

A Publication of the Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati

Devdham of North America

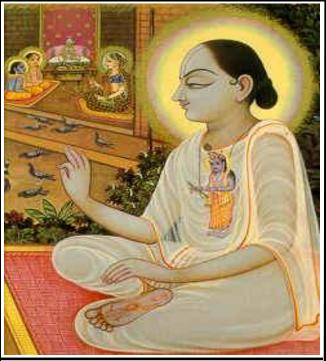
Website: Phone: Email:

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528-3714 hindusociety@fuse.net **Aradhana**

Chaitra/Vaishakh Vikram Samvat, 2064 April 2007

Happy Tamil New Year Shri Vallabhacharya Jayanti



Shri Mad Vallabhacharya (Shri Mahaprabhuji)

Sunder Kand Path is held on 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30 A.M. Shri Ganesh Atharvshirsha Path is held on every 4th Sunday of the

Balaji Abhishekam is held on every 4th Saturday of the month from 10:30AM.

Murugan Abhisekam Please see details inside.

Shiv Mahima Stotra is held on every Monday evening at 7:00 pm. **Shri Hanuman Chalisa** is held on every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm. Vishnu Sahasranama Prayana is held on every Thursday at 7:00 pm. Satya Narayan Puja will be held every month on Purnima (Full Moon-

Navgrah Puja every first Saturday of a month at 4:30 P.M.

Upcomming Event Details Article on Hanuman Jayanti

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LIFE SKETCH OF SHRIMAD VALLBHACHARA

Shrimad vallabhAcharya was the fifth and last Acharya (great scholar and an. authority) (1479-1531CE= 1535-1587 VS) of Hindu religion. Shri Shankar Acharya (788-820CE), Shri RamanujAcharya (1017-1137CE), Shri BasavannAcharya (1131-1167CE), Shri MadhavAcharya (1238-1317CE) were the predesors of Shri vallabhAcharya and they all revived, refurbished and reformed Hindu religion. Their philosophy about the Soul and Bhram was of Advaita (non-dualism), Vishishta Advaita (Qualified non-dualism), Vishishta Advaita (Qualified non-dualism), Dvaita (Dualism) respectively and the philosophy of Shri vallbhAcharya was of Shuddha Advaita (Pure non-dualism).

Vallabh was his given name and ACHARYA was the honorable degree awarded to him in the royal court of Raja Krishna Dev Raya as an outstanding deliberator, debater and a great scholar on Vedas and all Hindu scriptures. The period was 1492CE (1548 VS) when Shri Vallabh, at the age of thirteen, came out as a winner among the greatest exponents of his time.

Birth

Shri Vallabh was born on Chaitra Shukla Ekadashi (Varuthini Ekadashi), Sunday, 1535 VS (1479 CE) in Champaranya near Raipur, Chhattisgadh State, India. The parents Shri Laxman Bhatt and Illamagaru were the descendents of Yagnanarayan Bhatt, to whom the Lord had promised that on completion of 100 Somayagnas the Lord himself would be born in his family.

Originally from Andhra, Laxman Bhatt was settled in Banaras for some time. They lived on Hanuman Ghat on the bank of river Ganga. In the Year in which Shri Vallabh was born there was a fear of invasion and violence in the city. So he left Banaras with his pregnant wife to go to his native village Kankarwad in Andhra Pradesh. During the journey they halted in the little forest of Champaranya.

Continue On page 7

Note: If you or someone you know, is not receiving ARADHANA, or if you need a change in address, please contact Mr. Mohan Chopra at 859-331-2416

Deadline for submission of articles and advertisements for the next issue is April 10th, 2007

SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS AT THE TEMPLE

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Rameshwar Dayal 474-4051

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Co-Editor:

Aashish Shah: 942-8264

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984-6074 **Bobba Chaudhary**

Property Management & Maintenance:

Prem Garg 232-5333

Cultural Activitie:

Jyoti Desai 745-0876

Religious Education & Youth Activities:

Nandini Kallapur

Long Range Planning:

Jitu Patel 459-8900

Youth Member:

Surabhi Sharma 807-5081

Priests:

Acharya Kailash Sharma 770-0705

Sri Devnathan Sivachar 528-4831

Sri V. Thirumalachari 528-3957

Attorney:

Aronoff, Rosen & Hunt 241-0400

Temple Mgr.:

Laxmi Srivastava 474-0533

Accountant: Open

Editor: Meena Mehta 574-6763 Co-Editor Aashish Shah 942-8264

email: minaash@hotmail.com,

aashish.shah@vahoo.com

Sanskrit & Hindi Classes In The Temple

Every Friday - 7 p.m. To 8 p.m.

If you need help to read GEETA or any of your favorite stotra.

Please Call. Aachary Kailash Sharma Home 770-0705 Temple 528-3714

Email- acharvaksharma@vahoo.com

RELIGIOUS DISCOURSE

Sundays 12:15 - 12:45 PM

First Sunday: Upanishads

Second Sunday: ChildrenProgram Third Sunday: **Sunder Kand Path** Fourth Sunday: Shri Ganesh

Atharvshirsha Path

Fifth Sunday: Open (Please Suggest)

Members of the community are invited to speak on topics related to Hindu religion, Philosophy, culture, reformation, Gurus, self-preservation, etc. If you would like to talk or like to suggest someone who may be interested, , please call Bobba Chaudhary at 513-984-6074

SPONSORS FOR SUNDAY PUJA

Devotees are requested to sit-in Sunday Pujas as well as bring Prasad and Lunch. You may wish to use this occasion to celebrate important events such as wedding anniversaries, birthdays, ishta devata puja, graduation, and other memorable days. Events can be hosted by individuals, families, groups of families or organizations. Please reserve your Sunday of choice ASAP by putting your name and phone-no in the calendar at the temple and calling Bobba Chaudhary at (513) 984-6074

TEMPLE SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday: 9:00AM-12:00 Noon

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Aarti

Saturday, Sunday

9:00 AM - 8:00 PM & US Holidays

SPECIAL PROGRAM ON WEEKENDS

Suprabhatam 9:15 - 9:30 A.M. 9:30 - 11:00 A.M. Daily puja of Temple Deity 11:00 - 11:30 A.M Sponsored Puia 11:30 - 12:15 A.M Bhajan 12:15 -12:45 P.M. Religious discourse 12:45-1:00 P.M. Birthday and Anniversary puja and announcement

1:00 P.M.

Important Notice:

Your Temple needs

1. Sponsors for flower \$50/week

2. Sponsors for Sunday puja

3. Your temple needs your support

Please Donate Generously for your Temple

"A man is great by deeds, not by Birth."

Chanakya quotes (Indian politician, strategist and writer, 350 BC-275BC)

2007 POOJA COMMITTEE & **RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES**

MEMBERS

To participate in/ sponsor please contact a Pooja Committee chairperson & member.

Babba Chaudhary: 984-6074

K.C. Sharma(Priest) 770-0705 Sri. Devnath Sivachar(Priest) 528-4831 Sri. V. Thirumalachari (Priest) 523-3714

Seeking for new Puja Committee Members so Please volunteer and call Bobba Chaudhary.

- Archana performed during temple hours by sponsorship. No Archana on Sundays between 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Outside puias and other religious services will be conducted by appointment only. To schedule please contact Puja Committee chairperson at least one week in advance.
- If you would like to bring food and prasad in the temple, Please contact Puja Committee chairperson.
- Cancellations of puja should be done 3 days in advance or else the full fee for the puja will be charged

Temple Manager's Committees

Laxmi S. Srivastava-Temple Manager 474-0533

1.Office Manager

Mr. Mohan Chopra

2. I/C Swami Lectures

Vinay Kumar Laxmi S. Srivastava Devdas Mukerjee

Laxmi S. Srivastava

3. Temple Data Base Nandkumar Khemchandani Mohan Chopra

4. Anniversary & Birthday

Raj & Shakuntla Agarwal

5. E-mail Data Pradeep Goval Nandkumar Khemchandani

6. Membership & Gift Shop

Yashipal Agarwal A.C. Sekhar Meena Sondhi

7. Computer Technical Support

Sreedhar Suvarana

8. Financial Data Ramesh Sondhi Raj Bodalia

Mohan Chopra Laxmi S. Srivastava

9. I/C Temple Web site

Bharat Vala Anand Narayana Khush Karamchandani Laxmi S. Srivastava

10. Consultants

V. Rao Bhamidipati Prem Garg Anil lindal

11. I/C Temple Calendar

Meena Mehta Ashwin Mehta Janak Dave K.C. Sharma (Priest)

12. I/C Volunter Services

Vijay Kumar Laxmi S. Srivastava

Published Monthly . Circulation: Approx. 1600 Families. Advertising Rate: Full Page \$250; Half Page \$125; Quarter Page \$80. A 10% discount is given for 12 consecutive repetitions of he same advertisement. Hindu Society of Greater Cincinnati is a non-profit organization that caters to the needs of a large community. The views expressed by individual authors in Aradhana" are their own and may not reflect the policies of HSGC. Hindu Temple of Greater Cincinnati, 4920 Klatte Road, Cincinnati, OH-45244, PH:(513)528-3714

Important Events					
April 2007					
04/01/07	Hanuman Jayanti(Sunderkand path)				
04/02/07	Satya Narayan Puja Purnima Full moon				
04/08/07	Mahavir jayanti Celebration				
04/15/07	Tamil New year				
04/22/07	Shri Vallabhacharya Jayanti Celebration				
April 26, 27, 28,	Venkateshwar Special (Samvatsarotsava) Puja				
04/29/07	Shri Jagannath ji puja				

Puja Committee Announcement:

A group of dedicated devotees for each deity are nominated to help puja committee to coordinate and celebrate different puja activities. We need members for 2007 committee so, please call Baba Chaudhrury.

If you have any question or suggestion about temple activities, please call Babba Chaudhury at 984-6074

To schedule a Puja or to rent a temple hall (lower level) please contact Puja Committee Chairperson Babba Chaudhury at 984-6074

Important Dates for May 2007

May 2 May 6	Satya Narayan Puja 6:30pm Shrinath Ji Hindola (Jhula)
Way O	Celebration
May 13	Sunday Sunder Kand Path
May 16	VatSavitri Puja
May 17	Adhik Maas Begains
May 18	
19 &20	Temple's 10th Anniversary Celebra-
tion	
May 26	Venkteswar Kalyanam Puja
May 27	Ganesh Puja
May 28	Memorial Day.

New puja rates will be in effect from 1st March 2007.

-Bobba Chaudhuary
Puja Cammittee Chair Person

RATES FOR PUJA &	PRIEST SERVICES	
SERVICE	IN	OUTSIDE
	TEMPLE	TEMPLE
Abhishekam (All Deities)	\$101.00	
Aksharabhyas	\$101.00	\$151.00
Anna-Prashanam	\$101.00	\$151.00
Ashtottharam (108) Archana	\$21.00	
AyushyaHomam/B'day Celebration	\$101.00	\$151.00
Ground Breaking Ceremony		\$151.00
Griha Pravesh		\$151.00
Kalayana Uthsava (Lord Ram/ Sita)	\$121.00	
Kesh Khandan (Churakaran)	\$101.00	\$151.00
Nam-Karan	\$101.00	\$151.00
Navagraha Puja	\$101.00	\$151.00
Nischitartham (Engagement)	\$151.00	\$251.00
Nitya (1 Day) Kainkaryam (Seva)	\$101.00	
Poolangi Seva (With Flowers)-	\$101.00	
(Only During Off Winter Season)		
Sahasranama (1008) Archana	\$51.00	
Sathyanarayana Puja	\$101.00	\$151.00
Seemantham	\$101.00	\$151.00
Devi Jagaran	\$75.00	\$101.00
Akhand Ramayan Paath		\$151.00
Shashti Poorthi (60th B'day Celeb.)	\$101.00	\$151.00
Anniversary celebration	\$101.00	\$151.00
Suprabhat Seva	\$21.00	
Unjal (Swing) Seva	\$31.00	
Upakarma (thread changing)	\$51.00	
Upanayam/Brahmopadesham/	\$151.00	\$251.00
Thread Ceremony		
Vahan Pooja	\$51.00	
Yearly Shradham (Barkhi)	\$101.00	\$151.00
Wedding	\$301.00	\$501.00
SPECIAL PUJA RATE		

SPECIAL PUJA RATE

- Rates for Mata Ki Chauki performed at another temple will be 15% of the money collected at the temple or a minimum of \$ 501.00.
- Pujas performed by priests outside the temple will be rated according to the number of pujas performed.
- 3. 32 Cents/Miles for Travel expanse to the Priest to perform puja at your home.

Rates are subject to change without notice. Rates for pujas not on the list and requiring less than 4 hours of priest's time will normally be \$51 if performed inside the temple and \$101 if performed outside of temple (e.g. at home). Rates of Pujas out of Greater Cincinnati will be \$100.00 more than the rates of outside puja within greater Cincinnati area.

Temple Rental: Lower Floor Only					
	Full day	1/2 day			
M-Th. (except holidays)	\$301	\$151			
Fri., Sat & Holidays	\$501	\$351			
Sunday after 3PM only		\$351			

Note: For half day select one of the two.

8:00 AM - 2 PM OR 4PM - 11 PM

Temple rental applies to all private reservations for those events/pujas that are performed by private parties and not announced in the temple.

Security/ Cleaning deposit: \$151 required. This deposit will be forfeited if the basement hall bathrooms and kitchen area are not cleaned by the party renting the place.

NOTE: To schedule a Puja or to rent a temple hall (lower level) please contact_puja Committee chairperson only.

Events at the Temple

Navgrah Puja

Every first Saturday of the Month April 7th Saturday ,4 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. Sponsors needed for Puja \$51.00 For Details please call Bobba Chaudhury 984-6074 Devnathanji 528-4831,or Temple priest at 528-3714

Murugan Puja

Monthly Abhishekham
April 15th 2007 Sunday , 10.30am to 1:00pm
Sponsored by : Murugan Group.

Please contact Bobba Choudhary 984-6074. Temple 528-3714 Sri Devnathan Shivachariar 528-4831

Satya Narayan Puja

On Purnima (full moon day) at 6:30 P.M. April 2nd Saturday , 5:30 PM

Sponsorship \$ 51.00

To sponsor puja, please call Babba Chaudhury 984-6074 Temple priests: 528-3714

Sundar Kand Path

April 1st Sunday, 10:30 AM

Sponsors needed please call. Bobba Choudhary 984-6074.

Acharya Kailash 770-0705 Temple 528-3714 for details

Shri Ganesh Puja & Shri Ganesh Atharvshirsha Path

Every 4th Sunday of the month

This puja is dedicated to each month's Sankashti Chaturthi to Lord Ganesh.

For more information & Sponsor the pooja please call .

 Anuradha Kulkarni
 271-2749 Uma Sangvai
 793-9384

 Kiran Dayal
 474-4051 Temple
 528-3714

ABHISHEKAM/KALYANOTSAVAM FOR LORD SRI VENKATESWARA

On 4th Saturday of each month from 10:30 AM-12:30PM. **To sponsor and details please call any of the following:**Anand Konda: 481-4119 Vasundhara Dasari: 777-3353 Suseela Paturi: 867-8591 Vicheta Pemmaraju: 398-9833 Sailaja Gannamraj: 697-1412 Usha Indrakanti: 583-5995 Priest Sri Tirumalachari: 528-3957.

Vishnu Sahasranama Parayana

Vishnu Sahasranama Parayana (chanting) will now take place every Thursday at 7 pm in the temple. Please join us for the chanting.

For more information, please contact the priests at 528-3714

CALENDAR 2007

The New Calendar for the year 2007 is being put together by our team and it has been mailed out to HSGC patrons. The calancers are available in the Temple at the gift shop. Theme for this Calendar is "NavDurga Shakti and Her 9 Forms."

Meena Mehta c.c.c.

Bhagavad - Geeta Class

For children and parents (Presented by CHESS Balvihar)

- ⇒ Bhagavad-Gita is the manifest quintessence of all the teachings of the Vedic scriptures.
 Adi Sankara
- ⇒ The Bhagavad-Gita is the most systematic statement of spiritual evolution of endowing value to mankind. It is one of the most clear and comprehensive summaries of perennial philosophy ever revealed; Its enduring value is subject not only to India but to all of humanity.
 -Aldous Huxley

Join us in understanding and appreciating the timeless wisdom of the Bhagavad-Geeta.

<u>When:</u> Fourth Sunday of the month, 11am to 12:45pm <u>Where:</u> The Hindu Temple <u>Taught by:</u> Sri Koti Sreekrishna,

Notes with transliteration guide (Sanskrit to English) provided.

Contact:

Manju Gupta 232 - 3331

Nandini Kallapur 321- 1513 Vasanta Vemuri 232- 5767

Soundarya Lahari Lessons

Mrs. Rajani Raghu has offered to teach "Soundarya Lahari" to interested devotees. Class is scheduled for the first Sunday of the month at 11am, at the Temple. Class will begin in March.

About "Soundarya Lahari:

"Soundarya Lahari "containing about 100 slokas written by Sri Adi Sankaracharya. The slokas are in praise of Goddess Lalitha Devi and are meant to be sung based on particular ragas. Contact: Nandini Kallapur – 321-1513

Some Important Dates:

Mahavir Jayanti Celebration April 8th
Tamil New Year Celebration April 15th
Shri Mahavir Jayanti

Celebration April 8th

Shri Vallabhacharya Jayanti

Celebration April 22nd

Temple's 10th Anniversary

CelebrationMay 20thGraduation HavanJune 10thRath Yatra CelebrationJuly 22nd

Nand Mahotsava

Celebration Sept. 9th

More information and details to follow

Upcoming Events

Hanuman Jayanti Celebration

On April 1st Sunday 10am to 1 pm 10:00 am Shri Hanuman Puja With Sindoor 10:30 108 Sunderkand path

We need 108 devotees for path. Please come on time to participate in path.

Please call Acharya Kailash 770-0705. Sangita Patel 791-0855 Dr. U.K. Patel 985-0084

Temple (513)528-3714 to give your names

Mahavir Jayanti Celebration

There is a change in Date. Which will be announce in Upcoming Aradhana.

Tamil New Year Celebration

Murugan Puja

Sun. 15th, 2007 10:30am-1pm

Sponsored by -Murugan Group

Please call Temple 513-528-3714,

Devnathan Sivachariar 528-4831.

MATA KI CHOUKI

April 21st, Saturday

4pm To 8 pm

Sponsored by-Acharya Kailash & Jyoti Sharma & Family.

For details please call Temple 513-528-3714

Temple's 10th Anniversary Celebration & Chandi Yagya

On May 18th 19th &20th Details coming up in next month's issue.

Shri Vallabhacharya Jayanti Celebration

on April 22nd Sunday 11am to 1 pm Sponsored by: Shri Nathii Satsang Group For details please call

Meena Mehta 574-6763. Jyoti Desai 745-0876 Puspa Shah: 755-1789, Vasu Shah 942-8264 Meena Shah 733-9357, Temple 528-3714.

BHOO NEELA SAMETA SRI LAKSHMI VENKATESWARA CHARA BIMBA PANCHAMA VAARSHIKA MAHOTSAM APRIL 26TH, 27TH AND 28TH, 2007

SUDARSHOMAM ABHISHEKAM KALYANOTSAVAM

April 26, 2007- Thursday

6:00 PM: Kalasa Sthapana 6:30 PM: Sudarsana Homam April 27, 2007- Friday

6:30 PM Abhishekam for Utsava Moorthy April 28, 2007- Saturday

9:30 AM: Suprabhatam 10:00 AM: Asta Lakshmi Pooja 11:00 AM: Kalyanotsavam 12:30 PM: Pushpanjali 1:00 PM: Maha Mangala Harati 1:30 PM: Mahaprasada Viniyogam and Lunch

Sponsorship for all three events: \$101.00 Sponsorship for Sudarsana Homam or Kalyanotsavam 51.00

To sponsor please call any of the following:

Anand Konda: 481-4119 Vasundhara Dasari: 777-4453 Suseela Paturi: 867-8591 Vicheta Pemmaraju: 398-9833 Sailaja Gannamraj 697-1412 Usha Indrakanti:583-5995 Priest Sri Tirumalachari: 528-3957

Shri Jagannath Puja

April 29th 11am to 1 pm

Call Temple for details 513-528-3714 Booba Chaoudhury984-6074, Acharya Kailash770-0705. Swarna Choudhary 232-2343



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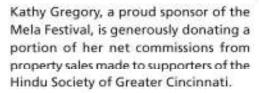


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The terror and the physical strain of the journey suffered by Illamaji resulted in the birth of 2-month premature baby which showed no vital signs. Parents, sadly, wrapped the baby in the cloth, left him under the tree in the forest and retreated to the nearest village to rest. It is believed that God appeared in a dream that night and signified to the parents that He has taken a birth as their child, which they have abandoned as dead. The parents immediately returned to the place. They found the divine baby protected by the ring of fire around him. The astonished mother extended her arm to pick the baby up and it is said that fire gave her the way.

They stayed in nearby Chauda Nagar for sometimes and performed initial Sanskaras of Namkaran (naming the child). When conditions became normal and peaceful the family returned to Banaras.

Education

Shri Vallabh was a brilliant child. When all the other children of his age were busy playing with toys, Shri Vallabh played with books. When he was 6 years old Shri Laxman Bhattji engaged best teachers to teach Aksharbhashya to Shri Vallabh. In no time Shri Vallabh learned all the things that the teachers could teach at times surpassing the teachers with his sharp reasoning and brilliant thinking powers.

When Shri Vallabh was nine years old Shri Laxman Bhattji performed the *Yagyopavit Sanskara* (thread ceremony) of his two sons (Shri Vallabh had an elder brother, Shri Ramchandra Bhattji). Soon afterwards the best teachers were employed to teach subjects such as *Adhyatma Vidya* (education of the Vedas) and *Shad Darshan* (six systems of Indian Philosophy) to them. Shri Vallabh acquired command on these subjects within only two years of initiation at the tender age of 11 years Shri Vallabh began discussing the intricacies of the meaning of the various doctrines such as Vishishtadwaita, Kewaladwaita, and Dwaita etc. in a most critical manner. This surprised all those who met him.

When Shri Vallabh went to visit his uncle in Vidyanagar a *Shastrarth* (a deliberation on Hindu scriptures and philosophy) was in session for several days, between the *Vaishnavas* and the *Mayavadins*. Shri Vallabh came to know from the locals that the Mayavadins were going to win the debate in a day or two. Upon hearing this Shri Vallabh decided to participate and went to the court of Maharaja Krishnadev Rai where the conference was held.

When Shri Vallabh entered the court the courtiers and the participants of the debate were so profoundly astonished to see divine beauty of thirteen-year-old Shri Vallabh that they were left speechless. They were equally amazed to know that a child of such a small age was ready to enter into a discussion with the greatest exponents of his time. Shri Vallabh then started asking questions to the *Mayavadins*, who till then were on the verge of winning the discussion. The *Mayavadins* had no answer to the questions asked by Shri Vallabh and they finally accepted defeat after 27(?) days. On this day Shri Vallabh established a new school of thought known as the *Shuddhadvaita* (*Shuddha-a- dvaita i.e. pure-non- dualism*).

Krishnadev Rai honored Shri Vallabh with the *Kanakabhishek* (to weigh him with the equal amount of gold) and also presented him the vast amount of wealth. Shri Vallabh took only 7 gold coins as a token to start to construct a temple of Shrinathji in Jatipura and gave the remaining wealth to the poor.

Shri Vallabh completed 3 *Prithvi Parikramas* (*circumnavigation of the land*) during his lifetime. Shri Vallabh's aim of undertaking these *parikramas* was to meet as many people as possible and teach them his Shuddhadvaita Vaishnav philosophy/Pushti Sampraday/PushtiMarg Vaishnav Sampraday. Shri Vallabh wanted to reach all the *Daivi Jeevas* (divine souls) and to initiate them by giving the *Brahmasambandh Diksha*.(Brahma=God, Sambandh = relation, Diksha = initiation i.e. to start a relation with God.) He met several *Daivi Jeevas* during the three *Parikramas* and gave the *Brahmasambandh* to many Vaishnavas in 1548 VS (1492CE). Today there are more than 9 million Pushti Vaishnavas all over the world.

The father, Shri Laxman Bhatt passed away when Vallabh was 11yrs. old. He had finished all his studies and wanted to explore the land and spread his understanding and philosophy.

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At this time, at the age of 11yrs.Shri Vallabh decided to start his first *Parikrama*. By tradition he needed mother's permission to do so. Widow Illamaji was shocked and refused to give him such permission. It was necessary for Shri Vallabh to go to Vraj where Lord Shrinathji was waiting for him. Shri Vallabh thought a way out of the situation. Shri Vallabh is believed to be the incarnation of god *Agni* (Fire). By his wish his house caught fire. Shri Illamaji quickly ran out of the house but Shri Vallabh stayed inside. On seeing his son not coming out Shri Illamaji started screaming, "Get out...! Get out of the house!!"Shri Vallabh interpreted this as mother's permission to go on a *parikrama*. He convinced the mother received her blessings and promised her to be by her bedside in her last days. Thus at the age of 11yrs. (1546VS=1490 CE) he set out for his first Parikrama starting from Vraj. He completed the three *parikramas in 7, 4 and 7 years respectively* and delivered 7days Katha on Shrimad Bhagavat (Bhagavat Saptah) at 84 different places through out India. Those places are known as 84 Bethakaji. All Bethakaji are the pilgrim places for Vaishnavas. Then he settled in *Adel* near Allahabad.

During all the three parikramas Shri Vallabh imposed three ardous rules on himself. They were:

Do the parikrama barefooted. (He walked 12000 kms. barefooted).

Never enter a village or city but always stay on its outskirts.

Never wear stitched clothes. (He wore only a *dhoti* and *Uparana* (a small piece of cloth to cover the body).

Shri Vallabh during his lifetime gave *Brahmasambandh* to many Vaishnavas but Shri Hariraiji picked 84 from them as the ideal Vaishnavas and their tales (known as the 84 Vaishnavas' Vartas) have been written so that the Vaishnavas of today can follow Pushtimarg in the same way those 84 Vaishnavas had practiced Pushti-Marg.

Four of the *Ashta sakhas* (Eight Devotee/Friend) of Pushtimarg, namely Shri Kumbhandasji, Shri Surdasji, Shri Krishnadasji & Shri Paramananddasji were the disciples of Shri Vallabh. The others namely, Shri Chaturbhujdasji, Shri Vishnudasji (Nanddasji), Shri Chhitswami and shri Govindswami were the disciples of his son ShriViththalnathaji (Gusainji). All of the *Ashta Sakhas* have written and composed beautiful *Kirtans* (devotional songs) in Vraj-Bhasha, in the praise of Lord Shrinathji. They are sung even today in the temples (Havelies) of Pushtimarg and the form of its music is popularly called Haveli Sangeet. The *Bhav* (*expressions*) in those Kirtans are uncompeted to this very day. Shri Surdasji is the most famous amongst the *Ashta Sakhas* who has composed 125000 *Kirtans* during his lifetime (108 Years).

Construction of the temple at Jatipura and started the Sewa Pranalika.

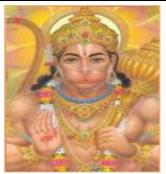
Shri Vallabh came to the *Giriraj parvat* at Jatipura during his first parikrama (1549 VS=1493CE). Shri Nathaji (Shri Govardhannathji) ordered him to build a temple for Him. Immediately a small temple was erected and the Pranpratishtha ceremony of the Lord was performed on Shravan Shukla 13 in 1549 VS. It is said that Shriji had also given a dream to a Vaishnav Shri Puranmal Kshatri, in Punjab to come to Jatipura to help and finance to construct a new and larger temple. The new temple was completed and 2nd Pranpratishtha ceremony of ShriNathaji (2nd Patotsav) was performed on Vaishakh Shukla 3 (Akshya Trutiya) in 1575 VS (1520 CE). Shri Vallabh started the simple Sewa pranalika, which was slowly elaborated by his son Shri Mahaprabhuji and is carried on to this day by the Vaishnavas of Pushtimarg. Thus the Pushtimarg, the Path Of Grace and Devotion, the Path of complete surrender was founded by Shri MadVallabhAcharya.

Aasur-Vyamoha Leela

When Shri Vallabh was 52 years old Shriji ordered him to leave this world and come to Him. Before this Shriji had come twice in front of him with the same demand but He had to go back as Shri Vallabh had insisted that some important work was still to be done. That third time Shri Vallabh honored Shriji's wish and decided to do the *Asur Vyamoha Leela* (leave this world). He went to the Hanuman Ghat in Varanasi (Banaras) and took a *maun vrat* (observe silence) for 17 days. At the completion of this period he called both of his sons and wrote a *stotra* of 3¹/2 *shlokas* known as the *Shiksha Shloki* as the final message to them. After giving his final teaching he entered the river Ganges and a brilliant flame arose from the spot and he ascended to GauLoka (Aboard of Lord Vishnu) on Ashadh Sud 2 1587 VS (The Rath Yatra Day). During his life span he wrote 39 granthas and innumerable Kirtans and left the legacy of Pushti behind for his followers.







Yatra yatra raghunatha kirtanam; Tatra tatra krita masthakanjalim; | Vaspavaari paripurna lochanam; Maarutim namata raakshasantakam | |

"We bow to Maruti, Sri Hanuman, who stands with his palms folded above his forehead, with a torrent of tears flowing down his eyes wherever the Names of Lord Rama are sung".

Jai Jai Hanuman gosaee | Kripa Karahu gurdev ki Naee

SRI HANUMAN is worshipped all over India—either alone or together with Sri Rama. Every temple of Sri Rama has the *murti* or idol of Sri Hanuman. Hanuman was the Avatara of Lord Siva. He was born of the Wind-God and Anjani Devi. He is also called by the names Pavanasuta, Maruti, Mahavira, Bajrangabali and Pavankumar.

Hanuman was the living embodiment of the power of Ram-Nam. He was an ideal selfless worker, a true Karma Yogi who worked desirelessly. He was a great devotee. He served Sri Rama with pure love and devotion, without expecting any fruit in return. He lived only to serve Sri Rama. He was humble, brave and wise. He possessed all the divine virtues. He did what others could not do—crossing the ocean simply by uttering Ram-Nam, burning the demon-king's city of Lanka, and bringing the sanjeevini herb to restore the life of Lakshmana.

Hanuman possessed devotion, knowledge, spirit of selfless service, power of celibacy, and desirelessness. He never oasted of his bravery and intelligence. He said to Ravana, "I am a humble messenger of Sri Rama. I have come here to serve Sri Rama, to do His work. by the command of Sri Rama, I am fearless by the Grace of Sri Rama. I am not afraid of death. I welcome it if it comes while serving Sri Rama."

See how humble Hanuman was! How deep was his devotion to Sri Rama! He never said, "I am the brave Hanuman. I can do anything and everything." Sri Rama Himself said to Hanuman, "I am greatly indebted to you, O mighty hero. You did marvelous, superhuman deeds. You do not want anything in return. Sugriva has his kingdom restored to him. Angada has been made the crown prince. Vibhishana has become king of Lanka. But you have not asked for anything at any time. You threw away the precious garland of pearls given to you by Sita. How can I repay My debt of gratitude to you? I will always remain deeply indebted to you. I give you the boon of everlasting life. All will honor and worship you like Myself. Your idol will be placed at the door of My temple and you will be worshipped and honored first. Whenever My stories are recited or glories sung, your glory will be sung before Mine. You will be able to do anything, even that which I will not be able to!"

Thus did Sri Rama praise Hanuman when the latter returned to Him after finding Sita in Lanka. Hanuman was not a bit elated. He fell in prostration at the holy feet of Sri Rama.Sri Rama asked him, "O mighty hero, how did you cross the ocean?"Hanuman humbly replied, "By the power and glory of Thy Name, my Lord."Again Sri Rama asked, "How did you burn Lanka? How did you save yourself?"And Hanuman replied, "By Thy Grace, my Lord." What profound humility Hanuman embodied in himself!

There are many who want wealth in return for their services. Some do not want wealth, but they cannot resist name and fame. Others do not want any of these, but they want approbation. Still others want nothing, but they boast of their deeds. Hanuman was above all these. That is why he is recognized as an ideal Karma Yogi and an unsurpassed adept in Bhakti. His life is full of object lessons. Everyone should try his best to follow the noble example of Hanuman. His birthday falls on Chaitra Shukla Purnima—the March-April full moon day.On this holy day worship Sri Hanuman. Read the *Sri Hanuman Chalisa which is very powerful and fruit full because* The writer of Hanuman chalisa shri Goswami Tulsidas ji says that whoever reads this chalisa he/ she get everywhere success and Hanuman will be highly pleased and will bless you with success in all your undertakings, lord Shiva himself is the guarantor.

Jo yah padhai Hanuman Chalisa . Hai siddhi sakhi Gourisha | |

Siyavar Ram Chandra ki Jai , Pavansut Hanuman Ki Jai. Glory to his Lord, Sri Rama, Glory to Hanuman! || Happy Shri Hanuman Jayanti ||

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL ON THIS HAPPY OCCASION & BRING HAPPINESS, LONG LIFE and PROSPERITY In Year 2007

Marriage Anniversaries (April)*

Mr. & Mrs. Govins & Lata Gupta

Mr. & Mrs. Samir & Mangala Gupta

Mr. & Mrs. Harish & Geeta Hemani

Mr. & Mrs. Sanjay & Kavita Jain

Mr. & Mrs. Amarender & Saritha Karra

Mr. & Mrs. Vimal & Surekha Patel

Mr. & Mrs. Naravan & Surekha Srivastava





Birthday Anniversaries (April) **

Jalaja Anantharaman Rajgopal Arudi Sneha Arudi Ruchika Bajaj Arjun Bansal Puja Bhandari Ariun Bansal Puia Bhandari Sanjay Bhandari Chirag Bhola Choudary Bobba Priyanka Bodalia Vaishnan Brahmanmdam Indrakanti Chakravarthi

Parbir Roy Chaudhury Shelley Chopra Charles Colony Subir Das Deepak Dixit Rashmi Ghobar Anjali Verma Gupta Sumit Gupta Sumit Gupta Priya Jindal Steve Jindal Nikhar Jung Mina Karamchandani Jyoti Karnik

Indira Kukreti Pavalamani Kumar Sangeeta Nayak Madhavi Lakshmi Pappu

Priva Parikh Priva Parikh Ramesh Patel Kodhai Rajkumar Preethi Ramanivasan Aruna Reddy Vijaya Samadi Aditya Sahay Nikita Sandella Rahul Sandella Neeti Shankar Alevamma Sharma Vijay Sharma Alok Verma Saroj Viswamitra Jagit Yadav

Wishing you all, "Many many Happy returns of the Day"

*(celebrated on the first Sunday of each month)

** (celebrated on second Sunday of each month in temple)

Thought Of the Month:

"The fragrance of flowers spreads only in the direction of the wind. But the goodness of a person spreads in all direction."

Chanakya quotes (Indian politician, strategist and writer, 350 BC-275BC)

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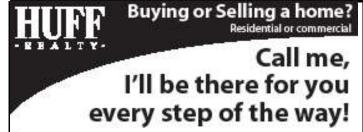


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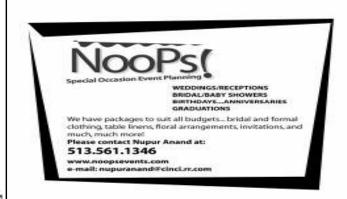
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Aradhana Editor
Meena Mehta @ 513-574-6763
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Aashish Shah @ 513-942-8264



Minutes of Executive Council Meeting February 4, 2007

Members present: Raj Bodalia, Ramesh Dayal, Prem Garg, Amar Sharma, Anil Jindal, Jyoti Desai, Nandini Kallapuri, Bobba Chaudary, and Siva Sivaganesan. Others Present: Aashish Shah (representing Meena Mehta)

The meeting started at 11 am with the members introducing themselves at the request of the president.

- ⇒ Priests' benefits were discussed. It was agreed that temple continue to absorb the increase in priests' health insurance cost. It was also agreed to offer a life insurance coverage to the amount of \$100,000 per priest on a 10 year term. Priests will have the option to increase this coverage at their cost.
- ⇒ The committee discussed severance payment to Punditji B.C. Sharma's family, and decided to pay (after consulting with tax and legal matters) one year salary to the family.
- ⇒ The issue of front gate and the doors at the main entrance needing work to make them properly functional was discussed. It was agreed that Prem Garg will get them repaired as soon as Spring season starts.
- ⇒ In light of the demand in the community for priests' services, the issue of whether the temple needs to hire two more priests, instead of just one more as currently planned, was discussed. The committee decided that hiring one more full time priest itself is a net-increase, as Punditji held a half-time position, and agreed to re-assess this issue, after the priest to be hired assumes duties.
- ⇒ EC was informed of ongoing efforts to install a pavement from Barg Salt Run Road and that a written agreement will be sought from a contractor and submitted for EC's approval.
- ⇒ The committee agreed on the need to install blinds for the windows in the main floor. Prem Garg and Bobba Choudary agreed to work on this project.
- ⇒ As the signature collection for changing the constitution is still underway, the committee decided to postpone the next general body meeting to June, 2007.

Siva Sivaganesan Secretary, EC

Young, Reverman & Mazzei



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