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Shakotsav in
Kalupur temple

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Jetalpur



Moyad (Prantl)

Katha parayan In our varloous temples In the plous company of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj



Thara (Banaskantha)



Shilaj- Ahmedabad



Motera



Laloda-Idar



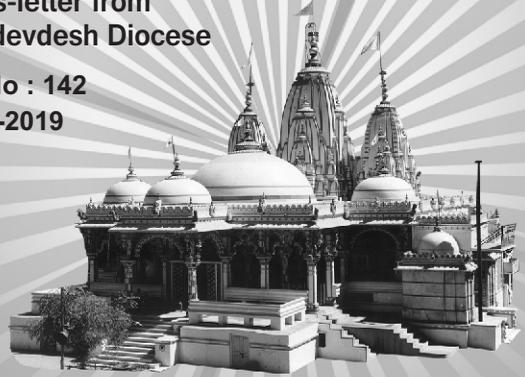
Bapupura (Mansa)



SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

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Founded By H.H. Acharya

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Tejendraprasadji Maharajshri,

Shri Narnarayandev Diocese.

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**Appointment Diary of H.H. Acharya Maharaj 1008
Shri Koshalendraprasadj Maharajshri**

(JANUARY - 2019)

- 6 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur on the occasion of Shakotsav.
- 13 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Jetalpur on the occasion of Katha.
- 14 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Mansa on the occasion of performing aarti of Thakorji.
- 16 to 22 Graced new Shree Swaminarayan temple, Khirugoya (Kenya, East Africa) on the occasion of Murti Pran Pratistha.
- 23 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Laloda (Idar Desh) on the occasion of Katha.



**APPOINTMENT DIARY OF H.H.
SHRI LALJI MAHARAJ
(JANUARY - 2019)**

- 3 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Karjisan on the occasion of Patotsav.
- 5 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Naranghat on the occasion of Shakotsav.
- 6 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur on the occasion of Shakotsav.
- Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple Vasna-Dehgam on the occasion of Shakotsav.
- 26 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple New Ranip on the occasion of Shakotsav.
- 27 Graced Shree Swaminarayan temple, Mokhasan on the occasion of Patotsav.



SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

KATHA OF BORSALI NARRATED

- Sadhu Purushottamprakashdas (Jetalpurdham)

Once santdasji Swami went to Badrikashram in state of Samadhi. After performing Darshan Stuti of Shree Narnarayandev, he went to perform Snan in Mansarovar. Due to severe cold he became unconscious. Shree Hari Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan immediately came and performed Darshan and due to divine touch of Hast-kamal of Bhagwan Santdasji opened his eyes and got divine Darshan of Maharaj. Shree Hari told him that he went to perform Snan in Mansarovar though he was denied and this difficulty came. At that time one Mukta of Badrikashram was present there with Santdasji. He was also granted divine Darshan by Shree Hari. Thereafter this Mukta ardently prayed to Shreeji Maharaj, "Oho! Oho! Hey Maharaj! Hey Kripanath! Today I am very much lucky that I got divine Darshan of Sarvopari Sarvavatari Bhagwan. Hey Prabhu! I have been performing Tapa in this Badrikashram for the last many years.

And I do not see any scope of my Moksha. But today I got Your divine Darshan. So kindly bless me for my welfare. When I request Shree Narnarayan Bhagwan, I am advised to perform Tapa only." Shree Hari said, "Here there is no Maya and in Bharatkhand there is Maya. So it is not better to get Mukta of Badrikashram involved in Maya."

Mukta said, "Do whatever you think just and proper but please bless me for my welfare. If I get the benefit and a chance to render services to You, I am ready to stay in Bharatkhand amidst Maya. So please bless me and fulfill my this desire." Shree Hari blessed him. Thereafter that Mukta took Santdasji to Badrikashram. Thereafter Mukta who had rendered his services to Santdasji and who had prayed to Shreeji Maharaj was granted birth in the divine tree of Borsali in Wadi of Prasadi of Jetalpur. The shadow of Borsali was very

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dear to Shree Hari and therefore Shree Hari granted him birth as Borsali. Day by day this Borsali tree became huge shady tree with so many branches out spreading shadow all around and underneath it. Now it started waiting for Shree Hari. After the period of so many years, this Mukta in the form of Borsali developed its main branches and subsidiary branches and developed itself so that there may not fall any sun-rays from above from any direction.

Once Shree Hari conducted a Sabha under this Borsali tree and that time our Aadi Acharya Shree Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj performed singing of Kirtan of four Kadis entitled **“Hari Mile Borsali Ki Chhaiya”**. Shree Hari was very much happy after listening to this Kirtan and honoured his nephew Shree Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj by offering His Charanarvind. And He narrated the history of this tree of Borsali and told that He had given birth as tree of Borsali in this divine Wadi of Jetalpur. The seed from Badrikashram has given birth here as Borsali tree. Granting divine blessings this Mukta has been sent here so that he can render services without being affected by Maya in Bharatkhand.

When this Mukta was granted divine Darshan in Badrikashram, this Mukta had created shadow so that there may not be any sun-rays and therefore this Mukta has been granted birth in the form of this tree for rendering services of offering shadow. So whenever I would grace Jetalpur and in future when there would not be this human body consisted of Panch Mahabhut (five elements), My divine presence would accept the services of this Mukta under this Borsali tree. So this Mukta would reside here for more than two hundred years and

therefore would be relieved from Borsali tree and would go and get place in Akshardham. Thus, this talk narrated by Shree Hari in Jetalpurdham has been described by the saints in many Charitra Granth and Vartas (stories) and the same has been presented here in the form of this article.

There are so many specialties of this divine place of Jetalpurdham which was very dear to Shree Hari. Mahapratapi Shree Revti Baldevji Harikrishna Maharaj, Gangama (who was addressed as ‘Maa’ by Shree Hari himself) and ‘Muktaraj Borsali’ under whose shadow is present our Shree Hari alongwith Muktamandal. By performing divine Darshan of this tree of Borsali of Prasadi, we get divine peace of mind. We are very much lucky that this Muktaraj has been granting divine Darshan to all of us in the form of this Borsali tree. If we cherish any of our desire while chanting the name of Shree Hari for ten times while standing under the shadow of this divine Borsali tree, our desires are fulfilled. So many trees of Prasadi of Shreeji Maharaj of our Sampradaya have rendered their divine services and have gone to Akshardham but this divine Borsali tree is still standing rendering incessant services to Shree Hari by offering divine shadow. If anybody reads this article and remembers the divine Borsali tree and cherishes any desire it is fulfilled. Dear devotees! How rich and divine is the treasure of our Sampradaya! Which is nowhere else. So whenever you come to Jetalpurdham, kindly perform divine Darshan of this Borsali tree whose fragrant flowers used to please Shree Hari.

New Address to send articles, news, photographs for
‘Shree Swaminarayan’ Magazine
magazine@swaminarayan.in

DASHAVTARI SHREE HARI

- Shastri Nirgundasji (Ahmedabad)

अष्टपदीयम्

हरिकृष्णं मानस लोककमनियमे ॥हरिः॥

भजहरिमविरतम् धावतु मा ॥हरिः... ध्रुवपद
ततो वरेहनिगम कायजलधौ ।

तमानिन्ये विधाय ततो नमनियमे ॥भज. . १
तिष्ठति कमठमये धरणीयं ।

यस्य पृष्ठे चपलभयशमनीयमे ॥भज. . २
वराहरूपधरोऽवनये सा ।

दतादैत्य जघान हि नमनियम ॥भज. . ३
हतो नखैर्हरिणा नरहरिणा ।

दितिपत्रो द्वरदङ्गव गमनियमे ॥भज. . ४
वसुधा दापांयेतु शचीपतये ।

बांली विप्रो ययाच फलजमनियमे ॥भज. . ५
क्षत्रियरुधिरजले स्नापयन्तं ।

जामदग्न्यो जनतापशमनियमे ॥भज. . ६
रावणनाशकरो भूविरामो ।

यशः सेतुदधेह भवदमनियमे ॥भज. . ७
बलबुधकल्कवपुषा येन चरितं ।

कृतं परंपरं पूरुश्रयणीयमे ॥भज. . ८
वासुदेवस्य धवो हरिकृष्णो ।

दशाकृति दधार बहरमणीयमे ॥भज. . ९
॥ इति श्रीवासुदेवानन्दवर्णिगविरचिताष्टपदी संपूर्णा ॥

All saints in our Sampradaya have described Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan as Sarvavatari in their creations. How our Shree Hari is Sarvavatari has been described in this Stotra by Shri Vasudevanand Varni and has inspired us to perform Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan. Let us understand the meaning of Ashtak of this Ashtapadi.

हरिकृष्णं मानस लोककमनियमे ॥हरिः॥

भजहरिमविरतम् धावतु मा ॥ हरिः... ध्रुवपद

Addressing Jeev-matra of this world, Varniraj states that, Hey human being don't roam here and there because this futile roaming will not give you peace or happiness and neither you will



obtain Moksha and you will have to again engaged in the cycle of birth and death. Therefore you perform Bhajan of Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna Shree Swaminarayan. Because the best and the noblest and worthy to be achieved is Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna only. Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (Dhruvpada)

ततो वरेहनिगम कायजलधौ ।

तमानिन्ये विधाय ततो नमनियमे ॥ भज. . १

When demon called Hayagriv took away Vedas and the whole Kalyankari Gyan and started to destroy the whole biodiversity and living beings of the world through Jalpralay, Bhagwan incarnated in Matsya-Avatar (fish) and protected all. Bhagwan has adopted such a beautiful Matsya-Avatar. Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (1)

तिष्ठति कमठमये धरणीयं ।

यस्य पृष्ठे चपलभयशमनीयमे ॥ भज. . २

At the time of Samudra Manthan when the earth started going down deep to Rasaatal, Bhagwan incarnated as Kurm-Avatar (tortoise) for the benefit of all and held the whole earth upon its back so by seeking shelter of Bhagwan all Vikars of the mind get pacified. Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (2)

वराहरूपधरोऽवनये सा ।

दत्तादैत्य जघान हि नमनियम ॥ भज. . ३

When the demon Hiranyaksh took the whole earth to Rasaatal, Bhagwan incarnated as Varah-Avatar (pig) and destroyed the demon and brought back the earth and handed over to Brahmaji for creation of the world. Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (3)

दृतो नखैर्हरिणा नरहरिणा ।

दितिपत्रो द्वुरद्विव गमनियमे ॥ भज. . ४

In order to protect His young child devotee Prahlad, Bhagwan incarnated as ferocious Narsimha-Avatar (lion-man) and destroyed and torn the body of demon Hiranyakashipu like a branch of the tree. Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (4)

वसुधा दापांयेतु शचीपतये ।

बांली विप्रो ययाच फलजमनियमे ॥ भज. . ५

In order to release the kingdom of all the three worlds from Danavraj Bali – the king of all Daanavs cherishing Asuri-vriti and to return the kingdom to the deities like Indra etc., Bhagwan incarnated as Batuk Vaman-Avatar (young human child). Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik

Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (5)

क्षत्रियरुधिरजले स्नापयन्तं ।

जामदग्न्यो जनतापशमनियमे ॥ भज. . ६

In order to destroy the pride of Shastrarjun-like Kshatriya kings – who committed demon-like offences Bhagwan incarnated – as son of great Rishi Jamdagni – as Parsuram-Avataar and destroyed the sinners twenty-one times on this earth and destroyed taap of unhappiness of His devotees. Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (6)

रावणनाशकरो भूविरामो ।

यशः सेतुदधेह भवदमनियमे ॥ भज. . ७

In order to destroy the evil-doer demon Ravan, Bhagwan incarnated as Maryada Purushottam Rama-avatar and destroyed Adharmi Ravan and built a bridge of Marayada upon this Samsar-Sagar (ocean) and singing of this Leela is meant for crossing this Bhavsagar by all devotees. Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (7)

बलबुधकल्किवपुषा येन चरितं ।

कृतं परंपरं पूरुश्रयणीयमे ॥ भज. . ८

In order to grant Atyantik Moksha and Param Kalyan of Jeev of all this world, Bhagwan incarnated as Krishna-Balram, Buddha and Kalki-Avataar, He has performed wonderful and divine Leela-Charitra. So if a human being performs Leela-charita Gaan by seeking shelter in this divine Leela-Charitra he gets Atyantik-Moksha. Therefore, you engage yourself in performing His Bhajan incessantly and eternally as only He is the cause for your Atyantik Moksha. He is worthy to be bowed down by all and you perform nirantar Bhajan of this Parabrahma Parmatma Bhagwan Shree Harikrishna and herein lies your emancipation. (8)



BLESSINGS FROM

H.H. SHRI ACHARYA MAHARAJ

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

On the
occasion of
S h r i m a d
B h a g w a t
P r a y a n
organized by
S h r e e
Narnarayandev

Yuvak Mandal,
Hirawadi, Date

20/05/2018 : Kanthi of Tulsi of Prasadi was offered to many host devotees. On this occasion, H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj told that this Kanthi is to be worn around the neck and it is not to be hanged at the hanger on the wall. Our Kanthi is double Kanthi. So only those who have Shraddha (faith) in it should wear this Kanthi. Maharaj has been very much benevolent upon all of us and we have got this divine Satsang and this Satsang has been gradually spreading all over the world. Find out places so that people do not have to go too far to perform Darshan in the temples. All this work is being done from your offerings towards Dharmado and in Daan-Peti only. You work hard day and night and earn this money. So it is your hard-earned money and so we need to take care of your money! It is really a great thing that you people contribute in Satsang. Saints are there at first but you people also offer your time for Satsang and this is not a small thing. Many times I have been telling that, after preparation of one hour a devotee can come to the temple. If a person says that he attended a 03 hour

Katha-Parayan then one hour in advance and one hour after Katha are also devoted and thus it comes to offering of time of five hours. It is very difficult to perform Mala of Bhagwan and similarly it is very difficult to perform Satsang.

Ram Swami! Arrange a unique type of katha wherein all are seen in traditional dress of Dhoti and topi! Our forefathers have sowed the seeds and so today we have been yielding its the crops. At present all of us have adopted the western-modern dress of shirt-pent but when we go to the villages we still see the elder people wearing traditional clothes and using traditional things like Khatla made of Kathi and we are very much happy to see them. We have with us our rich tradition and our own history. Other people have mere mythology and fables. Go and look in our Museum and you will see that we have everything. Now we have not created or made anything there. Everything is Itihaas (history).

We may give laptops and wifi to our children but what thereafter? If something like noble Samskars is given, it will be useful for them to live a life of humanity. Nobody is going to keep any corner space reserved for us after our death but if somebody would tell that he was a good man, our life would be considered meaningful and of some worth. If we may have helped others, some people would consider us a good gentleman. We have inherited humanity and we have to

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

preserve it. Everything may be lost but it is important that Bhagwan and Samskaras (noble qualities) are not lost in our life. Here by the word 'Samskaras' I mean the noble human qualities dictated by Bhagwan for all of us and nothing else.

Once we had been to a village wherein there were houses of four devotees. Are there no other human beings in the village! There are other human beings in the village and therefore there must be humanity as well! Bhagwan Swaminarayan has not asked us to change our Dharma or our Ishtadev. Shreeji Maharaj has in fact said that those who are Shaivait devotees should not abandon their Tripund or Rudraksh. You should not abandon your Ishtadev. We define 'Hari bhagat' very narrowly and our measurement is very short. If one can become a devotee merely through Kanthi and big Chandlo then the whole world would become full of devotees. Tilak and Chandlo are meant for us. The mirror in front thereof we stand is to look at ourselves and introspect and ask ourselves whether I am eligible or whether I deserve to perform this Chandlo?!? This is a fact. But we should certainly remember which path has been chosen by us and should make an effort to walk on that path. Nobody is mature and nobody has come with seal and signature of approval. Kanthi

and Chandlo is a beginning – a shadow of ourselves. And it is meant for us and not for others. If we will begin, we will step up the stair of a temple. Then atmosphere of the temple will affect us positively and we will inculcate in us noble qualities. This will be of some use and nothing else.

A huge house of 10 rooms may have been built but what is its use once it is crumbled down? Similarly however great we may be but nobody is going to keep a corner of 2"-2" inches reserved for us. This is a universal truth and we can see it. If we know this much, we will understand Vairagya and all the scriptures. Just think at night when you are in your bed. The same thing has been narrated in the scriptures. Let us create an atmosphere which nourishes Samskaras-noble qualities. And this is not done without Katha-Varta.

Gurumantra is secondary thing. All Mantas are contained in performing divine Darshan of Shree Narnarayandev and of our Bhagwan. Obtaining Gurumantra is tradition of our Vaishnav Sampradaya and Gurumantra should be taken invariably. But it is not more than Bhagwan. Only Bhagwan should remain in the centre of our life and nothing except incarnations of Bhagwan should be there. Only Bhagwan bestows Kalyan of all of us.

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

SUGAR WILL GIVE PLEASURE

- Chandrakant Mohanlal Pathak (Gandhinagar)

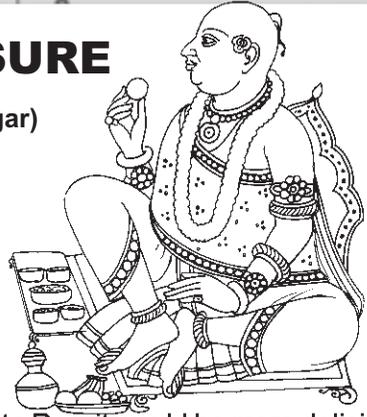
When Nandlal Thaker used to come to perform Darshan of Shreeji Maharaj, he used to request Shreeji Maharaj, "Please grace my home once." And Shreeji Maharaj replied, "As per convenience, we will grace your house as per your wish."

Once Shreeji Maharaj started the pilgrimage to Umreth alongwith the saints and Parshads. In the morning when Nandubhai stood up after completing Pooja-path, one Parshad came said Jay Swaminarayan and informed him that Shreeji Maharaj is going to grace his house. There was no limit to the pleasure of Nandubhai. He immediately conveyed the news to the haribhaktas and ladies devotees of the village. All the devotees got together and started preparations for welcoming Shreeji Maharaj. Two persons playing Dhol were leading these devotees towards the outskirts of the village. Ladies devotees were singing Kirtan, '**Aaj Mare Orde Re Aavya Avinashi Albel**' which was being sung in follow up by Haribhaktas.

Shatanand Muni says that when Bhagwan or devotee of Bhagwan is coming to your village and if you go to receive them, you earn Punyas and when you see them off when they are going, all your sins get washed away.

Shree Hari graced the house of devotee Nandubhai. Nandubhai performed poojan-ritual. Maharaj inquired about the health of all the family members. Nandubhai informed Maharaj that all the devotees were healthy and happy. Thereafter Nandubhai asked Shreeji Maharaj, "**As it the hot season of mangoes, can they prepare Rotli and Ras?**" with the approval of Maharaj, meals were prepared and Shree Hari came to offer the meals to the saints. Mulji Brahmchari offers two-layered ghee smeared roti.

While offering mango Ras, Shreeji Maharaj told Nandubhai, "If some sugar is



added to Ras, it would be more delicious. So bring some sugar." Nandubhai told Shreeji Maharaj, "Here there is no tradition of adding sugar." Shreeji Maharaj kept mum and told after some time, "Nandubhai! If some sugar is added, Ras would become tasty." Nandubhai told, "Maharaj! There is no custom of adding sugar in our community." Mahaprabhu remained silent and asked, "Nandubhai, what will your caste people do, if you offer some sugar?" Nandubhai told, "I would be punished for the breach of the custom of our community. I would be expelled from my community. I would be thrown out of my community. And I am not ready to do such a thing."

Saints completed their meals. Shree Hari also finished the meals and offered Thaal as Prasad to Nandubhai. Nandubhai sat for taking the meals. When he tasted Ras, he could not believe how sour it was! He started abusing himself for not obeying the directions of Shreeji Maharaj of adding sugar in it. He thought that the custom of his community stood as an obstacle. So he got very much angry with himself.

There were tears in the eyes of Nandubhai. The bite of Roti remained in his hand unfinished. While remembering Shree Hari, Nandubhai took niyam and vowed never to take sugar or jiggery and he observed this Niyam for the whole of his life and never took sugar or jiggery.

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN MUSEUM



Kathari of Prasadi in which Shreeji Maharaj had offered Siro (sweet) to Ramdas

Bhagwan had unique method of offering and accepting Bhojan and Bhajan. At that time, there were no flour-mill nor any machines for preparing buttermilk or Ghee. There were no facilities of gas-electricity. Everything was required to be done by people themselves through their hands. During such a time, thousands of saints and Haribhaktas were invited in Utsav- Samaiya by Shree Hari and all of them were offered all types of meals with sweets. Premanand Swami has written :

ફરે પંગતમાં રે, વારંવાર મહારાજ । સંત હરિજનને પીરસવાને કાજ ॥

અધ્યા ભક્તિ રે, અતિ ઘણી પીરસતા । કોઈના મુખમાં રે, આપે લાડુ હસતાં ॥

Such a divine and pious Things of Prasadi were offered by Shreeji Maharaj to the saints and haribhaktas that even the deities like Brahmaji used to wait by incarnating as fish. The utensils which have been used by Shree Hari while offering such Things of Prasadi have also become very popular eternally. In 'Purushottam Prakash Type-19' Sadguru Shri Nishkulanand Swami has described such utensils which have been touched by Shree Hari:

જે જે વસ્તુ સ્પર્શી હરિ અંગ રે, તે તે કલ્યાણકારી જેમ ગંગા રે...

સ્પર્શી વસ્તુ એ મંગળકારી રે, ત્યારે પુરુષોત્તમની રીત ન્યારી રે....

When Shree Hari had graced village Una, meals alongwith Siro (Sweet) were got prepared for the saints and Haribhaktas at the house of the devotee Shri Ramdasbhai and this Siro (sweet) was offered to all the saints and devotees while carrying it in this Kathari.

While performing divine Darshan of such things of Prasadi, we get divine Darshan of Murti of Shree Hari and we get divine coolness in our heart. This Kathari – utensil of Prasadi has been kept in Hall No.4 of Prasadi whose divine Darshan may be performed by all the devotees.

- Prof. Hitendrabhai Naranbhai Patel

Museum Mobile : 98795 49597

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

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Shree Mahavishnu Yaag Yagna in Shree Swaminarayan Museum January-2019

06/01/2019	Shri Janakbhai Gokalbhai Patel- Lavarpur
27/01/2019	Shri Prakashchandra Baldevdas Patel-Ahmedabad

List of Host devotees who availed the benefit of Abhishek of Shree Narnarayandev in Shree Swaminarayan Museum-January-2019

10/01/2019	Shri Narnarayandev Mahila Mandal- Naranpura on the occasion of Rajat Jayanti Mahaotsav of Sankalpmurti- Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj.
17/01/2019	ShriKhimji Ravji Vaghjiyani – Sydney -Australia
20/01/2019	Shri Mavjibhai Mohanbhai Chavda –Balol-Bhal through Sanjay (Australia) and Vijay
23/01/2019	Shri Ambalal ChaturbhaiChhaganbhai Patel – Por
26/01/2019	ShriJaydev Kushvadan Bhatt- Satellite
30/01/2019	Shri Atmaramdas Cheldas Patel – Vaduwala Nirat Bharatbhai Mistry Science city

List of devotees who rendered their services under Shree Swaminarayan Museum Maintenance Bhet Vojna January-2019

Rs.51,000/-	Akshar Nivasi Jashvantlal Amulakhbhai Doshi – through Rameshbhai J. Doshi-Ahmedabad upon completion of Ph.D.
Rs.18,100/-	One Haribhakta – Through Parshad Kanu Bhagat
Rs.14,100/-	Gopiben Ghanshyambhai Kakadia – U.S.A.
Rs.11,750/-	Charanbhet offered to H.H. Shri Gadiwala on the occasion of Abhishek on 10/01/2019
Rs.11,000/-	Mahendrabhai Ratilal Thakkar – Ahmedabad.
Rs.11,000/-	Dilipbhai Joitaram Darji – Sydney through Raginiben Dilipbhai Darji –Australia and Jigar Dilipbhai Darji, Hemangini Jigarbhai Darji
Rs.6,000/-	Prajapati Jiviben Bahecharbhai- Kolvada
Rs.5,001/-	Patel Hiren Arvindbhai – Itadara on the occasion of service.
Rs.5,000/-	Minaben K. Joshi –Bopal.
Rs.5,000/-	Kantaben Rohitbhai Patel – Kaliben.
Rs.5,000/-	Jiviben Chimanbhai Patel – Rajpurwala – Ranip.

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

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.



સંતસંગ બાલવટિકા

SATSANG BALVATIKA

Compiler Shastri Harikesavdasji (Gandhinagar)

GRAND DARSHAN IF YOU CHERISH MERCY

- Shastri Haripriyadasji (Gandhinagar)

Dear young friends! We all perform Bhakti of Bhagwan, we perform Bhajan, Prarthna. But when does Bhagwan listen to us? He listens when there is real call from the heart. And how does the real call come out from the heart? Let us understand this from this incident.

Once Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan directed the saints not to come to perform Darshan. The saints were very much unhappy such a sudden direction. They were not unhappy for living under the open sky under the adverse conditions of extreme cold or heat, they were not unhappy for not getting sufficient meals and they were not unhappy with any other difficulties but they were very much unhappy when they would not get divine Darshan of Shree Hari.

The troubled saints told this to Brahmanand Swami and asked him to find out the solution so that they can get divine Darshan of Bhagwan. After much thinking Brahmanand Swami thought that he is also suffering the same difficulty as these saints and so he told the saints that the solution would be found out.

Brahmanand Swami prepared a small letter and got it ready. Now who would go to hand it over to Maharaj! A young boy of 14-15 years was working in a farm situated

near Gadhpur. Brahmanand Swami called that boy and asked him to go to Darbar of Dada Khachar in Gadhpur and hand over this letter to Bhagwan Swaminarayan. The boy got ready for the task but on the condition that his work in the field should not get stopped and it should be continued. Brahmanand accepted the condition and told the boy that his work of the farm would be attended by him.

The boy goes to Shreeji Maharaj in the Sabha and hands over the small letter and tells that this letter has been given to him by a saint. This small letter is very much famous in our Sampradaya as all of us know the contents of this famous small letter of Brahmanand Swami addressed to Shreeji Maharaj. There is wonderful offering and sacrifice in this letter. First of all Swamiji addresses Maharaj:

સુણો ચતુર સુજાણ, એમ ન ઘટે રે તમને
દીનાનાથજી.

Prudence and mature understanding are associated with Maharaj and Maharaj has been addressed as Dinanath (Master and Care-taker of the deprived and poor people). Maharaj has been compared with Oxygen and the devotees with the patients. And it has been stated that, all of us have been performing our duties very devoutly and honestly.

અમે તમ કારણ સહ્યા મેણા, નાથ નિરખવાને
સુણવા વેણા

અમે તૃપ્ત નવ કીધા નેણાં.... સુણો ચતુર સુજાણ

When we move in the society we are humiliated and people scorn us. But we tolerate all this for Maharaj. We cherish only one desire and that is to perform divine Darshan of Bhagwan. We want to listen pious Vachan from Bhagwan. I have just become Sadhu and now I am facing the drought – the drought (lack) of Darshan of Bhagwan.

**અમે લોક લાજ કુળની લોપી, અમે કહેવાયા
ગીરધરની ગોપી**

અમે તમ કારણ પહેરી ટોપી.... સુણો ચતુર સુખણ

We have been following your direction and in letter and spirit. We have total ignored what the people are telling. However, we are happy and contented with the words being told by the people wherein they would identify us as 'Sadhu of Swaminarayan'. These words are like nectar to us. We have sacrificed our everything. We have abandoned everything, our wealth, our pride, our knowledge, our prudence everything.

**પહેલી ખીત કરી શીદને આગે, દૂધ દેખાડીને માયા
સંગે**

પછી તેને તે કેવું વસમું લાગે... સુણો ચતુર સુખણ

Hey Maharaj! You are omniscient. Please look at our plight and our desire both. If you wanted to abandon us then why you created utmost affection in our heart towards you. You are making us hungry and thirsty and then not offering even milk though holding a vessel full of milk in your hand. We are hungry for divine Darshan of Parmatma. Earlier you granted us this divine happiness of divine Darshan and now you have been forbidding us from performing divine Darshan. How unhappy we are in our heart? Whom can we tell our unhappiness? To whom we make our complaint?

**કાંઈ દયા આવે તો દર્શન દેજો, નહી તો અખંડ
અંતરમાં રહેજો**

**એમ શ્રીરંગના સ્વામીને કહેજો.... સુણો ચતુર
સુખણ**

It is our experience that you are very merciful and none of our any aspect can stand against You. We don't want to argue anything. We have come seeking Your shelter. None of our any complaint has any base but just keep one thing in kind. If You really think that these saints are true then please kindly grant us divine Darshan.

After reading this letter and the message contained in it, Shreeji Maharaj immediately asked that boy to bring the saints. The boy returns and conveys the message of Shreeji Maharaj to Brahmanand Swami. Brahmanand Swami conveyed the message of Maharaj to all the saints. And all the saints virtually ran and rushed towards Gadhpur and entered the sabha-mandap and performed Dandwat Pranam to Shreeji Maharaj. Shreeji Maharaj embraced each of these saints and told them, "All of you are My Life. You are My everything. You are My wealth and You are My heart." And all the saints were very much happy.

Friends! In Kirtan created by Brahamanand Swami there is real call coming out of the heart. So if we also pray from the bottom of our heart, Bhagwan will certainly listen to our prayer and will fulfil our desires.

TEST OF INTELLECT

- Narayan V. Jani (Gandhinagar)

Test of Examination in any field of life is very essential aspect. Even a young child passes his examinations one by one and progresses one step up in his life. Examinations of the studies are over but the examination and test of life start thereafter. School examinations are intimated in advance. But in life there is no prior intimation of any examination. However, during such test or examination, real nature of a human being comes out. Every human being has one or the other speciality. If we can identify his speciality and work suitable to his aptitude is entrusted with him, a very good result can be obtained. Let us know about one such incident.

In one village people were living happily and peacefully. There was abundant water and so agriculture and

business had developed quite in the village and resultantly the villagers were happy and prosperous. There was a huge Haveli in the centre of the village. This Haveli looked like a big palace. Sheth was residing in this Haveli. He was the leader of the village and was a virtuous person. His noble qualities were known in the nearby villages.

This Sheth had three sons who grew up with the course of time. Both Sheth and his wife had made all the efforts to inculcate noble qualities in them, despite their hectic schedule and this was evidently visible now in their grown up children. All these three young sons were very virtuous and so they started helping his father in his business. All the three sons were married with virtuous girls and these newly married daughters-in-law had taken up the household responsibilities upon themselves. The wife of Sheth also wanted to hand over these responsibilities to her new daughters-in-law but before doing so she wanted to test them. So she gave them a fist of grains to each of her daughters-in-law and asked them to return her these one fist of grain after two years when she would demand it from them. Initially none of these daughters-in-law understanding anything but they took the grains.

The eldest daughter-in-law did not think it proper to preserve the grains and she strew the grains on the ground for the birds thinking that after two years she would give one fist of grains from Kothar, as Kothar was full of grains.

Second daughter-in-law took the words of mother-in-law in letter and spirit and preserved the grains in the cupboard alongwith ornaments and jewellery.

Third daughter-in-law thought that the grains would be better preserved in the farm so she sowed the grains in the farm and within six months this grains were turned into five kg in weight. The process of

sowing in the farm was done again and at the end of two years the grains were full of a bullock cart.

Upon completion of two years, all the three daughters-in-law were called by the wife of Sheth and asked them to return the grains. The eldest daughter-in-law immediately rushed and brought one fist of grains from the Kothar and upon asked she narrated everything. Second daughter-in-law brought one fist of grains from the cupboard kept with the ornaments and the jewellery and upon asked she narrated everything. Third daughter-in-law brought the bullock-cart full of grains and she narrated what she did with the grains.

Wife of Sheth entrusted the task of treasure of house to the youngest daughter-in-law. The second daughter-in-law was entrusted with the responsibility of preserving the gold and ornaments of the house. And the eldest daughter-in-law was entrusted with the responsibility to perform benevolent tasks such as organizing Katha-Parayan, Yagna etc.

The smart and appropriate distribution of work and responsibility by the wife of Sheth was praised by all as this distribution of responsibility was keeping in mind aptitude and expertise of each of these daughters-in-law. If this is done properly, success is bound to come.

Friends! From this it becomes clear that, every human being has something special in him which he can use for the betterment of the society. If work is entrusted appropriately keeping this speciality in mind, success is sure. And therefore, Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has given directions in Shloka-66 of the pious 'Shiksha Patri' : "A man should be inspired towards any work as per his inclination and his capacity but he should not be inspired to such a work towards which he is not inclined."

॥ भक्तिसुधा ॥

BHAKTI-SUDHA

'WE HAVE TO BE ALERT EVERY MOMENT OF OUR LIFE AS TO HOW WE SAVE OURSELVES FROM KARBANDHAN ?' FROM THE BLESSINGS OF H.H. SHRI GADIWALA (ON OCCASION OF SATSANG SABHA OF EKADASHI IN KALUPUR TEMPLE HAVELI)

- Compiled by Kotak Varsha Natvarlal-Ghodasar

We do not get anything without Karma. We have to perform our Karma and it is human nature to perform Karma. It is very difficult to perform Prarthna leaving Karma. Because when we start performing Dhyana leaving everything aside, our mind starts roaming in all directions. And to think is also a kind of performing Karma, this results into 'Karbhandhan'. And so nobody can remain without performing Karma. This is so because every human being possesses all the three qualities of Prakriti in different proportion. But dominance of any of these qualities is determined on the basis of Karma. Some people are born in Brahmin family and so their main aim is to acquire knowledge and disseminate this acquired knowledge among others in the society. This displays the dominance of Sattva-Guna. Some people are born in Kshatriya family and so the rule over others. This displays dominance of Rajas-Guna. And a person in whom there is dominance of Tamo-Guna remains engaged using his powers for harming others. Thus every human being is inspired by his basic temperament. A Brahmin cannot take arms in his hands, a Kshatriya

cannot teach others but he can rule others at any place even if you send him to the forest and a businessman will see and look for an opportunity of business even at the place of pilgrimage. The meaning is that, the dominance of Guna lying in us cannot go anywhere and it always remains with us throughout our life. Wherever you go your temperament will accompany you. And therefore one need not run away from this world for becoming free from Karbandhan. What is required is to understand our duties and never to crave for its result for ourselves. These Karmas can be understood in three stages – 'Kriyaman', 'Sanchit' and 'Prarabdh'. Action being done through our mind, words and action is called 'Kriyaman' Karma. Every Karma does not yield its result immediately. This Kriyaman Karma converts into Sanchit Karma and its result is received after certain time and it is granted by Bhagwan because only Bhagwan can grant its result. And when these Sanchit Karmas take solid form and shape 'Prarabdh' of a person is changed. And our Prarabdh Karmas are the reason and the same is also known as Karma Bandhan.

So while doing any action due care is to be taken and we have to be careful about certain type of karmas which are to be done and certain type of karmas which are not to be done so that they do not become our Karma Bandhan. For that we need to be aware and conscious constantly. We have to do everything after giving complete thought over it. We are very much aware about our day to day activities such as the

meals to be prepared in the kitchen for the day, clothes to be worn, people to meet and we are also conscious about our beauty and our outward appearance. Similarly we have to be alert and conscious for the beauty of our Atma. We take medicines as precautions so that we do not get sick. Similarly, we have to choose and follow such a path of Karmas so that our Karmas do not convert into Karma-bandhan. In certain time, all of us observe and witness that, we are unhappy for no any reason or due to none of our actions of this life and despite the fact that we have been living a virtuous life. In that case, it is our Prarbdh and we suffer miseries due to our Prarbdh Karma-Fal. So we need to develop an approach of not blaming others for our miseries. We have to forgive others and seek forgiveness also. We have to express our gratitude of others for whatever good we get from them. This may appear very difficult to understand and more difficult to implement. But this is possible. We have to always remember for ourselves that, we are not this body but Atma. And everything is done by body and not Atma. Anybody is capable of not doing wrong in his life. We can think about its adverse effects and result and we can prevent ourselves from doing such actions which may harm us. We can presume, assume about its outcome and ultimate result. So we are responsible for whatever we have been doing in our life. We may also raise a question that if every action is converted into Karma-bandhan then why this freedom has been given to us by Shreeji Maharaj? Reason is that we are Atma and so there is an iota of Parmatma in all of us and so we have also an iota of that supreme capability of doing anything and everything. And therefore choice is in our hands. And for that we need to have willingness. All of us have selected Parmatma and therefore all of us are sitting here in the pious company of

Bhagwan. If we remain attached at the lotus-like feet of Parmatma we would not be trapped in the fish-net of Maya. This Maya dominates this world. It is like minister but that minister does everything under the directions of the king. Our mind is king and this Maya is the minister. There is need of a minister in the affairs of the State; similarly there is need of Maya but we mistake this minister for the king and we get entrapped in it.

POOJA

- Sankhyayogi Kokilaba (Surendranagar)

Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan has bestowed a number of ways and means for kalyan of innumerable Jeev of this whole Brahmand. Anant Koti Muktas, Mumukshus and all trifle living beings have worshipped Him. Temples have been got constructed and idol images have been invoked in all these temples so that people can worship Him in these temples. Different eleven types of photo-images have been got prepared from the painter Shri Narayanbhai and have been offered to the devotees for worship.

There is only one Parmatma worthy to be worshipped. Word 'Pooja' has been derived from Dhatu 'Pooj' and presence of our matters is considered essential in it. (1) Poojak – a person performing pooja (2) Pujyapatra – One who is to be worshipped or offered Pooja (3) Pooja-Samagri – things by which Pooja is to be performed and (4) Pooja-vidhi – method of performing Pooja. Presence of all these four ingredients is essential for success of the whole action of pooja. Besides this, presence of other four things is considered essential. (1) Bahya and Aantrik Shuddhi (2) Concentration of mind (3) Swaroop of Ishtadev and (4) Inner Nishkam Bhakti-

Bhaav. There is no selfishness in Pooja as it requires only selfless love. In Pooja nothing is to be received and everything is to be offered.

There are two letters in the word 'Pooja' – 'Pa' and 'Ja'. 'Pa' means 'Paapkarma' and 'Ja' means 'Janmantar'. So by performing a ritual – paap of jan-janmantar are destroyed – is known as pooja. The utterance 'U' is inseparably associated with the letter 'Pa' in this word 'Pooja'. And this utterance-'U' means protection. So by performing pooja one gets protection. Another utterance 'Aa' is inseparably associated with the second letter 'Ja' in this word 'Pooja. And this utterance –'Aa' means to return.

This Jeev is separated from Jagadishwar (Parmeshwar) and gets associated with Maya and by association with a divine action this Jeev is again separated from Maya and returns to Jagadishwar and this divine action is known as 'Pooja'. Pooja is protection-Kavach of Mumukshu Jeev. There is poisonous snake in the form of this Samsar and Jeev is Noliya who purifies everyday. Noliya needs to smell the leaf of Nolvel in order to protect itself from the poisonous effect of biting of snake. Similarly a Jeev is required to perform pooja time and again in order to save itself from poison of this Samsar. So Pooja is the simplest way of surrendering self to Bhagwan.

Shuddhi for Pooja : prior to beginning pooja, Poojak needs to purify himself in all respect. Poojak should purify himself from within and from outside. He should cleanse his body and its organ completely. Water being used for pooja should also be sieved properly to ensure its purity. The water to be used for taking bath should also be clean and pure and

untouched and unused by others. Pooja cannot be performed without taking bath and Parmatma cannot be pleased without performing Pooja. So Pooja is based upon purity of Snan.

Only one cloth should be worn after taking bath and our body should be covered with one upper cloth. All utensils meant for Pooja should be clean. The ladies devotees performing pooja should wear clean and completely washed clothes. Similarly the cushion to be used for sitting while performing pooja should be clean and washed. It should not be dirty and unwashed.

Following rituals are to be done during Pooja : Aahvan, Aasan, Padya, Ardhya, Aachman, Snan, Vastra, Yagnopavit, Chandan, Akshat, Pushp, Dhoop-deep, Naivadya, Mukhvaas, Aarti, Pradakshina, Namaskar, Mantrapushpanjali, Naam-jap, Prarthna and Visarjan. Pooja should be performed using all these rituals. Pooja should be performed with purity of heart and with utmost devotion and affection towards Bhagwan. Pooja should not be performed mechanically.

'Shiksha Patri' should be read invariably after completion of pooja-ritual. Those who cannot read should listen the louder reading of the scripture. Thereafter path of Janmangal Stotra should be performed. Kshama-Yachna should be performed at the end of Visarjan ritual and thereafter one can engage himself in worldly affairs.

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'आपो इश्यो स्नेह भगवान् साधे'

- Labhuben Manubhai Patel (Kundal,
Tal. Kadi)

Bhaktimarg is considered to be the best way of obtaining pleasure of Parmatma in this Kaliyug. Common people perform

Bhakti of Bhagwan viz. lighting lamp, offering garland, Thaal etc. to Bhagwan and perform aarti of Bhagwan. This is the meaning of worship of Bhagwan for the common people. But Naradmuni has stated that, Bhakti is form of Prem. If we cherish utmost love and affection towards Bhagwan – it is known as Bhakti. If a devotee cherishes craving to perform divine Darshan of Bhagwan in his heart – it is Bhakti. He enjoys company of Bhagwan in all conditions of his life. And he remains happy in all the situations considering them as blessings and offerings of Bhagwan only. Bhagwan can be known better only by performing Bhakti.

He is very lucky who has found out Bhakti Marg for himself and who has been following this Bhakti Marg in his life. Because after performing Taap, Daan, Samadhi etc. for thousands of years he is absolved off his sins and becomes eligible to perform Bhakti of Bhagwan. Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan is Pragat Purushottam and resides in all the idol images invoked by Acharya Maharaj and in all the scriptures. Sadguru Shri Nishkulanand Swami has explained it better in 'Sneh-Gita' how to perform ardent Bhakti of our this Bhagwan.

A devotee should cherish utmost love and affection towards Bhagwan only. Even the demon king Ravana was a devotee of Bhagwan Shiva and he used to carry Shivlinga made of gold with him and used to perform pooja-ritual and Bhakti of this Shivlinga – the idol image of Bhagwan Shivji. But his goal was to obtain Vardaan in order to get absolute power and all the wealth and pleasures of this world. He did not cherish utmost love and affection towards Bhagwan. Compared to Bhakti of this demon king Ravana, Japa, tapa, Tirath, Yagna, Daan, Punya and Navadha Bhakti being performed

by an ardent devotee of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan are more valuable.

“જપ તપ તીરથ જોગ યજ્ઞ સ્નેહ સમાન નવ
દેખિયું,
દાન, પુણ્યને વ્રતવિધિ કરે, ભક્તિ નવધા કોય,
સ્નેહ વિના સરવે સુનું જેમ ભોજન ધૂત વીણ
હોય.”

Bhakti of Bhagwan is worthless without selfless love and affection. It is like flower without fragrance and lake without water in it. There are people who merely show off their Bhakti towards Bhagwan but in fact they get entangled in Maaya of Samsar.

A real devotee who has been cherishing utmost love and affection towards Bhagwan always remains busy in his divine pleasure. When Arjuna was sleeping in the lap of Bhagwan Shree Krishna, Rukshmaniji asked Bhagwan, “Why are you cherishing utmost love and affection towards Arjuna?” at this Shree Krishna asked Rukshmaniji to bring her ears close to the hair of Arjuna. When Rukshmaniji brought her ears close to the hair of Arjuna, she heard ‘Shree Krishna Sharanam Mama’ Mantra coming from each and every hair of Arjuna. Gopis had also performed similar type of ardent Bhakti of Bhagwan Shree Krishna.

Due to this unique Bhakti performed by Gopis with sheer love and affection their name and fame are sung even today:

“ભૂત ભવિષ્ય વર્તમાન માં
કોઈ એ સ્નેહ તુલ્ય નથી આવતું.
નિષ્કુળાનંદના નાથજીને,
સ્નેહ વિના નથી ભાવતું.”

Only those devotees who cherish such an ardent love and affection in their hearts towards Shreeji Maharaj obtains pleasure of Bhagwan.

શ્રી શ્રી
શ્રી શ્રી

Celebration of grand Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of Shri Acharya Maharaj, grand Shakotsav was celebrated by our H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur on 06/01/2019 during pious Dhanur Maas. Thousands of haribhaktas and ladies devotees availed the benefit of this divine Prasadi. With the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Kothari J.K. Swami, Bhandari J.P. Swami, Bhakti Swami etc. saints and haribhaktas had rendered beautiful services. (Shastri Swami Naranmunidasji)

Celebration of Grand Shakotsav in village Ola (Kalol)

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, on 18/12/2018 grand Shakotsav was celebrated along with Katha-Varta, Kirtan etc. by Haricharan Swami (Kalol), Mahant P.P. Swami (Gandhinagar), Shri Vallabh Swami (Isand) etc. saints and devotees of Ola during the pious Dhanur Maas wherein many ladies devotees and Haribhakta of village Ola had rendered their inspirational services. About 800 Mumukshus had availed Mahaprasad of Shakotsav. (Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji – Gandhinagar)

Grand Shakotsav in village Gota

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and under the guidance of Shastri P.P. Swami (Mahant of Gandhinagar), grand Shakotsav was celebrated on 30/12/2018 in village Gota. On this occasion Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji, Shasri Vrajbhushan Swami etc. saint Mandal from Kalupur had arrived and narrate katha-Varta and had performed divine Vaghar of Shakotsav was benefit was availed by about 1000 devotees. With such a beautiful initiative and through Satsang Sabha beautiful Utsav will be celebrated in the

time to come. (Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji -Gandhinagar)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Himatnagar

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul and with the inspiration of Mahant Swami Premprakashdasji of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Himatnagar, grand Shakotsav was celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm on 30/12/2018. On this occasion, saints from Vali, Biliya, Kalupur, Laloda and Sapawada had arrived and had narrated Vato of Leela of Shree Hari. All had rendered very inspirational services. During pious Dhanur Maas, Shree Hari Namsmaran Dhoon was performed. On 31/12/2018 oratory competition was organized by Bal Mandal. On 03/01/2019 Annakut prepared by the devotees was offered to Shree Hari. On 10/01/2019 essential things were distributed to Adivasi people of Dahod district. (Vipul Bhagat, Himatnagar temple)

Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Unava

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru mahant Swami Adharmnashakdasji and with the co-operation of all haribhaktas of village Unava, grand Shakotsav was celebrated on 14/01/2019 with great fervor and enthusiasm. On this occasion Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Mahant of Gandhinagar temple) and Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Gandhinagar) had provided guidance. Akshar Nivasi devotee Naranbhai Makanda Patel and Akshar Nivasi devotee Surajba Naranbhai Patel family had rendered services as the host devotees of this divine occasion. All haribhaktas availed the benefit of Katha-Varta which were narrated by the saints and availed the benefit of Prasad of Shakotsav. (Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji – Gandhinagar)

Grand Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Lavarpur

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Mahant of Gandhinagar temple) and with the support of all haribhaktas of village Lavarpur, grand Shakotsav was celebrated on 05/01/2019 in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Lavarpur. Trustees of the temple and Yuvak and Mahila Mandal had

rendered their beautiful services. Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji had explained the importance of Shakotav and also narrated Katha-Varta. About 1500 devotees of the village and nearby villages availed the benefit of divine Shakotsav. (Kothari, Lavarpur)

Tridinatmak Ratriya Katha in village Bapupura (Mansa)

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Shrimad Satsangjivan Tridinatmak Ratriya Katha was organized by Shree Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal run by Shree Swaminarayn temple, Bapupura from 07/01/2019 to 09/01/2019 during the pious Dhanur Maas. The whole village had rendered ardent services of mind, body and money on this occasion.

Sadguru Shastri Swami Chaitanyaswaroopdasji (Gandhinagar) was the spokesperson of this Katha wherein importance of Sarvopari Shree Hari was narrated. Aarti of concluding ritual of Katha was performed by Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji (Kalupur) and Sadguru Mahant Shastri P.P. Swami (Gandhinagar). All devotees had cherished noble Sankalp of organizing similar type of programme during the next year. Koathri Shri Dr. Jayeshbhai had praised the services rendered by all the devotees. (Swami Ghanshyamjivandasji – Gandhinagar)

Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah Parayan in Jetalpurdham

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Mahant Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdasji of Jetalpurdham and Shastri P.P. Swami and Mahant Shri K.P. Swami and with the noble sankalp of devotee Shri Natvarbhai Gordhandas Patel and Madhubahi Natvarbhai Patel of village Gamdi, Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah Parayan was organized from 07/01/2019 to 13/01/2019 wherein Sadguru Shastri Swami Purushottamprakashdasji (Jetalpurdham Shri P.P. Swami) was the spokesperson. H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwalashri, H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj graced this occasion and blessed the host devotee family and all the devotees. Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees from various places had also arrived on this occasion. All Utsav-Janmotsav during Katha-Parayan were celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm. Thousands of Mumukshus from the villages like Jetalpur, Gamdi, Bareja, Aslali, Navagam, Barejadi, Mahijada, Paldi, Kankaj,

Vasai, Dascroi had availed the benefit of listening of Katha. Accepting the invitation of the host devotee family, many of their family members from America had also arrived especially to avail the benefit of this divine occasion.

Saint Mandal of Jetlapur, staff, Brahmin students and all devotees of Jetalpurdham had rendered their inspirational services on this occasion. (Mahant Shri K.P. Swami- Jetalpur)

Grand Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalol (Panchvati)

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, on 22/01/2019 grand Shakotsav was celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm. On this occasion Shari P.P. Swami from Jetalpurdham, Shri K.P. Swami, Bhakri Vallabh Swami, Shri Hariprakash Swami of Makansar, Brahmchari Swami Hariswaroopanandji (Chhapaiya), Bhanu Swami and saints from Ratanpar, Kalupur and Jamiyatpura had also arrived. The whole arrangement was made by Mahant Swami Vishwaprakashdasji of Kalol temple, Mahant Shastri Swami Devswaroopdasji of Mansa and Shri Narnarayandev Yuvak Mandal, Koathri and Mahila Mandal had rendered their inspirational services. All haribhaktas availed the benefit of inspirational speeches of the saints. (Mahant Swami – Kalol)

Sadguru Vandana Mahotsav in Lalol (Tal. Idar)

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and in the pious company of Sarvopari Shree Ghanshyam Maharaj of Shree Swaminarayan temple, Laloda and with the blessings of Akshar Mukta Sadguru Gopalanand Swami, Sadguru Vandana Mahotsav was celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm from 17/01/2019 to 23/01/2019 in the memory of Sadguru Shastri Swami Ghanshyamjivandasji who lived for 106 years while rendering services and performed divine Darshan of five generations of Dharmvanshi and made this land his Karmabhumi for 70 years and who rendered as Mahant Swami of Idar temple thrice. The grand arrangement was made by Sadguru Swami Vishwaprakashdasji and Sadguru Swami Balkrishnadasji wherein Shrimad Bhagwat Saptah Parayan, Akhand Dhoon, Padyatra etc. programmes were organized. Sadguru Shastri Swami Bhaktinandandasji (Jetalpur) was the spokesperson of Katha whose divine benefit was

SHREE SWAMINARAYAN

availed by thousands of devotees and all Utsavs during Katha were celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm.

H.H. Shri Gadiwala, H.H. Shri Mota Gadiwala and H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had graced this occasion and granted the benefit of divine Darshan and blessings to all the devotees. During the whole programme saints, Parshads, volunteers, Mahila Mandal and Yuvak Mandal had rendered inspirational services. Saints and Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees from various places had arrived on this occasion. (Sadhu Balkrishnadas – Laloda)

Grand Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Mehsana

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the arrangement of Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji of Mehsana temple and Shastri Uttampriya Swsami and with beautiful guidance of Shastri P.P. Swami and Shastri Atmaprakashdasji, on 23/12/2018 grand Shakotsav was celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm. Simultaneously, 10 hours Akhand Dhoon was organized in connection with Dasabdi Patotsv of Mehsana temple which will be celebrated from 17/02/2019 to 21/02/2019. Aarti of concluding ritual of Akhand Dhoon was performed by Shastri P.P. Swami of Jetalpur.

Haribhaktas from Mehsana, Motap, Karshanpura, Devrasan, Kada, Visnagar, Kanpura, Tejpura, Martoli, Kherva etc. places had availed the benefit of Shakotsav of Mehsana temple. (Hitendrasinh Raol – Mehsana)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Visnagar (Lal Darwaja)

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, re-innovation ritual of Shree Hanumanji-Ganpatiji was performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Concluding ritual of two days' Pratistha Yagna was also performed by H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj. Saints from various places had arrived on this occasion.

At last H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj had granted blessings. Beautiful Shakotsav was also organized on this occasion whose benefit was availed by about 1800 Haribhaktas. All haribhaktas of the village and Kothari and Yuvak Mandal had rendered beautiful services. (Kothari – Visnagar)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Motap

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and

blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the guidance of Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji of Mehsana temple and Shasti Uam Swami and with the beautiful arrangement by devotee Shri G.K.Patel, Ashokbhai grand Shakotsav was celebrated on 06/01/2019 at the place of Prasadi of Shree Hari with great fervor and enthusiasm. Shri P.P. Swami etc. Saint Mandal had granted the benefit of Katha-Varta.

Saints and Haribhaktas from various places had arrived on this occasion. Aarti of Shree Makhania Lalji whose poojan was performed by Sadguru Gopalanand Swami and offer to devotee Tulsidas was performed by saints and Haribhaktas. Devotees of village Motap and nearby villages had availed the benefit of Shakotsav. (Parth G.K.Patel)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Ghinoj

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Sadguru Shastri Swami Atmaprakashdasji and Shri P.P. Swami of Jetalpurdham and with the guidance of Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji of Mehsana temple and Shastri Uttam Swami, Shrimad Bhagwat Dasm Skanda Parayan was organized from 25/12/2018 to 29/12/2018 with Sadguru Shastri Swami Chandraprakashdasji (Bilia) as the spokesperson. On the first day H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj graced the occasion and performed Abhishek-aarti of Thakorji of the temple and blessed the Sabha organized on the occasion. (Hitendrasinh Raol – Mehsana)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Karshanpura

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj, Mahant Swami Narayanprasaddasji of Mehsana temple had arrived alongwith the saint mandal in the temple in the morning at 6.00 hours on 05/01/2019 during the pious Dhanur Maas and had performed aarti of Thakorji and had performed Mahamantra Dhoon from 6.00 to 7.00 hours in the morning with all other devotees. (Kothari Shri Chaturdas Patel, Karshanpura)

Dhanur Maas Dhoon and Shakotsav in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Dholka

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the guidance of Sadguru Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji and with the beautiful arrangement of Kothari Swami Satyasankalpdasji and in the pious company of Shree Morli

Manohardev Harikrishna Maharaj, Shree Swaminarayan Dhoon was performed during the pious Dhanur Maas from 16th December 2018 to 14th January 2019. For the last many years, Dhanur Maas Dhoon Parva is being celebrated here wherein haribhaktas from Chaloda, Sakodara, Simej etc. villages participate. Saint Mandal of the temple has performed Satsang Sabhas in villages of Dholka Desh during the pious Dhanur Maas and has conducted beautiful activities.

Grand Shakotsav

On 13/01/2019 grand Shakotsav was organized in Dholka temple. On this occasion Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Harikrishnadasji of Kalupur temple, Sadguru Mahant Swami Jagdishprasaddasji, Sadguru Shastri Swami Raghuvircharandasji (Sokli) etc. saints had performed divine Vaghar of Shakotsav and had narrated divine importance of Dholkadham. Sabha was conducted by Swami Sarjidasji. About ten thousand Haribhaktas had performed Shakotsav and availed the benefit of Prasad. (Poojara Sureshchandra Ramjibhai)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Bopal

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, beautiful Bal Sabha is being organized in the morning on every Sunday in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Bopal. Religious education is being imparted to all the students as per Shree Narnarayandev Religious Education.

On 16th December Sports Day was organized for the children from 9.00 to 11.30 hours and various outdoor games and physical exercises were conducted in AUDA Garden for the students so that they become aware about their health and they may prevent the side adverse effects upon their health and studies due to excessive mobile games. (Pravin Upadhyay)

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Modasa

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Shastri Swami Akhileshwardasji of Mathura temple, Shree Hari Naam Smaran Dhoon was organized during the whole Dhanur Maas in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Nalanda-2. Sachidanand Swami (Lunawada) and Shastri Harijivandasji had narrated katha-varta. Ladies devotees of Shree Ghanshyam Mandal had prepared and offered various types of delicious items to Shree Hari during the whole month. (K.B. Prajapati)

MULI DESH

Shakotsav at divine Gyanavav in Mulidham

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Radhakrishnadev of Mulidham and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Swami Shyamsundardasji of Muli temple, grand Shakotsav was celebrated on 05/01/2019 at Gyan Wav (step-well) which was shown to Sadguru Brahmanand Swami by Shree Hari in the form of Bharwad at the time of construction of the temple of Mulidham. This way is still present there. So those devotees who have not performed divine Darshan of this divine place of Prasadi, they should perform Darshan of this divine place of Prasadi.

Saints and Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees from various places had arrived on this occasion. With the inspiration of Mahant Swami many devotees rendered the services as the host devotees of this Shakotsav. Thousands of devotees and Haribhaktas of Mulidham availed the benefit of this divine Shakotsav. Sabha was conducted by devotee Shri Shailendrasinh Zala. All the arrangement for the kitchen was made by Kothari Swami Krishnavallabhdasji. Vraj Swami, Ghanshyam Swami, Gyan Swami and Bharat Bhagat had rendered all other services. (Shailendrasinh Zala)

Dhanur Maas Dhoon in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Surendranagar

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Radhakrishnadev of Mulidham and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadguru Swami Premjivandasji of Surendranagar temple and with the beautiful guidance of Sadguru Kothari Swami Krishnavallabhdasji, Shree Swaminarayan Mahamantra Dhoon was organized in the morning after Mangala aarti during the pious Dhanur Maas from 15/12/2018 to 14/01/2019 wherein about more than 1000 devotees participated.

Everyday various types of items of Prasadi were being distributed. Shastri Swami Premvallabhdasji and Shastri Swami Satsangasgardasji had narrated beautiful Katha-Varta. Group Homatmam Mahapooja and Prasad were organized on 14/01/2019 for host devotees of one month Mahamantra Dhoon. (Shailendrasinh Zala)

Shakotsav in Dhrangadhra

With the blessings of Paramkrupalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions and blessings of H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadj Maharaj and H.H. Shri

Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala, grand shakotsav was organized on 23/12/2018 by Sankhya Yogi Kanchanba and her disciples in the campus of temple which is at present under construction. About more than 3000 devotees participated in this Shakotsav. Bhakrihariswami and saint mandal of Mulidham had narrated Katha-Varta on this occasion. Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees from Halvad, Unja, Morbi and Surendranagar had arrived on this occasion. Panji Bhagat and other devotees had rendered their beautiful services on this occasion. (Anil Dudhrejiya – Dhrangadhra)

Shree Harikrishnadham, Ranjigtadh

With the blessings of Paramkripalu Shree Narnarayandev and 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, grand Shakotsav was celebrated on 29/12/2018 in Shree Harikrishnadham, Ranjigtadh. Saints from Morbi, Surendranagar, Bapunagar etc. places had arrived on this occasion. Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees from various places had also arrived on this occasion. Sadguru Swami Bhaktiharidasji had narrated importance of Sarvopari Shree Hari and Dharmkul. Satsangi students had performed a drama on this occasion. Thousands of devotees availed the benefit of this divine Shakotsv. Devotee Shri Rameshbhai Joshipura had rendered inspirational services. Sabha was conducted by Vishwavandan Swami. (Representative Anil Dudhrejiya – Dhrangadhra)

13th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies devotees) Akhiyana

With the blessings of Paramkripalu Shree Radhakrishnadev of Mulidham and with the directions of H.H. Shri Acharya Maharaj and the whole Dharmkul and with the inspiration and blessings of H.H. Shri Laxmiswaroop Gadiwala, 13th Patotsav of Shree Swaminarayan temple (ladies devotees) Akhiyana was celebrated on 31/12/2018 with great fervor and enthusiasm. H.H. Shri Gadiwala graced this occasion and performed Annakut aarti and blessed all the ladies devotees in the Sabha organized on this occasion. Sankhya Yogi ladies devotees of Surendranagar temple had arrived on this occasion and had narrated Katha-Varta. Devotee

Shri Hasubhai Patel had rendered beautiful services. (representative Anil Dudhrejiya – Dhrangadhra)

OVERSEAS SATSANG SAMACHAR

Shree Swaminarayan temple, Hyustan (America)

With the blessings of Paramkripalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions of Shree Narnarayandev Pithadhipati H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj and with the blessing of the whole Dharmkul and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj and with the inspiration of Mahant Sadhu Suvratdasji Mahamantra Dhoon, Kirtan, Tridinatmak Katha were organized in our Hindu Shree Swaminarayan temple on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and beautiful Mahapooja was organized on Sunday. Devotee Shri Pravinbhai and Parekh family and Chintan Patel and Vishal Patel and Gopalbhai Shah family had rendered the services as the host devotees. Suvrat Swami had narrated beautiful Katha. The host devotees were honoured by the saints. Prasad was arranged for all the four days and the devotees who rendered their services for the same were praised. (Pravin Shah)

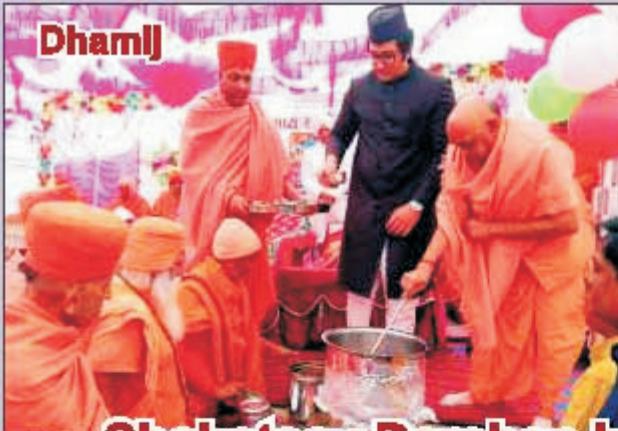
Dhanur Mass Dhoon in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Colonia

With the blessings of Paramkripalu Shree Narnarayandev and with the directions of Shree Narnarayandev Pithadhipati H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj, H.H. Shri Mota Maharaj and H.H. Shri Lalji Maharaj, Shree Hari Naam Smaran Dhoon and Kirtan - Katha were performed during the pious Dhanur Maas in our Shree Swaminarayan Hindu temple at Colonia. Under the guidance of Poojari Swami Vishwavaharidaji Shree Nishkulanand kavaya Haribal Gita was read over in the morning from 6.30 to 7.15 during the pious Dhanur Maas. Katha of Leela of Shree Hari was also narrated. On the last day Mahapooja was performed by Bhudevs. The host family and the guests were honoured with garlands on this occasion.

Devotees had also rendered their beautiful services in the kitchen. Many devotes availed the benefit of Dhoon during pious Dhanur Maas. (Pravin Shah)

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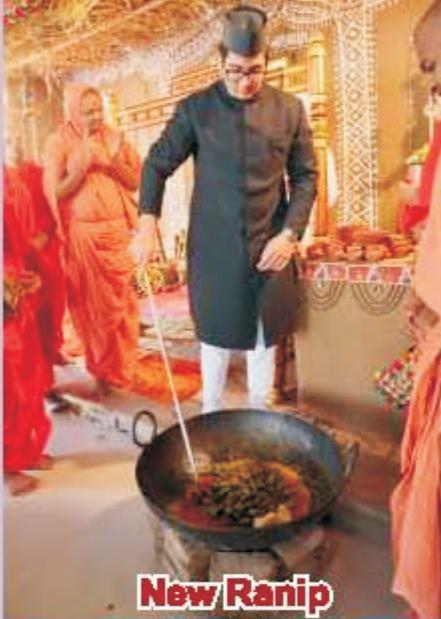


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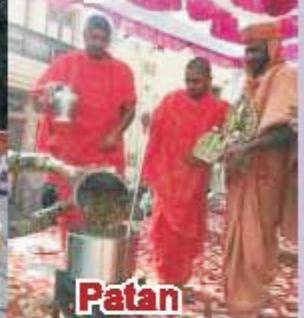
Shakotsav Darshan In our varlous temples



New Ranip



Gandhinagar Sector-2



Patan



Nikol



Motap



Mahadevnagar



Adishwarnagar-Naroda



Modasa-Dhanur Maas



Karshanpura



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(1) British High Commissioner and his team visiting our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Kalupur to perform divine Darshan of Shri Narnarayandev. (2) Shakotsav Darshan in our Shree Swaminarayan temple, Toronto (Canada). (3) H.H. Shri Acharya 1008 Shri Koshalendraprasadji Maharaj granting Darshan in the samba organised in Shree Swaminarayan temple, Langata Nairobi.

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