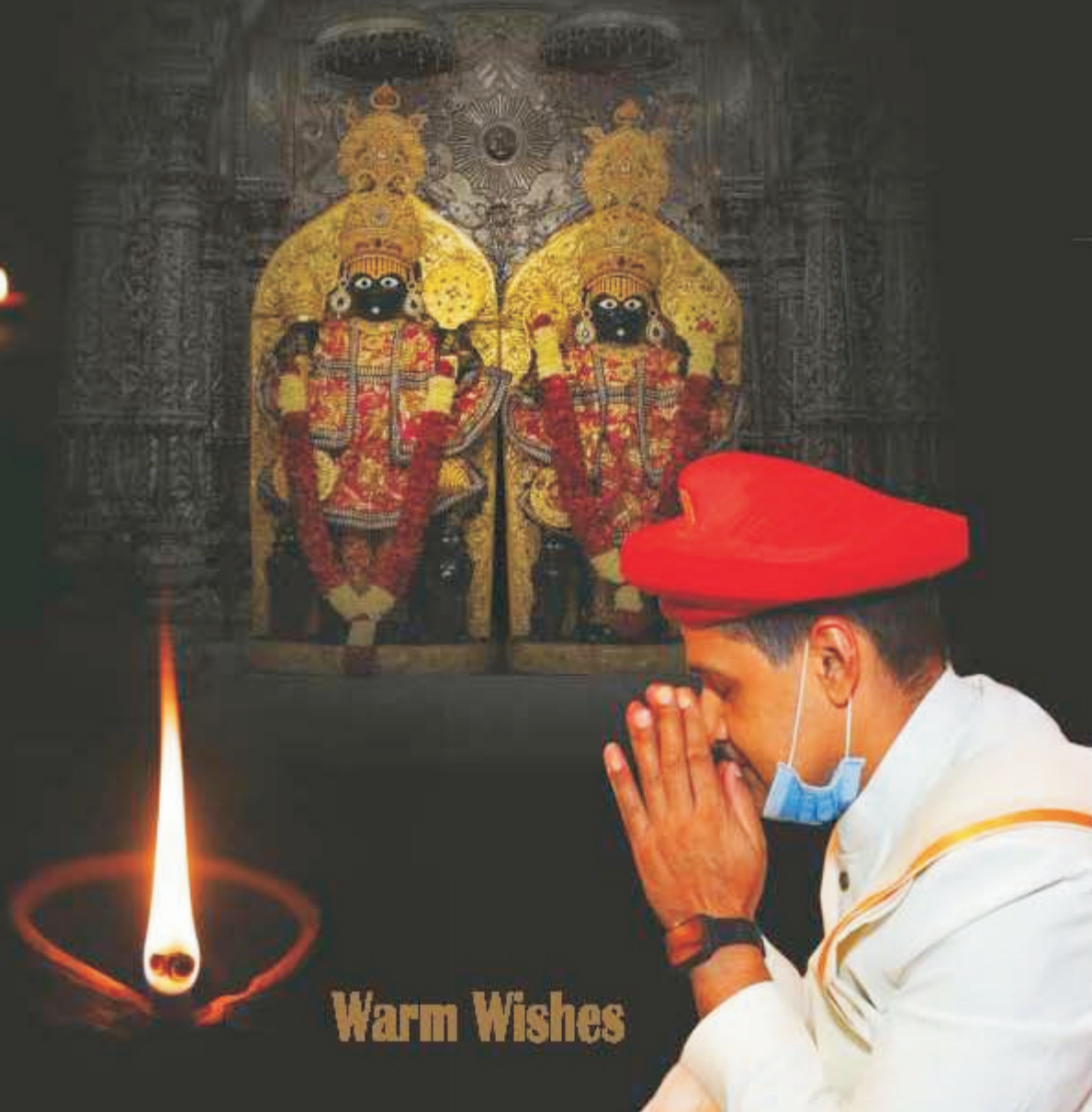


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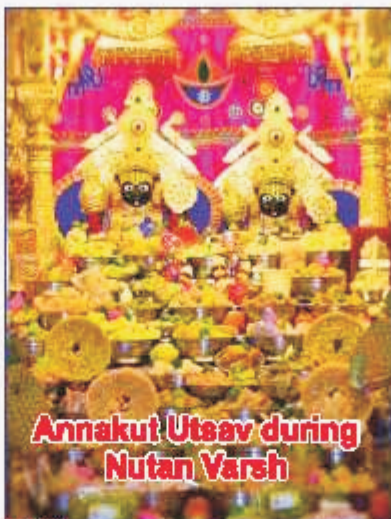
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Warm Wishes

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**Annakut Utsav during
Nutan Varsh**



Kalupur



Chhapaiya



Jetalpur



Mull



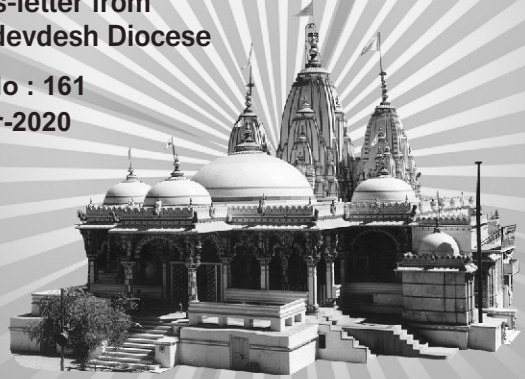
Gandhinagar Sector-2



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December-2020 • 03



SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

अस्मदीयम्

eanliness Real test of a devotee of Bhagwan is done when there comes a great trouble or problem in his life and yet he does not budge an inch in his Dharma (duty). Such a critical time as the present time is not heard or known to have come in the past. The serious pandemic has engulfed and endangered the human society in the whole world. So if we scrupulously follow all the directions and words of advice being given by the experts and knowledgeable persons while maintaining absolute patience and restraint with self-discipline, we would certainly cross this ocean-like pandemic of Corona. And if we would cherish ardent faith in Bhagwan, then our benevolent Bhagwan would certainly protect us all. Let us join ourselves at the lotus-like feet of Paramkripalu Shree Narayandev while performing pious Dhanur Maas Dhoon of ShasakshariMahamantra from 16/12/2020 to 14/01/2021, getting up early in the morning and getting rid of laziness and sleep then there would be spread of happiness and peace all around at the earliest and let us pray to lotus-like feet of Shree Narayandev that we may cherish such a confidence in our heart. Jay Swaminarayan.

Editor
Mahant Swami
Shastri Swami Nirgundasji

DECEMBER-2020 • 04

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

(OCTOBER- 2020)

- 25 On the occasion of 48th Prakatyotsav performed divine Darshan of Shree Narnarayandev and in the Sabha, Mahant Swami and saints from various places offered garlands and conveyed the wishes in the simplest way.

(NOVEMBER - 2020)

- 14 Performed Group Chopda Pooja in Shree Swaminarayan Kalupur temple in traditional way. Thereafter performed poojan, archan and Annakut Aarti of Shree Hanumanji.
- 15 Performed Chhapan Bhog Annakut Aarti of Paramkripalu Shree Narnarayandev etc. deities on the pious day of Diwali.
- 16 Performed divine Darshan of Shree Narnarayandev and blessed all the saints and Haribhaktas and granted them divine Darshan in Sabha on the pious occasion of Nutan Varsh.



APPOINTMENT DIARY OF H.H. SHRI LALJI MAHARAJ

(OCTOBER- 2020)

- 30 Performed aarti of Thakorji in Auchhav organized by Shree Narnarayandev Auchhav Mandal in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur Prasadi Chawk on the pious occasion of Shradotsav.

(NOVEMBER - 2020)

- 14 Performed Group Chopda Pooja in Sabha Mandap of Prasadi in Shree Swaminarayan Kalupur temple in traditional way.
- 15 Performed Chhapan Bhog Annakut Aarti of Paramkripalu Shree Narnarayandev etc. deities on the pious day of Diwali.
- 16 Granted divine Darshan to the saints and Haribhaktas in Bethak in Kalupur temple on the pious occasion of Nutan Varsh.

JEEV -ABHAYDATA SHREE HARI

- Shastri Nirgundasji (Mahant Swami, Kalupur, Ahmedabad)

॥ अष्टपदीयम् ॥

देवाभयदं नारायण देवाभयदं नारायण ।

रमणीयमे रुपं वरमतिदर्शय ।देवाभय...॥ (ध्रुवपदम्)

परिहृतकोटिककामायसुषमम् । तरुणवयः संवरणीयमे ।देवाभयदं... ॥१॥

सहजानंदनाम वृषकन्दं । करुणावरुणगृहरमणीयमे ।देवाभयदं... ॥२॥

हंसद्युतिवसनानियदर्च्य । दधतिशितिशंकरणीयमे ।देवाभयदं... ॥३॥

वामंवामश्रवणेनीलबिन्दुं । केनोदधदेवधरणीयमे ।देवाभयदं... ॥४॥

मुमुदिमहे प्रत्यहंमंजुहारी । वीक्षमनसि देवश्रवणीयमे ।देवाभयदं... ॥५॥

सममेतुमब्जंमृगायतद्गभ्यां । वने वातपस्यन्तिमरणीयमे ।देवाभयदं... ॥६॥

दृष्टवामनोतित्वरतिहृद्यं । यन्मेऽनिशंपापंहरणीयमे ।देवाभयदं... ॥७॥

वासुदेवोसौनामेतितन्मेचक्रे । भवतुभवभरणीयमे ।देवाभयदं... ॥८॥

॥ इति वासुदेवानंदवर्णी विरचिताष्टपदी ॥

Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (Dhruv Padam)

परिहृतकोटिककामायसुषमम् ।

तृतीयः संवरणीयमे ॥देवाभय... ॥१॥

Hey Shree Hari !Divine Roop of Your this divine Murti is so beautiful as if You take away the pride of crores of Kaamdev and His pride is destroyed in a moment because nobody in the whole universe is more beautiful with noble qualities than You. Through this Murti, You have always been having Kishor-Vay and qualities of the Youth and You have been preserving them very well. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your this very beautiful Swarup-Naam so that I also become Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (1)

सहजानंदनाम वृषकन्दं ।

उत्तरावृष्टागृहमणीयमे ॥देवाभय... ॥२॥

Impact of Your divine name is such that, it grants Sakshat Darshan of the sentence Kalu Harikirtanam (Text in Sanskrit) referred to in the scriptures. You grant pleasure to



Bhakta of Bhagwan cherishes such an ardent faith and Bhakti in his heart towards Bhagwan that simply by performing Darshan of Ishtadev, he becomes Nirbhay in all respects. He prays at lotus like feet of Shree Vasudevanandvarni Shree Hari that, "Hey Prabhu! How divine are Your Darshan that by performing divine Darshan JeevMatra becomes free from fear of birth and death and helps him get AtyantikMoksh – Param Gati." In order to express such feelings this Stuti – Ashtak has been created. Let us try to understand its meaning.

देवाभयदं नारायण देवाभयदं नारायण ।

रमणीयमे रुपं वरमतिदर्शय ॥देवाभय... ॥

(ध्रुवपदम्)

Hey Para Brahma ParmatmaBhagwan Shree Swaminarayan, You are present in Your Avinashi Akshardham and the same You grant Abhay Vardaan to all Jeevs by helping them get rid of Mayamay Panchbhautik Nashvant Sharir and granting them Bhagwati Diksha. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your beautiful Swarup-Naam so that I become

JeevMatra of this world so easily and therefore You are famous with the name Sahajanand in this Yug and with this name and by incarnating as son of Dharmdev, You have been performing Vicharan upon this earth in order to protect Bhagwat Dharma. You are an Ocean of Mercy and reach out to the houses of the poorest of the poor and help them identify Your Swaroop. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your this very beautiful Swaroop-Naam so that I also become Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (2)

હંસધુતિવસનાનિયદર્શ્ય ।

દધતિશિતિશંકરણીયમે ॥દેવાભય... ॥૩॥

Your this Murti having snow-like white clothes just like a swan playing joyfully in Mansarovar and thousands of devotees and haribhaktas perform poojan of Your this divine Murti with ardent Bhakti. You grant them perennial serene peace and grant them Kalyan that means You grant them Moksha gati and take them to Akshardham with You. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your this very beautiful Swaroop-Naam so that I also become Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (3)

વામંવામશ્રવણેનીલમિન્દુ ।

કેનોદદધદેવધરણીયમે ॥દેવાભય... ॥૪॥

It is very common for You to grant Uddhar to trivial Jeevo this world. With such divine powers and capacity and if any person performs divine Darshan of Kala Til (Black mole) of left ear of Your human body, such a person is never afraid of his Moksha even. Just as Sheshnarayan has held and protected this earth upon his head, You hold and preserve such a devotee that means You keep him in Akshardham. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your this very beautiful Swaroop-Naam so that I also become Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (4)

મુમુદિમહે પ્રત્યહંમંબુહારી ।

વીક્ષમનસિ દેવશ્રવણીયમે ॥દેવાભય... ॥૫॥

Ekantik Bhaktas who seek Your divine Shelter experience divine pleasure in divine Akshardham. With Your blessings, Yogis, Siddha Purushas can see You in their Samadhi this is also read and heard in the

scriptures like Shrimad Bhagwat Puran, Vedas, Upanishads and Satsangi Jeevan and Satsangi Bhushan. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your this very beautiful Swaroop-Naam so that I also become Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (5)

સમમેતુમબ્જંમુગાયતદંગભ્યાં ।

વને વાતપસ્યન્તિમરણીયમે ॥દેવાભય... ॥૬॥

Hey Shree Hari! Without Your blessings and Upasana-Bhakti, it is very difficult and a colossal task to cross this Ocean of Life just like it is difficult for a deer to save itself after the king of the forest has seen it. Tapasvis who perform Tapasya in the forest without Bhakti, they are also apprehending the fear of death. But You make Your devotee Nirbhay. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your this very beautiful Swaroop-Naam so that I also become Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (6)

દૃષ્ટવામનોતિત્વરયતિહૃદં ।

ચન્મેડનિશંપાપંહરણીયમે ॥દેવાભય... ॥૭॥

Hey Shree Hari !With Your benevolent Drashti, innumerable sins of all previous lives of Jeev are burnt immediately and he obtains divine pleasure. Such a pleasure is also experienced by obtaining Your divine pleasure. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your this very beautiful Swaroop-Naam so that I also become Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (7)

વાસુદેવોસોનામેતિતન્મેચકે ।

ભવતુભવભરણીયમે ॥દેવાભય... ॥૮॥

Hey Shree Hari !I am Your servant Vasudevanandvarni say this by making all Jeev of this alert that if all of you perform chanting of name of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan ,all your miseries and woes would be vanished and all of you will certainly get Moksha and Prabhu will certainly take care of you in this world and will protect you also. Hey Prabhu, grant me Darshan of Your this very beautiful Swaroop-Naam so that I also become Nirbhay and I can ensure the benevolence of my Atma by seeking Your shelter. (8)



SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

RIVER GANDAKI

- Sadhu Purushottamprakashdas
(Jetalpurdham)

Our Ishtadev Shree Swaminarayan Bhagwan, during His Vicharan in Nilkanthvarni Swaroop has performed austere Tapacharya standing on one foot for four months in Muktinath temple situated in Mustang district of Nepal and used to perform Snan in river Gandaki. Sakshat Vishnu Bhagwan is found in the form of ShaligramBhagwan from the flow of the water of the river Gandaki. The whole Vaishnav tradition keeps Shaligramji in Pooja from Aadi Anadi Kaal. Such a swaroop is found only from the flow of water of river Gandaki. A story has been written and narrated in Puran about Sanyog of Gandaki and Shaligram.

During the ancient time, a saint stayed in a village to perform Satsang during the pious Chatur Maas. The whole village was ardently religious and inclined towards Satsang. All the villages used to come everyday to listen Satsang Katha. On the last and concluding day of Satsang, the ardent devotees were blessed by the saint with Kalyan. At that time, one lady devotee namely Gandaki came forward and asked the saint, "Will I also get Kalyan? I have also listened to this Satsang." Trikalgyani saint replied her if

she would abstain from abhorrible work of prostitution, she will certainly get Kalyan. The woman told the saint that it was source of earning her livelihood and she cannot abandon it. However, I have listened to Your Satsang. Will the words of the scriptures and the saints be wrong? Will I be deprived of Moksha? Whether my sin is stronger than my Satsang? The saint understood the situation and asked the woman to consider the man whosoever comes to her in the evening, as her husband and to render her devout services to him and to consider all other males to be others.

The woman believed these words of the saint to be Satya (truth) and considering the man who came to her in the evening to be her husband and started rendering her devout services to him. After sometime, the pervert woman was transformed into a pure woman and all her baser feelings were burnt and she started rendering her services to her husband religiously. She also got rid of her baser feelings towards other males. The people of the village believed that, by listening to the words of divine Satsang, the life of this woman Gandaki has become pure.

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

In every Sadhana, test of a Sadhak is conducted. Accordingly, once Bhagwan Shree Narayan entered the house of Gandaki in the form of another Purush at Sandhya time. As a regular routine, Gandaki offered her devout services to her husband, offered the meals and a garland of beautiful fragrant flowers and sprinkled a spray. At midnight, Narayan got up from the bed and asked Gandaki to bring some Aaushadh as he had been feeling headache. Gandaki tried all home-made treatments but none of them worked effectively. Next day early morning, SakshatParabrahmaPurushottamBhagwan Shree Narayan performed Leela of death.

Being faced a sudden situation, Gandaki thought about her human duty and got ready all preparations of the last rituals of the dead person. People got together and took the dead body at the bank of the river situated in the outskirts of the village. Following the customs prevailing at that time, Gandaki prepared herself like a newly wed woman to become Sati. She took the head of the deceased husband in her lap and took her seat upon the death pyre. Amidst the procession accompanied by the musical band, Gandaki performed Sankalp, if she had really considered that man to be her husband since the time he came to her house and if she had really rendered her devout services to her that husband, let Agni start automatically. To the surprise of all the villages, Agni started automatically due to impact of pure Sadhana of Gandaki.

Param PurushParmatma lying in her lap opened the eyes and Agni was ended. While sleeping Shree Hari asked Gandaki to ask for any Vardaan. The pious Gandaki understood everything and ardently requested that like this time, Shree Hari may always remain in her lap. She wanted nothing else.

Due to impact of Shree Hari, Gandaki merged into the water of the river and started

flowing alongwith the flow of the water of the river and Shree Hari took seat below the river in the form of Shaligram.

So in the flow of the river Gandaki, from the beginning till the end, Bhagwan is there in the form of Shaligram. The colour of the river Gandaki is black and colour of Shaligram is also black.

There is no Avahan- Visarjan and PratisthaSthapan of Swaroop of Shaligram. If it is in the flow of river Gandaki, Sakshat Shree Hari and people start rendering Sewa-Pooja. In Vedic tradition, Shaligram started to be worshipped as a symbol of Aradhya Dev and became very favourite Swaroop of all Vaishnav devotees and followers.

In our Sampradaya in Dharmdev tradition, pooja of Shaligram is performed. When Shree Hari came out to perform Vicharan as NilkanthVarni, He used to perform Nitya Pooja of Shaligram Swaroop given by Dharmdev and Shreeji Maharaj would not accept anything without offering it to Shaligram.

During Van-Vicharan so many miracles happened which have been narrated in our Satsang. H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj has been performing Nitya Pooja of Shaligram of Prasadi of Pooja of Shree Hari received in family-tradition from Aadi Acharya H.H. Shri Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj and carries Shaligram together while going abroad.

At the time of Desh-Vibhag, number of the devotees and the wealth were nominal in Shree NarnarayandevDesh and so Shree Hari offered His Pooja to little aggrieved H.H. Shri Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj and said, "I am with You." Maharaj has also made the Nand saints keep Shaligram Swaroop in their Pooja and the saints used to perform Nitya Pooja.



**- Professor Hitendrabhai Narayanbhai Patel
Ahmedabad**

Swaminarayan Sampradaya established and developed by Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has obtained a place of respect as Shudhh and SattvikDharm and there are mainly two things in the its base for it. One is serene pure conduct and observance of non-violence and the principle of service to the mankind is the service to the God.

Sarvavatari Shree Hari Himself has written the pious 'Shiksha Patri' and preached the same to all. In its Shloka-12, it has been stated that, non-violence is the greatest duty and therefore one should never kill even any animal, bird or insect big or small. While describing the nature of Shree Hari, Premanand Swami writes in Nittyachestana Pad-6 :

અતિદયાળુ રે સ્વભાવ છે સ્વામીનો,
પરદુઃખહારી રે વારી બહુનામીનો
કોઈને દુઃખિયો રે દેખી ન ખમાયે,
દયા આણી રે અતિ આકળા થાયે
અજ્ઞધન વસ્ત્ર રે આપીને દુઃખ ટાળે,
કરુણાદ્રષ્ટિ રે દેખી વાન જ વાળે.

In 'Vachanamrit' the main scripture of Sampradaya, the Nand saints have written :
“ક્યારેક તો કોઈ પ્રાણીને દુઃખીયો દેખીને અથવા સાંભળીને તત્કાળ દયાએ યુક્ત થકા રામ-રામએવી રીતે

બોલવાનો સ્વભાવ છે..... Shree Hari distributes food, clothes etc. with a view to remove the woes and worries of the deprived people. Such a benevolent Shree Hari has established Dharma upon this earth and has handed over the reins of Dharma to Dharmvanshi Acharya and has got written DeshVibhagLekh with a view that all the saints and devotees always remain under the directions of Acharya. This Sampradaya is not merely a religious sect but it is a society which observes Siddhant of Prabhu Sewa scrupulously and religiously.

The ideas and thoughts of 'Save Environment' which may appear modern in today's time were described by Shree Hari about 225 years ago. Shree Hari has said while addressing the devotees, "A devotee who grows one Peepal, One Neem, One banyan tree, Three Kothiyo, Three Biliyo, Three Biliyo, Nine mangoes, goes never to the hell." (Satsangi Jeevan Prakaran-5, Adhyay-12, Shloka-40). It is not just a fashion of taking a selfie while placing a sapling. Direction given to all the devotees to sow and nurture and grow a tree is an evidence of the vision and purity in conduct of Sampradaya. Direction in Shloka-141 of 'Shiksha Patri' "To store the fodder for the domestic animals." and the direction in Shloka-142 of 'Shiksha Patri' "Not to keep the animals, if there is no possibility of the animals" reveal the benevolent perspective towards all living beings. Shree Hari himself has rendered services and has taken care of the water pools. Gomti in Vadtal, Narayan Sarovar in Chhapaiya, Wav in Mangrol, Lake of Kariyani, Alark step-well in Muli, Dev Sarovar in Jetalpur etc. many places of pilgrimage have been formed, developed and protected and in Shloka-32 of the pious 'Shiksha Patri' it has been directed "Not to litter at the bank of a river or lake." While performing Vicharan in Kachchh, salty water was converted into sweet drinkable water for the devotee Bhakta Lalji Sutar and his thirst was quenched. Himself is Purushottam Narayan and is capable of doing anything. But it is His determination to associate and join the people and the mass with a noble view of Jan Kalyan. In Shloka-60 and Shloka-61 of Adhyay-14, Prakaran-5 of Satsanji Jeevan it has been directed that, "A man should never sell a female otherwise he gets Raurav hell with his

whole family.” If all these directions of Shreeji Maharaj are followed scrupulously even today, most of the questions and issues of the people and the society can be resolved at once.

This Bhagwan Shree Hari got constructed first ever temple of Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya in Ahmedabad and performed PranPratistha of Shree Narnarayandev on the pious day of Fagan Sud-3 Samvat 1878 (1822 A.D.) and placed all Aishwarya in the deities and stated, “We have placed this Shree Narnarayandev considering it Our Swaroop only and nobody should see any difference between Me and Shree Narnarayandev.” (Vachanamrit Ahmedabad-6) and while sitting upon threshold and granted blessings and said, “Those persons who come and perform divine Darshan of this deity everyday or on the pious day of every Purnima, all his wishes and desires shall invariably be fulfilled by Me.” Shree Hari performed Sthapana of this Mahapratapi Dev and performed Choryasi of Brahmins at the bank of Kankaria lake in Ahmedabad and offered them meals of their choice and taste and offered them Dakshina. In Prakaran-86 of Bhakta Chintamani, Nishkulanand Swami writes:

કચ્છા ઉતારા કાંકરીયે, દેશ દેશના દાસ આવીયા ।

સ્થ વેલ્યને પાલખી, ઉંટ ઘોડા ગાડલાં લાવીયા ॥૪૧॥

According to Itihas (history), the king Siddharaj Jaysinh of Gujarat had got this lake made after spending huge money. This lake is of Prasadi as it is graced and sanctified by Charnarvind of Shree Hari. Aadi Acharya H.H. Shri Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj has performed PranPratistha of Shree Hanumanji Maharaj and at present there is a big temple with dome of Shree Hanumanji Maharaj at this place. Samaio is performed here on every pious day of LabhPancham. Over a period of time when the lake was rendered into a dilapidated condition, H.H. Shri Acharya Shri Keshavprasadji Maharaj made an offer to the British Government in the year 1874 AD to get this lake renovated and rebuilt at the cost of hefty amount of 30,000 UK pounds. It was accepted to incur the expenses of this much amount without any sense or thought of ownership. Himself being the Protector of Dharma, another offer was made to the Government that if fishing is completed prohibited from this lake and if it is observed

strictly, this Sampradaya is ready to offer such a huge amount to the society. The British government took a note of this generous feelings of Acharya and the leading news papers like ‘The Times of India’ and other local news papers of that time also took note of it. Not only this, after hundred years, ‘The Times of India’ re-published the news after hundred years in its famous column ‘**Before Hundred Years**’.

It was Sankalp of this Acharya of Sampradaya that, there should not be any violence at this place of Prasadi and today we can see that, there is neither fishing or any violence being done at this place. On the contrary there is a zoo at this place. Sankalp of great people are firm like a stone. With the wish of Shree Hari sooner or later they are fulfilled for sure. And this is the specialty of this Sampradaya.

All former Acharyas of Shree Narnarayandev Gadi and even the present Pithadhipatis have cherished the noble feeling that, money should be forsake for the sake of Dharma. In Sampradaya Dharma is prominent, not money. Aadi Acharya H.H. Shri Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj had written a letter and had informed all the devotees during the time of drought that, come and take the grains and clothes from us, if you do not have any. This letter in its original form is preserved even today in our Shree Swaminarayan Museum and it is placed for divine Darshan by all the devotees and visitors of the Museum. In the benevolent task like Narmada Yojana of the Government, which is life-line of Gujarat, H.H. Shri Acharya Shri Tejendraprasadji Maharaj benevolently extended the help of economic support and co-operation. Not only that, while visiting Narmada Dam, aahvan of the deities is performed and has also performed Mahapooja at the place due to which now the whole benevolent scheme has been completed successfully. Be it the earthquake of Bhuj in Kachchh, or be it heavy rains or the time of drought or epidemic or be it the time of Corona like pandemic, in every critical time and in all social activities, this Sampradaya has always been ready to render the services under the auspices of visionary Acharya of this Sampradaya and this only truly expresses the real feeling of SarvjivHitavah of this Sampradaya.

RESULT OF PERTURBING POOR BHAKTA

- Compiled by Gordhanbhai V. Sitapara (Hirawadi – Bapunagar)

Our Ishtadev Sarvavatari Ishtadev Shree Hari has taught us a beautiful method and way of living a life that we can ensure Srva Jiv Hitavah and Hit of Jeev Pranamatra and as a part of our duty towards non-violence we never perturb or betray Jeev Pranamatra. But result does it bring if a poor and that too a Bhakta is perturbed; let's see from the incident of Ekantik Bhakta of Shree Hari devotee Shri Nath Bhakta of Vadodara.

Poor means some are economically poor and some are poor from their mind and temperament, who cannot speak loudly with anybody. They would tolerate. Nath Bhakta was poor in both the respects but he was an ardent devotee of Shree Hari. In fact he was Mahamukta. Due to pleasure of Shree Hari, all the inner enemies such as Kaam, Krodh, Matsar, Dwesh etc. were destroyed from his life. Shree Hari had granted him many miracles. In Agnotera Kaal, Shree Hari had made four grain storage boxes into Akshay Patra of grains and therefore thousands of people had survived. The devotee was very much in his life. Once he had converted the butchers into stones. Even the prisoners who came in his contact were transformed into Satsangis. Due to Satsang of Sadguru Gopalanand Swami he had attained Stithi of Bhakta of the highest order.

However, condition of Nath Bhakta was like that of Sudama; despite this he would never stretch his hand before anybody. Once when his children were starving, at the instance of his wife, he became ready to sell his milky buffalo. This talk was spread in the whole city of Vadodara. After listening about this from two-three persons, Karbhari Narupant Nana Saheb of Gaiekwar State sent his soldiers and conveyed the message that he wanted the buffalo and was ready to give whatever may be the price of that buffalo. When the soldiered made this offer, Bhakta became very much happy and expresses his ardent gratitude of Shree Hari in his mind thinking that a great person like Diwan is purchasing his buffalo and so he would give me complete price of the buffalo looking at my poverty. Diwan sir is Satsangi and naturally he would be clean in all his transactions. Cherishing all such thoughts,

Nath Bhakta released the buffalo and sent the buffalo. He waited till evening, but no money was received by him. Waiting for the money eagerly, ten days passed and now Nath Bhakta and his wife both were confused. On the one hand they could not arrange for the grains for the children and on the other hand they also lost the milk of the buffalo which they were offering to their children.

Nath Bhakta thought that now he should remind Diwan sir about this pending issue. As Diwan regularly comes to the temple for Darshan, it would be better to remind him in the temple itself. He was standing at the staircase of the temple and there were tears in his eyes. Though it was his right to get the money, he would have to demand the money from a great man in the presence of all other persons. While Nath Bhakta was thinking all this, Narupant Nana Saheb came there in his horse-cart. Nath Bhakta greeted him with Jay Swaminarayan and reminded him about the transaction of buffalo and ardently requested to give him the money of his buffalo as his children were starving at home. With these words, there were tears in his eyes because he had to demand the money which he did not want.

Diwan sir did not like that Nath Bhakta demanded money in the presence of other persons. He himself was Satsangi but there was no Atmanistha and there was not the quality of Nirmanipana. He had not understood the importance of Bhakta of Bhagwan. So in stead of clearing of his legitimate dues by giving the money, he took it otherwise. He got enraged and said, "Do you know from whom are you demanding money?" With these words, he took out the foot-wear from his leg and raised his hand towards Nath Bhakta. Looking at this the heart of Nath Bhakta got greatly perturbed and he ardent prayed to Shree Hari, "Hey Maharaj! I am not demanding any money for nothing. I am demanding money of the buffalo which is sold to him and now he is abusing me." With these words, Nath Bhakta bowed down his head. Saintvarya Gopalanand Swami was sitting in the Sabha Mandap and from there he alerted Diwan and told him, "Narupant. Just hold back. If you

would throw you foot-wear, it would bring all calamities as this would not be tolerated by Bhagwan.” Listening to the words of Swami, Narupant withdrew his hand, performed Darshan of Bhagwan and went away. Nath Bhakta rushed at home, stood in front of idol image of Shree Hari and silently allowed the tears to come out of his eyes because he was not capable of telling anything to his wife.

Here we remember the golden words given to us by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. “Be human first, then religious.” Here also it appears that, Narupant Nana Saheb missed the step of humanity and went ahead on the step of religiosity – directly on the step of the staircase of the temple. However, we should think that, if a man keeps on coming to the temple, one day he would learn humanity as well. The people who are not clear in their transactions they either forget their dues towards others or they do so intentionally. They do not like to lighten their pocket or to return anything to any person. If somebody demands money, he looks like an enemy to them.

How can Bhagwan tolerate the tears of a poor Ekantik Bhakta? If Bhagwan is pleased, a person is blessed with Saddbuddhi and if Bhagwan becomes angry, a person's buddhi is spoilt. The next day Diwan consulted and discussed with the queen about grabbing the throne by poisoning Gaiekwar. Both of them did documentation on paper in this regard and placed their seals and stamps thereon. The Diwan placed the paper in his pocket and came home. As per his daily routine, he placed the clothes at the place but forgot to take out the paper from the pocket. The washerman checked all the clothes as per his routine and found out the paper. He was illiterate but he saw the stamp and seal of the State and he thought it proper to hand over the paper to the Gaiekwar hand to hand thinking that after getting this important paper, he would be given the prize. The washerman came to the Sabha where the king Gaiekwar the 2nd was sitting on the throne. The washerman narrated everything and handed over the paper to the king. When the king read the letter, he understood everything about the conspiracy against him. The king sent the soldiers and directed them to bring Diwan in Darbar immediately. The soldiers brought the Diwan to Darbar in no time. He was not allowed to finish his meals. Here the children of Nath Bhakta were deprived of the grains and as a result thereof Diwan could not finish his meals.

Sayajirao reprimanded Diwan and told him that he deserved to be shoot. But the words of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan prevents

him. When Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan had graced the palace, directions were given to the king, “Gaiekwar! Narupant Nana, who is Diwan of your State, may not be punished with death penalty even if a grave offence is committed by him.” So in stead of death penalty, Narupant was banished from the Gaiekwar State.

Narupant Diwan made Nath Bhakta cry and he himself had to remain crying for the rest of his life. Even the queen, who conspired with Narupant Diwan, was given death penalty. Now let's have a look at the words of Shree Hari in 'Vachanamrit':

“.... A person who has committed Panch Maha Paap in this world may get released some day but a person who had committed Droh of devotee of Bhagwan, shall never be released. And therefore, there is greater Punya than rendering devout services to Bhakta of Bhagwan and there is no greater Paap than committing Droh of Bhakta of Bhagwan. (Gadhda Middle Chapter-63)

“.... We are very much afraid of Bhagwan, Bhakta of Bhagwan, a Brahmin and a poor person. If any person commits Droh of Bhakta of Bhagwan, he should be considered as Asura. This is my temperament, if anybody commits Droh of a Brahmin, the poor and Bhakta of Bhagwan, such a person is never liked by me. He would have no relations with Me either in this Lok or in Parlok. (Vachanamrit-11)

“.... In Mahabharata Bhishma told the king Udhishthira that if any poor person is ever perturbed by him he alongwith his whole family would be burnt to ashes” and so a Bhakta of Bhagwan or any poor person should never be perturbed as it is a sin equal to Brahma Hatya.” (Gadhda First Chapter – 72)

Saint Tulsidasji has written :
તુલસી ગરબી ન છેડીએ, બડી ગરીબ કી હાય ।
મુવા ટોરકે ચામસે, લોહ ભસ્મહો જાય ॥

Tulsidasji cherished great faith and importance of Bhakta of Bhagwan in his life. While narrating the importance Tulsidasji has said,

તુલસી જયા કે મુખન સે, ભૂલે નિકસે રામા
તાકું પગ કી પહેનિયા, મેરે તનકી ચામા।

So if we take and understand the essence of the importance of Bhakta of Bhagwan, we can save ourselves from such type of Droh. Nothing is greater than doing good to others and nothing is more heinous than doing harm to others.

WHETHER BHAGWAN IS ALSO REQUIRED TO TAKE OATH ?

- Jayantibhai K. Soni (Memnagar – Ahmedabad)

When a person is not ready to accept the truth of the words spoken, one has to take an oath or take support of an oath of his/her dear ones or family member to convince the listener about the truth of the words spoken. In this way, efforts are being made to convince the people. This is about the worldly affairs. Whether Bhagwan is also required to take oath? Yes, there is an insistence for strengthening faith in Swaroop-Nishtha of Maharaj. Though means are good or excellent but if there is defect in Swaroop-Nishtha then under any circumstances one cannot get an entry in Akshardham. And therefore Maharaj has talked about His Purushottam-pana by taking oath in the following Vachanamrits.

13th Vachanamrit of Gadhdha Middle Chapter :

Murti of Tej is this Pratyaksh Maharaj only and this is to be known and believed by all and if you know and believe that Tej of Aksharswaroop if seen by Maharaj then also you will get Kalyan. Maharaj has insisted and has told that this talk should always be freshly renewed and bring the seed of this talk in all your other talks about Bhagwan. Because this talk is in fact the essence of all the scriptures and it is behaved in experience also. We have told this talk after watching it and if I have not told this without seeking, I take oath of all Paramhamsas. Thus, Maharaj has talked about His own supremacy by taking oath of all Paramhamsas so that there remains no any doubt or suspicion about it.

33- Madhya Vachanamrit :

In order to strengthen Nishkami Vrata, Maharaj has talked about Himself. "I state taking oath of Paramhamas that, from the day of my incarnation till today no any bad idea about any woman is never cherished whether in the dream or during the conscious state of mind. Maharaj strengthens Nishkami vartman of His devotees by taking an oath with a noble sim of Atyantik Kalyan.

02- Antya Vachanamrit :

I surrender through Satsang and by nothing else. Now when Satsang and company of Satpurush is received and even if they do not understand His Swroop and so Maharaj while explaining His Swaroop says that just there is Sabha in Badrikashram, there is Sabha in Golok Vaikunth and Sabha of this Satsangi (Akshardham) is more known and I take oath of this Saint Sabha and state this. The reason for taking such oath is that this divinity is not understood and seen by all. This Jeev does not have Pratyaksh realization as this Jeev has in Paroksh. And therefore oath is required to be taken. While explaining Purushottampana of His own Swaroop, Maharaj has to take an oath of Saint Sabha.

21- Antya Vachanamrit :

Here also while explaining His Purushottampanu Maharaj says that just as there are Parshads of Bhagwan in Shwetdwi, Vaikunth, Golokdham, all these satsangis are Parshads of Bhagwan only. If we do not know this Satsangi (Sadguru

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

Gopalanand Swami) who is like Parshad of Bhagwan, we take an oath of Bhagwan. Thus, Bhagwan takes an oath in order to identify and introduced His Sarvopari Swaroop Nistha. This is done in order to strengthen Upaswana of Sarvopari Swaroop by the devotees and there does not remain any doubt or suspicion. How can one get Dham without Upasana of Sarvopari? And therefore with a view that there does not remain any defect of any type in our Atyantik Kalyan. Now let us see the incident whereby Vaat of Sarvopari has been strengthened. In September-2020 issue of our 'Shree Swaminarayan' magazine we have explained Ashtapadiyam by Sadguru Nityanand Swami in an article by Mahant Swai Shastri Nirgundasji of Kalupur Swaminarayan temple in easy language by translating it into Gujarati language. Wherein during routine life one does not think about identifying Swaroop of Bhagwan and due to various types of suspicions and doubts in the mind, he gets confused in his mind and real understanding of Bhagwan. Even the great Pandits, learned persons, saints and

Mahatmas and even Siddha Purushs also cannot take decision.

Nityanand Swami has talked about this before many years and today is visible. Maharaj Himself has to take oath to convince others about His own Purushottampana and despite this we find many people expressing their suspicion and doubts in believing Sarvavtari swaroop of Bhagwan. And therefore Bhagwan has stressed the same in Vachanamrit-14 of Middle that those who cherish Nischay of Swaroop of Bhagwan they all are Nirgun and will attain Dham ultimately. And those who cherish doubt and suspicion about this, they will be known as possession Mayik Gunas and therefore Maharaj has taken oath and has explained his own Swaroop and so one should never cherish any doubt or suspicions about the same. Because if we cannot ensure our Moksha despite receiving such a precious human birth and life, we would repent a lot subsequently. And therefore prudent and wise Bhaktas should scrupulously follow the directions of Shreeji Maharaj and should cherish Swaroop Nishtha ardently in their hearts and should ensure their Moksha.

For 24 hour live *Darshan* of Shree Narnarayandev
www.swaminarayan.in

Aarti Darshan (Indian Standard time) _ *Mangala Aarti* : 5.30 hours *Shangaar Aarti* : 8.05

hours *Rajbhog Aarti* : 10.10 hours *Sandhya Aarti* : 19.00 hours *Sayan Aarti* : 20.30 hours

**Shree Swaminarayan Temple,
Kalupur Office Number
Mo. No. : 82380 01666
WhatSapp No. : 99099 67104**

DECEMBER-2020 ◦ 15

KIRTAN NI KEDI E SAHJANAND SUHKARI RE.....

- Atul Pothiwala (Ahmedabad)

સહજાનંદ સુખકારી રે, સલુણી છબી
વેદાંતી અરૂપી કહે છે, ન્યાય અનુમાને લે છે
તે વ્હાલો સંતોમાં રહે છે રે સલુણી છબી
નિગમ કહે અનુમાને, મુનિવરનાં દયાને ના'વે,
વ્હાલો તે આ ભીને વાને રે સલુણી છબી
સર્વ કરતો સર્વાધારો, સર્વમાંહી સર્વથી ન્યારો
પ્રગટ રૂપ તે આ પ્યારો રે સલુણી છબી
જગજીવન અંતરયામી, નામ સર્વનો છે નામી,
તે આ બ્રહ્માનંદનો સ્વામી રે સલુણી છબી
(Brahmanand Swami)

Charitra Prasang of Antahsfurana (intuition) for this famous Kirtan of Brahmanand Swami is world famous.

In Mandvi city of Bhuj, shastrarth (discourse) is conducted between Swami Shree Sahajanand Maharaj and the learned Vedanti Khaiya Khatri. With the directions of Shreeji Maharaj, Brahmanand Swami gives satisfactory answers to all the questions of Khaiya Khatri and thereafter Khaiya Khatri alongwith all his disciples becomes an ardent devotee of Shreeji Maharaj.

At the very same place Brahmanand Swami stands up, bows down at lotus-like feet of Shreeji Maharaj and starts creating one by one kadi of kirtan as if Shree Hari has been imparting Gyan to all the attendants of Sabha including Khaiya Khatri among others.

This Shree Sahajanand Swami, who has been sitting at high elevated place and granting us divine Darshan is Bhagwan of all of us. He grants us all happiness.

(Hey Khaiya Khatri, Vedanti people

like you address Him as Arupi and are not ready to accept Sakar Swaroop of Parmeshwar and get entangled in the presumptions and assumptions whether there is existence of God or not. The same Ishwar is our this Swaminarayan Bhagwan is present in the saints like us and due to his Aishwarya Pratap only I have answered all your questions.

Nigam spread in the whole Sristi also makes assumptions about the existence of Ishwar and yet nobody can comprehend Him. Munis and Rishis also keep on performing Tapascharya for innumerable years in order to perform Sakshatkar of Parmatma Swaroop and yet they cannot comprehend this Swaroop. But look at the good luck of all of us! Today our dearest Parmeshwar has been sitting in front of our eyes.

How is this Pragat Sahajanand Swami – He is capable of holding all. Though He is present in all and yet He is different from all! In this Kadi which explains Anvaypana and Vyatirekpana Swaroop of Shree Hari and this dearest Pragat Swaroop is Life of all of us.

This Shree Swaminarayan Bhagwan is the Life of us and this world. He is Antaryami (omniscient), He is Nami of all Naam and Dhami of all Dham. And this Shree Sahajanand Swami is also Swami – Master of this Brahmanand – as also his Ishtadev and Adhistata.

Kadis of such Kirtans prove to be Kedi (the ways) of our Kalyan.

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

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

(October – 2020)

Rs.1,00,000/-	Devotees cherishing affection towards AksharNivasi devotee Nathjibhailchharam Shukla – Ahmedabad and AksharNivasidevotee ManilalLaxmidasBhalja and AksharNivasidevotee Nandlalbhai Bhalchandbhai Kothari Mandal
Rs.51,000/-	With the divine inspiration of AksharNivasi devoteeNathjibhailchharam Shukla – Ahmedabad and AksharNivasilshwarlalLabhshankar Pandya through Smt. Sanyuktaben Shah.
Rs.10,000/-	Devotee Shri JayeshbhaiChandubhai Patel – Kherwa (Jatana)
Rs.5,555/-	Devotee Shri Vihan Chauhan (Kacha Tailors) Leicester, U.K. on the occasion of 5thJanma Divas through Muljibhai.
Rs.5,121/-	On the occasion of 118thVarshganth of AksharNivasi devotee ManilalLaxmichandBhalja Saheb.
Rs.5,001/-	Devotee Shri SangitabenRajeshbhai Patel – Maninagar through Parth and Hiral and Princyben.
Rs.5,000/-	Devotee Shri Vasuben C. Vyas – Jetpur.
Rs.5,000/-	Devotee Shri DashrathbhaiPrahadbhai Patel – Ahmedabad.

(November – 2020)

Rs.4,11,000/-	Devotee Dr. Narendbhai Bhavsar family – Mehsana.
Rs.1,11,000/-	Devotee Shri Patel Janardan Maganbhai -Kalol.
Rs.1,00,000/-	Devotee Shri Pankajbhai Patel – Vadodara.
Rs.1,00,000/-	AksharNivasi devotee Nathjibhailchharam Shukla and AksharNivasi devotee Ishwarlal Pandya Shishya Mandal – Nadiad.
Rs.1,00,000/-	AksharNivasi devotee Kamlaben Gajanand Jadhav, AksharNivasi Gajanand Jadav – through Rajeshbhai Jadav – Maninagar.
Rs.1,00,000/-	Devotee Shri MaganbhaiDamjibhaiBhoraniya family. – through MamtabenBhoraniya – Morbi.
Rs.1,00,000/-	Devotee Shri JitendrabhaiRamanlal Patel – Ahmedabad.
Rs.30,000/-	Devotee Shri HarsinRajeshbhai Shah – Navrangpura.
Rs.30,000/-	Devotee Shri Rajesh Vitthaldas Shah – Navrangpura.
Rs.30,000/-	Devotee Shri Bhagwat Vitthaldas Shah – Navrangpura.
Rs.30,000/-	Devotee Shri Dharmil Bhagwat Shah – Navrangpura.
Rs.30,000/-	Devotee Shri HarivadanVitthaldas Shah – Navrangpura.
Rs.25,000/-	Shree Hari Cast Industries – Ahmedabad.
Rs.5,000/-	Devotee Shri Laxmiben Kalidas Patel family, Saraspur, Ahmedabad for obtaining pleasure of Maharaj.
Rs.5,000/-	Richa and Pranchi, Sandip Sheth, Ahmedabad.

Only for subscribers of Vodafone Mobile Service

In order to download caller tune with voice of our H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj in mobile, these steps be followed :

Type ct 270930 and send SMS on 56789 to activate the caller tune.

Note: after typing ct one space be left and then 270930 should be typed.

Step 1: Type **ct** - **Step 2:** Leave one space - **Step 3:** Type **270930** -

Step 4: Send this SMS on number 56789

DECEMBER-2020-17



Shree Mahavishnu Yaag Yagna in Shree Swaminarayan Museum

Yagna

14/10/2020 Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies), Darbargarh – Morbi through Sankhya Yogi Rajkunvarba and Ushaba.

Shree Laxmi Poojan

13/11/2020 Akshar Nivasi Jasuba Jaidevbhai Brahmabhatt – through Bhaskarbhai and Rajdeepbhai, Naranpura – Satva and Sarv.

Shree Hanumanji Poojan

14/11/2020 Group poojan of Shree Hanumanji of Prasadi on the pious day of Kali Chaudas through Pareshbhai Thakarshibhai Patel (Gami) Nava Vadaj.

List of Host devotees who availed the benefit of Abhishek of Shree Narnarayandev in Shree Swaminarayan-October-2020

- 01/10/2020 Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies), Harshad Colony, Bapunagar, through Dasbhai.
- 02/10/2020 Shri BaldevbhaiLaldas Patel (Zulasanwala), Naranpura.
- 03/10/2020 (1) Shri NarmadabenKhimjibhaiJakasaniya – Morbi – through Ravi and Harikrishna and Dev inspiration by Sankhya Yogi Rajkunvarba and Sankhya Yogi Ushaba – Morbi.
(2) AksharNivasiPratapbhaiJechandbhaiPatadia – Morbi – through Alpesh and Dhaval and Bhanuen inspiration by Sankhya Yogi Rajkunvarba and Sankhya Yogi Ushaba – Morbi.
(3) Shree NarnarayandevYuvak Mandal – Lunawada.
- 07/10/2020 Shree Swaminarayan temple Approach Bapunagar – Shree NarnarayandevYuvak Mandal through RameshbhaiKhichadia.
- 10/10/2020 Shree NarnarayandevYuvak Mandal, Ghatlodia through Dineshbhai.
- 11/10/2020 Sankhya Yogi Kanbai – Gadhpur inspiration Sankhya Yogi Meghnaben, Sankhya Yogi Jayshriben
Sankhya Yogi Shobhaben – Gadhpur, inspiration Sankhya Yogi Rajkunvarba and Sankhya Yogi Ushaba – Morbi.
- 12/10/2020 Shri Devendrabhai Ramdas Patel (Lasundrawala) – Naranpura.
- 14/10/2020 Shree Swaminarayan temple Satsang Samaj, R.C. Technical, Ghatlodia through Rameshbhai Kothari.
- 15/10/2020 (1) village Kerana in the memory of AksharNivasiSankhya Yogi NanbaiKarshanVarsani, Shishya Mandal of Guru Sankhya Yogi Ratanbai.
(2) Sankhya Yogi Nanbhai Bhudia – Mankuva (Kachchh)
- 16/10/2020 (1) Shri PrahladbhaiBecharas Patel (Dangarwawala) Memnagar through Shri Kiritbhai and Pravinbhai and Hasmukhbhai
(2) GomitbenRameshbhai Patel (Dangarwawala) USA – through Shri BaldevbhaiLaldas Patel.
- 18/10/2020 Haribhaktas cherishing ardent faith and affection towards Akshar Nivasi Nathjibhai Ichharam Shukla and Akshar Nivasi Manilal Laxmidas Bhalja and Akshar Nivasi Nandlalbhai Bhalchandbhai Kothari Mandal
- 25/10/2020 Shri DilipbhaiShivlal Thakkar – Patdi.

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.

10 gram, 20 gram, silver coins of Shree Narnarayandev are available at Shree Swaminarayan Museum for offering it on pious occasions and for personal preservation.

For booking of Mahapooja/Mahabhishek contact :

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DECEMBER-2020-18



સત્સંગ બાલવટિકા

SATSANG BALVATIKA

Compiler Shastri Harikesavdasji (Gandhinagar)

A PERSON WHO LISTENS KATHA, GETS MOKSHA

- Shastri Haripriyadasji (Gandhinagar)

Real and the best divine Amrut is Katha, Charitra of Bhagwan! But the ignorant soul does not know about it. What a divine taste and pleasure in Katha of Bhagwan!!! One can know only after attending Katha once and taste it for some time.

Once five saints went to a village. Very few satsangi devotees were residing there. In fact there were only two devotees. They ardently requested the saints to stay there in the village and to move ahead after accepting their Bhiksha (offerings). The saints accepted the request. Now the devotees started thinking as to what should be offered to the saints in Thaal of Bhagwan? One Desai – the owner of four buffaloes was residing in the neighbourhood. The devotees went to him and asked for some milk. When this Desai inquired as to why they are carrying milk the devotees told him that the saints had visited their house and that they wanted to offer the milk to the saints. Listening to these words, this Desai told the devotees that as the milk is going to be offered to the saints he would not charge any money for this milk; thus this Desai was religious by his nature. The milk was offered to the saints. The saints heated the milk and curd was made of it by adding some drops of buttermilk into the hot milk. They decided to prepare Shikhand (sweet made of curd) and

offer the dish to Bhagwan on the next day.

Here this Desai thought about visiting the place of the devotees and to meet the saints with a view to perform some Satsang and listen to the words of the saints. As there was no any temple in the village, the devotees had stayed at the house of the devotees. Desai entered the house and saw Zoli of saints hanging in one corner. Curiously he asked what was it? And the saints said that, there was his milk inside this Zoli. This Desai got disturbed as he thought that his pure milk was wasted by these saints. Expressing his utter disgust he asked them what did they make of this milk? The saints smiled and asked him to just keep watching what is going on.

One saint was narrating Katha and another saint was mixing sugar in curd kept inside Zoli and was mixing it. After some time, Shikhand was made ready. Looking at this, Desai thought that his pure milk was totally wasted by the saints. Neither it remained milk nor ghee was made out of it. It turned out to be complete waste. Cherishing such thoughts with disgust he started preparing to leave for his house.

After some time Thaalwas offered to Bhagwan. “જમો થાળ જીવન જાઉં વારી.....” when the devotees told the saints that this Desai is residing in his neighbourhood and he has not taken money for this milk, the saints asked the devotees to stop this Desai and to offer him Prasad. Desai was not willing to take Shikhand as he had never tasted it before. These saints insisted to taste it, as it is Prasad of Bhagwan. When Desai took a spoon of Shikhand and tasted it, he liked it very much and demanded more of it. Now Shikhand became his favourite sweet and so told the devotees to take milk from his house free of cost whenever the saints would visit this village for Satsang.

Friends! Until this Desai tasted Shikhand, it was a strange new thing for him but when he tasted, it became his favourite

item.

Katha of Parmatma is like that only. Until it is experienced, one may feel it dry and strange and may think it as a wastage of time only. But once it is experienced, we would like to listen Katha again and again. Our Shree Swaminarayan Bhagwan has given us directions in the pious 'Shiksha Patri' to go to the temple everyday and to perform Darshan and listen to Katha-Varta of Bhagwan. If there is no temple, we should invariably listen to Katha Varta at our home. A person who listens to Katha, he would certainly get Moksha.

WHO IS GREATER HARIBHAKTA?

- Narayan V. Jani (Gandhinagar)

In 41st Vachanamrit of Madhya, Swaminarayan Bhagwan has talked about the taste of Maan (respect) and in this regard Muktanand Swami has narrated this Sakhi of Tulsidasji :

**“કનક તજ્યો કામિની તજ્યો, તજ્યો ઘાતુ કો સંગ,
ગુલસી લઘુ ભોજન કરી, ગુવે માનકે રંગ.”**

Friends! Mahatma Tulsidasji has created this meaningful Sakhi after an incident. Do you know what was this incident? What did he say? Don't you know? Let's know more about it. Please read carefully.

Once Tulsidasji Maharaj was passing by a road. A soldier shouted and asked him to give him a way. Tulsidasji moved and gave him a way and thought what a huge procession!!! What is this? Mahatma became curious and with all humility asked the soldier, "Where is this king going? Is there any special programme anywhere?" The soldier told Mahatma, "Though you are 'Bhekhdhari' (Sanyasi) don't you know about this Paramsiddha Mahatma? This Mahamuni Tapasvi comes out of his den only once in a week, grants divine Darshan and takes very less meal and goes back to his den for the rest of the week to perform

Samadhi. Today Mahamuni is going to come out of the den and therefore the king and the people are going to perform divine Darshan and poojan of Mahamuni."

Tulsidasji told that now he also wants to perform divine Darshan of this great Siddha Mahatma and asked can he join them? The soldier willingly said yes and Mahatma Tulsidasji joined the procession. The soldier told that after some days there is birthday of the king and Muniraj has accepted to grace the palace of the king on this occasion. On that day, king is going to declare him as Rajyaguru. Thereafter, copies of a beautiful picture of Mahamuni will be distributed and sent to the houses of all the people and then poojan of picture of Mahamuni would be performed in every house. The soldier further asked Tulsidasji, "You have been roaming whole of your life like this but does anybody ask about you? And see this Rajyaguru will be worshipped in very short time in the whole kingdom."

Mahatma Tulsidasji was doubtful in his mind but after listening to the words of this soldier, his doubt was further strengthened. So in order to ascertain the truth, Tulsidas also entered Ashram alongwith all. The moment Tulsidas saw Mahamuni, he understood everything. There was nothing great in that man, simply he was receiving great respect from all including the king. Tulsidasji was thinking that, if bestowing of over-respect is stopped, the truth would come out.

Through telepathy, thoughts going on in the mind of Tulsidasji reached to Diwan (minister) of the king who was also cherishing suspicion towards this Mahatma however he could not tell anything because even the king was cherishing utmost respect for this Mahamuni. This Diwan was thinking how Mahamuni was healthy despite not eating any meals. While leaving the place, Tulsidas uttered the words 'This Mahamuni caters

(Con. from page 23)

॥ भक्तिसुधा ॥

BHAKTI-SUDHA

(FROM THE BLESSINGS OF H.H. SHRI GADIWALA, ON THE OCCASION OF EKADASHI SATSANG SABHA AT KALUPUR TEMPLE – HAVELI) 'WHAT IS PURPOSE OF SATSNAG? COMPLETE VITRAGTA'

(Compilation : Kotak Varsha Natvarlal – Ghodasar)

Katha, Satsang all these are conducted regularly. What is the purpose behind it? The purpose is to remove or eradicate Vishay – Vasana (related to Panchavishay) residing within us like butchers (in the form of Kaam, Krodh, Maan, Maya, Lobh etc.)

In Vachanamrit-25 of Gadhdha Middle Chapter, Shreeji Maharaj has asked the question. A Tyagi Bhakta who observes all Vartmaan outwardly but cherishes utmost desire to relish Vishay. There is another Bhakta who has company of woman and wealth outwardly but he is Nirvasanik from within. Now if both of them would die, whether they will get the same type of Gati or will get more or less than other. At that time Sadguru Shri Gopalanand Swami has stated that, those who are Tyagi Bhakta and observes Vartmaan and so they are pure outwardly but they cherish ardent craving for enjoying and relishing Vishay and so they will be placed in Mrityu Lok or Dev Lok by Bhagwan and once they are satisfied and develop Vairagya towards Vishay and when they will repent and perform Bhajan and Bhakti of Bhagwan they will become Nirvasanik and they will go to Dham of Bhagwan.

Thereafter Sadguru Shri Muktanand Swami asked what is the way and solution to get rid of strong craving for Vasana if one

intends to get rid of? Maharaj said that just as UkaKhachar has developed addiction of rendering services to the saints, if a devotee develops addiction of rendering services to the saints as well as Bhagwan he cannot resist himself and all his baser feelings and Vasanas are burnt instantly.

Thereafter, Swayamprakashanand asked the question, “Hey Maharaj which is the means or tool to obtain the utmost pleasure of Bhagwan?” Maharaj has said that when there is sufficient grains available in the house and a devotee cherishing ardent affection towards saint and despite receiving the kingdom of the whole world, he stands in front of the saint with the same humility and devotion and affection, then Bhagwan is pleased the utmost with such an ardent devotee. All these things have been explained to us by Shreeji Maharaj in Vachanamrit and we know everything. But like a little child we have fallen into a ditch and we are crying to come out of that ditch and however hard-hearted a person may be, while passing by the ditch he would certainly take the child out of that ditch.

Such is the condition of Jeev. We have been playing the dirty water of Maya and Vasana and we enjoy it and some of us are crying feeling disturbed. Those who are disturbed, they are taken out of and those who are not crying and are enjoying, they are allowed to remain there.

Due to our Agyan, people laugh at us whereas Maharaj is so much benevolent, He takes us out of that situation and strengthens our Vairagya Bhavna. But we should earnestly crave for it. There should be an ardent prayer for it. So when an

adverse situation comes in our life, we have to think that, Bhagwan takes us out of such a situation and we should also cherish the feeling while living in this world that, ultimately we have to come out of this and we have to reach upto Bhagwan.

We should keep such three things in our life, with the help of which our life is spent smoothly. They are 'Vichar', 'Prem', and 'Niyam'.

(1) Vichar : There should be pious thought in your mind and Buddhi. One has to make constant efforts to keep one's thoughts pious. Why? Reason is that Maharaj has granted us invaluable gift of Satsang and has also granted the understanding to each and every devotee that we don't have to associate ourselves with each of our thoughts. Because due to our Sanchit Karma, thoughts would emerge out of our mind and inner self but we have to take a wise decision as to with which thoughts we have to associate ourselves.

(2) Prem : There should be pure and serene Shuddh Prem. Shuddh Prem means there is sufficient Vitaragta in it. And this has been defined by Maharaj in the pious 'Shiksha Patri'. Preeto towards nothing except Bhagwan means 'Shuddha Vairagya'. And this is complete Anasakta Bhaav. There are so many other types of Vairagya narrated in the scriptures. So through the medium of this Satsang, one should make the efforts to develop 'Sampurna Vitaragta'.

(3) Niyam : To perform Smaran of Bhagwan before we sleep at night and to express the gratitude of Bhagwan for being with us and accompanying us throughout the day. Even we wake up in the morning, we have to express our gratitude towards Bhagwan for protecting us for the whole night, even while we were sleeping. After preparing the meals, we have to offer Thaal to Bhagwan and thereafter we have to accept the meals considering it as Prasad.

If all our activities become religious and devout towards our Bhagwan, we would be

inclined to perform Bhakti automatically and by performing Bhakti we enlighten the Light of Knowledge within us and with the help of this Light of Knowledge we become Anasakt and we become pure by which we earn the pleasure of Bhagwan. All Vishay Vasana of this world are destroyed with the help of the addiction related to Bhagwan which we develop gradually. May Bhagwan grant us such strong feelings within us.

COMPLETE TRUST UPON PRABHU - Labhuben Manubhai Patel (Kundal, Tal. Kadi)

Padamshi Sheth of village Kanthkot was an Ekantik Bhakta of Bhagwan. It was the time when Shreeji Maharaj was to accept Mugat in Vadtal. Haribhaktas of the village told this to Padamshi Bhakta and asked to go to Vadtal to perform Darshan of Samaiya. All the ladies devotees and Haribhaktas got ready to go and attend Samaiya. All the luggage and bags and baggage were loaded in the bullock cart and started their journey. While performing Kirtan and Satsang they started their pilgrimage-like journey.

“હું તો જઈશ ગીરધર જોવા રે, મા મને વારીશ માં,
મારા ઉરમાં છબીલાજીને જોવા રે, મેછેલ મારીશ માં.
જઈશ જોવા હું તો નંદજીનો લાલો,
હાંરે મને પર સનેહી લાગે વહાલો રે, મા મને....”

They reached the desert area of village Kataria and it was midnight. Meanwhile seven to eight robbers came and warned them to stop there. The devotees were shivering with fear. They were surrounded by the robbers on their way. The robbers asked the devotees to hand over all their baggage otherwise they threatened to kill them. The innocent, coward devotees started remembering Shreeji Maharaj requesting for help:

“પ્રભુ દુઃખ દરિયામાંથી તારો,
વહાલા આ સમયે વહેલા પધારો,

**સંકટથી બચાવો મુરારી,
લેજો અંતરજામી ઉગારી.”**

Bhagwan came to their rescue. Shreeji Maharaj came there riding a horse holding a spear and a sword in the hands and accompanied by fifty Kathi Darbar. The robbers were shocked to find themselves surrounded by brave soldier-like Kathi Darbar horse riders holding various types of weapons in their hands.

As there was no way out, the robbers begged pardon in a very timid voice, realized their mistake of harassing the devotees of Bhagwan and requested to allow them to go alive. Shreeji Maharaj preached them the sermons and asked them to take an oath of never harassing anybody for no reason and

to earn their livelihood through honest and hard work.

Shreeji Maharaj consoled the shivering devotees not to be worried as they would be accompanied by Him throughout their journey. So ardent devotion and Bhakti of these devotees helped them during the most crucial time of their life. So we have to learn to inculcate good qualities from them.

**નકામી કુચલી કેટલી કરી.
ધર્મનું કાર્ય કેટલું કર્યું, તપાસ કરો.....**

Whenever the devotees are in problematic situation, Prabhu comes forward and protects them like a shield but there is only one condition. We have to place complete faith in Bhagwan.

(Con. on page 20)

upon the respect, he has been receiving from all.” The sharp Diwan grasped what Tulsidasji wanted to suggest to him. Now this Diwan decided to test this Mahamuni.

The king and the people used to visit Ashram of Mahamuni every Tuesday to perform divine Darshan of Mahamuni. So this Diwan went to Ashram on Monday – one day in advance and told Mahamuni that, now king and the people would not visit his Ashram for divine Darshan and he would not be declared as Rajyaguru, as another Mahamuni had come and under the impact of the miracles of this new Mahatma, the king has accepted him as Rajyaguru. The Diwan also told Mahamuni that, he had come to perform his divine Darshan because he cherished ardent faith in him but from the next day, it would not be possible for him to come to Ashram.

With these words Diwan came out of Ashram and asked his Guptachars (spies) to keep a watch over Mahamuni. In the early morning Tuesday, Guptachars informed

Diwan that, Siddha Muni had been going out of Ashram and returning to Ashram continuously throughout the night and he was very much disturbed and that now he had expired.

The Diwan conveyed the message of the death of Mahamuni to the king and appraised him with all the details. This Diwan also told the king that, it was due to warning given by Tulsidasji that he became alert and truth came out. Diwan also advised the king not to trust such people blindly. The king realized his mistake and expressed his gratitude towards Tulsidasji.

Friends! We learn from this story that, one can live without meals and just upon the respect being received. So just remember the greatest Dosh is Maan-Dosh and it is the biggest hurdle in Bhakti-marg and therefore Swaminarayan Bhagwan has referred to this incident in Vachanamrit and has said, “માનને તજીને જે ભગવાનને ભજે તેને સર્વ હરિભક્તોમાં અતિશે મોટેરો જાણવો.”

(Vachanamrit Gadhda Middle – 41).

ઉત્તરાયણ પુણ્ય (ઝોળી) પર્વ

નામ :

સરનામું :

ફોન નં. : મો. :

ઉત્તરાયણ પુણ્ય પર્વ

તા. 14-1-2021ના ઉત્તરાયણ - મકરસંક્રાંતિના શ્રી નરનારાયણદેવના દર્શને પધારો ત્યારે આ કાર્ડમાં આપની ઈચ્છાનુંસાર રકમ ભરી કોઠાર ઓફિસમાંથી પહોંચ મેળવી લેવી. દૂર વસતા હરિભક્તોએ ચેક - ડ્રાફ્ટ અને ઓનલાઈનથી રકમ મોકલવી.

વિગત	ભાવ રૂ.	વજન	૫ કિલોના ભાવ રૂ.	આપની સેવા રૂ.
ચોખા	૩૦૫૦	૧૦૦ કિલો	૧૫૫	
ઘઉં	૨૦૦૦	૧૦૦ કિલો	૧૦૦	
મગ	૮૦૦૦	૧૦૦ કિલો	૪૦૦	
તલ	૨૪૦૦	૨૦ કિલો	૬૦૦	
ચણા દાળ	૨૪૦૦	૨૦ કિલો	૬૦૦	
તુવેર દાળ	૧૦૦૦૦	૧૦૦ કિલો	૫૦૦	
મોગર દાળ	૭૨૦૦	૧૦૦ કિલો	૩૬૦	
શુદ્ધ ઘી	૬૦૦૦	૧ ડબ્બો	૨૦૦૦	
તેલ	૧૩૦૦	૧ ડબ્બો	૪૩૦	
ગોળ	૫૦૦૦	૧૦૦ કિલો	૨૫૦	
ખાંડ	૪૧૦૦	૧૦૦ કિલો	૨૦૫	
કુલ રૂ.	૫૧૪૫૦		૫૬૦૦	

દાન, વસ્તુ રૂપે, રોકડ સ્વરૂપે તથા ચેક અથવા ડ્રાફ્ટ

“શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ મંદિર કાલુપુર અમદાવાદ”ના નામે આપશો.

સ્થળ : શ્રી સ્વામિનારાયણ મંદિર, કાલુપુર, અમદાવાદ ફોન : ૮૨૩૮૦૦૧૬૬૬

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय
ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय

48th Prakayotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj

With the blessings of Param Krupalu Shree Narnarayandev, 48th Prakayotsav of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj was celebrated while strictly following the guidelines of the Government for Covid pandemic and with all simplicity on the pious day of Aaso Sud-10 Vijaya Dashmi on 25/10/2020 Sundday. First of all H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj performed Shringaar aarti of Shree Narnarayandev and graced Sabha organized on the occasion. Mahant Swami of Kalupur temple and saints and Mahants of Jetalpur, Naranpura, Gandhinagar (Sector-2), Kankaria, Naranghat, Approach etc. temples conveyed their best wishes. Janmotsav was celebrated with utmost simplicity. (Kothari Swami)

Kalupur Sharadotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur

With the blessings of Param Krupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions of H.H. Shri Maharaj and with the blessings of the whole Dharmkul and with the inspiration and guidance of Mahant Swami Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji, on the pious day of Aaso Sud-14 Friday 30/10/2020, Sharadotsav was celebrated in traditional way in the pious company of Shree Narnarayandev in Chawk of Prasadi. On this occasion, saints, Haribhaktas and Shree Narnarayandev Auchhav Mandal had performed Auchhav while following the guidelines of the Government. H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj had graced the occasion and had performed aarti of Thakorji. All the devotees

availed the benefit of divine Darshan and Dudh Pauva. (Chamakhbhai)

Celebration of Diwali festivals in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur

With the blessings of Param Krupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul and with the inspiration and guidance of Mahant Swami Sadguru Shastri Swami Nirgundasji, Diwali festivals were celebrated with all simplicity in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur as per the guidelines of the Government due to Corona pandemic.

In the evening on Aaso Vad-14 Saturday 14/11/2020 H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj performed the ritual of Chopda Poojan in traditional way through Shastri Gor of the temple. Thereafter, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj performed poojan-archan and Annakut aarti of Shree Hanumanji Maharaj on the occasion of Kali Chaudas. In the morning at 10.00 hours on 15/11/2020, Chhapan Bhog Annakut Aarti of Paramkripalu Shree Narnarayandev was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj.

On the pious day of Katak Sud-1/2 Nutan Varsha on Monday 16/11/2020 H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj performed divine Darshan of Shree Narnarayandev and conveyed best wishes of the new year to all the saints and haribhaktas.

As per the guidance of Mahant Swami Shastri Golok Swami, Swami Rajendraprasaddasji, Shastri Satyaprakash Swami etc. Saint Mandal and haribhaktas had rendered beautiful services of distribution of Annakut Prasad in villages of Shree Narnarayandev Desh. (Kothari Swami)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Modasa (Nalanda-2)

With the blessings of Param Krupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul, all the Utsav coming during the whole year were

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

celebrated in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Modasa (Nalanda-2) during the pious Adhik Purushottam Maas. On the pious day of Amaas on 16/10/2020 Poojari of the temple had performed Abhishek of Shree Hari Krishna Maharaj in Vedic tradition. Devotees Shri K.B. Prajapati, Chanchal Bhagat, Ranjanben the president of Shree Ghanshyam Mahila Mandal etc. had prepared various items of Annakut at their homes for Thakorji. All the devotees had performed divine Darshan of Annakut while strictly following the guidelines of the Government. (K.B. Prajapati, Modasa)

MULI DESH

7th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Karol (Tal. Chuda)

With the blessings of Param Krupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions

of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the blessings of H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul, 7th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Karol (Tal. Chuda) was celebrated on the pious day of Kartak Sud-07 on 21/11/2020. Annakut prepared by sattsangi ladies devotees at their homes was offered to Thakorji.

In the Sabha organized on this occasion, Sadguru Shastri Swami Narayanprasaddasji of Muli temple, Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdasji of Sayla temple and new Mahant Swami of Limbdi temple had narrated talks about Leela Charitra of Maharaj and had performed Annakut Aarti of Thakorji. All the devotees had availed the benefit of divine Darshan as per the guidelines of the Government. (Narendrabhai Kothari – Karol)

Suggestion to all members of 'Shree Swaminarayan' monthly magazine

All the members of 'Shree Swaminarayan' magazine are ardently requested to send their membership number, name and mobile number to the office of 'Shree Swaminarayan' monthly magazine situated at Shree Narnarayandev temple, Kalupur, Ahmedabad, at the earliest.

Activities of the temple, details /complaints etc. about the monthly magazine shall be received in your mobile number automatically.

You can also send your details through SMS or WhatsApp on the below mentioned mobile number of the temple.

Mobile Number : 9313706095

Details of member of 'Shree Swaminarayan' monthly magazine

Membership Number :

Name of the Member :

Mobile Number : 1) 2)

Name of village/city : Tal. Dist.

Instruction : Above said information shall be sent by March-2021. If your information is not received by us, your membership of 'Shree Swaminarayan' monthly magazine shall be cancelled, which may kindly be noted

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(1) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj accepted wishes from the saints on the occasion of Prakatya Utsav and released a book written by Mahant Swami. (2) H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj performing Group Chopda Poojan in Sabha Mandap of Kalupur temple and performing poojan of Shree Hanumanji on the plous day of Kail Chaudas. (3) H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj performing aarti of Shree Revti Baldevji Hanukrishna Maharaj in Jetalpur. (4) Shri Mahant Swami performed Abhishek of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj on the occasion of Patotsav in Rangmahol, Kalupur temple. (5) Annakut Darshan of Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj in Narayanghat temple.

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(1) Annakut Darshan of Nutan Varsh In Shree Swaminarayan temple. (2) Annakut Darshan In Raley temple. (3) Photograph of Deep-Aarti of Diwali In Parsippany temple. (4) Diwali Annakut Darshan In Huntsville temple. (5) Entrance gate of our Karanchi temple is decorated with lighting on the pious day of Diwali.

For the convenience of devotees of Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya residing in Desh and overseas
 online donation can be made through below mentioned link of official website of Kalupur temple.

<http://www.swaminarayan.in/donation>