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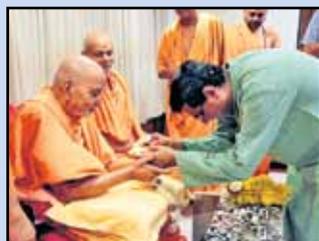
Volume 8 Issue 9 Editor: Dr. Bhalchandra H Joshi

SEPTEMBER 2016

GLS LAW COLLEGE CELEBRATES THE FOUNDATION DAY ON 06-AUG-2016 WITH PADMA SHRI UJJWAL NIKAM, SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR



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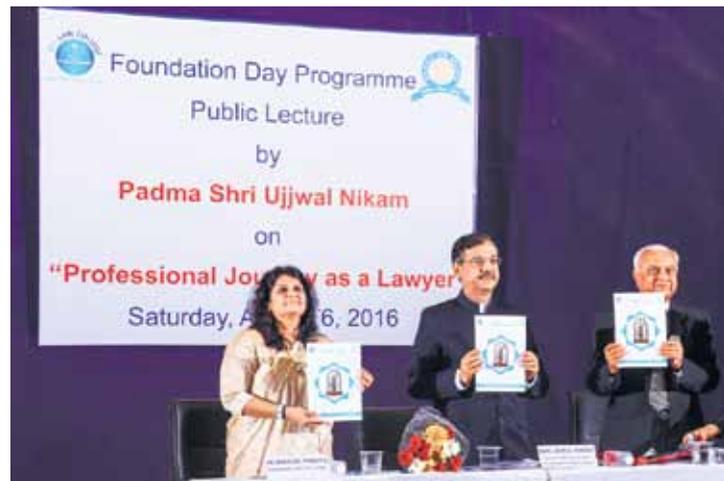
LIGHTING THE CEREMONIAL LAMP. FROM L-R, SHRI SUDHIR NANAVATI, SHRI UJJWAL NIKAM AND DR. MAYURI PANDYA

By Rishi Bhandari
Come 6th August, 2016 and GLS Law College celebrated its very first Birthday with great excitement, enthusiasm, and happiness in the presence of dignitaries, distinguished guests, and students of various Law Institutions of Ahmedabad. It is not out of place to mention that since its inception on 6th August 2015, GLS Law College has achieved great heights and success not only in academics but also in National and International Moot Court Competitions.

To recognize and celebrate

the achievements of one year and to mark the public presence of GLS Law College aiming to foster excellence in legal education, a special public lecture by Padma Shri Ujjwal Nikam on his Professional Journey as a Lawyer along with a special performance was organised by the students of GLS Law College.

The event was attended by Shri Sudhirbhai Nanavati, Executive Vice President, GLS University; Padma Shri Ujjwal Nikam, Special Public Prosecutor, Govt. of Maharashtra; Heads and Principals of various institutions



RELEASING THE FIRST EDITION OF THE ANNUAL NEWS MAGAZINE "VIDHAAN"

of Gujarat Law Society and other Law Colleges of Ahmedabad.

The welcome address was delivered by Co-ordinator of GLS Law College, Dr. Mayuri Pandya where in she expressed her heart felt profound gratitude to Shri Ujjwal Nikamji for accepting their invitation and consenting to be the Chief Guest for this event. Shri Sudhirbhai Nanavati, shared his pride and honour that GLS Law College remains the most preferred destination for Five Years Integrated Law Education with the fact that just at the completion of one year, the

institute enters second academic year with full batch of admissions and also highlighting the academic achievement of students with the fact that in the Exams of First Year at Gujarat University for Integrated Law, 9 out of 10 toppers are from GLS Law College. Sudhir Sir complimented the achievers and the entire staff of GLS Law College for their hard efforts, time, and involvement.

To commemorate 6th August, 2016 as their Foundation Day, the students of GLS Law College presented and dedicated the "GLS Law

CONTINUED ON PAGE-2 ►

GLS pays obeisance to His Divine Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj who left for Akshardham, his divine abode on 13th August, 2016. Acclaimed as a unique and rare Holy Soul Swamiji always lived for others and at the same time remained totally absorbed in God. He was the fifth successor in the illustrious spiritual tradition of Bhagwan Swaminarayan. He was the embodiment of the universal Hindu ideals in all its pristine glory. Remaining aloof from caste or creed, his borderless love had touched the lives of many, whether young or old, literate or illiterate, and rich or poor. He lit the way for all people to lead morally pure and God-centred lives. Innumerable aspirants have experienced peace and the bliss of God in his presence. May his divine blessings be with us forever!

GLS offers its' deepest respect to its' former Executive Director Shri N R Shah who left for his heavenly abode on August 18, 2016. An administrator par excellence, and a divine soul with an optimistic approach and tranquil composure, he worked closely with Shri Sudhir Nanvati for the last 23 and a half years. He was respected as a gyanayogi, karmayogi, and a bhaktiyogi. He only saw good in others, only heard good of others, and only spoke good of others. A father-figure to not just Shri Sudhirbhai, but to all of us at GLS, we pray for his family. We know that Shri N R Shah sir's blessings are with us and these will give us the impetus to keep moving on the path that he showed us.

BLOOD DONATION CAMP AT GLS




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Perhaps the most valuable donation that one can make is that of one's blood, for this is the only thing that science has yet not been able to manufacture artificially. And to fulfill this social responsibility, GLS in association with the Ahmedabad Red Cross Society arranged Blood Donation Drives in the various colleges under its

CONTINUED FROM PAGE-1 ▶
 Anthem” - conceived by Mayuri Madam, written by Ms. Megha Garg (Sem I); and collectively composed and performed with music by students of Semester – I and Semester – III. The first edition of their Annual News Magazine titled “Vidhaan – A Law Litmus” was launched, with dignitaries unveiling the first copy of the magazine.
 Addressing the law students from across the city at the 1st Foundation Day Ceremony of GLS Law College at Thakorbbhai Desai Hall, Padma Shri Ujjwal Nikam shared his journey as a Special Public Prosecutor in several sensational and terror related

umbrella.
 These drives were conducted over the first week of August at H A College of Commerce, GLS (Smt. M R Parikh) Institute of Commerce, GLS (J P Shah) Institute of Business Administration, S M Patel

cases. He began by stating that he had no intention to join this profession but ultimately studied law in Jalgon only because of his father. He expressed the need for and greatly emphasized three major points: (i) to simplify the extradition process; (ii) to have a time limit for execution of death sentence in serious criminal cases; and (iii) to make amendment to the laws for criminal investigation so public prosecutors can be involved at that stage itself. For this Mr. Nikam cited the example of USA that it amended its laws after the 9/11 attack. He mentioned that this amendment enabled the involvement of public

Institute of Commerce, GLS (I. & R. K. Desai) Institute of Computer Application and N R Institute of Business Administration. The Principals, Directors, staff and students participated in these drives and the Ahmedabad Red Cross

prosecutor at the investigation stage thereby guide the police in proper direction to nail the real culprits and save innocents. He further stated that, “The unhappiest state of affairs is when death penalty is stayed. We must have a mechanism for stringent sentences confirmed by the highest authority to be executed. Though the President has the right to award mercy to the accused, it must be done within a certain time frame.”
 Sharing his experience of the 26/11 attack trial, he said that his main aim was not to get Ajmal Kasab hanged but establish sponsored conspiracy. He said that Kasab was clever enough to test the prosecution by highlighting peculiar legal

Society was quite happy with the collection. Some of the students were first time donors and felt a sense of upliftment when they made this greatest donation of all.
 aspects and claiming to be a juvenile, who cannot be tried the way he was, according to existing Indian Laws. Mr. Nikam condemned acts of terrorism and said that when countries cannot afford direct war, it misguides youths to take up arms and spread terror to achieve its goal, it is painful when people project established terrorists as their heroes.
 Mr. Nikam’s speech not only enlightened and inspired the budding lawyers but also acted as guiding path for the society and young generation.
(The writer is an Assistant Professor at GLS Law College)

REVIEWING RAGHURAM RAJAN'S REFORMS

Compiled by Shyam Kakkad

Dr. Raghuram Rajan was appointed by the then Prime minister Manmohan Singh at that 'Time of Turbulence' where the Indian Economy was referred in the "Fragile Five" along with Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa and Turkey. At that time the inflation was running to double digits and India's Forex Reserves were depleting and India's Current Account Deficit was around 4.4% of GDP. The biggest challenge for him was to tame inflation which was getting out of control. One of the most influential works done by RBI was to switch the Inflation review from Wholesale Price Index(WPI) to Consumer Price Index (CPI), as per the recommendations of Urjit Patel Committee. Let us take a look at the Fantastic Term of Raghuram Rajan and His Reforms For India:

1) Inflation Targeting: In

order to tame the running inflation in India, Dr. Raghuram Rajan set an Inflation Target of 4%, plus minus 2% for the upcoming years, and was also included in his agenda, with consultation with Central Government.

2) Differentiated Bank Licenses: With this reform, Raghuram Rajan has started or initiated a new type of competition in India, with the declaration of Payments Bank and Small Finance Bank. Payments bank will accept deposits from customers and will cater the various payments of customer's bills over a period of time. Small Finance banks will cater the needs of small amount of finance to the people.

3) Marginal Cost Of Lending Rates: In order to prevent customers from paying more interest, Marginal Cost Of Lending Rates was declared where the lending rates by banks



was determined on the receipts obtained by the banks.

4) Stabilizing Indian Rupee: From the time he took on his office as the Governor, he has been successful in stabilizing the Indian Rupee against the U.S. Dollar and Other Foreign Currency. He has been given more of his credibility for Stabilizing the Indian Rupee and making it stand strong at times of trouble.

5) Monetary Policy Committee: Over a period of time, Dr. Rajan has been putting

his weight on setting up Monetary Policy Committee(MPC), which will set the interest rates with consultation with the other members of the committee. The main reason behind this was to generate multiple reviews on setting interest rates and do relieve the pressure on a single person, who sets Interest Rates at the Monetary Policy Review.

6) Taking On The Notorious NPAs: Since some last years, the Indian Banks, especially the Public Sector Banks, were having Stressed Balance Sheets, which had a lot of stressed assets. Due to a very large amount of Non Performing Assets(NPAs), the banks were extending and pretending and were carrying forward the amount of stressed assets, expecting a turnover and hoping to get back its lent amount.

Dr. Rajan started the Asset Quality Review, under which the loans given were to be reviewed.

Dr. Rajan gave a strict warning to banks to set large amount of provisions in order to secure the position of banks over a period of time.

7) Unified Payments Interface: Under this payment system money will be transferred directly to the bank accounts and not to its wallets. This will scrap the needs of the cash to a large extent, although it will take a due time course, and the E-Commerce Companies Cash- On-Delivery system will die a natural death.

8) Deepening Of Corporate Bond Markets: Under this reform, the corporate can issue bonds to general public as well as commercial banks and commercial banks can get funds from Reserve Bank Of India under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) of the Central Bank.

(The compiler is a Sem III student at NRBBA)

SHRADDHANJALI....



Shri N R Shah, the former Executive Director of GLS, left for his heavenly abode on August 18, 2016 – just 8 days after celebrating his 84th birthday. A journey of steering GLS and consolidating its reputation as a destination of quality education, a journey that went on for 33 years, came to an end. To offer their respect to the departed soul and remember what he meant to a lot of people, a Shraddhanjali Sabha was organized by GLS on Tuesday, August 23, 2016.

The Sabha was lead by Shah sir's own guru, Pujya Shri Jasubhai Saheb and was attended by Shri Sudhir Nanavati, Executive Vice-President (GLS University), members of the Governing Board, members of Shri N R Shah's family, heads of GLS Institutes, fellow satsangis from the Anoopam Mission, and members of the GLS family.

Dr. B H Joshi (Provost –

GLS University), Mrs. Belaben Mehta (Principal C U Shah Primary School), Dr. Geeta Mehta (Principal -B D Arts and L & C Mehta Arts College), Dr. Dharmesh Shah (Registrar – GLS University), Dr. Manoj Soni (Former Vice-Chancellor – Ambedkar University) all remembered him as a very affectionate individual who led an exemplary life. Each shared what they had learnt from him over the years. Mr. Rutesh Shah, the nephew of Shri N R Shah represented the family and shared his personal memories of his uncle. He talked about his dedication to anything that he did and how Shah sir inspired 3 generations of a business-oriented family to pursue education. Mr. Jagat Killawala from the Anoopam Mission talked about how Shah sir established the Ahmedabad Mandal of the Anoopam Mission and conducted its numerous activities.



AT THE SHRADDHANJALI SABHA OF SHRI N R SHAH (PREVIOUS PICTURE), FROM L-R, FAMILY MEMBERS, MR. JAGAT KILLAWALA, SHRI SUDHIR NANAVATI AND SHRI JASUBHAI SAHEB

Shri Jasubhai Saheb talked most affectionately of Shri N R Shah. He recalled how Shah sir had taken up the responsibilities of Anoopam Mission at more or less the same time as that of GLS and how the duo of Shri Sudhirbhai Nanavati and Shri N R Shah worked together beautifully. Recalling anecdotes of his association with Shah sir and Ilaben Shah, he showed the audience the devout, the committed and the humorous side of Shri N R Shah.

Then Shri Sudhirbhai Nanavati spoke on an emotional note about how the relationship between him and Shah sir, over the last three decades, progressed to a father-son kind of a relationship. He spoke about Shah sir's dedication, determination and honesty. He shared with the audience the amazing rapport that they shared and how Shah sir could intercept his line of thinking

when it came to the interest of GLS. It was in recognition of this dedication, commitment and contribution to GLS, that the unprecedented decision to co-opt him to the Governing Board was taken at his retirement. He then declared that the first Gold Medal to be given from the first Convocation of GLS University in 2018, will be the N R Shah Gold Medal for student securing the 1st Rank in the MBA Programme. The Shraddhanjali Sabha ended with Dr. Sanjay Vakil (Principal – H A College of Commerce) reading out the Condolence Resolution passed at the meeting of the GLS and C U Shah Ronak Trust meeting. Thus, GLS and other who knew N R Shah sir or N R Dada – as the case may be – offered their respects to him. As his nephew Mr. Rutesh Shah had said earlier "No one you love is lost, really. They are yours till eternity, if they have touched you".

UP Coming Event

VISHLESHAN PLUS

The second edition of the National-Level Mega Event of N R Institute of Business Management, VISHLESHAN PLUS will take place

on September 15-16, 2016. Numerous competitions in Academic, Fine Arts and Performing Arts categories will be conducted over the two days. Added attraction this year are workshops on Creative Writing, Bag Making, Candle Making and Chocolate Making. For details, contact your schools/colleges or write to us at

editor@gujaratlawsociety.org

GLS EMPS

ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS OF GLSEMPs STUDENTS ON THE OCCASION OF INDEPENDENCE DAY AND RAKSHABANDHAN



N R PRIMARY SCHOOL

A VISIT TO THE CELESTIAL WORLD



Students of N.R.Primary School were fortunate enough to visit the Indian Space Research Organization as a part of their educational activity.

They learnt about satellite based telecommunications and environment monitoring.

They gained knowledge about remote sensing, meteorology and satellite

navigation.

They were amazed to watch a 3D space movie and had a glimpse of the unknown world which was like a fairy tale for them.

PHIR BHI DIL HAI HINDUSTANI

Patriotic and nationalistic feelings soared up high in the hearts of N.R.Primary students as they celebrated India's 70th Independence Day.

The future citizens of our country delivered speeches, danced to the rhythm of patriotic songs and poured out their immense love for their motherland. The most spectacular event of the day was the Pyramid Construction with our Indian National Flag fluttering right on top as a symbol of our independence and identity.

Vande Mataram
Maa, Tujhe Salaam



N R HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL

KARATE CHAMPION



PATEL ARYAN VIKASKUMAR, a student of Std. IA from GLS High School has done excellent performance by winning 2nd District open karate championship, 2016

organised by Nihon Karate do shu bu kai shitoryu Ahmedabad on 10th July, 2016. Along with this he had manifested his talent in karate by getting 1 Gold, 3 Silver and Bronze Medals.

K. N. PRIMARY SCHOOL

EVENTS



FOUNDATION DAY



MEHANDI COMPITATION

ACHIEVEMENTS

- TanmayModak of Std III stood 4th in the Gujarat State Chess Selection Competition at Sports Club. He is the youngest chess player.
- Heet J Vakil of Std VI B scored 100/100 in the Sanskrit Gaurav Pariksha.
- Pritika Patel of Std VII A won 2 Gold medals in

Science Olympiad and in English Olympiad. She also won a medal at the Open Ahmedabad Karate Championship – 2016.

- Naitik Mehta of Std VII B placed 1st in the Gujarat state selection U-13 Chess Tournament. He won a gold medal and Trophy.

THROUGH MY EYES...

Pramukh Swami Maharaj was a pure soul, and his message of service to the needy has made the world a better place. As an educationist, I deeply admire his vision. He inducted highly educated and qualified

doctors, engineers and scientists as saints into the Swaminarayan sect. He had the immense vision to realise that if the youth are to be led on to the path of spirituality, they need to be guided by saints who understand the

changing times we live in and who can convince them at their intellectual level. I believe that his passing has deprived the world of a divine soul, but at the same time, I know that his presence will always be felt through the

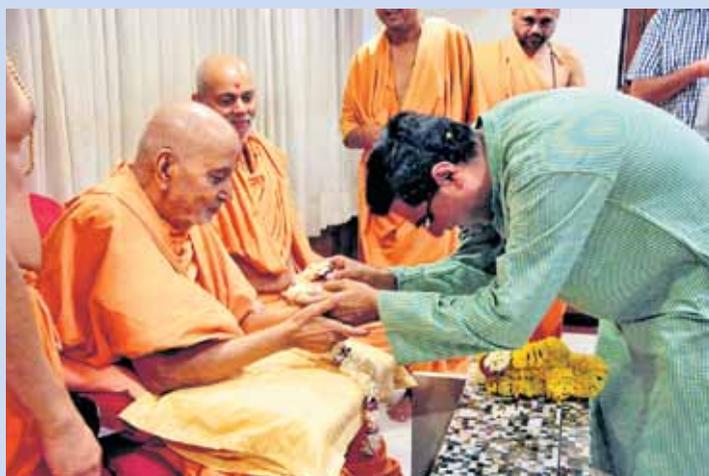
works he has accomplished and the people whose lives he has touched with his compassion.

*Sudhir Nanavati
President, GLS University
Executive Vice President,
Gujarat Law Society*



The sad demise of Shri Pramukh Swami Maharaj has left a vacuum in the lives of innumerable people across the world, mine included. For me, he was the spiritual Guru, whose fond memories are so profound in my heart, that I actually do not feel his loss. He was the one who had the power to make us realize that the 'Brahma' completes the entirety. Powerful and yet simple, nonchalant and yet affectionate, erudite who had adapted the Maun – he was peace personified. I have not seen God, but Pramukh Swami Maharaj is the ultimate divinity. The experience of his darshan was equivalent to that of God. It was sheer bliss.

It was in 1992, when my spiritual journey started. A grand celebration for the 100th birth anniversary of Brhama Swaroop Shri Yogiji Maharaj in Gandhinagar included the inauguration of the Akshardham Temple, and a number of cultural events. Coming from a distinguished family, I had been raised in affluence and was completely oblivious to certain aspects of life. My exposure to western culture as a result of my education abroad had left me with a materialistic approach and I shared the carefree attitude that is characteristic of youth. This was my mindset when I attended the BAPS event at Gandhinagar along with my friends. All of us, who were used to dining in the classiest of restaurants, were astounded at the perfect management of the temple canteen that catered to around 1 lakh people without any kind of hassle. When we took our seats, we were confronted with another surprise. The volunteer who served our food was the eminent ophthalmologist of the city, Dr. Mrudul Parekh!! Seeing him as a volunteer drove home the power of Shri Pramukh Swami's spiritual aura, under whose influence such influential people were offering their services in the humblest of tasks. This was my



very first experience of his impact over people's lives!

However, I also feel that it must be a divine order that He would take the place of my Spiritual Guru. I got married to Vaibhavi, the daughter of Shri Sureshbhai Shelat, a deeply spiritual person and a renowned lawyer. Once again, I felt the power of Shri Pramukh Swami Maharaj through Shri Shelat. I realized that if a person of the highest level of intelligence and integrity like him accepted Him as his Guru, there must be something exceptional about him. I experienced a ceaseless flow of love and affection that I have never felt anywhere else when I accompanied Shri Shelat to invite Him for my wedding.

I had some more interactions with him during the Lead India Contest, a time that tested my skills, my patience and my reputation. I deeply felt His eternal divinity when I went to seek His blessings at Bochasan. This visit made me realize He had taken the highest place in my life. I met him around four to five times during the contest and each visit confirmed my belief that Pramukh Swami Maharaj is a divine soul radiating peace and purity. I felt the zenith of His affection for me during the last phase of the contest when I met Him at the Mumbai Swaminarayan Temple. It was late at night, He was not keeping well and was just about to retire to bed. But He waited till I reached there, met me, put His hand over my head and blessed me. Not only that, He also asked me about

the minutest details of the contest and motivated me to do my best. Those 30 minutes spent with Him constitute the happiest moments of my life. I will never forget the warmth in His eyes and the sweetness of His voice. At that moment I felt that my greatest achievement in life was to obtain His love and blessings.

After that, I have had the privilege of His darshan several times at Bochasan, Ahmedabad and Sarangpur. Each time I carried a flower garland made especially for Him by Vaibhavi. Of course, because of the discipline of the Swaminarayan sect, she could not visit Him personally, but she has always felt His divine presence around her.

Pramukh Swami Maharaj always gave us more than we deserve, His presence made us forget all our anxiety, pain and frustration. He was a part of our existence. Our Guru-disciple relationship was truly unique. I am not a follower of the Swaminarayan sect, but I am proud of being His disciple. I am fortunate enough to have experienced His divinity. He has always been, and will always be everything to me. He had told me once that "I will always be with you", and I firmly believe we have not lost Him. He will always be with us. With this faith, I once again seek His blessings.

Jai Swaminarayan

*Devang Nanavati
Honorary Secretary, Gujarat
Law Society
Vice President, GLS
University*

The evening of 13th August, 2016, was fateful, when Pramukh Swami Maharaj left for heavenly abode. The shock waves spread amongst the devotees and disciples around the world. The devotees from abroad came to Sarangpur after undertaking journey of 36 to 48 hrs., changing Airlines and paying more than regular fares. The Indian Embassy in U.S., U.K. facilitated their journeys by opening windows for VISA on Sundays and Holidays. The Government of Gujarat plied State Transport buses to Sarangpur not connected by train or plane, additional railway coaches were requisitioned in to service from Bombay to reach Ahmedabad. It is estimated that more than millions devotees assembled there at Sarangpur to have last 'Darshan' and pay 'Homage' to their "BAPA" as they always called him.

Those who are not followers may wonder as to what is it about Bapa that that attracted so many people. The answer lies in his life.

Pramukh Swami hailed from Chansad, Vadodara, born on 7th December, 1921. At the age of 18 years, he became "Shanti Bhagat", disciple of "Shastriji Maharaj", initiated as "Sadhu" on 10th July, 1940 and was appointed as President at the young age of 29 years and continued to preside over the organization till 31st August, 2016. He had to put in hard work including pulling carts, washing dishes, serving meals to devotees, looking after farm lands. He has undertaken "Vicharan" in bullock carts, rickety car.

He has travelled in India and abroad to strengthen morality and spirituality, inspiring people by personal counseling, through letters or telephone. He has built over 1,100 temples in India, North America, the UK, Europe, Africa, Australia, New



Zealand and the Middle East, which serve as perennial sources of spiritual inspiration and social harmony. Moreover, he has created the magnificent Swaminarayan Akshardham complexes in Gandhinagar and New Delhi, which enlighten millions of visitors on India's ancient culture, traditions and values. With over 3,900 centers, 950 sadhus, 55,000 youth volunteers and millions of followers worldwide, he inspires and oversees a spectrum of humanitarian activities in fields as diverse as educational, environmental, medical, tribal, social, cultural and spiritual.

However, what touches countless people, including political, social and spiritual leaders across race, religion and region, is Pramukh Swamiji's personal humility, simplicity, integrity, spirituality and universality.

I feel myself very fortunate to have had innumerable meetings with Pramukh Swami Maharaj in the last few decades. Each meeting with him strengthened my faith in humanity, in Him and in God. He was ultimate divinity, absolute love and eternal bliss in human form.

This is a great loss to the global spiritual community. A pillar of Indian cultural revival Shri Pramukhswamiji Maharaj will be missed by all. May we attain the supreme state "BAPA" lived and showed us the path for. May his teaching and love be our support to walk the spiritual path. May we discover his omnipresence and reach him in our own hearts.

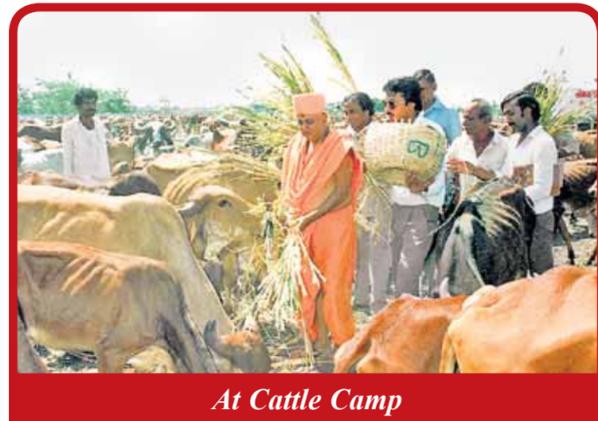
*Suresh Shelat
Vice-President, Gujarat
Law Society*

PRAMUKH SWAMI MAHARAJ AND THE LIVES HE TOUCHED...

Who ever had the fortune to interact with Pramukh Swami Maharaj experienced transformation. And these people came across all castes, creeds, and social standing. As our way of paying respect to Bapa, we bring you these images.....



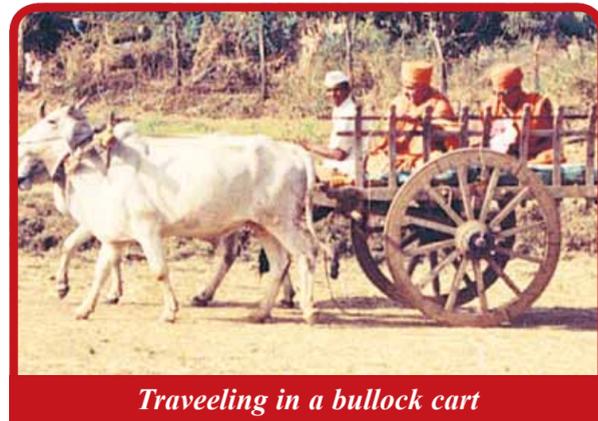
At a kid's home



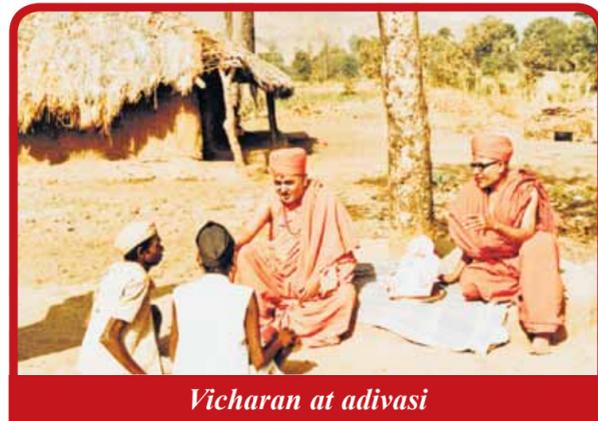
At Cattle Camp



Blessing an old man



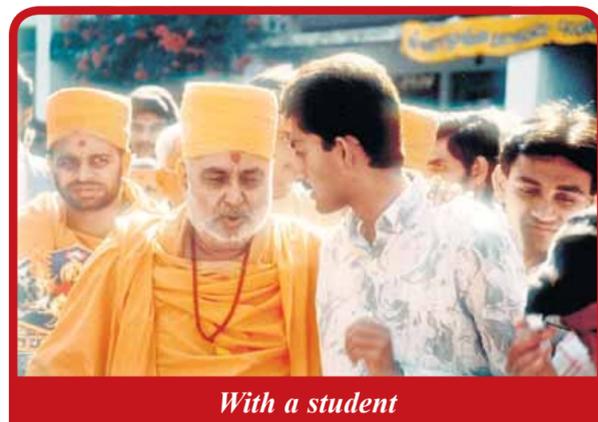
Traveling in a bullock cart



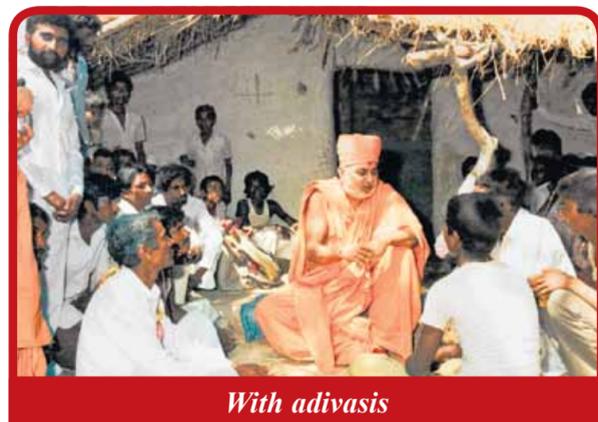
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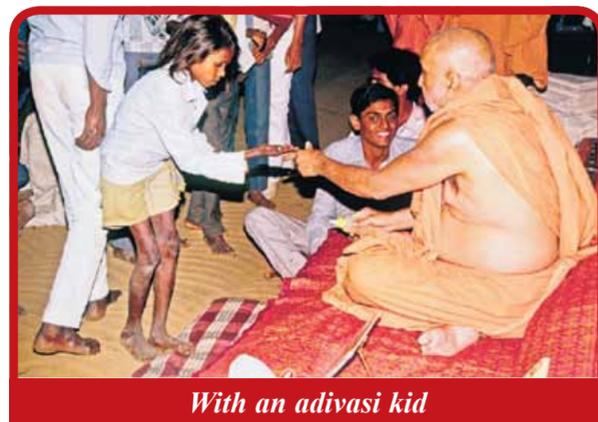
Visiting a hospital



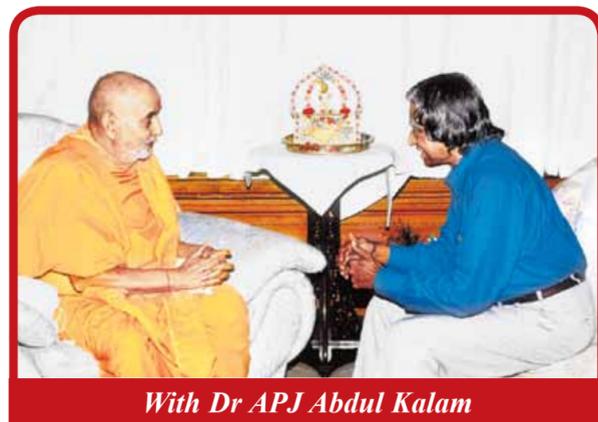
With a student



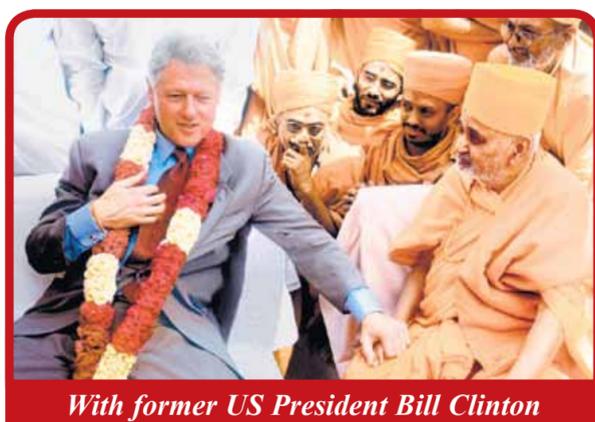
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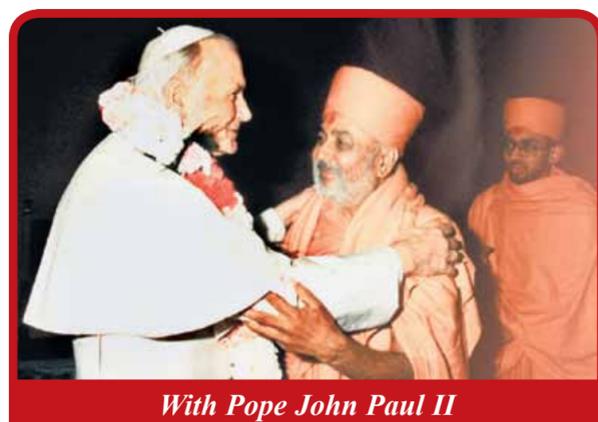
With an adivasi kid



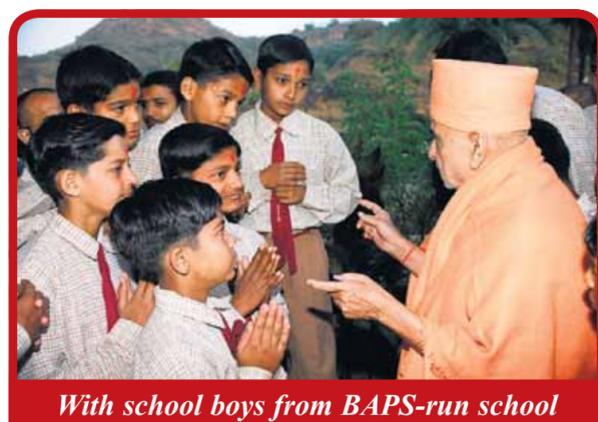
With Dr APJ Abdul Kalam



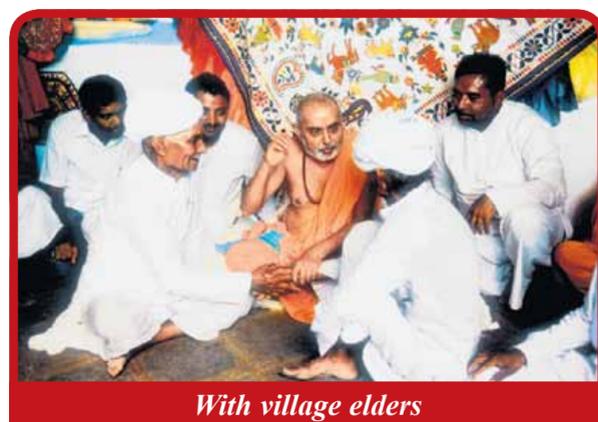
With former US President Bill Clinton



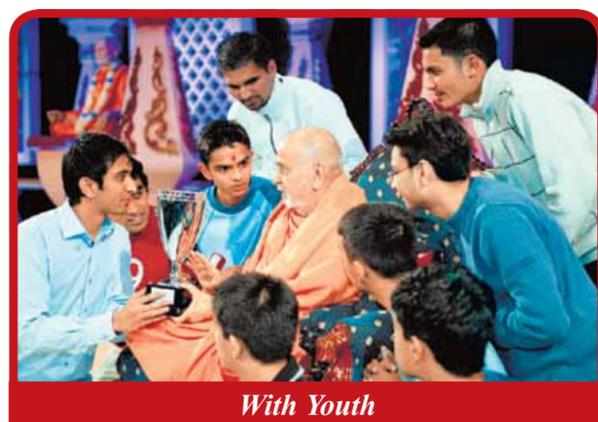
With Pope John Paul II



With school boys from BAPS-run school



With village elders



With Youth

પ્રમુખ સ્વામી મહારાજ સૌના હૃદયસ્થ ક્ષર રીતે બન્યા ?

૧૩મી ઓગસ્ટ ૨૦૧૬ના સાંજે ૬-૦૦ કલાકે પરમ પુજ્ય પ્રમુખ સ્વામી મહારાજ સ્વધામ પધાર્યા. ત્યારથી માંડીને ૧૭ ઓગસ્ટ ૨૦૧૬ સુધી સતત ચાર દિવસ સુધી લાખો ભાવિકોનો પ્રવાહ એમના અંતિમ દર્શન માટે રાત-દિવસ વહેતો રહ્યો. કોઈ પણ પ્રકારના વિઘ્નોને ગણકાર્યા સિવાય જે મળ્યું તે વાહનમાં ક્ષણનોય વિલંબ કર્યા વિના સારંગપુર દોડી જનાર આ સ્વયંભૂ માનવમહેરામણને પ્રમુખસ્વામી મહારાજના પ્રત્યે આવા અસાધારણ આદર અને સ્નેહનું કારણ શું હોઈ શકે? વિશ્વના ગણમાન્ય સત્તાધીશો, શ્રેષ્ઠીઓ અને વિદ્વાનોથી માંડીને અભણ આદિવાસી કે ગ્રામીણ ગરીબોના હૃદય સિંહાસને બિરાજ પ્રમુખસ્વામી મહારાજ સૌના સ્મરણનો વિષય બન્યા છે. એમનાં સ્વસ્થનું સૌથી વધુ પ્રભાવક પરિમાણકયું હોઈ શકે?

હિન્દુ સમાજના પુનરુત્થાનના જ્યોતિર્ધર ?

ભગવાન સ્વામીનારાયણ અને વૈદિક સંસ્કૃતિના સર્વજીવ હિતાવહ સંદેશનો જગતના ૫૦ કરતાં વધુ દેશોમાં સર્વાધિક ફેલાવો કરનાર ધર્મગુરુ ?

યુગો સુધી સંસ્કૃતિની ભાગીરથીને વહાવનારાં ૧૧૦૦ભવ્ય મંદિરો, રાજધાની દિલ્હી અને ગાંધીનગરમાં ભવ્ય સંસ્કૃતિયામ 'અક્ષરધામ', લંડનનું વિશ્વવિખ્યાત અજાયબી સમું સ્વામિનારાયણ મંદિર કે દેશ-વિદેશના એવાં સેકડો સંસ્કારભવનોના નિર્માતા ?

વિશ્વવ્યાપી બોયાસણવાસી શ્રી અક્ષર-પુરુષોત્તમ સ્વામિનારાયણ સંસ્થાના સમર્થ સૂત્રધાર ?

લાખો યુવાનોને અધ્યાત્મના માર્ગે વાળીને તેમની શક્તિનો રચનાત્મક વિનિયોગ કરનાર વિરલ યુગસર્જક ?

દેશ-વિદેશના ૧૦૦૦થી વધુ સુશિક્ષિત નવયુવાનોને ત્યાગાશ્રમના પંથે વાળી તેમને આજીવન સમાજઉદ્ધારમાં જોડનાર, સમર્પણનો અજોડ કરિશ્મા કરનાર વિક્રમ સર્જક મહાપુરુષ ?

શ્રેષ્ઠતમ વિદ્યાસંકુલો, શાળાઓ, મહાવિદ્યાલયો, છાત્રાલયોના પ્રેરક અને પ્રયોજક ?

સાહિત્ય, સંગીત, કલાના પુરસ્કર્તા ? દિવસ-રાત સેવારત, આરોગ્યધામોના સર્જક ?

સંસ્કૃતિના પ્રસારમાં વિજ્ઞાન અને ટેકનોલોજીનો સફળતમ પ્રયોગ કરનાર વિરલ યોજક ?

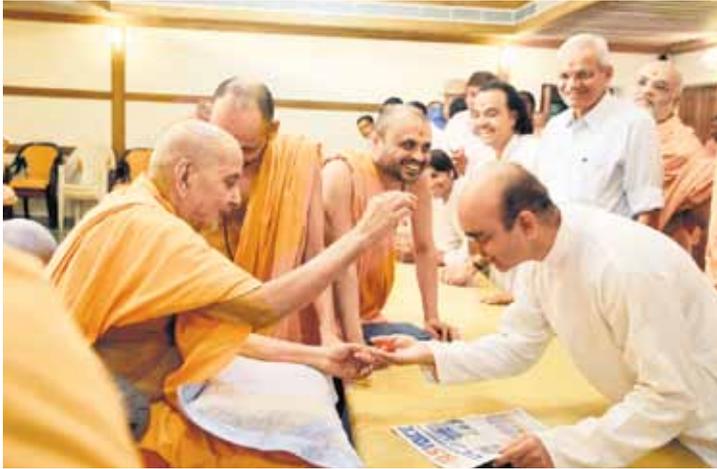
ગુજરાત, આંધ્રપ્રદેશ, ઓરિસ્સા કે મહારાષ્ટ્ર પર ઊતરી પડેલી કુદરતી આફતો વેળાંએ મદદ માટે દોડી જનાર કરુણામૂર્તિ સંતપુરુષ ?

લોકહિત માટે સ્વાસ્થ્યની પરવા કર્યા સિવાય, દિવસ-રાત જોયા સિવાય ૧૭૦૦૦થી વધુ ગામડાંઓમાં સતત વિચરણ કરનાર અનન્ય પરિવ્રાજક ?

સાત લાખ કરતાં વધુ પત્રો દ્વારા કે અઢીલાખ કરતાં વધુ ઘરોની મુલાકાતો દ્વારા કે લાખો લોકોને વ્યક્તિગત મળીને તેમના જીવનની ગુંથો ઉકેલનાર અદ્વિતીય સ્વજન ?

આદિવાસીઓ અને દુખીયાના બેલી ?

કે પરાભક્તિમાં તલ્લીન થઈને ભગવાન સ્વામીનારાયણની આજ્ઞાઓમાં અશુભ રહીને આજીવન નિષ્કલંક જીવનજીવનાર આદર્શ ભક્ત ?



કે સંતોમાં મુર્ધન્ય પ્રતિભાવંત સાક્ષાત્ બ્રહ્મસ્વરૂપ સંત ?

એમના વિરાટ વ્યક્તિત્વના અગણિત આયામોને લક્ષમાં લઈને ઉપરના વિકલ્પોમાં બીજા કેટલાય પાસાઓ ઉમેરી શકાય તેમ છે.

અપાર ઐશ્વર્ય, પ્રતાપ અને તેજથી ઓપતા પ્રમુખ સ્વામી મહારાજનું સૌના સ્વજન સમુ અહંશુન્ય વ્યક્તિત્વ સાથેજ માનવ જગતની મહાન વિરાસત હતી. “બીજાના ભલામાં આપણું ભલુ છે, બીજાના સુખમાં જ આપણું સુખ છે” આ જીવનમંત્ર સાથે શ્વાસે શ્વાસે પરહિતની જ રટના કરતા આ મહાપુરુષની પાસે આવનાર પ્રત્યેકને કોઈ નિરાળી આત્મીયતાનો અનુભવ થતો. જીએલએસ વોઈસને પણ સનર૦૧૦ ની સાલમાં તેઓશ્રીના આશીર્વાદ સાંપડ્યા હતા. જેની દુર્લભ તસ્વીર આ અંકમાં પ્રગટ કરતાં ધન્યતાની લાગણી અનુભવાય છે. પરમ પુજ્ય પ્રમુખસ્વામી મહારાજે જનહિત કાજે કેવો ભગીરથ પુરુષાર્થ કર્યો હતો એની સાક્ષી પુરતા અનેસમર્થ છતાં સહનશીલ એવા સ્વામીજીની વિરલ છબીના દર્શન કરાવતા કેટલાક પ્રસંગોની આ અંકમાં સ્મૃતિ કરી એમના ચરણોમાં વંદના કરીએ.

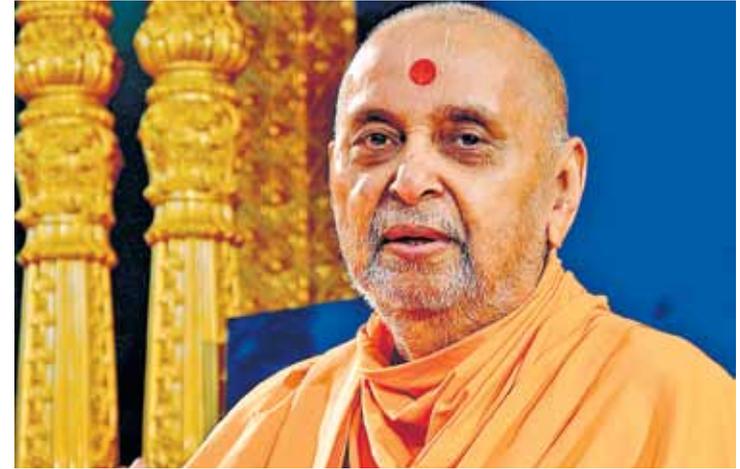
જ્ઞાસુઓ અને ભાવિકો ઘણીવાર પુછે કે પ્રમુખસ્વામી મહારાજનું સરનામું કયું ? આ સવાલનો કોઈ કાયમી ઉત્તર ન હતો. આંખે મોતીયો, પિત્તાશય અને ગાંઠનું ઓપરેશન, પગે વા અને હાઈએટેક કે હૃદયની બાયપાસ સર્જરી આવા આવા દર્દને ગણકાર્યા વિના સ્વામીશ્રીની ત્વરાથી હજારો ગામડાંઓમાં ઘરે ઘરે અધ્યાત્મનું અજવાળું પાથરી ચુક્યા છે.

સ્વામીશ્રીએ માત્ર ૨૮ વર્ષની વયે તા. ૨૧-૫-૨૯૫૦ના રોજ બી.એ.પી. એસ. સ્વામિનારાયણ સંસ્થાનું અધ્યક્ષપદ સ્વીકાર્યું હતું. સામાન્ય રીતે આટલી નાની ઉંમરે આવી મહાન સંસ્થાના પ્રમુખ પદે બિરાજવું એ એક મહાન સિધ્ધિ હતી. પરંતુ એ સમારોહને અંતે તેઓએ હરિભક્તોના અંદા વાસણ ઉટકાયા હતા. વળી પ્રતિજ્ઞા કરી હતી કે મારા દેહની પરવા કર્યા સિવાય મારું કર્તવ્ય બજાવીશ. અને છેક છેલ્લા શ્વાસ સુધી એમણે એ પ્રતિજ્ઞા સવાચી પાળી બતાવી. સતત કઠોર શ્રમ વેઠીને ગામોગામ વિચરણ કરતા કરતા તા. ૨૮-૯-૧૯૭૮ના રોજ તેઓ દક્ષિણ ગુજરાતના કપુરા ગામે આવી પહોંચ્યા હતા. આગલા દિવસે નિર્જળા ઉપવાસ કર્યો હતો. આજે જાહેર સભામાં બિરાજેલા સ્વામીશ્રીનું સ્વાસ્થ્ય કથળવા લાગ્યું. તેમનું શરીર જાણે શ્યામ પડવા માંડ્યું હતું પરંતુ તેઓ તો અસાધારણ ધીરજ ધરીને સભામાં બેઠા બેઠા માળાજપ

કરી રહ્યા હતા. સંતોએ સ્પર્શ કરતાં જ ખ્યાલ આવ્યો કે સ્વામીશ્રીનું શરીર તાવથી ધગધગી રહ્યું છે. સભા વિસર્જન બાદ સૌ વ્યારા પહોંચ્યા. સ્વામીશ્રીને અશક્તિ વધી રહી હતી. સંતો ટેકો આપીને તેમને જીતુભાઈ શાહના ઘરે પહેલા માળે લઈ ગયા. પથારી સુધી તો માંડ માંડ પહોંચી શકાયું. તાત્કાલિક ઔષધ આપવા છતાં દર મિનીટે બિમારી વકરતી જતી હતી. થોડી વારમાં તો તેઓ લગભગ અર્ધબેશુધ્ધ થઈ ગયા. આવી માંદગીમાંય તેઓ ધીમે ધીમે કહી રહ્યા હતા “મઢીવાળા મહેન્દ્રભાઈને ત્યાં આપણાંથી જવાયું નહીં.” બારડોલીમાં ડો રમણભાઈએ કમળાનું નિદાન કર્યું. છતાં સ્વામીશ્રીએ વિચરણ અટકાવ્યું નહીં. એક તરફ કમળો અને બીજા તરફ સ્વામીશ્રીની દાઢમાં પણ સખત પીડા હતી. યોગાનુયોગ ત્રીજા દિવસે સવારે રાજકોટના પ્રખ્યાત દંત વૈદ્ય શ્રી લાભશંકરભાઈ દર્શને આવ્યા. સ્વામીશ્રી વિચરણ કરતા કરતા સાંકડરી પહોંચ્યા હતા. સ્વામીશ્રીની દાઢ યકાસવા માટે લાભશંકરભાઈએ સ્વામીશ્રીના મુખમાં નીચેના જડબામાં ડાબી બાજુના પેદામાં દાઢ પાસે સહેજ સ્પર્શ કરી દબાવ્યું તો મોઢામાંથી પરુની એક નાનકડી શેર ઉડી ! તેઓ તરત જ બોલી ઉઠ્યા આટલી પીડા તો માત્ર સ્વામીશ્રી જ વેઠી શકે ! વર્ષોથી સ્વામીશ્રીની તબીબી સંભાળ લેનાર નિષ્ણાંત તબીબો ડો કિરણ દોશી, ડો સુબ્રમણ્યમ, ડો તેજસ પટેલ વગેરેનો આજ અનુભવ છે કે અસહ્ય શારીરિક પીડાની સ્થિતિમાં પણ જાણે કોઈ જ બન્યું નથી એમ સ્વામીશ્રી આત્મસ્વરૂપે વર્તતા રહ્યા છે.

૧૯૮૫માં શરીરમાં તાવ હતો એવી પરિસ્થિતિમાં કાનમ પ્રદેશમાં એમણે ૨૦ દિવસમાં ૮૫ ગામોમાં વિચરણ કર્યું. રોજની ૩૦ થી ૪૦ ઘરોમાં પધરામણીઓ થઈ જતી. આ પધરામણીઓ દરમ્યાન વ્યસનમુક્તિ, પારિવારિક એકતા, બાળસંસ્કાર, સત્સંગ, સદાચાર વગેરેના કેટલાય પાઠ તેઓ દઢ કરાવી દેતા. વાસદમાં એકાદશીનો નિર્જળ ઉપવાસ કર્યો હોવા છતાં, ૧૦૨ ડીગ્રી ધગધગતા તાવમાં સવારથી બપોરના સાડાત્રણ વાગ્યા સુધીમાં ૧૨૧ ઘરોમાં પધરામણીઓ કરી હતી.

મહીકાંઠાના કોતરોમાં બદલપુર વિસ્તારમાં બબ્બે કિલોમીટર ચાલીને છાપરે છાપરે સવારથી તે સાંજ સુધી ઘરોઘર ફરતાં. બામણગામનાં ટેકરાઓ ઉપર વસેલાં છાપરાઓની પધરામણીમાં તો સાથે ફરતા યુવાનો પણ હાંફી જાય પણ સ્વામીશ્રીનો ઉત્સાહ ઓછો ન થાય. તળાવના ડહોળા પાણી પીને ધોમધપતા તાપમાં ભાલ પ્રદેશની ઝીણી ધૂળમાં મહિનો મહિનો તેમણે વર્ષો સુધી વિચરણ કર્યું હતું



રાત-દિવસ ભૂખ-તરસ, થાક કે માંદગી, સગવડ-અગવડ, માન-અપમાન કશાયની પરવા કર્યા વિનાતેઓ સદા સૌના થઈને રહ્યા હતા.

સ્વામીશ્રીતો જાણે સરળતાની પરાકાષા ! ગરીબો, આદિવાસીઓ, ખેડૂતો, પીડિતો, શોષિતો કોઈ પણ સહેલાઈથી એમને મળી શકે. નાનકડા બાળકો પણ એમની સાથે ગોઠડી માંડી શકે. યુવાનો એમને મિત્ર બનાવી શકે. કોઈપણ માનવી એમના આશીર્વાદ પામી શકે.

પૂર્વ આફ્રિકામાં કેન્યાના ટૂરિઝમ મંત્રીશ્રી જોસેફ મટુરિયાએ ૧૯૮૫માં સ્વામીશ્રી સમક્ષ શરાબ છોડવાની પ્રતિજ્ઞા લીધી હતી. એ માત્ર એમના માટે જ નહીં કેન્યાના અનેક લોકો માટે પણ એ એક હેરતભરી ઘટના હતી. પરંતુ શ્રી મટુરિયાએ એ પ્રતિજ્ઞાને યથાતથા પાળી એટલું જ નહીં અનેકને દારૂમાંથી મુક્ત કર્યા એ વધુ મોટું આશ્ચર્ય બની રહ્યું છે. ૨૨ વર્ષ પછી, તા. ૧૨-૫-૨૦૦૭ના રોજ નૈરોબીમાં તેઓ સ્વામીશ્રીને મળ્યા ત્યારે તેમણે કહ્યું હતું “સ્વામીશ્રીએ જ્યારથી મને શરાબ છોડાવ્યો છે ત્યારથી મને દારૂ પીવાની ઈચ્છા માત્ર ટળી ગઈ છે! મારા માટે આ ખૂબ મોટી વાત કહેવાય!” સ્વામીશ્રીના પારસસ્પર્શ કેટલાય કથીરો કુંદન બન્યા છે, વ્યસન, કુસંગ અને દુરાચારથી મુક્ત થયા છે.

ઘણીવખત ધર્મના છત્ર નીચે જ અધર્મનું પોષણ થતું હોય છે. આવા સંજોગોમાં પ્રમુખ સ્વામી મહારાજ હંમેશાં સાચો નિર્દેશ કરી નીતિમય જીવનનો સંદેશ આપતા. એકવાર અમેરીકાના યુસ્તન શહેરમાં એક કેથલિક ચર્ચના બિશપ જોન એલ. માર્કોવ્સ્કી સ્વામીશ્રીને પોતાના ચર્ચની પ્રવૃત્તિઓ જણાવી રહ્યા હતા. ચર્ચના નેજા હેઠળ ચાલતી શાળા અનેહોસ્પિટલોનો ખર્ચ કાઢવા માટે બીશપે કહ્યું કે, “અમે જુગારખાનું (બીન્ગો) ચલાવીએ છીએ !” સ્વામીશ્રીએ પૂછ્યું “પરંતુ જુગાર રમવાનું તમારા બાઈબલમાં ક્યાંય લખ્યું છે ?”

“એવો કોઈ નિર્દેશ નથી” બિશપે કહ્યું “તે પછી એક ધાર્મિક સંસ્થા તરીકે જુગાર રમીશીને લોકોની હરામ વૃત્તિઓને પોષવી એ યોગ્ય કહેવાય ? આજે આપણે ધર્મના લોકો જ જુગાર રમીશીનું તો જુવાનીયાઓને એમ જ થશે કે, ધર્મમાં પણ જુગાર રમવાની છુટ જ છે. એમાંથી માણસમાં એક પ્રકારની ચોરી કરવાની વૃત્તિ પેદા થાય છે.”

બિશપ પાસે સ્વામીશ્રીના આ કથનનો કોઈ જવાબ ન હતો તેમણે કહ્યું “પણ માણસ આખરે માણસ છે. એને કંઈક મનોરંજન તો જોઈએ જ.”

સ્વામીશ્રીએ કહ્યું ‘પણ એના મનોરંજન માટે બીજું ન રાખી શકાય ? બહાર ગમે તે ક્યારો હોય તો પણ, ધર્મમાં તો આ ન જ ચાલવું જોઈએ. ધર્મ તો લોકોને ચોરી, જુગાર, ડ્રગ્સ, વ્યસનમાંથી પાછા જ વાળવા જોઈએ.’

બિશપ, સ્વામીશ્રીની આ વાતોથી પ્રભાવિત થતા બોલી ઊંચ્યા હતા. ‘આપનો આદર્શ ખૂબ જ ઊંચો છે, અમારે એ પ્રમાણે વર્તવું જોઈએ !’

સને ૧૯૮૧માં કોઈકે તેજોદેવથી પ્રેરાઈને પરમ પુજ્ય પ્રમુખસ્વામી મહારાજ વિરુદ્ધ વાહિયાત, વિચિત્ર અને વિકૃત લખાણોવાળી એક પત્રિકા પ્રકાશીત કરી. આ પત્રિકા લઈ એક સંત સ્વામીશ્રી પાસે આવ્યા. બધાની હાજરીમાં સ્વામીશ્રીએ તેનું વાંચન શરૂ કરાવ્યું. લેખનું આઘાત જનક મથાળું વંચાતાં જ સ્વામીશ્રી ખડખડાટ હસી પડ્યા. પરંતુ આવા જુદા અને બેહુદા આરોપ સહન ન થતા શિષ્યોમાંથી કોઈ બોલ્યું “આ પત્રિકા લખનારને આપણે કહેવું જોઈએ કે આવું શા માટે કરો છો ?” સ્વામીશ્રી કહે “ના, આપણે આપણું કાર્ય કરતા જવું, કોઈનોય વિરોધ કરવો નહીં. ભગવાન બધું જુએ છે.”

“પણ આને કહીએ તેમાં વિરોધ ક્યાં છે ? તેને જાણ તો થવી જોઈએ ન કે તે ખોટું કામ કરે છે ! કુંકાડો તો રાખવો જોઈએ ને !” કોઈકે કહ્યું.

સ્વામીશ્રી કહે “કુંકાડામાં પણ મોહું દુખે. આપણા ગુરૂની એ રીત નથી. આપણે પહેલેથી જ કોઈનો વિરોધ કર્યો નથી. કોઈ કહે, બોલે, મારે પણ સામે પ્રતિકાર કરવો નહીં. આપણે તો ક્ષમા...”

“પણ આપના ગુરૂ શાસ્ત્રીજી મહારાજના વખતમાં તો શિષ્યો ઘણા ઓછા હતા. કોઈ નવરૂ હોય તો કંઈ કરેને ? અત્યારે તો અમે ઘણા છીએ એટલે...”

અધવચ્ચે જ તે વાત કાપી નાખતા જ સ્વામીશ્રી કહે “આપણે નવરા હોઈએ તો ભજન કરવું, વિરોધ ન કરવો.” એમ કહી રોજીંદી સહજતાથી એમણે તે ચર્ચાને વિરામ આપી દીધો. જાણે કોઈ વાત બનીજ નથી !! કોઈ સવાલ પણ નહીં કે કેટલી પત્રિકા છપાઈ હશે, કેટલી વહેંચાઈ હશે ?

બોટાદ પાસે આવેલા રોહિશાળા ગામમાં એક નાની સરખી બાબતમાં ઉશ્કેરાઈને એક યુવાને ગામના સજજન અમરીશભાઈનું ખૂન કરી નાખ્યું. આ ઘટનાથી ગ્રામજનોમાં આક્રોશ ફેલાઈ ગયો. વેરની વસુલાતની આગમાં આખુ ગામ બળી મરે એવી સ્થિતિ હતી. ત્યારે અમરીશભાઈના પુત્ર જસમતને સ્વામીશ્રીએ સમજાવ્યું “તું શાંતિ રાખજે.”

MOVIE REVIEW

Budhia Singh- Born to Run

Directed by Soumendra Padhi
Review by Nitin Pillai

Budhia Singh- Born to Run won the National Award for Best Children's Film, however viewing this masterpiece from the perspective of being a children's entertainer would be belittling this biopic. The movie is not only for children, to be honest it should be for the grown-ups also. It chronicles

the life of world's youngest marathon runner who ran his first 48km marathon at the tender age of 5. Soumendra Padhi does a stellar job of juxtaposing the need to run for Budhia against the need for the society to intervene where it should not.

From the darkness of poverty, corruption and social injustice Budhia emerges as a prominent question mark on where India is headed. Budhia is sold off to a peddler for a mere Rs.800 by his mother



because they cannot afford to raise a kid. Biranchi, aptly

portrayed by Manoj Bajpayee, takes his under his tutelage and trains him to be a marathon runner. What follows in the movie is the prying of media and the moral groups who target the coach for his inhumane act of subjecting a child to harsh methods of training. In spite of all the negativity that surrounds Budhia's life, what makes the film an inspirational juggernaut is the world class portrayal of Mayur Patole as Budhia Singh.

The child prodigy breathes life into a character which most

of us have never seen. He ably balances the pain of being abandoned with the joy of doing what he loves. Mayur harmonizes the internal and external battles that everyone faces and emerges victorious over every challenge that comes his way. The story should be an inspiration not only to children but to all those who are facing one or the other challenge in their lives.

(The writer is a faculty of English and communication at NRBA)

SCHOLARSHIPS / FELLOWSHIPS / RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Compiled by: GLSCRD

A) OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS :

- UGC Scholarships**
 - Post-Graduate Indira Gandhi Scholarship for Single Girl Child**
Last Date: 15th September, 2016
More Details: <http://www.ugc.ac.in/sgc/>
 - Post-Graduate Merit Scholarship for University Rank Holder**
Last Date: 15th September, 2016
More Details: <http://www.ugc.ac.in/urh/>
 - Post Graduate Scholarships for Professional Courses for SC/ST Candidates**
Last Date: 15th September, 2016
More Details: <http://www.ugc.ac.in/pgsprof/>
- Kingston Business School MBA Scholarships in UK, 2017**
Last Date: 1st October, 2016
More Details: <http://business.kingston.ac.uk/courses/buspgscholarships>
- Czech Republic Government Scholarships for Developing Countries, 2017**
Last Date: 30 September, 2016
More Details: <http://www.msmt.cz/eu-and-international-affairs/government-scholarships-developing-countries?lang=2>
- Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowships for International Students in Italy, 2016/2017**
Last Date: 30 September, 2016
More Details: <http://www.eui.eu/ServicesAndAdmin/AcademicService/Fellowships/FernandBraudelSeniorFellowships/Index.aspx>
- NRDC Budding Innovators Award of the Year (for UG & PG Student)**
Last Date: 30 September, 2016
More Details: <https://www.nrdcindia.com/english/index.php/awards/nrdc-innovation-awards>

B) OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS:

- Commonwealth scholarship to the United Kingdom, 2017**
Last Date: 16, September, 2016
More Details: http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/1298451_Commonwealth-Scholarship-to-UK.pdf
- 10 PhD Positions for International Researchers in Germany, 2016-2017**
Last Date: 15, September, 2016
More Details: <https://www.bigsss-bremen.de/>
- Fully Funded Postdoctoral Fellowships for International Applicants in Austria, 2017**
Last Date: October 1, 2016
More Details: <http://www.iiasa.ac.at/web/home/education/postdocs.html>
- Applications are invited for AYUSH Award Schemes of CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN AYURVEDIC SCIENCES (CCRAS)**
Last Date: 15, September, 2016
More Details: <http://www.ccras.nic.in/tab-frame-notice.html>
- Inviting Books for 'Yuva Puraskar 2017'**
Last Date: 30, September, 2016
More Details: <http://sahitya-akademi.gov.in/sahitya-kademi/pdf/yuvapuraskar-2017.pdf>
- BIRAC Announces 10th Call for Proposals under CRS Scheme 1st Aug - 15th Sep, 2016**
Last Date: 15, September, 2016
More Details: http://www.birac.nic.in/cfp_view.php?id=48
- NRDC Meritorious Invention Awards 2015**
Last Date: 30, September, 2016
More Details: <https://www.nrdcindia.com/english/index.php/awards/nrdc-innovation-awards>
- Indo-Australia-call-for-proposal-Round-10-from-Indian**
Last Date: 19 October, 2016
More Details: <http://www.dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/Indo-Australia-call-for-proposal-Round-10-from-Indian-side%20%28Final%29.pdf>

9. Call for India – UK R&D proposals under DST-UKIERI Programme

Last Date: 5th October, 2016
More Details: <http://www.dst.gov.in/callforproposals/call-india-%E2%80%93-uk-rd-proposals-under-dst-ukieri-programme>

10. India-EU Research and Innovation Call for Proposals 2016-17

Last Date: Friday, August 12, 2016 to Thursday, October 27, 2016
More Details: <http://www.dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/DST-EC-Call%20note-co-funding-2016-DST-version-%28%29-revised-100816-clean.pdf>

C) OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS:

- DLGS Doctoral Fellowships at Dresden University of Technology in Germany, 2017**
Last Date: September 15, 2016
More Details: <http://www.dlgs-dresden.de/1/dlgs-fellowships/>
- 25 International Fellowships at University of Freiburg in Germany, 2016**
Last Date: September 15, 2016
More Details: <http://www.frias.uni-freiburg.de/en/routes-to-frias/cofund>
- Application for Fellowships in Universities for Railway related Research**
Last Date: 30 September, 2016
More Details: <http://www.nair.indianrailways.gov.in/uploads/files/147132164226Fellowship%20-Detailed%20Advertisement.pdf>
- BIRAC Announces Fourth Call for SPARSH on Ageing and Health (15 Aug - 30th Sept, 2016)**
Last Date: 30 September, 2016
More Details: http://www.birac.nic.in/desc_new.php?id=213
- Graduate School Postdoctoral Fellowship in Germany, 2016**
Last Date: 16, September, 2016
More Details: <http://www.globalhistory.de/gih/positions/postdoc/index.html>

CONTINUED FROM PAGE-8

આપણે વેર નથી રાખવું. તારા બાપુજીનો ધામમાં જ ગયા છે, અને હું તારા માટે બેઠો છું. ચિંતા કરીશ નહીં. કોર્ટમાંથી કેસ કાઢી નાખજો પેલાને ક્ષમા આપી દેજો. તારી માતાને પણ કહેજે કે માફ કરી દે." પ્રમુખ સ્વામી મહારાજના આ વચને ભાવનગરની કોર્ટમાં ન્યાયાધીશ સમક્ષ એ ગ્રામીણ ખેડૂત મહીલાએ પતિના હત્યાકાંડને ક્ષમા આપી દીધી! સૌ આશ્ચર્યચકિત થઈ

ગયા. ત્યારબાદ સ્વામીશ્રી સ્વયં તે ગામમાં પધાર્યા. બેય પક્ષોને સતત બે દિવસ સુધી સમજાવીને તેમણે વેરની આગ ઠારી દીધી! એ ઘટનાના સાક્ષીઓ આજેય કહે છે કે, જો પ્રમુખસ્વામી મહારાજ ન હોત તો ગામમાં કેટલીય લાશો ઢળી ગઈ હોત! તા. ૨૪-૯-૨૦૦૨ના રોજ ગાંધીનગરના સ્વામીનારાયણ અક્ષરધામ મંદિર પર આતંકવાદી હુમલો થયો. યાત્રિકો, સ્વયંસેવકો મળીને કુલ ૩૩ ના

દુ:ખદ અવસાન થયા જેમાં એક સંત પણ હતા! આ ગોઝારી ઘટનાના પડઘા સમગ્ર રાજ્યમાં પડ્યા. ૧૬ જેટલા રાજ્યોમાં અને ભારતના ૩૫ જેટલા મુખ્ય શહેરોમાં સજ્જડ બંધ પળાયો. સૌના હૃદય આળા થઈ ગયા હતા. તીવ્ર પ્રતિક્રિયાઓનો જવાબામુખી ગમે ત્યારે ફાટી નીકળે તેમ હતો પરંતુ પ્રમુખસ્વામી મહારાજે જાહેર અપીલ કરી 'આ સમય એકતા અને સહાનુભૂતિથી શાંતિ જાળવવાનો છે.

પ્રાર્થના કરો-ક્યારેય ક્યાંય પણ, કોઈના પર પણ આવો અત્યાચાર ન થાય...' સ્વામીશ્રીની નજરમાં સમસ્ત સમાજનું હિત તરવરતું હતું. આવી વજ્રધાત સમી ઘટનાને પરિણામે સમગ્ર સંપ્રદાય પક્ષાઘાતની સ્થિતિમાં આવવાને બદલે, આક્રમક નિવેદનબાજીમાં પડવાને બદલે લોકોની સેવામાં નિમગ્ન રહ્યો એ ખૂબ મહાન ઘટના હતી. સૌના હૃદયને સ્વામીશ્રીનું આ વ્યક્તિત્વ સ્પર્શી ગયું.

વિશ્વભરમાંથી અનેક પત્રો અને ટેલિફોન દ્વારા અનેક પ્રતિષ્ઠિત મહાનુભાવો અને નાગરિકોએ સ્વામીશ્રીની આ સહૃદયતા, સમયોચિત સંયમ અને ઉદારતાને ખૂબ બિરદાવ્યા! આવા પ્રસંગોનું મનન કરતા જણાય છે કે પ્રમુખસ્વામી મહારાજના દિવ્ય વ્યક્તિત્વના દર્શન પામેલા લાખો લોકોને તેઓમાં "સર્વોચ્ચ ગુરુ"ના દર્શન થાય એ અત્યંત સ્વાભાવિક છે!

EVENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

NOURISHING YOUNG MINDS



Workshops for students of N.R. Institute of Business Administration continued in August. Dr. Kishore Bhanushali conducted a workshop on 'Market and Market Structure' where he took examples of products and discussed the market structure of the same. The next week, he came back and conducted another workshop on 'Price Determination'. Ms Priyanka Arora a corporate trainer, first conducted a workshop on 'Recruitment and Selection' where she took the students through the recruitment and selection practices of various companies. Her second workshop was on 'Teams and team Building'. Dividing the students into small groups and



getting them to play a game, she helped the student participants understand team dynamics, communication, team decision-making and other concepts. Next in the series was a very engaging workshop by Dr. Sarla Achuthan. To facilitate the understanding of 'Set Theory and Function', she put the student participants through live exercises of data gathering followed by data analysis and interpretation using Venn

Diagram. In addition to these academic workshops, NRites also had a three day workshop on Film Making, where Mr. Rehan Chaudhary, an upcoming film maker taught the students the art of film making. The outcome of this three day workshop was the submission of short films and documentaries that were scripted, filmed, acted in and edited by the students themselves.

WE CAN – AN INITIATIVE TO SPREAD GOODNESS

GLS I-MBA, School of Management, have initiated a noble drive in the name of 'WE CAN – An initiative to spread goodness.' Under this drive a 'Tree Plantation' campaign was organized on August 10, wherein students and faculties planted 400 saplings at the campus. Students took a vow to nourish these saplings with utmost love and care just the way they are nourished at GLS University.



REPORT OF "ECO-FEST- 2016"

DATE: 9th and 10th August, 2016
 SMPIC had organized Eco fest with more than 150 members of economics club recently. This Eco-fest was divided into two days event. On the 9th August, 2016 Tuesday, the first event was "IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES of economics (DUMB CHARADES)". On the next day, 10/08/2016, Wednesday, the second event was "OPTIMUM SOLUTION FOR THE PROBLEMS OF INDIAN STATES". In this event, the ppt presentations



were made by students on different states of India, and their different economic problems with their current situation and optimum solution of those problems. The main objective behind this activity was to create interest in the students towards economics subject.

Faculty Achievement – GLS MBA

Congratulations to Dr. Gurmeet Singh, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Management, GLS University for completion of PhD. in Faculty of Management from Gujarat University. His thesis was on 'Interrelation between capital structure and profitability of Indian Corporate' under the guidance of Dr. V. Chari.



Faculty Achievement – GLS MCA & BCA



Dr. Ankit Bhavsar faculty of GLS (I. & R. K. Desai) Institute of Computer Application and Dr. Harshal Arolkar, Associate Prof. & HoD MSc (IT) programme, presented a research paper titled "Simulation And Performance Evaluation Of WSN Based Architecture For Animal Health Monitoring Using Ns2", at 4th

International Conference On Emerging Research in Computing, Information, Communication and Applications, (ERCICA 2016), conducted by Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technologies, Bangalore on 29-30 August 2016. The paper is being published in Springer proceedings.

Shining Star of GLS I-MBA

Nidhi Raval, Second Year - Integrated MBA Programme Student won Gold Medal in the 6th Open National Taekwondo Cup held at Goa. She scores hat-trick with three medals in a row for Taekwondo. Congratulations to Nidhi for this outstanding achievement.



GLSIC Student Achievement

Parmar Karan, Student of GLS (Smt. M.R.Parikh) Institute of Commerce has bagged Silver Medal in Martial Arts Competition at State Level organized by KUDO Association of Gujarat, under 19 category, held at Navsari on 7th August, 2016.



"Our life is only worthwhile if we do good deeds and walk the path towards God".
 -HH Pramukh Swami Maharaj

LET'S PLAY! CREATING A SPORTS CULTURE IN INDIA

The dismal performance of India at the Rio Olympics has prompted us to think about the lack of a Sports culture in India. In a country of 125 crores, we cannot produce a sportsperson to win a single gold medal at the Olympics. And countries like Germany and Russia with less than one crore of citizens could excel in nearly 20 events. It is easy to blame the government, the country, the corruption, politicians and the entire set up for the failure of our Olympians. But the fact of the matter is that there is a huge lack of sporting culture in our country.

In the face of this apathy, there has been a spurt of sports academies and sports clubs in India, and in Ahmedabad in the recent past. Not only have entrepreneurs in the city established state-of-art infrastructure for different sports, there have also been



impressive cases of people leaving high-end professional careers and devoting themselves to sports full-time. Two such persons, Nikhit Fernandes (alumnus of HACC, and an ex high level executive at ICICI) and Jamshed (alumnus of Xaviers, and an Art Dealer) have put their professional lives aside to focus on sports and encourage the sporting culture in our young ones. They have

also established a website – mysport.xyz – which is dedicated to making local events visible and more professional. So, games like football, tennis and others announce their local matches here so that students from the city can participate. They also plan to start a comprehensive sports academy – Sprint Recreation – in the near future.

Other than this, there are



other sports academies like Eklavya, Lakshya and Olympic Gold Quest that focus on Indian sports persons being able to compete globally in different sporting events. There are many other skating, cricket and tennis academies initiated all over the city.

Sporting times are changing, for sure. The point is, are we? We need to have a more conscious and dedicated fitness

and sporting culture in our societies, communities and families. American and other nationality parents play a version of basketball with their children at home, or go trekking, swimming and soccer-playing with them. Why don't we begin by playing Kusti, Kabaddi, Hockey or Chess with our children? Do we even remember that these are sports of Indian origin?

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