



DIVYA SANDESH

2008 SHARAD POORNIMA



Significance of Sharad Poornima

(A message by Sushri Braj Banchary Ji)

We are very pleased to publish the second edition of our quarterly newsletter "Divya Sandesh" on the auspicious occasion of Sharad Poornima.

Countless saints have descended and also God has descended numerous times. Due to so many auspicious events in our history each day of the year is celebrated as some festival. Out of all the festivals celebrated in Sanaatan Dharm, there is none more auspicious and important than Sharad-Poornima. It is on this day that Raaseshwari Shri Radha Rani and Shri Krishna showered the highest form of bliss – the bliss of Mahaaraas - on the deserving souls. During MahaRaas, Shri Krishna manifested himself in millions of forms and distributed unlimited love bliss continuously for one *kalpa* i.e. 4.32 Billion Years. Such was the bliss of Mahaaraas that even Lord Shankar assumed the form of a Gopi to participate in this ultimate and most intimate pastime of Shri Radha Krishna.



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On this auspicious day in 1922, Jagadguruttam Swami Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj descended in the small village of Mangarh in the state of Uttar Pradesh in India. Due to this historic and divine event this day holds even more importance for those who have accepted Shri Maharaj Ji as their Revered Spiritual Master. Shri Maharaj Ji descended at the stroke of midnight; this is the time when Mahaaras began in Seva Kunj in Vrindaban 5000 years back. Shri Maharaj Ji is an unparalleled saint of contemporary times and He propagates the rarest philosophy of selfless devotion and divine-love-bliss as prescribed in our ancient scriptures.

Shri Maharaj Ji has been propagating the message of *raganuga bhakti* from the young age of 15. *Raganuga bhakti* means the practice of spontaneous selfless devotion i.e. devotion devoid of all material or spiritual desires and meant only for pleasure of our Beloved Shri Radha Krishna. This ideology of love was revealed by Shri Radha Rani when She descended in Barsana about 5000 years back and was brought forth by Her eternal associates known as the Gopis.

The zenith of divine love is called *mahabhav* and the essence of *mahabhav* is *maadan - mahabhav*. Shri Radha is the embodiment of *maadan-mahabhav*. It is such a state of ecstasy that even absolute *Brahm* Shri Krishna cannot reach. This seat is reserved only for Shri Radha Rani.

सर्वभावोद्गमोल्लासी मादनोऽयं परात्परः ।
राजते ह्लादिनीसारो राधायामेव सर्वदा ॥ उ.नी

On the most auspicious occasion of Sharad Poornima we wish Shri Maharaj Ji a very happy birthday and offer countless obeisance's at his lotus feet. On this day we also pray at His lotus feet to grace us, so we will be instrumental, in accomplishing His mission, of spreading the purest form of Radha Krishna devotion in the entire world.

Badhai Ho

नाचो गाओ सब साधक समुदाय ॥
आज गुरु देव जनमदिन पुनि आय ॥
Nacho gao saba sadhak samudai,
Aaj gurudev janam puni aai.

O aspirants of divine love! dance with joy. Today is the auspicious occasion of the birthday of our Gurudev.

हम सब की उमर इन्हें लग जाय ।
युग युग जियें, ऐसी साधना कराय ।
Hama saba ki umar inhen laga jai,
Jug jug jiyen aisee sadhana karai.

All the aspirants wish to add all of their lifetimes together and offer it to our beloved master. So that he will live for ages and aide all in practicing devotion.

पुण्य पुंज से ही सब नर तनु पाय । सच्ची श्रद्धा हो तो सच्ची साधना कराय ।
Punya punj se hee saba nara tanu pai, Sachee shraddha ho to sachee sadhana karai.

We get human body due to our good deeds. Real *sadhana* is only possible when one has unwavering faith in a genuine saint.



मन से तो हरि गुरु स्मरण कराय । तन धन से जो बने सेवा कराय ।

Mana se to hari guru smaran karai, Tana dhana se jo bane sewa karai.

Our beloved master teaches us to engage our mind in loving remembrance of God and Guru. He also inspires all to offer physical help and wealth as well.

भुक्ति मुक्ति पिशाचिनी को मुँह न लगाय । माँगो दिव्य प्रेम नित सेवा बलभाय ।

Bhukti mukti daakini ko muha na lagai, Mango divya prem nit sewa bala bhai.

Our Guru says don't harbor desires of material gratification or liberation. Always desire to attain divine love and selfless service to God and Guru only.

अश्रु निष्काम मन शुद्ध कराय । तब दे "कृपालु" गुरु, प्रेम बलभाय ॥

Ashru nishkam mana shuddha karai, Taba de 'kripalu' guru prem bala - bhai.

The selfless tears of love purify the mind. Only in a clean receptacle can the Guru infuse the love for Shyam Sundar.

Selfless Love of Gopis

The love of Gopis is absolutely pure and exemplary. The sole goal of their love is to please their beloved and is devoid all desires of self-gratification. The Gopis do not ever think about themselves, their choices, interests or happiness, even for a moment. They are constantly engaged in making arrangements for pastimes of Shri Radha Krishna, so that Their pleasure and love for each other may increase. The ideology of 100% selfless divine love holds three main qualities:

1. The attitude of constantly offering everything to divine couple, with a pure feeling
2. They joyously engage in activities to please the divine couple. Their joy and engagement do not wax and wane based on the attention the Divine Couple gives to them. They don't have an iota of desire to attain self-happiness.
3. To feel I am not worthy of rendering any service to my beloved Shri Krishna or Swamini Shri Radha Rani. It is their generosity, kindness and grace that they are letting me do something for their pleasure. Thus, they feel extremely fortunate to serve them in any possible way. They are agnostic of whether they are close to the couple or far away from them.



A Gopi, says to Lord Krishna, "O my beloved Shyam Sundar! When you go to the forest to graze the cows, our hearts burn in the fire of separation all day long. Our hearts shudder at the thought of You walking bare feet on the thorns and stones in the forest. When you come back in the evening, we get a chance to bow down to your feet. To soothe our yearning, we earnestly want to embrace soles of your lotus feet. But we do not out of fear of hurting your extremely soft lotus feet."

As we can see, although the Gopis suffer from pangs of separation, yet they ignore their own pain and are miserable to see the signs of stones and thorns in His Lotus feet. Who can reach the depth of this love? None other than a gopi can understand these sentiments.

What is Mahaaraas?

अङ्गनामङ्गनामन्तरे माधवो, माधवं माधवं चान्तरेणाङ्गना ।
इत्थमाकल्पिते मण्डले मध्यगः संजगौ वेणुना देवकीनन्दनः ॥

(Questions and answers between Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj and one of His inquisitive devotees).

Q. Maharaj Ji ! What is the meaning of Maharaas?

A. The root word for Raas (रास) is Ras (रस) which means the nectar of Divine love bliss. Bliss itself is infinite. Then who can describe the highest bliss of *samartha rati*; bliss of those devotees, who love Shri Krishna as their Supreme beloved and Shri Radha as their Supreme Queen without any desire of self-happiness.



रसो वै सः

is an epithet of Lord Krishna which means “nectar of love.” There are many levels of this nectar. Hence, The Vedas again depict Him as

रसानां रसतमः परमः

“The Supreme Nectar”. Bliss could be attained even by the *gyanis*, who worship formless God. But the devotees of *samartha rati* attain the highest level of ever-increasing love-bliss of Shri Radha Krishna.

Q. Can a human being attain Maharaas?

A. Sure. Any human being, who practices *madhurya bhav bhakti* under the guidance of a Rasik saint of *madhurya bhav* can attain it. Their philosophy is

तत्सुखसुखित्वम्

“Find pleasure in the pleasure of the beloved”.

In other words, under the guidance of a saint of *Gopi Prem* one has to exclusively love the Divine Couple. All of their actions and thoughts ought to be targeted to please the couple.

Q. Are ‘Mahaaraas’ and ‘Premanand’ synonymous words?

A. No. *Mahaaraas* is the highest level of *premanand*. There are many levels of bliss starting from *Brahmanand* or the bliss of the men of wisdom, who realize formless God and attain ineffable, infinite

and divine bliss. Then the levels of those devotees start, who love a personal form (SAKAAR) of God. Their bliss is called *premanand*. These levels, in ascending order, are

- *Daasya Bhav*: to adore God as a master,
- *Sakhya Bhav*: to adore God as a friend,
- *Vatsalya Bhav*: to adore God as son and
- *Madhurya Bhav*: to adore God as beloved. *Madhurya bhav* has three levels:
 - *Sadharani rati*: to adore God as beloved for self-happiness,
 - *Samanjasa rati*: to adore God as beloved for His happiness but rarely a slight feeling of self-happiness also occurs in this state,
 - *Samartha rati*: Completely unselfish adoration of Shri Krishna as beloved and Shri Radha as Swamini or governess. There is not even a trace self-happiness in any situation. They have the singleton desire to serve the divine couple to please Them. There is nothing beyond it. And, only the devotees of this level of love attain the bliss of *Maharaas*. They are rarest of rare amongst billions. Even Rukmini Ji, the head queen of Shri Krishna, could not attain *Maharaas* since sometimes a trivial feeling of self-happiness manifested in Her heart. The Bhagavat also asserts the same in Canto 10, chapter 47, verse 60

नायं श्रियोगंग उ ... सुन्दरीणाम् ॥ भा.१०.४७.६०

True Lover

“Love cannot be expressed in words. It is a matter of experience only”.

“Lover and beloved are tied together by the bond of love. Yet the true love is when the lover has a single wish; that being fulfilling the wishes of the beloved. To keep your beloved constantly happy is the touchstone of a lover. The love is tainted, if beloved is unhappy with the lover even for a moment.”

“To blindly follow the words of your divine-beloved, is the only way to reach your ultimate goal of divine love bliss.”

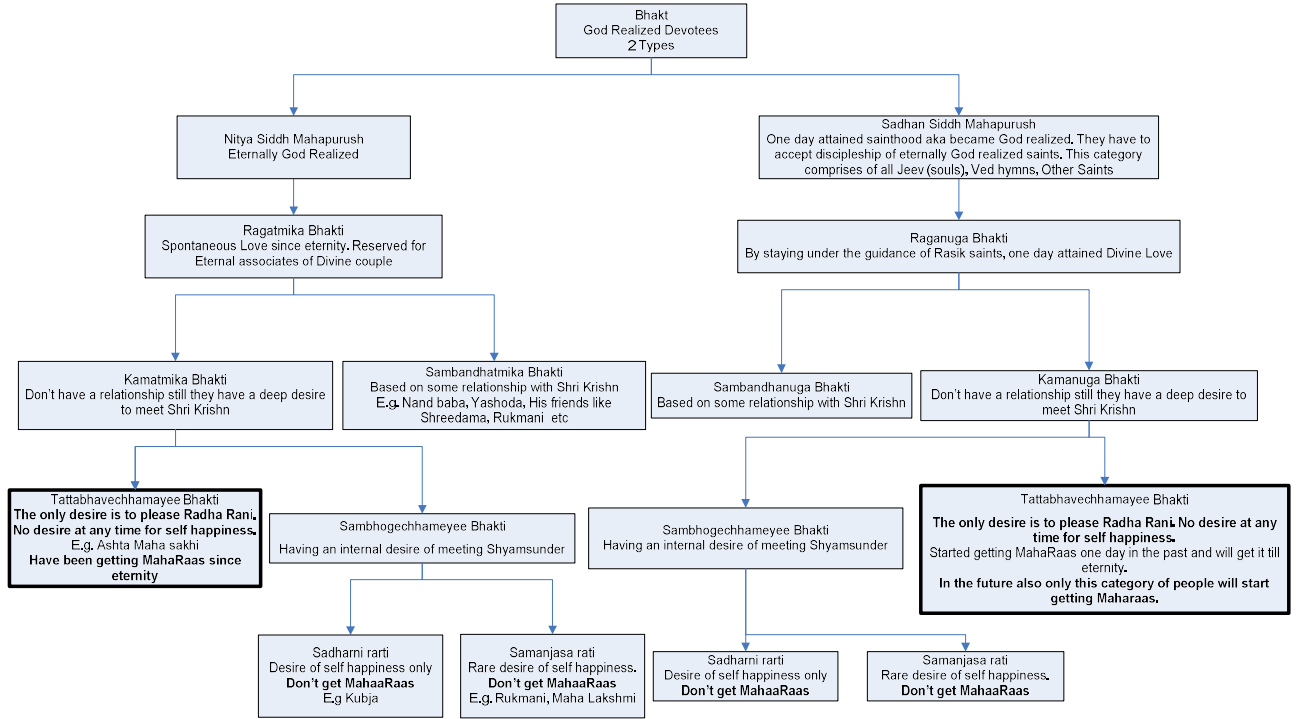
- Jagadguruttam Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj

Deserving souls of Mahaaraas

वन्दे वृन्दावनानन्दां राधिकां परमेश्वरीम् ।
गोपिकां परमां श्रेष्ठां, ह्लादिनी शक्तिरुपिणीम् ॥
नमस्तेऽस्तु नमो राधे श्रीकृष्णरमणप्रिये ।
स्वपाद पद्म रजसा, सनाथं कुरु मच्छिरः ॥



Deserving souls for Maharaas aka The ultimate Divine Bliss Attainable



Thus the only class of Maharas eligibility is Tatta Bhavechhamayee - Kamanuga - Raganuga.

A Spiritual Riddle

Shri Maharaj Ji once presented his riddle.

Two friends introduce themselves to each other. One of them says:

- God sends me.
- I live with all the living beings.
- All the individual beings are under my control.
- I cannot be controlled by rishi, muni, yogi, bhogi or God-realized Gyanis.
- Even the Supreme God cannot take any action against me.
- I control the entire universe.
- Some like me very much. Yet some people get afraid looking at me. And some are neutral to me.
- I came in this world when the world was created or since God, Soul and Maya came in existence.
- I am the well-wisher of all the living beings. Yet the ignorant beings do not understand me.
- I want to tell you one more thing, nobody can live even for a second without me.

My friend! I guess now you know who am I? What is your introduction?

The other friend answers. My friend! Now listen to my introduction -

- I am not sent by God.
- God does not even know me.
- I control everyone. The sages, seers, yogis and material beings are in my control.
- I am also eternal like you.

- No one can survive without me.
- And, you (the other friend) are my daughter.
- I can do everything but my daughter! you are not that mighty.

I think, now you know about me.

(Find answer in next edition. Till then use your mind to solve this riddle)

Magnificent Deepawali

गई लखि दीपावलि बलिहार ।

जगमग जगमग जगमागात गिरि, गोवर्द्धन रिझवार । लखि जाकी बाँकी झाँकी कहँ, दऊँ बैकुण्ठहुँ वार ।
इत ललितादि सखिन सँग विहरति, अलबेली सरकार । उत मधुमंगलादि संग कीडत, नागर नंदकुमार ।
निज निज साज साजि दोउ दल चल, मानसि गंग मझार । इक तट नटखट दल इकतट दल, राजत भानुदुलार ।
दोउ दल निज निज कनक दीपकन, डार्यो जलमझधार । दोउ कर अँगुरिन जल हलकोरत, दीपन छवि छविदार ।
झलमलात दोउ दल दीपावलि, हिल मिल भये इकसार । लखि "कृपालु" कह पुनि पुनि जय हो, दीपावलिश्रृंगार ॥

आज दीपावलि का पावन पर्व है । गोवर्द्धन सहस्रों दीपमालिका के अद्वितीय श्रृंगार से सुसज्जित है । ब्रजाङ्गनाओं ने ब्रजेन्दनन्दन श्यामसुन्दर व वृषभानुनंदिनी श्री राधा की अद्भुत दीप कीड़ा का ऐसा संयोजन किया है कि गोवर्द्धन की अनुपमेय छटा बैकुण्ठ की शोभा को भी लज्जित कर रही है । एक ओर रसिकेश्वरी श्री राधा रानी अपनी अभिन्न अष्ट महासखियों सहित हजारों सखियों के साथ विहार कर रही हैं तो दूसरी ओर रसिकशिरोमणि श्यामसुन्दर मधुमंगल आदि प्रमुख सखाओं सहित शोभायमान हैं । दोनों दल गोवर्द्धन के प्रांगण में स्थित मानसी गंगा की ओर चल पड़े हैं । एक तट पर परम सुकुमारी राधा रानी का दल व दूसरे तट पर अति चंचल ब्रजेन्दनन्दन श्री कृष्ण का दल अपने अपने दीपकों को ले कर आये हैं और उन्हें वे जल में इस प्रकार से प्रवाहित करने लगे कि उनका ही दीपक सबसे पहले दूसरे तट पर पहुँच के अपनी विजय पताका को फहरा दे । दीपकों की गति तीव्र करने के लिये जब वे जल को हाथ से हिलाते हैं तो उन दीपकों की शोभा अवर्णनीय हो जाती है । कुछ ही क्षणों में दोनों दलों के दीपक जल के मध्य क्षेत्र में पहुँच कर हिलमिल के एक हो जाते हैं । श्री कृपालु जी महाराज कहते हैं उस शोभा से परमाह्लादित होकर सभी एक स्वर से जय हो, जय हो का नाद कर के बलिहार होने लगे ।

The auspicious festival of Diwali is being celebrated today in Braj Dham at Govardhan. It is decorated so magnificently that the beauty of Vaikunth is put to shame. The splendor of the millions of friends of Shri Radha with Her most intimate associates Lalita etc. on the one side is stunning. The other side looks gorgeous with the thousands of cow herd friends of Shri Krishna including His intimate friends Madhu Mangal etc.

Both the groups are proceeding towards Manasi Ganga situated at Govardhan, holding earthen lamps in their hands. The groups of elegant Shri Radha and naughty Shri Krishna are standing on both the opposite sides of the river and flowing their lamps in the water in order to reach them first at the other end of the river. Hence, to be victorious both the groups are shaking the water with their hands dynamically, which is adding up to the beauty of lamps in the water. Eventually, at the center of water all the lamps mingled with each other. Saint Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj says that scene was really spectacular an ineffable, which made everybody applaud saying all glories to the divine beauty of Deepawali.



Significance of Diwali

The general concept of Diwali is known as Victory of Truth since Lord Ram came back to His kingdom Ayodhya after 14 years of exile after killing a demon Ravan. But, the joy of the inhabitants of Ayodhya was not limited to His victory only. When Shri Ram was exiled for 14 years there was no cheer in the whole of Ayodhya. There was no joy, no activity and no enthusiasm of doing anything. Since the veritable bliss had gone from there. When the inhabitants of Ayodhya heard about His arrival, they felt their life was coming back; there was no limit of their joy. Their hearts were full of light.

Thus, everyone was so happy that they started painting and decorating their houses, preparing scrumptious food, dancing and singing in ecstasy. Even the nature was overjoyed and presented the gift of beautiful flowers etc. to welcome Shri Ram. Remembering the same scene of unimaginable happiness of that auspicious day, we also paint and decorate our houses, perform cultural program, make delicious food, enhance the beauty of the whole city with magnificence of lights.



Maha Lakshmi also appeared with her opulence. She made everyone, who spent 14 years only in remembrance of God Shri Ram, prosperous forever with all the divine properties.

We believe that without remembrance of God even on the day of Deepawali, by merely performing physical worship of Lakshmi Ji on this day she will be pleased with us and bestow material wealth upon us. This misconception stems from our ignorance. If we also want to be prosperous in real sense, just like the inhabitants of Ayodhya we must wholeheartedly remember God at all times. God is the ocean of bliss, light, knowledge and all kinds of grandeur. His devotees naturally get all this by the causeless merciful God. This is the purpose of celebration of Diwali.

Govardhan Pooja

जै जै रसिक जीवन जै जै गिरि गोवर्द्धन
जाके जग वंदन नंद नंदन शरन ॥

Lord Krishna seeing the cowherd men busily arranging for a sacrifice to Indra, humbly inquired from the elders, headed by His father, Nand Ji Maharaj, the reason for all these rituals. Nand Ji Maharaj explained that the great demi-god Indra is the controller of the rain. Rain clouds directly provide rainwater, which gives happiness and sustenance to all creatures.



Krishna's said, "Our home is not in the cities or towns or villages. Being forest dwellers, we always live in the forest and on the hills. We should worship Govardhan Hill, since it provides fodder for our cattle and they are the source of income".

Lord Krishna wanted to teach, instead of worshipping many celestial gods it is worth worshipping one Supreme God, who is the “Ocean of Bliss”. These celestial gods are material beings and possess large but limited material power. Hence, they cannot give you more than that. In other words, He wanted to teach us exclusive devotion to the Supreme God, who is Lord Krishna Himself.

When Indra understood that his sacrifice had been put aside, he became furious with Nand Ji Maharaj and the other cowherd men, who were accepting Krishna as their Lord. Angry Indra sent forth the clouds of universal destruction. He himself followed the rain clouds riding on his elephant Airavata and taking with him the swift and powerful wind-gods to decimate the cowherd village of Nand Ji Maharaj.

Propelled by the fearsome wind-gods, the clouds blazed with lightning bolts and roared with thunder as they hurled down hailstones. As the clouds released torrents of rain as thick as massive columns, the earth was submerged in the flood. The cows and other animals, shivering from the excessive rain and wind, and the cowherd men and ladies, pained by the cold, all approached Krishna for shelter.

Seeing the inhabitants of His Gokula rendered practically unconscious by the onslaught of hail and blasting wind, the Supreme Lord Hari understood that this was the work of angry Indra. Lord Krishna said I have taken a vow to protect My devotees. Saying so He picked up Govardhan Hill on the tip of the nail of His little finger of His left hand and held it aloft. All Braj dwellers entered beneath the hill, where they found ample room for themselves and all their cows, wagons, servants and priests, and for all other members of the community as well. Lord Krishna, forgetting hunger and thirst and putting aside all considerations of personal pleasure, stood there holding up the hill for seven days as the people of Braj gazed upon Him.

Then Indra realized this little boy is not merely a boy, who nullified all my mighty efforts of annihilating The Braj. Oh! He is Supreme God!! Then he stopped raining and came to Lord Krishna to beg for pardon. Airavat filled water in its trunk and with that water Indra bathed Shri Krishna and offered a long Vedic homage to please Shri Krishna. Lord Krishna pardoned him saying, “Never do it again”. Indra said, “I was so intoxicated in my limited powers, that I forgot about you, who is the power behind my powers. You opened my eyes today by shattering my false ego.” So, the other reason of this pastime was to teach us to be free from ego.

Once the rains stopped, all cowherd men, women, children started dancing in ecstasy saying “Krishna Kanhaiya Lal Ki – Jai” (All glories to Shri Krishna). They adored Giriraj and offered all the food made for Indra-poojan. Lord Krishna Himself appeared in a gigantic form of Govardhan and ate everything.

Kids' Corner

One cannot please everyone

One day a man was going to market with his son and his donkey they met a couple on the way.

"Why walk when you have a donkey to ride?" called out the husband, "seat the boy on the donkey." "I would like that," said the boy, "help me up father." And the father did that willingly.

Soon they met another couple. "How shameful of you!" cried the woman, "let your father ride, won't he be tired?" So, the boy got down and the father rode the donkey. Again, they marched on. "Poor boy", said the next person they met, "why should the lazy father ride while his son is walking?" So, the boy got onto the donkey too. As they went on, they met some travelers. "How cruel of them!" They are up to kill the poor donkey" cried one of the travelers.

Hearing this, the father and the son got down. Now they decided to carry the donkey on their shoulders. As they did so, the travelers broke into laughter. The laughter frightened the donkey. It broke free and sped away.

MORAL: You cannot please everyone. If you do something good, the bad people will mock and criticize you. If you do something bad good people will criticize and dislike you. Second, definition of good and bad also varies according to the ideals of a person. Hence, do good by God in order to become good instead of trying to be called good by others.



Jokes

Where is God?

A couple had two little boys, ages eight and ten, who were excessively mischievous. The two were always getting into trouble and their parents could be confident that if any mischief occurred in their town, their two young sons were involved in some capacity.

The parents were at their wit's end as to what to do about their sons' behavior. The parents had heard that a clergyman in town had been successful in disciplining children in the past, so they contacted him, and he agreed to give it his best shot.



He asked to see the boys individually, so the eight-year-old was sent to meet with him first. The clergyman sat the boy down and asked him sternly, "Where is God?" the boy gave no response. So, the clergyman repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God?" again, the boy made no attempt to answer, so the clergyman raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face, "Where is God?"

At that, the boy bolted from the room, ran directly home, and entered the closet and closed himself shut. His older brother followed him into the closet and said, "What happened?" The younger brother replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it."

A mother says to her stubborn child “Dream makes everything possible; Hope makes everything work, Love makes everything beautiful, Smile makes all the above... So always brush your teeth.”

In a train, ticket checker to a saint: Ticket please!

Saint: I don't have.

TT: Where do you want to go?

Saint: Lord Ram's birth place, Ayodhya!

TT: Come, let's go!

Saint: Where?

TT: Lord Krishna's birth place, Jail

Quiz for kids

1. Shri Krishna likes yellow garments while Shri Radha always likes to wear blue. Why?
 2. Why does Shri Krishna like to wear peacock feather?
 3. What was the name of Shri Krishna's favorite cow?
- (Answers will be published in the next newsletter)

Festivals in October 2008:

Thursday 09 - Dashhara

Tuesday 14 - Sharat Poonima Appearance Day of Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj

Saturday 18 - Karwa Chauth

Sunday 26 - Dhan Teras

Tuesday 28 - Diwali Appearance Day of our revered Guru Maa Padma Devi

Wednesday 29 - Govardhan Puja

Thursday 30 - Bhai Duj

Friday 31 - Halloween

Late News

Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj inaugurated Bhakti Mandir in Nepal in September, 2008 during his recent visit to Kathmandu.

श्रीकृपालुजी महाराज द्वारा नेपाल में श्रीभक्ति मंदिर का उद्घाटन ।



What's Happening at Shri Kripalu Kunj Ashram

Lectures in Various Temples

In Houston Didi ji gave lectures in several temples. For the first time, Didi ji came to Dallas TX to give a discourse in the DFW Hindu Temple on "Essence of Geeta". The program was on 20th and 21st of September. It was a great success. On Saturday, September 20 about 80 people came to listen to the discourse but on Sunday, September 21, the whole temple shrine was filled with curious listeners.



Didi Ji delivering a spiritual discourse at DFW Hindu Temple on September 20, 2008

Several people could not help but say "we have never heard anybody speak with such conviction and authority". She also conducted 2 *satsangs* at homes of devotees. Those *satsangs* touched the soul and invoked a sweet longing for God that is beyond words.

Shri Krishna Janamashtami and Shri Radhashtami

Devotees celebrated Shri Krishna Janamashtami and Shri Radhashtami, the descension day of Shri Krishna and Shri Radha, on this planet earth approximately 5000 years back.

There was a 12-hour non-stop chanting of God's Divine names (Hare Ram Hare Ram...). Festivities went on till late in the night. Devotees danced and sang in ecstasy. It was absolutely blissful and soul-stirring. Didi ji gave a discourse on Who is Shri Krishna and why did He descend on earth? On Radhashtami, Didi ji gave a discourse on **Who is Radha and why do we pray to Her?**



Kids waiting to perform a drama based on the story

Cultural programs were organized on Shri Krishna Janamashtami in which kids and even their parents participated with excitement and fervor.

Independence Day Fair, Houston

To commemorate the 62nd Independence Day of India a fair was organized in Houston Texas. Shri Kripalu Kunj Ashram set up a booth in that fair. The goal was to bring awareness about Bhakti, unselfish love for God, amongst all. Volunteers set up a stall, decorated it with beautiful pictures of Radha-Krishna and played devotional songs and lectures by Shri Maharaj ji. Seeing such beautiful pictures of Shri Radha-Krishna several people could not help but stop and admire the beauty of the Divine couple.



Volunteers attending the visitors at the Shri Kripalu

Some volunteers distributed Radha Krishna cards and Radha Krishna T-shirts to the visitors. Others introduced the philosophy of Divine Love and distributed books, audio CDs and DVDs of Shri Maharaj Ji's and Didi Ji's lectures to the public.

Shri Kripalu Kunj Ashram Purpose

Shri Kripalu Kunj Ashram (SKKA) is an affiliate of the worldwide organization, based in India, Jagadguru Kripalu Parishat www.jkp.org.in. SKKA is a charitable non-profit organization (501c) that has been founded by Sushri Braj Banchary Ji in Feb. 2008.



The mission of the organization is to motivate and guide people to lead a happier life by following the principles and philosophy of Hindu scriptures as professed by Jagadguru Kripalu Ji Maharaj. Salient points of the mission are

- Propagate the true nature of the religion that is referred to in the scriptures as Santana Dharma i.e. eternal religion of all living beings. Modern name of this religion is called Hinduism.
- Dispel myths and misconception about Hinduism.
- Teach easy ways of leading a Godly life while doing their daily duties
- Promote peace, happiness, joy in the world by changing the mental state of one person at time.
- Helping people crave for Divine Bliss and thus attain their ultimate goal.
- Help people with material needs as well.
- Teaching people Indian music and instruments

Shri Kripalu Kunj Ashram is organizing a **New Year Retreat** under the guidance of Sushri Didi Braj Banchary Ji on Dec 30, Dec 31 and Jan 1 in **Houston, Texas**. This is a 3-day event with Didi Ji's pravachans (spiritual discourses), Question and Answer sessions, continuous keertans and cultural programs. Special events for kids are also included. For more information and registration, please contact Neeharika Peter at neeharikap@yahoo.com.

Visit us at www.shrikripalukunjashram.org to listen / watch latest lectures by Shri Maharaj Ji and Didi Ji.