



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

Shri Swaminarayan Museum
Narayanpura, Ahmedabad-13.

Phone : 27489597 • Fax : 27419597
M. 98795 49597

H.H. Mota Maharajshri

Phone : 27499597

www.swaminarayanmuseum.com

With the directions of
Shri Narnarayandev
Pithadhipati H.H. 1008 Shri
Koshalendraprasadji
Maharajshri

Controlling Editors & Publishers
Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji
MAHANT

SHRI SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE

Kalupur, Ahmedabad-1.

Phone : 22132170, 22136818

Karbhari office : 22121515.

Fax : 22176992.

www.swaminarayan.info

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॥ अरुम्दीयम् ॥

EDITORIAL



During the pious months of *Shravan* and *Adhik Maas*, tradition of celebrating the festivals was followed. *Katha, Parayan, Janmastmi Utsav* and festivals continued to be celebrated during the whole *Adhik Purushottam Maas*. *Shodasopchar Maha-Abhishek* of Thakorji were performed in each of our temples with dome by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. *Haribhaktas* also did not miss such opportunities and rendered their devout services as hosts.

During this *Kali-Kaal*, Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has made emancipation in life very easy for everybody which can be ensured by him by performing *Bhajan-Smaran, Shastang Dandwat, Pradikishna* and by reading of the Scriptures. But one thing must be kept in mind that we have got Maharaj in front of our eyes and therefore *upasana* of our Maharaj should also be there. Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan is Incarnation of all incarnations. If we can get divine *Darshan* of Maharaj in this life then our life is successful. Secondly this year on 24th October 2012, 40th *Prakatyotsav* of our H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj would be celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad and therefore the whole *Satsang* is cordially invited to participate in this *Prakatyotsav*.

Editor
Mahant Swami
Shastri Swami Harikrishn



Appointment Diary of H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008 ShriKoshalendraprasadji Maharajshri

(September- 2012)

5. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranghat on the occasion of *Abhishek* of Thakorji during the pious *Adhik Maas*.
8. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranghat, on the occasion of *Mahapooja*.
9. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jetalpur on the occasion of *Abhishek* of Thakorji during the pious *Adhik Maas*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad, on the occasion of *Group Mahapooja*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Narayanpura, on the occasion of *Katha*.

Graced the village Charadava in the evening.

10. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Charadava, on the occasion of *Abhishek* of Thakorji during the pious *Adhik Maas*.
12. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kankaria.
13. Graced *Katha* organized by Bhaktinagar Memnagar and the devotee Shri Ratibhai Khimjibhai Patel (Member of Scheme Committee). B.D. Rao Sanskrutic Hall, Memnagar.
- 14-15. Graced village Mandvi (Kachchh).
16. Graced the concluding ritual of *Katha* at B.D. Rao Sanskrutic Hall, Memnagar.
Graced the site of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Panchavati (under construction) on the occasion of concluding ritual of *Katha*.
Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Zundal, on the occasion of *Katha*.
19. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad to perform aarti on the occasion of *Shree Ganesh Chaturthi*.
21. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies) Dhulkot (Halar-Muli Des) on the occasion of Khat-Muhurt of new temple.
22. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kanjarikampa.
23. Graced Sneh Sammelan Shibir organized at Lunavada (Panchmahal) by Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Bapunagar.
26. Performed ritual of *Saint Mahadiksha*. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad, for procession of Shree Ganpatiji on the occasion of Jaljilani Ekadashi.
Graced procession of Ganpatiji at night organized by Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranpura.
Graced the house of the devotee Shri Ghanshyambhai Patel (Fuva)
- 28-29 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, chobari (Kachchh) Vagad on the occasion of invocation of the idol images.
30. Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Muli on the occasion Satsang Sabha.

APPOINTMENT DIARY OF H.H. SHRI LALJI MAHARAJ

(September- 2012)

12. Graced *Katha* organized by Bhaktinagar Memnagar at B.D. Rao Sanskrutic Hall, Memnagar.
21. Graced the house of devotee Shri Rajdeep Bhaskarbai Brahmhatt, Naranpura.
23. Graced *Bal Shibir* of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Balva.
26. Graced procession of Ganpatiji of *Jaljilani Ekadashi*.

Shikshapatri

The Epistle of Precepts

(based on Shatanand's Shikshapatri
Arthadipika)

By Pravin S. Varsani

Text-75

One shall never disclose the secrets of others to anyone else and shall give due respect to deserving persons, but under no circumstances shall the bounds of courtesy be violated for observing a false decorum of equality.

Guhyavarta Tu Kasyapai Prakashya Naiva Kutrachit. Yagnavalkya explains, 'One should not reveal any information that should be kept quiet or not worthy of being disclosed. Such information should not be spoken or revealed in public.'

Narad has glorified such quality by saying to the *Rishis Nar-Narayan*: 'I have never revealed any information worthy to be kept quiet or secretive.' This directly attacks the repulsive nature of people to gossip.

Some people's tendency to gossip can often bring about information that really should not be revealed in that way. Often such talk may hurt people or indeed be simply false. Nobody likes to be talked about in public and so we should all use a bit more care when speaking in public.

The second directive in this *Shloka* looks at giving respect to those who are worthy of respect. *Shatanand* explains the hierarchy in living beings and the fact that

those who are higher in status should always be given due respect.

Kapil Muni has explained this hierarchy in nature of living beings (starting at the lowest level):

1. Those inanimate lifeless objects such as dried grass.
2. Animate objects with vital breath such as green grass.
3. Those with knowledge and sense of touch such as a tree.
4. Those with a sense of taste such as fish.
5. Those with a sense of smell such as wasps.
6. Those that understand sound such as snakes.
7. Those that understand and find distinction through their sense of sight such as birds.
8. Those with proper set of teeth (upper and lower teeth).
9. Those with many legs.
10. Those with four legs.
11. Those with two legs.
12. A member of the four castes.
13. A Brahmin.
14. Those learned in the Vedas.
15. Those with political or economic status.
16. Those that remove doubt and instill faith.
17. Those that act in accordance to Dharma.
18. Those that renounce desire for worldly objects.
19. Those that devote their mind, wealth and resources to God.
20. Those with full devotion to God, who

are always in service.

21. Those that see God in everything, in all forms in nature and so meditate upon God in this way.

Thus, we can realise the development of nature's entities as they progress one-by-one. God is every form mentioned above. Those that recognize this and praise all – plants and creatures great and small, who duly practice the great *Dharma of Ahimsa* for this reason and who in every act are in the service of God and God's creatures, are considered to be of the highest status in nature. They are fully developed and the best amongst the living.

Text-76

All my disciples shall perform additional religious duties during the four months of monsoon (Chaturmaas). Those who are incapable shall perform them during the month of Shraavana.

Shreeji Maharaj now explains the various *Vratas* or religious disciplines to be practised. For three *Shlokas*, he explains the various duties to be practised during *Chaturmaas*:

Visheshaniyami

***Dharyashaturmaasyeakhlilaurapi |
Ekasmichravane Maasi Sa
Tvashaktaustu Minavau ||***

Chaturmaas (four months) *Vratas* from *Asadh Suda Ekadashi* (11) to *Kartak Suda Dwadashi* (12) are to be observed.

All – men and women, should keep additional *Niyams* or *Vratas* during

Chaturmaas. Shatanand Muni here makes a point of assumption – he assumes that we observe the basic *Niyams* anyway. As this is often not the case, we should really make more of an effort to observe the basic *Niyams in Chaturmaas* as well as performing additional *Niyams*.

Those who are not capable of four months of *Vrata* should do so for just the one-month of *Shraavana*. One should begin their *Chaturmaas Vratas* by observing a full day fast (*Upavaas*) on the first day *Asadh Suda Ekadashi*. Those who do not observe such *Vrata* are destined to suffer the sins of a full year. Hence those who observe such *Vrata* become free of such sin.

It is said that *Shraavana Maas Vrata* should be kept for duration of six weeks, from the beginning of *Chaturmaas* up to the end of *Shraavana Maas*.

Chaturmaas (rainy season)) is considered as *Satva Guni*. The four months of *Unaro* (hot season) are *Tamo Guni* and the four onths of *Siyaro* (cold season) are *Rajo Guni*. *Devatas* also keep the *Vrata of Chaturmaas* performing great penance to please the Supreme Lord.

Shree Nilkanth Varni performed great penance at Pulashram during *Chaturmaas*, thus setting an example for all to do the same. *Chaturmmas* are the four months when, God's *Bhaktas* should stay 'awake' in their devotion and faith in God by performing such *Vratas* and *Niyams*. From all the various *Niyams* the Lord chooses eight which he himself considers as the best.

BLESSINGS OF H.H. SHRI MOTA MAHARAJ (SYDNEY- AUSTRALIA)

- Compilation : Gordhanbhai Sitapara (Hirawadi-Bapunagar)

- Co-operation : Hajuri Parshad Kanu Bhagar Guru Hajuri Parshad Vanraj Bhagar



There were five hundred *Param-hamsas* during the time of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan. Each of these *Nand-saints* were learned, masters of one or the other art,

excellent orators and having *Aishwarya*. Once Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan made an experiment. *Maharaj* called *Bramchari Vasudevanand Varni* made him sit upon His seat and *Maharaj* Himself performed *aarti* of *Brahmchari*. This experiment continued for two-three days. However, this continued anymore, as other saints who were equivalent to *Brahmchari* in their knowledge and status. They felt it like a burden. Therefore, they complained to *Maharaj*, "***Maharaj! We cannot bear this burden, we are Tyagi.***"

Thereafter on request of the saints, Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan called his both the brothers. In the big *sabha* of the saints and devotees, *Maharaj* asked his brothers to give their one son for *Sampradaya*- it would not matter whether the son is elder or younger- this son should be following *Dharma* himself and be also capable of convincing others to follow. Accordingly, two sons were given and *Maharaj* adopted them as His sons and made each of them as *Acharya* of *Ahmedabad Desh Gadi* and *Vadtal Desh Gadi*. In this way, *Maharaj* established the *Seat of Acharya* in *Kul of Dharmdev*.

I am 6th in the line of tradition of *Acharya* of *Ahmedabad Gadi*. Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has developed a unique system. *Acharya* of *Swaminarayan Sampradaya* should be married and his son thereafter becomes *Acharya*. At the same time, *Maharaj* has also prescribed certain *Dharm-Niyam* for *Acharya*. *Acharya* is not supposed to touch and speak with other females. Wife of *Acharya* can grant *Guru-Mantra* to the ladies devotees of *Sampradaya*, and this right is given by Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan himself. The tradition established at that time by *Shreeji Maharaj* is continued till date. As determined by *Shreeji Maharaj* Himself there are two principal functions of *Acharya*. Invocation of the idol images is to be performed by *Acharya* and *Saint Diksha* and *Gurumantra* is to be given by *Acharya*. Only such idol images are considered to be valid in *Sampradaya* and is worthy of being worshipped.

Before some time we had been to *Sharjah Dubai*. Nowadays the rules and regulations have been much liberalized. At that time, these rules and regulations were very strict. We were having with us idol image of *Harikrishna Maharaj* for *pooja*. It was prohibited to carry such idol images. Checking officers stopped us. Looking at the idol image he told, "What is this? This cannot be kept together?" For one moment, a thought came in the mind that, if it is not permitted to carry the idol image, then we should return back. But the next moment an idea struck to our mind and replied to the query : "This is our great grandfather!" the officer looked at us and at the idol image and allowed us to carry the idol image!.

Ultimately they agreed.

There are two principal functions to be performed by *Acharya*: (1) Invocation of the idol image. (2) Saint Diksha and Guru Mantra. Only those idol images whose invocation is performed by *Acharya* are considered to be valid in *Sampradaya* and is worthy to be worshipped. Similarly only those saints and Haribhaktas are considered as valid by Shreeji *Maharaj* who has been granted Saint Diksha and Guru Mantra. Only those Sadhus who have been granted Diksha by *Acharya* are considered to be Sadhu of Swaminarayan *Sampradaya*. So it is proper for all the devotees and saints to know about the tradition established by Shreeji *Maharaj* Himself.

Many a times, people used to ask *Maharaj* to give life to the dead. Sometimes *Maharaj* used to give life, but He was capable of doing it because He was Bhagwan. But on most of the occasion, the reply of *Maharaj* would be that, he does not know how to give life to the dead. However, we know to teach the art of living life in such a way that one does not die again and again. *Maharaj* has shown this to us in the pious '*Shiksha Patri*'. In this pious scripture, every essence of all the scriptures of the world is given. And therefore, while reading the pious '*Shiksha Patri*', devotee of any sect or religion feels as if he is reading the religious book of his own religion. A Jain feels that description about non-violence is according to Jain scriptures. A Christian feels that these 10 Commandments are also there in Christianity. In fact in our '*Shiksha Patri*' it is taught how to live our day to day life. For example, *Maharaj* has stated, there should not be expenses more than income. This appears very small but violation of this simple rule brings great miseries and unhappiness in our life.

Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan

Himself had written *Shiksha Patri*, one copy thereof was offered in gift to Sir Malcolm of British Government. Even today this '*Shiksha Patri*' is preserved in the British Museum, Oxford University. Only after giving bond in writing, this '*Shiksha Patri*' was permitted to be taken for Darshan in our temples. At present, they do not allow to touch it so that it is not damaged in any way. For some time now, we wished to have Darshan of this '*Shiksha Patri*' and we went there but even we were not permitted to touch it. Only when the saints informed the authorities that, we are the sixth descendant of the author of this '*Shiksha Patri*', we were allowed to touch.

'*Shiksha Patri*' is very useful each and every devotee of our *Sampradaya*. It was the objective of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan that each and every devotee may perform his duties well.

Once one British officer had asked *Maharaj*, "***Though we keep an army and soldiers for us yet we cannot get our one order so uniformly and effectively, then how do you maintain huge number of devotees and Parshads and saints?***" *Maharaj* asked him to ask the same question to the devotees and saints. Then Kathi Darbar devotees accompanying *Maharaj* replied, "***Like your soldier, we are also soldiers of Bhagwan Swaminarayan. We render our devout services without any salary or fees. And at times of war or battle, we do not hesitate to offer our lives for our Bhagwan. Our Bhagwan has taught us Art of Living Life through 'Shiksha Patri'. We have been made free from addiction, which is our salary.***" Listening to the reply the British Officer was surprised and thought whatever larger number of soldiers he cannot win the battle against *Maharaj* with a fewer devotees and Parshads.

Shree Swaminarayan Museum



How great would be the devotees during the time of Shreeji Maharaj can be imagined from the gifts they used to offer at the feet of Maharaj. Here is one such rosary of beads. Each bead is knitted with cotton thread and by knitting such 108 beads, one rosary is made by one of the devotees and is offered to Maharaj.

This devotee must have attained *Akshardham*. Because we know that we use rosary to chant the name of Shree Hari and it is also a means to perform *Mantra-jaap* of *Shree Swaminarayan Shadakshari Mantra*. While preparing each bead, this devotee must have chanted the name of Shree Hari and must have cherished the desire of obtaining pleasure of Maharaj.

This rosary, which has been preserved in *Dharmkul*, is kept for divine *Darshan* in Hall No.1 of Shree Swaminarayan Museum. One enlarged copy of the photograph of this rosary is also kept so that our devotees can look at and appreciate the intricacies of the knitting of the rosary.

For booking of Mahapooja/Mahabhishek contact :

Museum Mobile : 98795 49597

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

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List of devotees who rendered their services under Shree Swaminarayan Museum Maintenance Bhet Yojna September-2012

Rs.2,00,000/-	One Satsangi lady devotee	Rs.5,001/-	Patel AVichal Krishnakant-
Rs.15,000/-	Maheshbhai S. Patel-		Maninagar as Namkaran was
	Lalodawala-Vapi		performed by H.H. Shri Mota
Rs.13,000/-	Sudhrbhai P. Patel-Bapunagar		Maharaj through Snehalben
	through Dasbhai	Rs.5,001/-	Avsar Fashion-Ahmedabad
Rs.11,101/-	Savitaben Manubhai Patel-	Rs.5,001/-	Jerambhai C. Kanani-
	Ahmedabad as <i>Sankalp</i> was		Ahmedabad
	fulfilled	Rs.5,000/-	Akshar Nivasi Maniben
Rs.11,000/-	Dhirajbhai K./Patel-Ahmedabad		Mangaldas patel- Naroda
Rs.11,000/-	Poonambhai Maganbhai Patel-		through Rasikbhai Mangaldas
	Ahmedabad		Patel
Rs.10,000/-	Sushilaben Jani-Ahmedabad as	Rs.5,000/-	Gangaben Becharbhai Patel
	back pain was cured of without		(Vavol) Sabarmati
	operation due to Sankalp of	Rs.5,000/-	Patel Haribhai Madhavlal
	Shree Narnarayandev		(Kherol) Vejalpur
Rs.8,750/-	Rameshbhai Kerai-Godpar	Rs.5,000/-	Chetnaben Jayantibhai Mistry-
	(Kachchh)		Ahmedabad
Rs.6,000/-	N.H.Pradhanani-Mumbai	Rs.5,000/-	Soni Rasikbhai Dayaljibhai-
Rs.5,100/-	Kantilal Jadavbhai Soni-		Ahmedabad on occasion of
	A h m e d a b a d t h r o u g h		engagement of Harshal
	Sureshbhai		

List of Host devotees who availed the benefit of Abhishek of Shree Narnarayandev in Shree Swaminarayan Museum September-2012

02/09/2012	Shree Ghanshyam Mahila Mandal Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dhamasana.	15/09/2012	Dugdhalaya Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal and Yuvati Mandal Perth (Australia) on completion of five years of Mandal
05/09/2012	Mahi-Ranip for obtaining pleasure of Shreeji Maharaj	16/09/2012	Shree Sunilbhai Thakkar-Ghanshyam Card
07/09/2012	Shree Swaminarayan Satsang Samaj-Laloda through Vishwaprakash Swami	16/09/2012	Shree Narnarayandev Mahila Mandal-Sabarmati
08/09/2012	Bhimji Karshan Jina- London	19/09/2012	Pinalkumar Dashrathbhai Patel-Ranip
09/09/2012	Poojaben Jitendrakumar Patel	23/09/2012	Sudhakarbhai Trivedi-America
11/09/2012	Shree Narnarayandev Mahila Mandal-Memnagar through Rakshaben	30/09/2012	Balol (Bhal) Satsang Samaj of Ahmedabad through R.B.Chavda, Bharat Chavda, Digvijay Jadav
15/09/2012	Rameshbhai Ambalal Patel - Viratnagar through Chandreshbhai- Laxmi		

Abhishek of idol image of Shree Narnarayandev

Haribhaktas and devotees can perform Abhishek of the idol image of Shree Narnarayandev kept in Shree Swaminarayan Museum Hall No.8. This benefit is not available anywhere else which is available here only for Rs.51,000/-. Five devotees together can also avail this benefit simultaneously. Any Satsang Mandal can avail this benefit and members of the Mandal can avail the benefit. Therefore, day by day booking for Abhishek has been increasing and sometimes two or three Abhisheks are also registered. For more information office of the Museum can be contacted.

CHINTAN OF CHARNARVIND

- Shastri Haripriyadasji (Gandhinagar)

The whole world runs after happiness but nobody gets real happiness. Because nobody is able to get the real address of happiness and therefore everybody is unhappy. It is stated:

“રાજા ભી દુઃખિયા,

રંક ભી દુઃખિયા ધનપતિ દુઃખિ વિકાર મે
બિના વિવેક ભેખ સખ દુઃખિયા,
સંત સુખી સંસારમે.”

Thus, in this world, all the people are unhappy and only those who can find out the correct address of happiness become happy in their life. So let us ask such people to show us the correct address of happiness. The address shown by such people is as under:

સુરપુર, નરપુર, નાગપુર એ ત્રીનમે સુખ નાહી,
સુખ હે હરિકે ચરણ મે કાં સંતન કે માંહી.

Now let us think about Sol *Chinha* - sixteen symbols- of *Charnarvind* of Maharaj and try to understand the importance of each of them.

Jav : toe of right leg is shaped like ‘Jav’. By worshipping it one gets meals and gets knowledge about *Atma and Parmatma*.

Vajra : Below the sign of *Jav* is situated the symbol of *Vajra*. By worshipping it one wins all his inner enemies and gets power of *Vajra* and the mountains of sins get destroyed and obtains the state of *Sthitapragna*.

Urdhva Rekha : It goes down between toe and finger of the right leg. By worshipping it one gets upward spiritual progress in life.

Jambu : It is a symbol of the shape of fruit *Jambu* situated below *Vajra* of right leg. By worshipping it one never gets

શ્રીમદગણેશજી SATSANG BALVATIKA

- Compiler Shastri Harikehsavdasji
(Gandhinagar)

swayed away by *Maya* and any of its objects and mind rests in idol image of *Bhagwan*.

Ketu (Dhaja): In the sole of the right leg and towards the right side of *Vjra*, *Jambufal* and *Urdhva Rekha*, is situated the symbol of *Ketu*. By worshipping it one wins over enemy of *Kaam and Mayik Sukh-vasana*.

Padma (Kamal, Lotus): It is situated to the right side of the symbol of *Ketu*. By worshipping it one remains unaffected by the worldly affairs and thereby ensures spiritual progress in life.

Ankush: It is situated below the symbol of *Padma*. By worshipping it the devotee one wins *Madonmat Hathi* in the form of his mind.

Ashtkon : This symbol is situated in inner part of the right sole. By worshipping it one obtains *Ashtang Yog* very easily and gets place in *Dham* of *Bhagwan*.

Swastik: This symbol is situated on outside part of the right sole. By worshipping it one gets all his sins destroyed and gets emancipation in his life.

Thus, we knew about nine symbols of right leg of Maharaj. Now let us know about symbols of left leg of Maharaj:

Kalash: This symbol is situated in the sole below the toe of the left leg. The devotee worshipping it is considered to be the highest peak of the temple and like *Kalash*, the devotee gets highest place in *Akshardham*.

Ardha-chandra: This symbol is situated to the left side of *Urdhwa-rekha* which shines in *Parva* of fingers. By worshipping it one gets perfection in his worship like a full-moon and ultimately gets emancipation.

Vyom: This symbol is situated to the left side of *Ardha-chandra* in the left leg of Maharaj. By worshipping it one obtains happiness of Shree hari and becomes serene like sky.

Dhanushya: This symbol is situated to the left side of *Urdhwa-rekha*. By worshipping it one wins over all his enemies.

Gopad: This symbol is situated to the left side of *Dhanushya* in the sole of leg let. By worshipping it one crosses the ocean of this life without any hard work.

Trikon: This symbol is situated in inner side of left leg of Maharaj. By worshipping it gets rid of *Trividh Taap* of this world, obtains divine body which *Brahma-maya* and at last gets place in the lotus-like feet of Shree Hari.

Matsya: This symbol is situated to the outer side of left leg of Maharaj. By worshipping it one becomes capable of facing all adversities of life and obtains powers to fight all the battles of life very bravely.

So dear friends! We knew about which type of powers and energy we get by worshipping different symbols situated in the feet of Shreeji Maharaj Premanand Swami has created Padas on this subject. Similarly Nishkulanand Swami has also explained the importance of this sixteen symbols in Chintamani. So let us worship these symbols and become happy in our life.

RAKSHA OF BHAKTA

- Sadhu Shrirangdas (Gandhinagar)

Who is protected by Bhagwan? Those who have ardent affection towards Bhagwan. There are two types of *Jiva* 1) *Aastik* and 2) *Nastik*. *Aastik* means one who believes in God and who worships Him ardently and devoutly, who has fear of God in his life. And therefore Bhagwan has kept his name '*Aastik*' for the people of this world. In '*Janmangal Namavali*' 22nd name of Bhagwan is '*Aastik*'.

The people who have ardent faith in God and who cherish the faith that God protects them are said to have been cherishing *aastik Bhaav*. A person cherishing such a faith is called *aastik*. Whether Bhagwan does not protect His devotee? He certainly does, but the ignorant *Jiv* does not understand this. What is required is ardent faith.

There was one saint whose name was Akhandanand Swami. He was always found enjoying *Bhakti* and *Bhajan* and therefore he was named Akhandanand by Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan. He was very brave in his thinking and he used to preach all sermons with great love and affection. Due to tremendous *Satsang* he had very rich experience of *Satsang* and life.

Once he was passing through a dense forest. In fact he was returning from *Satsang* of the village and now he wanted to have *Darshan* of Maharaj. On his journey he came across four tigers in the forest. Looking at the tigers, Akhandanand Swami thought, let these poor and hungry animals eat up my body. Their hunger would be satisfied and I would get emancipation and a place in Akshardham. But omnipresent Shreeji Maharaj thought,

“If these tigers would eat up the saint, who shall call and remember me as Merciful.” So Maharaj changed the thoughts of tigers and the animals started playing at the feet of the saint. Akhandanand Swami smiled and went away.

He came to Gadhda and performed *Dandwat Pranam* to Maharaj and narrated everything that happened with him in the forest. Then Maharaj said, “**We entered into the body of the tigers and protected you.**”

So friends and devotees! Our Bhagwan is always present to protect us and when the devotees are in difficulty He runs to protect them. Dayanand Swami has sung in *Kirtan*:

જહાં જહાં ભીડ પડત ભક્તનકું તહાં તહાં હોત સહાઈ રે,
દયાનંદ કો નાથ દયાળુ, ભજો ભાવ ઉર લાઈ રે,

Therefore, we should always cherish ardent faith in Bhagwan because He has kept his name ‘*Aastik*’.

YUVA SATSANG SHIBIR IN LUNAWADA

- Gordhanbhai Sitapara (Bapunagar-Hirawadi)

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri *Acharya Maharaj* and the whole *Dharmkul* and with the arrangement of Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak ManDal, *Satsang Shibir* was organized on Sunday 23/09/2012.

In the morning at 9.00 hours, H.H. Shri *Acharya Maharaj* graced the occasion alongwith the saints and inaugurated the *Yuva Satsang Shibir* by lighting the lamp in the hall of Sardar Patel High School (Par Patidar Samaj). After *Dhoon* of Shree Hari, Mahant Shastri Swami Hariomprakashdasji of Naranpura tmple, Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar Gurukul), Mahant Sadguru Shastri P.P. Swami of Naranghat temple, Shastri Swami Nirgundasji (Asarwa Gurukul) and Shri Hariswaroopdasji Swami (Santrampur) etc. saints delivered their inspirational speeches on *Agya-Upasana* of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan, importance of Shree Narnarayandev, *Dharmado*, transparent administration of Shree Narnarayandev Gadi, information about temples, *Satsang Vivek* etc. in the pious company of H.H. Shri *Acharya Maharaj*.

H.H. Shri *Acharya Maharaj* blessed al the devotees and explained the importance of having right direction to ensure emancipation in life and asked members of Yuvak Mandal of Lunavada, Balasinor, Kothamba and Santrampur to perform and increase *Satsang* activity in the nearby villages. Large number of youngsters from the nearby villages had arrived and participated in this programme. Yuvak Mandal of Bapunagar area of Ahmedabad had also come in a luxury bus and participated in *Satsang Shibir* and rendered their valuable services. By rendering the services of Rs.100/- per each member, ten new life-time members of ‘Shree Swaminarayan’ magazine were registered on this pious occasion. Under the guidance of Mahant Sadguru Vasudevcharandasji of Lunawada temple, beautiful arrangements of *Prasad* were made.

FROM THE BLESSINGS OF H.H. SHRI
GADIWALA 'PRUDENT PERSONS TRY
TO SAVE THEMSELVES'

- Compilation : Kotak Varsha Natvarlal,
Ghodasar)

Once a man while passing through a forest, came across a lion. So he started running to save his life. The lion chased him. The man ran very fast and reached at the end of the road and the next was deep valley. There was a tree along the road and one of the branches of the tree was hanging over the road. The man jumped up and hanged at the branch of the tree. When he looked up, two rats, black and white in colour, were cutting the branch. And the branch was hanging outside the road above the deep valley. Above the branch was bee-hive and the honey was about to drip from the hive. The man relished the drop of honey and forgot everything. Our life is also like this man. Lion is Death who is always chasing. White and black rats are day and night and honey is Maya of this life. And we the common people of this world forget impending danger of Death of Lion and enjoy the sweetness of Maya of honey. However, nobody is saved from Death in the form of Lion and these days and nights in the form of rats are cutting the age of our life in the form of the branch of the tree. And though we know all these things yet we get lost ourselves in the Maya in the form of tasting drop of honey.

‘અજબ આ જગત છે, ઉંડા છે એના પાયા;

બધું જાણવા છતાં, મેલાતી નથી માયા.’

The persons who are ignorant and who do not understand anything, they think that, this is the right time to taste the honey. So thereby they enjoy and relish the worldly pleasures which are temporal. Though they know about the impending fear of

ભક્તિસુધા BHAKTI-SUDHA

Death, they simply neglect it.

But what do the prudent persons do? They try to save themselves from this. So they choose the path of *Bhakti* and introspection and self analysis. They try to know themselves, they talk with themselves and find out their own weaknesses and then they also try to get rid of such weaknesses. They perform *Bhajan-Kirtan, Prarthna* etc. They also perform *Satsang* and thereby obtain the pleasure of Maharaj and ensure emancipation in their life. So we should also choose the path chosen by the prudent persons and should ensure emancipation and eternal peace in our life.

KUSANG

- *Sankhya Yogi Kokilaba*
(Surendranagar)

Mainly there are three types of *Kusang* (bad company). 1) Outer *Kusang* 2) Inner *Kusang* and 3) *Kusang in Satsang*. Thus, these are three types of *Kusang*. In *Shloka-27* of '*Shiksha Patri*' Shreeji Maharaj has stated, "**One shall never associate with thieves, sinners, drug addicts, hypocrites, licentious and such other deceitful persons.**" Thus, it is prohibited to have company of these six types of persons. Such a bad company is contagious in nature and it is bound to affect us. In *Vachanamrit-48* of Gadhda First Chapter Maharaj has asked to be aware of four types of *Kusangi* people. 1) *Kudapanthi* 2) *Shaktipanthi* 3) *Shuska Vedanti* and 4) *Nastik*.

Another type of *Kusang* is Inner *Kusang*. *Kusang* of our senses is very powerful. A man is always surrounded by *Kam, Krodh, Lobh, Man, Rasaswa, Irshya, Raag, Dwesh, Chhalkapat* etc. and due to these inner *Kusang* his faith and *Bhakti* do not remain stable. In order to save himself from these inner *Kusang*, a man has to perform *Bhakti* and divine *Darshan* constantly.

Third type of *Kusang* is *Kusang in Satsang*. In *Vachanamrit-17 of Gadhdha First Chapter*, Shreeji Maharaj has described this type of *Kusang in Satsang*. Now what is *Kusang in Satsang*? To gossip in temple premises is *Kusang in Satsang*. To cherish the feeling jealousy or to behave rudely with the elders is also *Kusang in Satsang*. So one should always abstain from these three type of *Kusang*. It is better to remain alone than to remain in bad company

RELIGIOUS PRAYER

- Labhuben Manubhai patel (Kundal)

Raag Sorath

સૂન માતા જશોદા ગોરી, તેરે લાલ અંગુઠી ચોરી... સૂન
કરત રસોઈ અપને કરતે કાઢી ધરી એક ઠોરી,
કણ જાનું કણ કરકે માઈ, નજર ચોરાઈ મોરી... સૂન
લઈન તેરે નવલ લાલ કે મેં નહી જાનત ભોરી,
લે કે સટક ગયો લરકન મેં, કરકર બાત ઠગોરી... સૂન
નિત નિત ઘરમેં પેઠ કે, માખન લેત જોરા જોરી,
બ્રહ્માનંદ કહે યાકી, લીલા, એસી લાખ કરોરી... સૂન

Brahmanand Swami is a great *Kirtankar* and is a glory of our *Sampradaya* just like a Star of Dhruv. Brahmanand Swami was very firm like Dhruv. He was not swayed away from any of the worldly pleasures and happiness which were offered to him during his life. He was a great poet and an ardent devotee of Maharaj. Here in the above *Kirtan* ardent description

of Balkrishna in Gokul with Jashodamata and other Gopis is narrated beautifully. This *Kirtan* is like a drop of the ocean of literary creations of Brahmanand Swami. In the last *Charan of Pada*, the pest describes *Krishnajivan Leela*. There are such other numerous *Padas and Kirtans* in Indian literature which are worthy to be relished by both the lovers of literature as well as by devotees.

“અહો પ્રભો ! અચરજ માયા તુમ્હારી,

જીસ મોહે સકલ નરનારી !

જીસ પર કીરપા હોય તુમ્હારી, સો જન ઉતરે પારી,

બ્રહ્માનંદ શરણ મેં આયો લિજીયે મોહે ઉગારી,

અહો પ્રભો ! અચરજ માયા તુમ્હારી !”

SAVED FROM THE ROBBERS

- Patel Jankiben Nikikumar
(Gulabpurawala)

Once Shree Hari was sitting in *Sabha* in Jetalpur. Devotees and *Haribhaktas* from various villages were coming to perform divine *Darshan* of Maharaj one Valji Vipra of Sanrampur came to Jetalpur alongwith *Sangh* to perform divine *Darshan* of Shreeji Maharaj. The village Jetalpur was just three four miles away and robbers came and surrounded the whole *Sangh*. There were ladies devotees also in the *Sangh*. All started chanting the name of Shreeji Maharaj and were shivering with fear. Though village was very close nobody from the village came to save them. So Valji Vipra ardent prayed to Maharaj to save them from this danger of robbers. In no moment, thousands of horse-riders were seen riding towards the *Sangh* to save it from the robbers. The robbers ran away and the *Maya* of horse-riders created by Maharaj evaporated. Maharaj saved the devotees from the robbers. At last *Sangh* reached Jetalpurdham and all performed divine *Darshan* of Maharaj.

Group Mahapooja and procession of Jaljilani Ekadashi in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ahmedabad during the pious Adhik Maas

In the pious company of Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, all the festivals and *Utsav* were celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm during the pious *Adhik Maas*. Beautiful arrangement of *Group Mahapooja* was made whose benefit was availed by many devotees and *Haribhaktas*. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced this occasion and granted blessings to all the devotees.

Procession of Ganpatiji on the pious day of *Jal Jilani Ekadashi Bhadarva Sud-11* was performed as per tradition from Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur to Naranghat temple. Saints and *Haribhaktas* participated in the procession with great enthusiasm in the pious company of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. The procession reached Naranghat temple at 3.30 hours in the noon. At 4.45 hours H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj graced the occasion and performed the concluding ritual of *Visarajan* of procession in the river Sabarmati and performed concluding *aarti*. On this occasion, great *utsavs* were celebrate at Ahmedabad temple as well as Naranghat temple. Kothari Parshad Digambar Bhagat, Brahmchari Swami Rajeshwaranandji, J.K. Swami, Yogi Swami, Shastri Swami Viswaviharidasji, Natu Swami, Ram Swami and saints and *Parshad Mandal* had rendered their great services on this occasion. (Shastri Narayanmunidas)

First Satsang Sabha in Thaltej during pious Adhik Maas

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 P.P. Swami of Naranghat Swami, on 02/09/2012 first Grand *Satsang Sabha* was organized in Thaltej by

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the *Haribhaktas* of Thaltej area. First of all *Kirtan Bhakti* were performed which was followed by *Katha* by Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji. *Kirtan-kar* Shri Purav Patel performed *Kirtans* relating to the idol image of Maharaj. Thereafter Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji, Shastri Swami Hariomprakashdasji delivered their inspirational speeches. Among other saints Mahant Dev Swami of Naranghat temple, Shastri Divyaprakahdasji, Abhay Swami, Kothari Muni Swami and Shastri Madhav Swami were present. At last P.P. Swami had expressed the desire of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj of constructing temple in the area. At last, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the *Sabha*. H.H. Shri Gadiwala also graced the occasion and blessed all the ladies devotees. Devotee Shri Dhanvantbhai (Manipura) rendered the services as the host of this first *Satsang Sabha*. Now every month *Satsang Sabha* would be organized in Thaltej, whose benefit may be availed by the devotees and *Haribhaktas* of Thaltej and nearby areas.

(Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji)

Padyatra from Bilodara (Charada) to Ahmedabad-Jetalpur

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji of Naranghat temple *Haribhaktas* of Bilodara village organized *Padyatra* from village Bilodara to Ahmedabad Shree Narnarayandev temple and Jetalpur Shree Revtiji Baldevji Maharaj. This *Sankalp* was taken by the devotees of the village when H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the village Bilodara for the first time. Now this *Sankalp* was fulfilled with this *Padyatra*. In the grand *Padyatra*, benefit of *Satsang* was granted by Swami Abhayprakashdasji and P.P. Swami in Naranghat at night. Saints of Naranghat, Shastri Chaitanyaswaroopdasji and Shastri

Divyaprakashdasji also participated in Padyatra. (Bhikhaji Bilodara)

Rajat Jayanti of Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Balva

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 Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Jetalpurdham), various programmes were organized on Sunday 23/09/2012 under the auspices of our Future Acharya H.H. Shri 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadji Maharaj. Yuva Shibir, Kishor Mandal, Bal Mandal Shibir and grand Satsang *Sabha* and in the auspices of H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala Mah*Abhishek*, Satsang *Sabha*, Bal Mandal, Kishor Mandal, and cultural programmes were performed by Balika Mandal. Among other programmes, series of lectures, *Kirtan-Bhakti* and questionnaire were also organized. Former *Pramukhs and Mantris of Yuvak Mandal, Yuvak Mandal and Kishor Mandal* of 25 villages were also honoured on this occasion. 25 feet long garland was offered to H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and blessings were obtained. Maha-*arti* of 25 Divas was also performed on this divine occasion. All the villagers also honoured P.P. Swami (Jetalpurdham) on this occasion. On behalf of Yuvak Mandal, devotee Shri Udayanbhai Maharaj delivered inspirational speech on 'Freedom from Addiction'. At last H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj blessed the *Sabha* organized on this occasion.

In the *Sabha* of the ladies devotees, H.H. Shri Gadiwala blessed all the ladies devotees and asked them to perform *Dharma, Niyam* in accordance with original *Sampradaya*. devotees Chaudhary Somabhai and Kantibhai Chaudhary of *Akshar Nivasi* devotee Chaudhary Govabhai Fatabhai family, rendered the services for residence of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Gadiwala.

On this occasion saints from Jetalpur, Mansa, Kankaria, Mahesana, Muli and Ahmedabad had arrived. The whole programme was conducted by Shastri *Bhaktinandan* Swami (Jetalpur) whose

details were prepared by devotee Shri Narayanbhai (master). Services for light, Mandap, Stage, Sound and Kitchen were rendered by the volunteer devotees. At last all the devotees availed the benefit of Prasad and celebrated Rajat Jayanti with Chocolates. (Shastri *Bhaktinandas*, Chaudhary Amrutbhai, Alkeshbhai, Vinubhai)

Panch Dinatmak Gyan Satra and Group Mahapooja in Ghatlodiya temple

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj Panch Dinatmak Gyan Satra was organized by Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal from 22/08/2012 to 26/08/2012 in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ghatlodiya, whose benefit was availed by large number of devotees and *Haribhaktas* of Ghatlodiya and nearby areas. Shastri Swami Vishwaswaroopdasji, Shastri Swami Hariomprakashdasji, Sadguru Shastri Harikrishnadasji (Mahant Swami of Kalapur temple), Shastri P.P. Swami (Mahant of Naranghat temple) and on last day Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji delivered their inspirational speeches on the five days on various topics such as Niyam, Nishchay, Paksh and faith towards Maharaj etc. For organizing such beautiful programme devotee Shri Chhanabhai Saheb hailed Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal. On Sunday 16/09/2012, beautiful Group *Mahapooja* was organized.

Accordingly, about 80 *Haribhaktas* availed the benefit of *Group Mahapooja*. The devotee Shri Jayendrabhai Chhotalal Parikh rendered the services as chief host of *Group Mahapooja*. Sadguru Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji explained the benefit of fruits of *Mahapooja*. Services of Trustee Mandal and Yuvak Mandal was inspirational.

(Dineshbhai Patel)

Shrimad Bhagwat Dasm Skanda Night Parayan during pious Adhik Maas in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Meghaninagar

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji

Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul and with the inspiration of Sadguru Shastri Swami P.P. Swami (Mahant of Naranghat temple), Shree Swaminarayan temple Meghaninagar Satsang Samaj organized *Parayan* from 12/09/2012 to 16/09/2012. Sadguru Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Koteshwar) was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*. Devotee Shri Shakriben Shakarchand (Bhagat) and Patel Joitiben Babubhai Parivar (Marusanawala) had rendered the services as the chief hosts of *Parayan*. Many other devotees also rendered their services as the hosts of all other programmes organized during the *Parayan*.

H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the concluding ritual of Katha on 16/09/2012 alongwith Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji (Ahmedabad) and Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji and Sadguru Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji (Naranghat) who delivered their inspirational speeches on this occasion. At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*.

(Shastri Divyaprakashdas)

MahAbhishek of Thakorji in

Jetalpurdam during pious Adhik Maas

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadj Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Gadiwala and with the inspiration of Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdasji, *Shrimad Satsangijivan Saptah Parayan* was organized from 03/09/2012 to 09/09/2012. Sadguru Shastri Swami *Bhaktinandas* was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*. Devotee Shri Jayeshbhai (Janakbhai) Vinubhai Patel (Hirapur- at present Ahmedabad) rendered the services as the host of *Parayan*. On 03/09/2012 Katha was started with grand Shobha-yatra. Janmotsav, Gadi *Abhishek* and *Annakutotsav* were celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm during the Katha.

On 04/09/2012 when H.H. Shri Gadiwala graced the occasion, ladies devotees of host family performed *poojan-archan-aarti* and obtained the blessings. On 09/09/2012 graced the occasion and performed *Shodasopchar MahAbhishek* ritual in Vedic

tradition. Thereafter, the host family performed *poojan-archan-aarti* and obtained the blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. During concluding ritual of Katha, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj 108 Shri Vrajendraprasadj Maharaj graced the occasion. Devotees Shri Dhruvin and Dharmik, sons of host devotee performed *poojan-archan-aarti* and obtained the blessings of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. After the inspirational speeches of the saints, H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*. The *Sabha* was conducted by Shastri Swami Hariprakashdasji (Makansar) and Bramchari Pavitranandji (Chhapaiya). In the daily lecture series, Sadguru Shastri P.P. Swami and Shastri Atmaprakashdasji delivered their inspirational speeches. All the arrangements were made under the guidance of Sadguru Shyamcharan Swami, Mahant Shri K.P. Swami and Mahant V.P. Swami.

(Mahant K.P. Swami and Bhattji Jetalpur)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Adishwarnagar, Naroda

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadj Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Jetalpurdam), *Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra Akhand Dhoon* was organized during the pious *Adhik Maas* in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Adishwarnagar, Naroda. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced this occasion, performed *aarti* of Thakorji and performed concluding ritual of Dhoon. Saints narrated the importance of *Adhik Maas* on this occasion and at last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*.

(Shastri *Bhaktinandas*, Jetalpur)

Shri Satsangibhusan Parayan in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalol

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspirations of Sadguru Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdaji (Jetalpurdam), *Shrimad Satsangibhusan Parayan* was organized by Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji (Mahant of Kalol temple) from 10/09/2012 to 16/09/2012. Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Jetalpurdam)

was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*. On 15/09/2012 H.H. Shri Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj graced the occasion and blessed all the devotees. On 16/09/2012 H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the occasion and performed concluding ritual of *Parayan*. The devotee Maheshbhai Ramanlal Ishwardas (Mokhasan) of host family and host devotees of other occasions performed *poojan*-archan of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. At last H.H. Shri H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*. On this occasion saints from Naanpura, Jetalpur, Ahmedabad, Jamiyatpura, Sayla and Mahesana had arrived. The *Sabha* was conducted by Shastri Vandanprakashdaji (Limbdhi Kothari). Services of Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak and Mandal and Bal Mandal were inspirational.

(Shastri *Bhaktin*andandas, Jetalpur)

Parayan in village of Ola

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, *Shri Ramcharitra Saptah Parayan* was organized in village Ola of *Prasadi* from 10/08/2012 to 16/08/2012. Shastri Brahmchari Purnanandji Swami was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced this occasion. Saints from Jetalpur, Ahmedabad, Kankaria, Jamiyatpura, Mansa, Mahesana, Sayla, Limbdhi and Makansar. The *Sabha* was conducted by Sasdguru Shastri Hariprakashdasji (Mahant of Makansar). The whole arrangement of this *Parayan* was made by Mahant Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji (Kalol, Panchvati) and the young devotees. Many devotees rendered their services as the hosts on this occasion.

(Shastri *Bhakti* Swami, Jetalpur)

Shodasopchar MahAbhishek of Thakorji in Mahesana temple

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Prushottamprakashdasji and under the guidance of Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji of Mahesana temple, *Shodasopchar MahAbhishek* of Shree Narnarayandev was performed by H.H. Shri

Lalji Maharaj on 02/09/2012 during the pious *Adhik Maas*. The host family performed *poojan*, archan and obtained the blessings of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. In *Mahapooja* organized on this occasion about 225 host devotees and *Haribhaktas* participated. Shastri P.P. Swami delivered the lecture series on this occasion. During this pious occasion *Annakut Aarti Darshan* were also performed. On this occasion Mahant Shri K.P. Swami, Shri Shyam Swami, Shastri Uttam Swami and Shasri Haripriya Swami from had arrived Jetalpur. *Sabha* was conducted by Shastri Premprakashdas (Mahesana). (Shastri V.P. Swami)

MahAbhishek of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Vadnagar during the pious Adhik Maas

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Narayanvallahdasji of Vadnagar temple, Shrimad Satsangibhusan Navdinatmak *Parayan* was organized. Shastri Swami *Abhishek*prasaddasji was the spokesperson of this *Parayan*. Devotee Shri Patel Parshotambhai (Kachhi Parivar) and devotee Shri Modi Ramanlal Narottamdas family were the chief hosts of the whole programme. On this occasion Shastri Swami Ghanshyamprasaddasji (Kalyanpura) had conducted the *Sabha* beautifully. Swami Shreevallahdasji from Isand and Shastri Vishwaswaroopdasji from Ahmedabad had arrived on this occasion. On 13/09/2012 the day of concluding ritual of *Parayan*, *Shodasopchar Abhishek* and *Annakut Darshan* of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj were performed. In the *Sabha* organized on the occasion, trustee Shri Navinbhai Modi delivered their emotional and inspirational speech. On this occasion *Haribhaktas* of Kheralu, Dabhoda, Satlasana, Rajpura (Vad) and Visnagar had arrived and availed the benefit of Prasad. Devotee Shri Kalidas Jayantilal had rendered the services as the host of the meals.

(Bhumit Patel and Shailesh Bhagat)

**Katha Parayan organized by
Jetalpurdham**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdasji and Shastri P.P. Swami of Jetalpurdham, Panchanh *Parayan* and *Sabhas* were organized during the pious Sharavan Maas. Shastri Swami *Bhaktinandandasji* was the spokesperson of these *Parayan*.

(1) From 05/08/2012 to 10/08/2012, Shrimad Bhagwat Dasm Skand *Parayan*. Devotees of Viramgam availed the benefit of Katha and Katha was concluded on the pious day of Janmastmi.

(2) From 10/08/2012 to 14/08/2012, Shri Hari Aishwarya Darshan Panchanh *Parayan* in village Kaliyana. Young and old devotees of Kaliyana availed the benefit of *Parayan*.

(3) From 15/08/2012 to 19/08/2012, Shri Hari Aishwarya Darshan Panchanh *Parayan* in village Mandal. On the day of concluding ritual Darshan of Shree Swaminarayan Museum was organized by the devotees of Mandal.

(4) In Jetalpurdham, Shrimad Bhagwat Katha was organized during the whole Shraavan Maas during the pious company of Shree Revatiji baldevji Harikrishna Maharaj. Sadguru Shastri Swami Vishwaprakashdasji (Mahant of Kalol temple) was the spokesperson of this Katha.

(5) 'Ghanshyam Leelamrut' Katha was performed during the pious whole Shraavan Maas and *Adhik Maas* in Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies) Jetalpurdham. Sankhya Yogi Narmadaba was the spokesperson of this Katha whose benefit was availed by satsangi ladies devotees of the village.

(6) Dadguru Shastri Uttampriyadasji (Mahesana) and Sadguru Shastri Swami *Bhaktinandandasji* narrated Katha in the following villages and Mandal Yuvak Mandal had rendered their services. 14/08/2012 village Dediyan, 20/08/2012 village Sher, 21/08/2012 village Vanod, 22/08/2012 village Nana Ubhada, 23/08/2012 village

Mota Ubhada and 24/08/2012 Kunpura. (Shastri *Bhaktinandandasji*, Arun Gajjar, Mandal)

**Shree Swaminarayan temple,
Naranghat**

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Swami Devprakashdasji and Shastri Swami P.P. Swami, Laghurudhra Yagna and Group *Mahapooja* were organized in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranghat, during the pious Shraavan Maas and *Adhik Maas* whose benefit was availed by large number of devotees and *Haribhaktas*. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced this occasion and offered the holy fruit in the concluding ritual of Yagna.

(Shastri Divyaprakashdas)

Ravi Sabha in Jetalpurdham

With the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdasji and Shastri P.P. Swami, *Ravi Sabha* was organized in Jetalpurdham on every Sunday. So far 08 *Ravi-Sabha* have been conducted wherein 60 to 70 young devotees and children participated. The *Sabha* was conducted by Shastri *Bhaktinandandas* and devotees Gajendrasinh Darbar, Randhirsinh Darbar, Rajubhai, Dashrathbhai, Jasvantsinh and Bharatbhai Darji.

(Mahant Shri K.P. Swami, Jetalpur)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Haridwar

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Anandjivandasji, Shrimad Satsangibhusan *Parayan* was organized in our Haridwar temple from 30/08/2012 to 03/09/2012. Sadguru Shastri Swami Harijivandasji was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*. On 31/08/2012 *Shodasopchar Abhishek*, *Annakut* to Thakorji and *Mahapooja* etc. were performed. Devotees of Naranpura, Ahmedabad such as *Akshar Nivasi* Lavjibhai Bhimdas Patel through Ranchhodbhai, *Akshar Nivasi* Prabhudas Umedbhai Patel through Chandrakantbhai,

Rameshbhai, Bhupendrabhai and Mavjibhai Valjibhai Patel, Ghanshyambhai Shanabhari Barot, Parshottambhai Das (Gavada), *Akshar Nivasi* Laljibhai Lavjibhai Patel family (Devpura) through Jayantibhai Patel, Manubhai Madhavlal, Vanmalibhai etc. devotees.

(Kothari Hariprakashdasji, Haridwar)

Blood Donation Camp by Approach (Bapunagar) temple

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul and with the inspiration of Mahant Swami Laxmanjivandasji and with the co-operation of Red Cross Society and for the benefit of patients of Thelesemia of Civil Hospital, Blood Donation Camp was organized in Approach temple on Sunday 26/08/2012 wherein about 53 *Haribhaktas* participated and donated their blood. Services of Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal was inspirational. (Gordhanbhai Sitapara)

Shree Ghanshyam Charitra Katha Parayan and Satsangijivan Parayan in Chhapaiya

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Mharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Bramchari Swami Vasudevanandji and in the memory of Aksharnivasi Ratilal Devchandbhai Soni and *Akshar Nivasi* Jivtiben Ratilal of Dhandhuka and with the divine inspiration of *Akshar Nivasi* Sadguru Gavaiya Bramcharari Ramkrishnanandji and *Akshar Nivasi* Sadguru Shastri Swami Gopalcharandasji Shastri Anandjivandasji, Abhishke of Thakorji, *Annakut* and Katha *Parayan* were organized in Chhapaiyadham. Brahmachari Shastri Hariswaroopanandji (Mahant of Kanpur) was the spokesperson of *Parayan*. Devotees Shri Jayantibhai Ratilal Soni and Arvindbhai R. Soni had rendered their services as the hosts of *Parayan*. Saints from various places had arrived on this occasion and blessed the devotees. The host devotees and their relatives had rendered their services in offering the golden gate and *Thaal* etc. On the last day *Shodasopchar*

Abhishek of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj, *Annakut* etc. were performed during the pious *Adhik Maas*. Bramchari Pavitranandji and staff had rendered beautiful services on this occasion.

Satsangijivan Parayan

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Gadiwala and with the inspiration of Mahant Brahmachari Swami Vasudevanandji, Shrimad Satsangijivan Saptah *Parayan* was organized during the pious *Adhik Maas* by Mumbai *Bhakti* Mahila Mandal. Shastri Swami Anandswaroopdasji was the spokesperson of the *Parayan*. All the utsav which came during the course of *Parayan* were celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. (Kothari Haribhai)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Bopal

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Mharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadhu Harivallabhdas Guru Shastri Swami Dharmvallbhadasji and with the co-operation of Kothari Amrutbhai, Dr. K.R. Patel, Shri Mahadevbhai and Shri Prashantbhai Vyasa, Shri Krishna Janmotsav was celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm from 9.00 to 12.30 hours in our Bopal temple. On this occasion *Kirtan*, *Bhakti*, Katha Varta and divine Charitra of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan were performed in English, Gujarati and Hindi by Kaushal Patel, Rushi Thakkar, Kaushal Mehta, Maunil Patel and Rushi Dodiya of Shree Narnarayandev Bal Mandal. Beautiful Raas was also performed on this occasion.

Besides *Haribhaktas*, religious people of Bopal, Ghuma, Ambli and Godhavi had also come to the temple for divine Darshan. At 12.00 hours Shree Krishna Janmotsav *aarti* was performed. Besides series of light, the whole temple was decorated beautifully. During the pious Shravan Maas beautiful and artistic Hindola Darshan were also performed in front of Thakorji. Among other activities, *Haribhaktas* also performed Darshan of Jetalpur, Dabhan, Vadtal, Metpur, Khambhat

and Sinjiwada temples by bus. During the pious *Adhik Maas*, Shrimad Bhagwat Dasm Skanda Katha was performed.

(Pravindbhai Upadhyay)

MULI DESH

Abhishek and Parayan in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Charadava

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Swami Uttampriyadasji and Mahant Shastri Swami Brahmviharidasji, *Shrimad Satsangibhusan Saptah Parayan* was organized from 01/09/2012 to 10/09/2012. Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji was the spokesperson of the *Parayan* whose benefit was availed by large number of devotees and *Haribhaktas*. Many devotees of the village had rendered their services as the hosts of this *Parayan*.

On 08/09/2012 H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Raja had graced the occasion and granted the benefit of divine *Darshan* to ladies devotees. Late in the evening, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced the occasion and saints and devotees of the village performed *Swagat-samaiyu*.

On 10/09/2012, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed *Shodasopchar Mahabhishek* of Thakorji and granted the benefit of divine *Darshan* to the devotees. Grand procession was organized on this occasion. Thereafter, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed *Annakut aarti* and inaugurated new office and graced the *Sabha*. In the *Sabha*, saints delivered their inspirational speeches. Services of the volunteer devotees was very inspirational on this occasion. (Shasri Satyaprakashdasji)

OVERSEAS SATSANG NEWS

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Auckland (New Zealand)

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj various types of artistic *Hindola Darshan* were performed in front of Thakorji in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Auckland. Shri Krishnajanmastmi was also celebrated with great fervour and

enthusiasm. As per the directions of Shree Hari Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji (Asarwa Gurukul) performed *Katha* of *Shrimad Bhagwat Dasm Skanda* whose benefit was availed by large number of devotees and *Haribhaktas*. Devotee Dr. Kantibhai Patel had performed *poojan-archan* of the spokesperson. At 12.00 hours at night host devotees performed *Janmotsav aarti* and offered *Annakut* to Bhagwan.

Devotee Shri Prashant Mane, Anadh Adwait etc. the relatives of the devotee Dr. Kantibhai Patel had rendered the services as the host of the whole *Utsav* and had offered new Vaghas to Thakorji. About more than 700 devotees availed the benefit of divine *Darshan*. The *Sabha* was conducted by devotee Shri Bipinbhai Thakkar and services of all the devotees and *Haribhaktas* was very inspirational. (Shastri Tusharbai)

Celebration of 7th Patosav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Colonia

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Shastri Swami Gyanprakashdasji, from 25th August 2012 to 1st September 2012 various programmes were organized on the occasion of 7th *Patosav* of the temple. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced this occasion alongwith the saints. Shree Hari Aishwarya *Darshan* was performed Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishnadasji (Koteshwar) whose benefit was availed by thousands of devotees and *Haribhaktas*. Young devotees had decorated the temple with series of light. H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed the concluding ritual of *Katha* on Friday in the evening. On Saturday H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed *Patosav Abhishek* of Thakorji in Vedic tradition. After *Annakut Aarti*, the *Sabha* was conducted wherein the host families were honoured by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj.

In the *Sabha*, Shastri Swami Purnaprakashdasji, Shastri Vishwaprakashdasji, Shastri Viveksagardasji, Vrajvallabh Swami Ghanshyam Swami, Shreeji Swami, Shanti

Swami, Shastri Ram Swami, Dharmkishor Swami Narnarayan Swami and Gyanprakash Swami delivered their inspiration speeches. Thereafter H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha*. (Pravin Shah)

Celebration of 7th Potosav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Lakeland

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj all the festivals are celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in Atlanta temple. From 13/09/2012 to 17/09/2012 H.H. Shri Mota Mhaaraj graced the houses of the devotees of Atlanta Georgia State and nearby area alongwith the saints and Parshads.

On Sunday 16/09/2012 beautiful *Sabha* was conducted in the temple. H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj graced the *Sabha* and then performed concluding ritual of Dasm Skanda *Katha* of pious *Adhik Maas* with Mahant Swami Satyaswaroopdasji as the spokesperson.

In the *Sabha* Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Ahmedabad temple had delivered the inspirational speech. At last H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj blessed the whole *Sabha* which was attended by large number of devotees and *Haribhaktas*. *Haribhaktas* and ladies devotees had rendered their great services in the kitchen on this occasion.

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Hyustan Texas

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant K.P. Swami all the festivals are celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm. During the pious Shravan Maas Sadguru Shastri Swami Ramkrishandasji (Koteshwar) had performed *Parayan*. Moreover *Hindola Utsav* and *Yuva Shibir* was also organized as per the directions of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj. During the pious *Adhik Maas* Sadguru Shastri Vasudev Swami narrated Shrimad Satsangijivan *Katha*. Gyan Swami has also been rendering very beautiful services.

(Ramesh Patel)

Pioria Chapter (I.S.S.O.)

With the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj, in Piyorla Chapter, Satsant *Sabha* is organized on every Sunday in the evening from 6.00 to 8.00 hours. On 9th September 2012, on the occasion of birthday of the son of devotee Shri Pareshbhai Patel and with the blessings of H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, *Satsang Sabha* etc. programmes were organized.

(Ramesh Patel).

AKSHARVAAS

Narayanpura (Tal. Kadi): Devotee Shri Dr. Govindbhai N. Patel passed away to Akshardham on 02/08/2012 while chanting the name of Shree Hari.

Ahmedabad=Bapunagar- Devotee Shri Laljibhai Patel passed away to Divine Abode of God on 30/08/2012 while chanting the name of Shreeji Maharaj.

Ahmedabad (Navo Vas)- Devotee Shri Prabhavatiben Baldevbhai (mother of devotee Shri Hasmukhbhai Bhavsar) passed away to *Akshardham* on 31/08/2012 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Ahmedabad- Devotee Shri Soni Kamlaben [wife of devotee Shri Soni Shamaldasbhai (morbiwala)] Shri Chavda Navba Harishinhji passed away to Divine Abode of God on 10/09/2012 while chanting the name of Shri Hari.

Timba (tal. Wadhvan) - Devotee Shri Valabhai Malubhai Gohil passed away to Akshardham while chanting the name of Shreeji Maharaj.

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