine Darshan at any other place. Devpraksh Swami, Nana P.P. Swami and Ram Swami – these three saints had made this occasion a grand success.

**Dharmanandandasji Swami (Mahant Swami, Bhuj temple)** : It is a matter of great pride for all of us that, today we have got divine Darshan of all Other Three Forms of Shree Hari. As per the tradition established by Shreeji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj has been working very hard for nourishment and development of our Sampradaya. He has been getting constructed temples of our Sampradaya in foreign countries, too. Let us obtain blessings that our Sampradaya may make special efforts in educational activities, our faith may remain firm towards Dev and Acharya and day by day our Satsang may increase and strengthen.

**Shastri Atmaprakash Swami (Mahant Swami, Jetalpur temple)** : We feel as if Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan is present in this divine Sabha. How simple our H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj is! We know it because we stay with him. He is Son of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan. Nine years have passed he took over the

reins of our Sampradaya as Acharya. So far Pratistha of 18 temples with dome and 200 Hari temples has been performed by him. He loves the village very much. He is very simple, straightforward and generous. It is an humble prayer that there may be incessant development of our Sampradaya by him.

**Shri Harikeshav Swami (Sector-23 Gandhinagar)** : It is speciality of our Sampradaya that, from the time of Shree Hari efforts are being made for moral, economic and spiritual progress of our society while remaining with the society. Nistha is our brain and Shraddha is our heart. And both of them should remain under the lotus-like feet of Shree Narnarayandev. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graces the houses of the devotees without any pre-condition and therefore every step of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj is in the interest of society and sampradaya.

**Shri Nirgundasji Swami (Asarwa Gurukul)** : Bhajan is very dear to H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Be it Tyag, Vairagya and Gyan, without Bhajan of Bhagwan one cannot obtain Moksha in life. Let us obtain the blessings that inner enemies of all devotees may be destroyed.

**Shyamsunder Swami (Muli temple)** : Oh Maharaj! Please grant health to our dear H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and he may continue to grant happiness to all the devotees because at such time even the words of Sabha become true.

**Narayanvallabh Swami (Vadnagar)** : 7<sup>th</sup> Day of week is Sunday, Janmotsav of 7<sup>th</sup> generation of Bhagwan, date is 13-10-2013 = 36 = 09. Pragatya of Bhagwan on ninth day. Today there are people everywhere. We have found such Dharmguru, who is unique. When we sincerely bow down to Shree Narnarayandev and Dharmguru, we should understand that entry of Akshardham is obtained! Destruction of demonic power is sure just by chanting the name of Guru.

**Satsangbhusan Swami (Gandhinagar Sector-20)** : Today more than 41000 devotees have thronged together in this Janmotsav. The revolutionary thoughts and the most flexible nature of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj are unique and wonderful. Koshalendraprasadji is like Kaushal Pati Shree Ramji! If we seek shelter under him and shall cherish ardent faith towards Shree Narnarayandev, we would certainly get freedom from clutches of ten Indriyas.

Among the dignitaries, the Honourable Minister for Finance and Health Shri Nitinbhai Patel had also arrived on this occasion. He praised the noble idea of associating social service and service to the mankind with Janmotsav and its implementation. Devotee Shri D.N.Patel (Kundal) delivered the vote of thanks On behalf of all the devotees. Devotee Shri Manjibhai Hirani conveyed the Message of Wishes in english on behalf of N.R.I. Devotees. This continued upto 7.30 hours. At last P.P. Swami made announcement that, the next 42<sup>nd</sup> Janmotsav shall be celebrated in Kalol and then he requested all Other Three Forms of Shree Hari to bless all the devotees.

**Special Suggestion** : Blessings of all Other Three Forms of Shree Hari are published separately in this issue of magazine and all the devotees and Haribhaktas are ardently requested to chew and digest them in their lives.

Exactly at 8.15 hours, group aarti -with one candle in hand of one haribhakta- was performed. It appeared as if the stars had come down from the sky and these stars had been performing divine aarti of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj.

The great fire-work was also organized thereafter and at last all the devotees and Haribhaktas availed the benefit of Mahaprasad. During the whole utsav, Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, North Gujarat and young devotees of

Ahmedabad rendered their beautiful services.

This new approach of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj for celebration of Janmotsav became Mahamahotsav in real sense. While reading the inner feelings of the devotees who had come from the villages, it came out that, devotees residing in the villages were cherishing ardent and firm faith towards H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and Shree Narnarayandev.

During this Utsav, beautiful social activities were also held. About 800 people availed the benefit of diagnosis camp and more than 200 devotees donated their blood. In short just to say that, we should leave aside everything else and should cherish ardent faith towards our H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and we would get solved all our problems of life.

આયો રે આયો રે ઉત્સવ આયો રે ।

ભાયો રે ભાયો રે મનડે ભાયો રે ॥

During Mahotsav Swami Dharmswaroopdasji (Nathdwara), Swami Rajendraprasaddasji (Kalupur), Swami Mukundprasaddasji (Kalupur), Swami Aniruddhaprasaddasji (Dholka) rendered their beautiful services in the Kitchen section of Mahotsav.

**ORGANIZER SAINTS OF 41<sup>ST</sup> JANMOTSAV**

- Sadguru Swami Devprakashdasji (Mahant of Naranghat temple)
- Sadguru Shastri P.P. Swami (Mahant of Naranghat temple)
- Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar)
- Sadguru Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Koteshwar) and
- Shree Swaminaraayan temple, Naranghat and whole Satsang Samaj, Ahmedabad city and Uttar Gujarat and
- Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal- Ahmedabad Desh.

# IDOL IMAGE OF TEMPLE

- Sadhu Purushottamprakashdas (Jetalpurdham)



From the construction of temple till invocation of the idol images of deities, at appropriate time poojan-archan are performed. The whole structure of the temple is just like body of the deity. Along with the idol image of the deity all care and caution is also taken with the temple. Cleanliness, piety and utmost care are the pre-requisites for maintaining the divinity of the temple.

In the base of the temple are sixteen symbols which are like sixteen Pad-chinhas of Charan of Bhagwan. The base is like thighs, Daso are like Kati-pradesh, Dabdi-Kanathi, Kumbhi-Koni (elbow), Pillars (Choki-hand), Garbhgriha-Mukh, Zalar, Ghantadi, Ghant (Bell)- tongue, Akhand lamp- five Naivedya. Seat of throne-Heart, idol image-Soul, Main Gate- Navel, Bari-Ear, Kapot Pali (Keval)- Shoulder, Mandap-abdomen, Kalash-Head, Pralay- flesh and tissues, Shila-bones, metal nails which join the stones-ligaments, Shikhar-eye, Dhaja-hair. In the Pithik (seat) vehicle of the concerned deity is kept which is also known as Simhasan.

Deeply rooted in Vedic traditions, our Rishi, Munis and learned persons have graciously combined Indian Shipa-Shastra, Vastu-Shastra and Jyotisha-Shastra in the shape, structure and design of temples. We will find difference in the shapes and designs of temples of Northern India and Southern India. Hindu, Muslim and Jain are three different religions but in the design of their places of worship, the abovesaid three Shastras have been resorted to. Followers of Jain religion scrupulously follow the above Shastras in this regard.

Our Nand saints were also experts in these Shastras and therefore, in the temples, which are developed during the time of these Nand Saints, are found to have been built strictly in accordance with these Shastras. Vastu means arrangement, Jyotish means direction and Shilpa means design. Even among our nand saints, Sadguru Anandanand Swami was expert and other saints would learn from him. Sadguru Brahmanand Swami stayed in Dhamadka of Kachchh and became expert in 14 Vidyas; he also studied all the three Vidyas. Moreover, Sadguru Nishkulanand Swami by birth belonged to carpenter family and therefore he knew carpentry.

Bandhnu-Yagnopavit, as a symbol of Rasa, mercury is kept below the feet of the idol image and other precious metals like gold, diamond, Manek, Ratna etc. are also kept. In our body all types of Minerals and Vitamins are kept, the same ritual is performed in case of idol image, too. Four weapons of deity are also invoked. In the Shikhar of devalaya, Diggpal of four directions are also invoked. Moreover, in the centre of Shikhar, 64 Joganis are also invoked to protect the pious premises from bad elements from all eight directions. Lion of Sukhnad in the centre of Shikhar is symbol of bravery. Calculation of the steps of Devalaya-one step is like one Shakti. First Sopan is King.

**Con. from page 19**

# BLESSINGS OF 6<sup>TH</sup>, 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> FORM OF SHREE HARI

- Compilation – Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara (Hirawadi-Bapunagar)



On Sunday 13/10/2013, 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in Gandhinagar- the capital of Gujarat. Basic concepts about our Sampradaya were listened to from Brahmnistha saints and Amrutvani from Dharmkul. Here are excerpts from these blessings for those who could not remain present and could not avail such divine benefit:

H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj joked and said, "I being younger in age, can neither bless our father nor can I offer any Gift. Because, for offering gift to him, first of I will have to ask for the gift from him only" H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj prayed to Shree Narnarayandev for inculcating noble qualities of Satsang in him.

Perhaps for the first time H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj blessed the saints and devotees while standing. While standing H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj said, "I have stood

up not because you can perform Darshan but because I can perform Darshan of all of you. There is no difference in today's Sabha and Sabha of Akshardham. Yes, the only difference is that, we are on the stage and all of you are sitting on the floor. Whereas, in Akshardham all of you shall sit together. There only Shreeji Maharaj would be found sitting on chair. When I was Acharya and was going to the temple from home, my mother used to bow down from the above situated window. I used to ask why, as I should bow down to her. Then she used to tell me, "I bow down to Acharya and red turban." And When I would return home, she would treat me as son.

So whenever we are performing aarti of Acharya Maharaj, we are not performing aarti of any person but in fact we are performing aarti of red turban- seat of Acharya which is offered by Shreeji Maharaj.

Our father had difficulties of diabetes, blood pressure. While witnessing these

ailments, right from the childhood, I had decided that I would not allow these ailments to enter into my body. Therefore, physical fitness has been maintained through exercise right from the childhood. In 'Shiksha Patri' Shreeji Maharaj should have written, 'Our Acharya should keep his body fit.' Because in order to grant happiness to the devotees and while gracing their houses, Acharya Maharaj should be physically fit."

**In his blessings H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj has stated,** "In the pious 'Shiksha Patri' Shreeji Maharaj has taught us to become a good gentleman. Lessons of humanity such as non-violence are also taught. In the subsequent Shlokas, Maharaj has given us directions to go to temple to perform divine Darshan. There are many people who skip these initial stages and directly come to the temple. Though these people are mannerless yet they come to the temple with a lot of expectations. They come to the temple physically but their mind is not there in the temple. Now such people cannot be driven out of the temple. But such people get away from the Deity automatically.

Discipline is required in every matter. We may get the full dish in our dinner, but it is not necessary that we should devour the whole dish. We should keep something from it for others. If we eat up the whole dish, we would become plummy and fat. Our father insisted upon physical exercise and he taught me. Even today I have continued those exercises and thereby I have maintained fitness. I also request him for reverse exercise. Recently he has reduced weight upto five k.g. I do not believe in long life. But whatever life we live, we should live healthy life and should

continue to render our ardent services to our Satsang.

Our father has taken noble vow about developing a good hospital. It is fine that we render our services to patients and the persons suffering from a number diseases. But we have to teach people to live life in a such way that they do not become sick and for that Shreeji Maharaj has given directions in the pious 'Shiksha Patri'. With the name of my father, we shall develop Medical Campus- Research Institute and for that we have also land in Naranpura area.

Each of our Utsav and Mahotsav is becoming better in quality. At present renovation work of our Shree Narnarayandev Kalupur temple is going on. It is easier to develop a new temple; but it is very difficult to renovate the existing temple. The work is to be accomplished taking care that, nothing is touched to the idol images of Shree Narnarayandev of inner temple and daily Darshan of the devotees are also continued incessantly.

On completion of this renovation work of the inner temple, Shree Narnarayandev Mahotsav is going to be celebrated in December-2014 because each breath of all of us is due to blessings of Shree Narnarayandev. We are much indebted to Shree Narnarayandev and time and again we have been telling that there is no difference between Shreeji Maharaj and Shree Narnarayandev.

It is an humble prayer at the lotus-like feet of Shree Narayananand that, all the saints and devotees and Haribhaktas residing in this Desh and in abroad may lead happy life while rendering their ardent services to our Sampradaya.

# પ.પૂ.ઘ.ધુ. આચાર્ય મહારાજશ્રીનો ૪૧મો પ્રાકટ્યોત્સવ મહોત્સવ









## ધાર્મિક તથા સામાજિક પ્રવૃત્તિમાં સહયોગી સંતો

- શા. સ્વામી ચૈતન્યસ્વરૂપદાસજી - કોટેશ્વર
- શા. સ્વામી વ્રજભૂષણદાસજી - નારાયણઘાટ
- શા. સ્વામી દિવ્યપ્રકાશદાસજી - નારાયણઘાટ
- સ.ગુ.શા. સ્વામી ધર્મપ્રવર્તકદાસજી - ગાંધીનગર
- સ.ગુ.શા. સ્વામી હરિકૃષ્ણદાસજી - એપ્રોચ
- સ.ગુ.શા. સ્વામી માઘવપ્રિયદાસજી - સિદ્ધપુર
- સ.ગુ.શા. સ્વામી કુંજવિહારીદાસજી - કાલુપુર
- સ.ગુ.શા. સ્વામી અભિષેકપ્રસાદદાસજી - વડનગર
- સ.ગુ.શા. સ્વામી ઋષિકેશપ્રસાદદાસજી - ઈસંડ
- સ.ગુ.શા. સ્વામી ગોપાલજીવનદાસજી - મુળી
- સ.ગુ.શા. સ્વામી નારાયણમુનિદાસજી - કાલુપુર
- શ્રી નરનારાયણદેવ યુવક મંડળ - અમદાવાદ શહેર
- શ્રી નરનારાયણદેવ યુવક મંડળ - ઉત્તર ગુજરાત

# DEEPAWALI

- Atul Bhanuprasad Pothiwala  
(Memnagar-Ahmedabad)

Diwali is a festival of lights. तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय *Tamaso Ma Jyotirgamay*. This is the festival wherein by can enlighten our life through this Richa of Vedas.

Darkness is only testing of a man's patience to wait for the day-break. This is the message of this festival of lights that, we should light the lamp in the form of Satsang. Dipotsavi is a transitional period of the year and change in year suggests positive change in us. Price rise and inflation has engulfed the whole world in its clutches. But fortunately we have got the divine protection of our Sampradaya. And therefore, it is Diwali for all the twelve months for a devotee:

“सो करोड दिवाली ने दशरा क्रोड हजार.  
એ થકી પણ આ સમે, આનંદ અપરંપાર !”

There is happiness ever and everywhere in our Satsang. Just we should not create unhappiness on our own and this should be our prayer that we should not be instigated for it. Noble thoughts and noble conduct are the real achievements of our real life. This is the festival wherein we should cherish noble aim of leading a pious

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second Sopan is Yamraja, third Sopan is Indra. Therefore, steps of Devalaya should be three or four or six-seven or nine-ten and twelve. It would be found with each pair of three steps. Steps of temple of any building should not be two, five, eight and eleven. That means last step should not be that of Yama. It should be that of Indra or Raja. Generally devotees bow down at the last step of the temple because it is the place of residence of Indra. As per the beliefs of Vaishnav Sampradaya, Prabhuji returns to temple through steps after performing Vicharan and therefore devotees of Vaishnav Sampradaya bow down at each step

and righteous life as shown by Shree Hari.

We light the lamps, prepare beautiful Rangoli and thereby we welcome the festival of lights which is popularly known as Deepawali or Diwali. If we bring the light of Dharma, Gyan, Vairagya and Bhakti and understand the importance of Shree Hari in our life, Shree Hari is always with us. Nothing else can be more meaningful on this pious occasion of Deepawali.

Brahmanand Swami has said, ‘Oh Maharaj! When you grace my house, it is Deepawali at my home.’ Premanand Swami has also said the same thing. He has stated, “When I perform divine Darshan of Bhagwan, it is Deepawali for me.”

“રાજ મારે દિન દિન દિવાળી  
વહાલાં મળતાં તમને વનમાળી,  
મોહન આપ્યાં તમે મંદિરીએ  
કાજુદીપ તથાં ઉત્સવ કરીએ.”

“દીઠે દિવાળી રે ગિરિધર, દીઠે દિવાળી રે,  
આનંદ આજ ઘણો અંતરમાં, મોહન મુખ ભાળી રે  
બ્રહ્માનંદના રે વહાલા, તમ સંગ રમતાં મારે  
દહાણુ દહાડી છે દિવાળી.  
ઢેડામાં મુને વહાલાં લાગો છો વનમાળી !”

If we perform Sankalp to follow above blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj given in the morning on the pious day of Nutan Varsha, there would be Deepawali in our life forever.

while entering into the temple considering them as Prasadi. Just as Indriyas are Dev of Anatahkaran, Deities are established in the form of Putalis on each pillar of the temple. Therefore, to perform divine Darshan of each and every part and portion of the temple is just like performing divine Darshan of body parts of Parmatma. It is with this background that many devotees take dust of the temple at home and preserve it in house for the purpose of piety. Deep is Other Form of Parbrahma. Our Japa, Tapa, Vrata etc. offered to Parmatma through this Deep. Performing Vandan to Deep (Akhand Divo) of temple is like performing Vandan to Parmatma.

## DIPOTSAVI PARVA

- Mahadev Dhoriyani (Rajkot)

## NUTAN VARSHABHINANDAN

“दिलमां दीवो करो तो पगले पगले प्रकाश झूटे”

There is no meaning of lighting so many lamps when there is total darkness in our heart. Now it is the time to light the lamp in our heart. Dipotsavi is a festival of Light! It is the festival of joy and fun. It is the festival of celebration of light. This festival begins from Ekadashi, Vagh Baras. This parva is known as ‘Deepavalika’, Sukh Ratri or Yaksha Ratri.

New Year has just arrives. So let us make sincere efforts to make our life noble with Sadvichar (noble thoughts) and Sadachar (noble conduct). Let all of us learn the art of living a life with discipline and humility.

It is an humble prayer to Shree Hari that this new year may bring happiness of health and worldly pleasures and there may be light of love, honesty and noble qualities in our life. In this New Year, all of us should make sincere efforts to obtain ‘Jeevan-Sudha’ of Atmagyan and Atmasamadhi. May Bhagwan enlighten path of our life. In this New Year, may there be love, affection, unity and happiness in our family.

Let us celebrate this ‘Deepotsavi Parva’ in such a way that, our social structure and family relations may get strengthened and there may be increase in love and affection, unity and happiness of all the people, which is an important organ of our society. Simultaneously perennial qualities of our Indian Culture should also be nourished whose base is Matrudevo Bhava, Pitru devo Bhava, Acharyadevo Bhava, Atithidevo Bhava.

“जुव हमारी जति है, मानव धर्म हमारा;

हिन्दू, मुस्लिम, शीख, धर्माई, धर्म नही कोई न्यारा.”

Science has progress to the extent of heart-transplantation. But the credit of making this heart sweet and soft goes to our Dharma. And therefore with this New Year let us begin our spiritual and religious life. Basic condition for success is sweetness of tongue and absence of bitterness.

‘Diwali the king of festivals’ – the festival of Diwali begins with the message of self-discipline. Human beings and human life are always found surrounded by **Aadhi, Vyadhi and Upadhi**. The day on which he becomes free from all the three- it is the day of Diwali for him - a day of happiness in his life. It is the divine day of divine power which gives us the message to live a divine life.

Bhagwan Shree Rama won Sri Lanka and returned to Ayodhya. The people were released from the tortures of the demons and therefore at that time people lighted the lamp and expressed their joy and happiness. Since then, this occasion is known as ‘Dipotsavi’.

“नूतन वर्षाभिनिंदन”

“नूतन वर्षाभिनिंदन लभुं,

स्नेहथी सादर वंदन लभुं.

डि-डि भरपूर भाव विभोर,

पुलकित गीत गुंजन लभुं.

जगहणे छे धर-धर दीपोत्सवी,

डिजवळ जुवन-कवन लभुं.

डिजस अमासनो प्रवेशे भीतरमां,

सदाय अस शुभ चिंतन लभुं.

पामवा शुभेच्छा जनपुं शुभेच्छक,

परस्पर स्नेह मिलन लभुं.

शुभ संकल्पो साकार थाय सदाय,

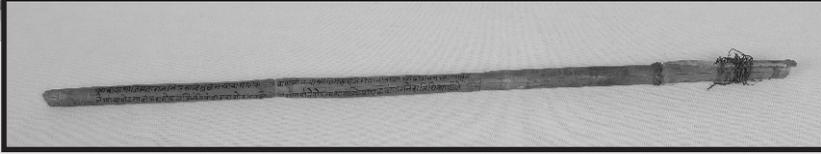
मंलमय कामना मनोमन लभुं.

विकट संभोगमां विश्वास विभुनो,

नित नित नाम पावन लभुं.”



# Shree Swaminarayan Museum



શ્રીજી મહારાજ દરેક ઉત્સવો જુદાં જુદાં ગામે કરતા જેથી દરેક સત્સંગીઓને ઉત્સવોનો અને શ્રીહરિના દિવ્ય દર્શનનો લાભ પ્રાપ્ત થાય. આમ એક વખત દંઢાવ્ય દેશના કડી પાસેના આદરજ ગામમાં દિપાવલીનો ઉત્સવ ઉજવ્યો હતો. ત્યાં દિપાવલીમાં તીરંદાજની સ્પર્ધા પરંપરાગત રીતે થતી આવતી હતી. તેમાં એક કુશળ તીરંદાજ રતુ ખાંટને પોતાની નિશાન બાજી પર ખૂબ ગર્વ હતો. અંતર્યામી શ્રીજી મહારાજ તે જાણતા હતા તેમને તો રતુ ખાંટનો ગર્વ ઉતારવો હતો તેથી સરોવરમાં તરતા દિવાની જ્યોતને નિશાન બનાવવાનું આયોજન ગોઠવ્યુ હતું તેમાં શ્રીહરિના પાર્ષદ ભગુજી પાસે અચૂક નિશાન સધાવી સરોવરમાં તરતા દિવાની જ્યોત બુઝાવી ને રતુ ખાંટનું અભિમાન ઓગાળ્યું. આ ઉપરાંત આ જ જગ્યાએ ચાર નંદ સંતોને સદ્ગુરુ પદ આપી ગાડામાં બેસાડી આરતી ઉતારી હતી અને સંપ્રદાયના સૌ પ્રથમ અન્નકુટ ઉત્સવની પરંપરા અહીંથી જ શરૂ થઈ.

Shreeji Maharaj used to organize and celebrate each and every Utsav in different village so that each and every devotee can avail the benefit of divine Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj as well as Utsav. Accordingly, once Shreeji Maharaj celebrated Dipawali Utsav in village Aadraj new Kadi of Dandhavya Desh. In the village, competition of archery was being conducted traditionally. One archer Ratu Khant was very proud of his expertise in archery. So Shree Hari organized one such competition of archery during the Utsav and ardent devotee Parshad Bhaguji won the competition and this way a lesson was taught to Ratu Khant. moreover, at the same place, four Nand Saints were honoured by offering them the title of 'Sadguru' and by performing their aarti and the tradition of first Annakut Utsav of Sampradaya also began from this place.

The arrow of Prasadi of Bhaguji and other Things of Prasadi have been kept for divine Darshan in Hall No.3 of Shree Swaminarayan Museum.



## શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ

### List of devotees who rendered their services under Shree Swaminarayan Museum Maintenance Bhet Yojna October-2013

Rs.11,000/-	Dhrijabhai Karsanbhai - Ahmedabad.	Rs.5,000/-	Menaben K. Joshi c/o Ghanshyam Engineering, Bopal.
Rs.10,001/-	Harjivanbhai Karsandas Patel, Ahmedabad on the occasion of birthday of his grandson Tathya.	Rs.5,000/-	Jasiben Bhikhabhai, Ranip.

**Instruction:-** On every pious day of Punam, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj shall perform aarti in the morning at 11.30 hours in Shree Swaminarayan Museum.

### List of Host devotees who availed the benefit of Abhishek of Shree Narnarayandev in Shree Swaminarayan Museum October-2013

04/10/2013	Girishbhai Chimanbhai Patel (Meroliwala), Maninagar.
06/10/2013	Gitaben Bhupendrabhai Pujara, Naranpura (on the occasion of Kinjalben becoming C.A.).
08/10/2013	Manjibhai Shivjibhai Hirani, U.S.A.
15/10/2013	Kapilbhai Chandubhai Rabadia, London.
18/10/2013	Shree Mahila Mandal Swaminaraayan temple, Harshad Colony, Bapunagar.
20/10/2013	(Morning) Chandubhai Somnathbhai Dairywala, Navarangpura. (Evening) Patel Jayantibhai Narandas, Deusanawala (at present U.S.A)
27/10/2013	Vasantiben (one Haribhagat) through Anisha Patel, Pusp Patel, Ahmedabad.



Museum Mobile : 98795 49597

Devotee Shri Parshottambhai (Dasbhai, Bapunagar) : Mobile No. 99250 42686

[www.swaminarayanmuseum.org/com](http://www.swaminarayanmuseum.org/com)

email:swaminarayanmuseum@gmail.com

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properly with water are used to serve the meals to other persons. Just think ! What impact it would have upon our health!!!

In the kitchen of our house the meals are prepared with love and affection. Whereas, the meals prepared professionally do not contain any love and affection in it. There is only selfishness. Such meals spoil our thoughts. Therefore, in the matter of meals, Varnashram Dharma should be kept in mind. Therefore, this has been included in eleven Niyams.

**अगियारमो नियम : विमुक्त जुवके वदन से, कथा सुनी नहीं जात -**

Shreeji Maharaj has directed not to listen to the words of a person in whose life there is no element of religion or Dharma, a person who is addicted to some addiction, who is away from Dharma, whose tongue is used to make fun of incarnations of Bhagwan.

This is a fact. The person who has never worshipped Bhagwan, who has not performed any type of Bhakti should not be listened.to. This means that one should remain away from the company of such persons. The person who is away from Dharma cannot create any effect or impact upon others and therefore listening to Katha from such a person is futile as there is no benefit in it.

When Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan was young, he used to go temples of Ayodhya for performing divine Darshan after taking bath in the pious river Sarayu and thereafter he used to listen to Katha being narrated. Once little Ghanshyam Maharaj took his seat and started listening to Katha of Ekadashi. Now the spokesperson of Katha did not like to perform Vrata of Ekadashi. Coincidentally it was the pious day of Ekadashi and in the morning the spokesperson had heavy meals and then he started narrating Katha and said that it is true about Ekadashi, but in Kaliyug Ekadashi has been tied in

Jagannathpuri and therefore it would do even if Vrata of Ekadashi is not observed.

Later on Parmatma taught him lesson and he had to beg pardon. But the crux is that when Katha is listened.to from the mouth of any person in whose life there is no Dharma and Bhakti, one gets swayed from his righteous path. And therefore, this has been included in eleven Niyams.

**“એહી ધર્મ કે નિયમમે, વર્તો સભ હરિદાસ,  
ભજો શ્રી સહજાનંદપદ, છોડી ઓર સભ આસ.  
રહી એકાદશ નિયમમે, કરો શ્રીહરિપદ પ્રિત,  
પ્રેમાનંદ કહે ધામ મે જાઓ નિશંક જગજીત.”**

Any person who would follow these eleven Niyam and would perform Bhakti of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan, would certainly get emancipation in his life. Dear devotees! Our Panchvartaman are also included in these eleven Niyams. And with a view that we always remember these eleven Niyams, Shreeji Maharaj got created Pada ‘Nirvikalp Uttam Aati’ pada from Premanand Swami.

### TWO TASKS ACCOMPLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY

**- Sadhu Shrirangdas (Gandhinagar)**

Once Shreeji Maharaj graced the village Zinzavada. Zinzavadar is the village of Alaiya Khachar. There was a lake in the outskirts of the village and on the bank of the lake was a huge Peepal tree. Shreeji Maharaj was sitting under the Peepal tree. Alaiya Khachar, Sura Khachar, Somla Khachar, Naja Jogiya, Mulji Sheth etc. devotees were sitting around Maharaj. Shreeji Maharaj was enjoying the light questionnaire. Alaiya Khachar asked one question, “Hey Maharaj! My grandfather was very violent. He was a sinner and he had committed many offenses. He was always in the front in robbery and dacoity. He would not show any mercy in cutting anybody’s head and he was very angry.

**Con. from page 27**

FROM THE BLESSINGS OF H.H. SHRI GADIWALA 'ON THE OCCASION OF SATSANG SABHA OF EKADASHI'  
- Compiled by Kotak Varsha Natvarlal-Ghodasar

# भक्तिसुधा

BHAKTI-SUDHA

One landlord was residing in one village. He had a huge field in the village and various types of fruits and vegetables were being grown in this field. Once he made announcement that, all vegetables and fruits are being distributed in his shop free of cost to all. These vegetables and fruits were also arranged accordingly in his shop. Hearing about the announcement the villagers came to his shop and started looking at everything with suspicion that, these fruits and vegetables must be rotten otherwise no one would distribute them free of cost. And therefore, none of the villagers touched any fruit or vegetable and returned to their home empty handed. The next day the landlord wrote the clarification in the announcement that the quality of the fruits and vegetables is quite good and the same would be available to all free of cost. At this the villagers thronged together at his shop and brought the fruits and vegetables home.

The meaning is that, when any good thing is available free of cost in the market in the first instance one would look at such things with suspicion. Shree Narnarayandev is the King of Bharatkhand and He himself has been performing Tapa and offering its fruits to all of us. We often listen in the blessings of H.H Shri Lalji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj that each of our breath is due to Shree Narnarayandev. But since we have got it so easily at our doorsteps without any special efforts, we do not know its value and importance. We have always to think about what we have received in our life instead of thinking what we have not received in our life. Satsang of original Sampradaya, which we have got in our life,

is very precious. Our thinking changes with the changes in our circumstances but we have to keep in our mind that, our faith is not shaken even for a while. We have to reprimand ourselves when we find that something wrong is being done by us. It is like Principal reprimanding a mischievous student in the school. We need to control and regulate ourselves. Everyday we should introspect ourselves to find out what is proper and what is improper in ourselves. Maharaj has not prohibited us in finding faults with ourselves. Others may find and see divinity in us and by doing so they are following the directions of Maharaj because Maharaj has prohibited us to look at the faults of others.

Pay attention to these words! At what time we become impatient? When we think wrong and bad about others. Our mind works fast when we are tense and when we are thinking negatively. We get reminded of all negative things of other persons and at such time we can weigh properly what is good and what is bad. We immediately remember what bad is done to us by others -in just two minutes; but it takes hours to remember what good is done to us by the same persons. Therefore, we should always think what is good and what is bad and should always remain under the directions of Shree Narnarayandev. And to remain happy in our life, we should always remain under the directions of Maharaj. Let us pray to Shree Narnarayandev that, we may always remain under the directions of Maharaj and Shree Narnarayandev.

## UNFORTUNATE JEALOUSY

- Sankhya Yogi Kokilaba  
(Surendranagar)

In Vachanamrit-71 of Gadhda First Chapter, Shreeji Maharaj has defined jealousy. "When a person becomes happy by watching others being unhappy and when a person becomes unhappy by watching others being happy- is said to be jealous." Jealousy is such thing in which a person does not become unhappy with his own miseries, but he becomes unhappy with happiness of others. Such a person cannot tolerate happiness of others. When others are unhappy or in difficulties, the jealous person enjoys it and seeks his happiness in it. But the end of jealousy is always destruction. Once a rose flower asked a question to a thorn of its branch, "Why are you tearing of the clothes of other persons? What do you get from it?" the thorn replied, "I cannot stand the good clothes of others and therefore I intend to tear off the clothes of such persons." A jealous person is like a thorn, he does not think about his own advantage but he wishes how and in which manner he can cause damage to others.

This jealousy is like a worm, which eats up the inner qualities of a person. It spoils the whole life of a person. Such persons cannot live peacefully without abusing others and without causing harm to others. This jealousy is like fire which destroys everything. It destroys the inner good qualities of a person. It also takes away the fame and name and credit of the person. The jealousy is very contagious and it spreads like anything. Jealousy destroys unity, family, organization etc. and damages the whole social structure irreparably. The person who is very proud is also the culprit of anger and jealousy. And this rottenness has also not spared even the kings and Rishi-Munis. Therefore, one should always be very alert and should

not allow this rottenness in his life and mind.

## BHAKTAVATSAL BHAGWAN

- Patel Bhavna N. (Mubarakpur, Kalol)

One devotee Mahashankar Pancholi was residing in village Methan. He had one son named Rajaram. Once both father and son came to village Loya to perform divine Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj. They had ten rupees with them. Devotee Mahashankarbai had thought that while performing divine Darshan of Maharaj, five rupees would be offered to Maharaj by his son and five rupees would be used to offer the meals to the saints. By the time they reached village Loya, Maharaj had already left the village. When Mahashankarbai inquired about Maharaj, he was informed that Maharaj had already left the village. At this, Mahashankarbai became unhappy and decided to spend one night in the village at the residence of one Brahmin. The next day in the morning Maharaj performed Leela and asked Sura Khachar to call the devotee Mahashankarbai. When Sura Khachar came to the house of the Brahmin and conveyed the message of Maharaj to Mahashankarbai, he was surprised. He could not believe the words of Sura Khachar. He immediately went with Sura Khachar and performed divine Darshan of Maharaj. His son Rajaram also performed divine Darshan of Maharaj and offered five rupees at lotus like feet of Maharaj. And in this way desire of ardent devotee was fulfilled by Bhagwan.

## PRADAKSHINA OF CHHAPAIYA

- Patel Labhuben Manubhai (Kundal,  
Tal. Kadi)

Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj has performed many Leela in Chhapaiya. Here is one such incident. Once Ghanshyam Maharaj went to Ambavadia at the bank of Narayan Sarovar alongwith his friends. The

friends climbed up the mango trees and started playing the game of horse riding.

Ghanshyam Maharaj also started playing the game of horse riding. All of a sudden one divine horse came from the sky and Ghanshyam Maharaj sat on it and the horse started performing Pradakshina of Chhapaiya. When 108 Pradakshinas were completed, the horse slowed down. The horse was followed by ladies devotees of Chhapaiya. Some Brahmins who were performing Sandhya in Narayan Sarovar also followed the horse.

In this way the persons started joining one by one. This turned into a Sangh and with this Sangh Maharaj performed 108

Pradakshina of Chhapaiya. Since then there is great importance of Pradakshina of Chhapaiya. One should remember the names of the villages which come during this Pradakshina. The first village comes Surval, then Tinva, Daannagar, Aslara, Bhoigam, Gayghat, Lohganjari, Patijiya, Nagpur, Nevade and Chhapaiya. This is about the bigger Pradakshina. If we perform smaller Pradakshina of Chhapaiya, it can be done by performing Pradakshina of village Chhapaiya only. We should also perform Pradakshina of this place of pilgrimage of Chhapaiya whose Pradakshina was also performed by Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj.

*Con. on page 24*

Now whether he would have got emancipation? I am your devotee and I have got you in my life. But what about him? Whether he would have got place in Akshardham due to my performing Bhajan and Bhakti? Maharaj replied that, the old man would certainly go to Akshardham, when he has got such an ardent devotee as his grandson. But Alaiya Khachar doubted. He again asked. Maharaj knew that, Alaiya Khachar would not be convinced simply with the words.

Maharaj asked one of the devotees sitting there to go to Akshardham and verify whether forefathers of Alaiya Khachar were in Akshardham or not. Maharaj had also asked the devotee to bring some mark of identity otherwise Alaiya Khachar would not believe in such words. The devotee performed Samadhi and went to Akshardham. There he inquired whether forefathers of Alaiya Khachar were there in Akshardham. A number of old persons came forward and informed the devotee that they were the forefathers of Alaiya Khachar. On the request of the devotee, they also gave him the mark of

identification. He returned and woke up from Samadhi. The devotee then narrated everything to Maharaj. As regards mark of identification, he was told to dig out the place situated in the Eastern direction and he would find nine hundred rupees in one metal bowl.

At this Shreeji Maharaj called for the equipment and asked one person to dig out the place shown by the devotee. The metal bowl was found from the land and upon opening they found some money into it. When counted it was exactly nine hundred years. Now there were tears in the eyes of Alaiya Khachar and he bowed down at the lotus like feet of Maharaj.

Dear devotees! This incident has been referred to in Vachanamrit. The person who is an ardent devotee, would secure emancipation for his seventy one generations and therefore one should perform ardent Bhakti with firm faith in Bhagwan. Muktanand Swami has stated:

“पुत्रघोचम प्रगटनुं जे दरशन करशे,  
काणकर्मथी छुटी कुटुंब सहित तरशे.  
जय सद्गुरु स्वामी.”

**Sharadotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad**

On the pious day of Aaso Sud-15 18/10/2013, Sharadotsav was celebrated traditionally with great fervour and enthusiasm in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad. In the chawlk of Prasadi of temple, beautiful Auchhav was performed in the pious company of Shree hari. H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj also graced the occasion and performed aarti of Thakorji. At last Prasad of Dudh-Pauva was offered to all the devotees. Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji and Kothari Parshad Digambar Bhagat had made beautiful arrangements. (Shastri Swami Narayanmunidasji)

**Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kankaria (Rambaug)**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Guruprasaddasji and Mahant Swami Anandprasaddasji, Katha-Varta was performed by Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal and Shastri Swami Yagnaprakashdasji and saints during the pious Bhadarva Vad Shraadh Paksha. Similarly, Shree Narnarayandev Mahila Mandal had performed Katha-Varta-Dhoon-Bhajan at the houses of ladies devotees. (Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Kankaria)

**Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vadnagar**

Shrimad Bhagwat Katha Parayan was performed everyday from Shravan Sud-1 till Bhadarva Sud-15 in the morning from 8.30 to 10.00 hours and in the evening from 7.300 to 8.30 hours. Sadguru Kothari Shastri Swami Vishwaprakashdasji (Vadnagar) was the spokesperson of Katha. Poojari Shatri Swami Abhishekprasaddasji had organized and celebratd Janmastmi, Jaljilani and Vaman Jayanti Utsav with Haribhaktas. During this period Satsang Sabhas were also organized at the houses of the devotees. (Mahant Shatri Swami Narayanvallabhdasji)

**Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vavol**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Katha-Parayan of Leela Charitra of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan was organized at Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vavol (Gandhinagar) from Bhadarva Vad-11 to Bhadarva Ama. Sadguru Shastri

**News And Notes From Shri Narnarayandev Desh**

Swami Abhishekprasaddasji disciple of Sadguru Shastri Swaminarayanvallbhdasji (Mahant of Vadnagar temple) was the spokesperson of the Katha. Many devotees and Haribhaktas had availed the benefit of Katha-Varta. (Shree Narnarayaandev Yuvak Mandal and Anilbhai C. Patel- Vavol)

**Divine Miracle**

This is the best example of how ardent is the faith of our devotees and Haribhaktas in Dharmkul. While the devotees and Haribhaktas were rendering their beautiful services for celebration of 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, it started raining at Ram-Katha ground of Rameshbhai Dhanabhai Patel (Demaiwala) situated at Gandhinagar. So one devotee respectfully told to Chainya Swami, "If there would be no rains on the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi on 13/10/2013, I would perform Padyatra from Gandhinagar to Ahmedabad and I would perform divine Darshan of Shree Narnarayandev." As if Shree Hari was listening to this prayer, Utsav-Janmotsav was celebrated in beautiful climatic atmosphere and therefore the devotee performed Padyatra from Gandhinagar to Ahmedabad and performed divine Darshan of Shree Narnarayandev.

**Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jamiyatpura**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala, 6 hour Mahamantra Dhoon was performed by Bhakti Mahila Mandal on the occasion of 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Prasad was offered to all ladies devotees after concluding aarti. Shastri Swami Chhapaiyaprasaddasji had made beautiful arrangements. (Parshad Hardik Bhagat)

**Shree Swaminarayan temple, Karjisan**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul, Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra Dhoon was performed by the saints and devotees in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Karjisan. Shastri Madhavpriya Swami and Poojari Jasu Bhagat explained the importance of Shree Hari in Sabha organized on the occasion. (Parshad Jasu Bhagat)

**Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dhansura**

On the occasion of 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, all Haribhaktas had performed 24 hour Akhand Dhoon of Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra on 01/10/2013 Bhadarva Vad-11 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dhansura. (Kothari Somabhai)

**Satsang Sabha in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Anandpura**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, beautiful Satsang Sabha was organized at village Anandpura on 29/09/2013 wherein Shastri Chaitanya Swami (Koteshwar), Shastri Madhav Swami (Siddhpur) and Jasu Bhagat (Karjisan) had explained the importance of Dharmkul and Shree Hari to Haribhaktas. Vadu Yuvak Mandal had performed beautiful Dhoon-Bhajan, Kirtan etc. whose benefit was availed by the devotees of Tankia, Dangarva, Bhaupura, Karjisan and Veda (Shastry Madhavpriyadas)

**Shree Swaminarayan temple, Nandol**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala, Katha-Parayan was conducted from 20/09/2013 to 22/09/2013 at Nandol. The devotee Shri Gitaben Dharmendrakumar Pate had rendered the services as the chief host. Sankhya Yogi Bharitaba, Manjuba and Champaba, Shrimad Satsangjivan Katha was also organized on this occasion.

When H.H. Shri Gadiwala graced the occasion, all ladies devotees offered 41 feet long garland of chocolates and performed aarti on the occasion of 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. All the Utsavs were celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. Vinaben Patel, Linaben Patel rendered services on behalf of the bridegroom whereas the devotees of village Pardhol rendered the services on behalf of maternal side of bridegroom. In the Mahapooja organised on the occasion, 55 ladies devotees availed the benefit. At last H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala blessed the Sabha organized on the occasion. Services of each and every devotee was very inspirational. Ladies devotees of Nandol, Dahegam, Pardhol, Kubadthal, Lavarapur, Kuha, Kanipur and Sanoda villages had availed the benefit of this divine occasion. (Shree Swaminarayan Mahila Mandal, Nandol)

**Celebration of 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj at Dharampur (Khakharia)**

All Haribhaktas of Dharampur had celebrated 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dharampur on the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi on 13/10/2013. In this celebration, 41 Path of Janmangal, 41 minute Mahamantra Dhoon, Path of 41 Vachanamrit were performed in front of the photo-image of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. At last aarti of Thakorji was performed and all the devotees had availed the benefit of Prasad. (Shree Narnarayaandev Satsang Samaj, Dharampur)

**OVERSEAS SATSANG NEWS**

**Celebration of 41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Canada**

41<sup>st</sup> Prakatyotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj (Other Form of Shree Hari) was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Toronto, Canada (I.S.S.O.)

On this occasion, 41 Janmangal Path, 141 hour Mahamantra Dhoon, Mahapooja etc. religious programmes were organized. In the beautiful Satsang Sabha organized on the pious day of Vijaya Dashmi, Shastri Swami Bhaktinandandasji Guru Sadguru Shastri P.P. Swami (Jetalpur) explained the importance of Shreeji Maharaj and Dharmkul. Yuvak Mandal and Bal Mandal cut beautiful cake and celebrated Janmotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. In the Sabha organized on the occasion, President, all Members of the Committee and Shastri Bhaktinandan Swami performed poojan and group aarti of photo-image of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and also availed the benefit of Prasad. (Shasikantbhai)

**Jaljilani Utsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, South Jersey**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and our Future Acharya H.H. Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj, on the pious day of Janjilani Ekadashi on Sunday Group Sagar Snaan and Abhishek of Bhagwat etc. were performed in the noon from 12.00 to 4.00 hours. On this occasion, Haribhaktas of each Chapter had arrived.

Among the saints, Mahant Shastri Swami Hariprakashdasji, Madhav Swami from Boston, Shreeji Swami, Shastri Dharmkishoredasji, and Narnarayan Swami performed Abhishek of Thakorji. Beautiful Garabas were also performed by the ladies devotees. At last Thaal-aarti of Thakorji were performed. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, beautiful Satsang is going on. (Pravinbhai Shah)

## Satsang Sabha in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Colonia

beautiful Satsang Sabha of Saturday was organized in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, New Jersey (I.S.S.O.) wherein Shastri Swami Hariprakashdasji, Shreejicharandasji, Shreeji Swami, Brahmchari Swami Pavitranandji and Shastri Dharmkishore Swami narrated beautiful Katha and also explained the importance of Dev and Acharya. With the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, beautiful Satsang is going on. (Pravinbhai Shah)

## Satsang in Chhapaiyadham Parsipenny

In the Satsang Sabha organized on Sunday in newly constructed Shree Swaminarayan temple, Parsipenny Chhapaiyadham, Mahant Shastri Swami Hariprakashdasji, Shastri Dharmkishoredasji and Swami Narnarayandasji narrated beautiful Katha-Varta and also requested and suggested to celebrate the proposed Murti-Pratistha Mahotsav of the temple with great fervour and enthusiasm. Devotee Shri Prahladbhai had announced the future programmes. At lat Thaal-aarti wre performed to Thakorji and all

devotees had availed the benefit of Prasad. (Pravin Shah)

## Shree Swaminarayan temple, Chicago

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, Utsav-Katha etc. were performed in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Chicago under the guidance of Shastri Swami Vishwaviharidasji and Poojari Shanti Swami.

In the Sabha organized on the occasion of 41<sup>st</sup> Janmotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, poojan-archan of photo-image of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj was performed. Thereafter, all the saints and Haribhaktas had performed Dhoon-Bhajan, Kirtan etc. after aarti in the evening on the pious day of Sharad Purnima, Raas-Garba were organized and all the devotees had availed the benefit of Prasad of Dudh-Pauva. (Vasant Trivedi)

## Murti-Pratistha Mahotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jodiya under Muli Shree Radhakrishnadev

From 16/11/2013 to 18/11/2013 Tridinatmak Katha-Parayan, Yagna and Murti-Pratistha would be performed in the pious company of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj in our newly constructed Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jodiya, Jamnagar (Halar Pradesh) under Muli Shree Radhakrishnadev of Ahmedabad Shree Narnarayandev Desh.

- Shastri Swami Chhapaiyaprasaddasji and all Haribhaktas of Halar of Muli Desh

## AKSHARVAAS

**Mumbai** – Devotee Shri Leelavatiben Ramanlal Danak (elder sister of our devotee Shri Dharmprasadbhai Shukla) passed away to *Akshardham* on 09/09/2013 while chanting the name of Shree Hari.

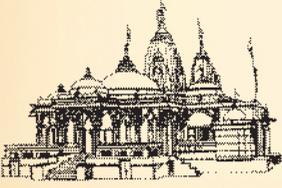
**Manekpur** - Devotee Shri Bahecharbhai Bhembhai Chaudhary (Former Kothari) passed away to Divine Abode of God on 13/10/2013 while chanting the name of Shreeji Maharaj.

**Ahmedabad** - Devotee Shri Champaben (wife of devotee Shri Ramanbhai Babaldas Gajjar) passed away to *Akshardham* on 03/10/2013 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

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# નૂતન વર્ષોભિનેદન

વિક્રમ સંવત ૨૦૭૦ના નૂતન વર્ષના આપ સૌને શ્રી હરિ સ્મૃતિ સહિત જય શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ વિ.સં. ૨૦૭૦ નું નૂતન વર્ષ આપ સૌને ખૂબજ સુખદાયી, જીવનમાં હર્ષોલ્લાસ, આનંદમય સમગ્ર પ્રકારે સુખ શાંતિ સાથે સ્વસ્થ અને સુંદર આરોગ્ય રહે. તેમજ સર્વોપરિ શ્રી હરિની કૃપાદૃષ્ટિ અને તેમના અપર સ્વરૂપ પ.પૂ.ધ.ધુ. આચાર્ય મહારાજશ્રી, પ.પૂ. મોટા મહારાજશ્રી અને પ.પૂ. લાલજી મહારાજશ્રીના સદૈવ કૃપા આશીર્વાદ વરસતા રહે અને ઉત્તરોત્તર પ્રગતિ થતી રહે અને સર્વાવતારી શ્રીજી મહારાજની સર્વોપરિ ઉપાસના દેઢ થાય તેવી આજના નૂતન વર્ષના શુભ મંગલદિને પરમ કૃપાળુ શ્રીનરનારાયણદેવના ચરણોમાં પ્રાર્થના છે.



વિ. સ.ગુ. મહંત શાસ્ત્રી સ્વામી હરિકૃષ્ણદાસજી  
તથા સંત મંડળના  
નૂતન વર્ષના શ્રીહરિ સ્મૃતિ સહિત  
હાર્દિક જય શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ

શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ મંદિર- કાલુપુર, અમદાવાદ - ૩૮૦ ૦૦૧



H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performing aarti of Thakorji on the occasion of Shree Hanumanji Shatamrut Patotsav at Santrampur and in the Sabha the host devotees alongwith H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj



(1) Celebration of Shard Purnima Mahotsav in the pious company of H.H. Shri Lalji Mahaaj in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad. (2) The host devotee obtaining blessings of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji performing aarti of Thakorji on the occasion of Sharadotsav at naranghat temple. (3-4) Celebration of 41<sup>st</sup> Janmotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj in Leicester and Canada temple. (5) Saraswati Poojan by H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj in Jetalpur Aksharmaholwadi.

**On completion of Renovation of first great temple of Sampradaya in the world situated at Kalupur, Ahmedabad and new grand golden throne of Shree Narnarayandev, 'Shree Narnarayandev Mahotsav' will be celebrated in December-2014 (24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> December 2014)**

