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SAMVAD

SHREE THATHAI BHATIA COMMUNITY BULLETIN

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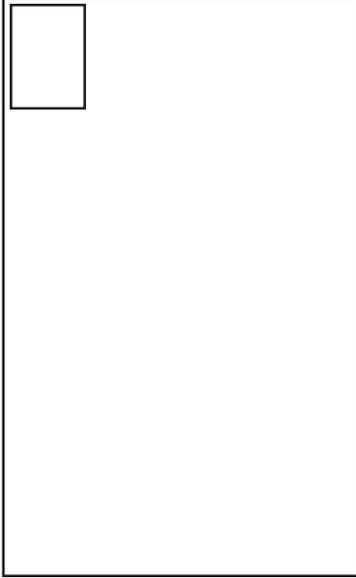
संवाद



दीपावली के पावन
अवसर पर
सब भाई बहनों को
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ

सम्पादक.

BOOK - POST



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COMMUNITY AWAKING :

A POEM - RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Where the mind is without fear and the
head is high;
Where knowledge is free;
Where the world has not been broken up
into fragments by
narrow domestic walls;
Where words come out from the
depth of truth;
Where tireless striving
stretches its arms
towards perfection;
Where the clear stream of reason
has not lost its way
into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;
Where the mind is led forward by thee
into ever widening thought and action
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father,
let my country awake.

For Private Circulation only. FAMILY COPY

Annual Function Invitation inside

EDITORIAL

In an article "A brief History of the Thathai Hindu Bhatia Community" published by our Bahrain brothers in 1994-1995, it was asked who are the people who make up the Thathai Bhatia Community? How did they hold together?"After a decade I am asking, " How will they remain together in future".

World is changing and some changes have brought a revolution for the betterment of society in the field of education, communication science, medicine etc. But due to fast pace of changes it has brought a Generation gap & decline in our social & moral values. It is quite natural that all these shifts in the society are affecting the Bhatia community also.

In earlier days the community was restricted to some areas. It is only now that Bhatia community has come out in a dynamic way to settle at new places not in India but is now global in nature.

Now with the changing shifts in the society, our community too cannot remain untouched. That is why, it is essential for a strong brothership! Shree Thathai Bhatia Panchayat should acquire global status with a vast network of units working in close co-ordination with the overall umbrella of Shree Thathai Bhatia Panchayat, Working in close co-operation from other Bhatia Organization. Such a strong Organization can be an effective tool in managing collectively vast social problems, like Matrimonial alliances of the children, selection of careers for the next generation and peaceful coexisting of two generation under the same roof adopting Indian traditional system. It will balance the conflict between our past traditions & current spate of modernization.

I quote, Late Shri Madan Kikla:- Shri Thathai Bhatia Puj Panchayat has to be restored to its due place in the community. This is the oldest parent body with the oldest records of existence on the life of our community. We hope that everybody will come forward to help the August body grow in size, commitment and a symbol of the community where everyone remain an equal person a member without being affected by material ups & downs. Thathai Bhatia can now have a broader vision and different outlook. Let us join hands together and try our best to see what can we do for our community. I invite suggestions, ideas and whatever constructive changes that are possible.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We invite from our readers contribution on the following topics relevant to our community :-

1. My vision of our community in the year 2010.
2. Decline in Pushtimarg value in our Community.
3. Need of the community functions that brings the community together.
4. Rising trends of divorces in our community - malady and solution.

The two best contributions in each category will be suitably rewarded. Editorial committee's decision will be final. Contribution may be in English, Gujarati, Hindi or in our diction of Thathai Sindhi (Gujarati or Devnagri)

Please send the advertisement money by cross A/c. Payee cheque in favour of **SHREE THATHAI BHATIA PANCHAYAT.**

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CHINTAN

A Reminder

It has been over a decade that I have been visiting (on a regular basis) this beautiful city called Milwaukee in the state of Wisconsin, USA. As a matter of fact it was due to my stay here once a year for last decade and couple of years at Jamshedpur that I begin to realize that what difference it makes to live in a peaceful environment and how it is healthy for our mind and ever aging body. Apart from it, one discovers oneself as an individual in comparison to be part of a mob where it is almost impossible even to have a glimpse within. One almost rediscovers oneself in the solitude of such a place. Though it sounds like an exaggeration but when we are surrounded by peaceful environment it is a sort of meditative tranquill state of mind without any self effort. I can understand that such explanation will not appeal to many and certainly not to those mob loving type and those whom peace gives a feeling of uneasiness or even a sense of insecurity. A gentleman on visit to USA commented THIS COUNTRY HAS NOTHING TO OFFER EXCEPT PEACE. This was of course in reference to smaller places not the giant cities of this continent called North America. I admit that certainly Deolali too is not for such people and it certainly is their prerogative. I have no problem with those.

I have already written a lot in order to convey the reasons of choosing that location TO BEGIN WITH but unfortunately it has been not received in the spirit it was meant. From the very beginning I had submitted that our people living in gulf will not find it as a substitute to any hill station or a package of a short term fun tour, Primarily it is meant for our people who reside in Bombay and wish to go there for short time to realize the difference of living in a city terrorized by a perpetual assault of noise, traffic of every variety, pollution and ever growing population will gradually but certainly discover what a tranquility is. However merely mention of this prime function quickly cropped up an argument by some of our NRI brothers, why shall we pay for others!!!

There is no question of anybody being OTHER in the community. One is here was there in past and one who is there will be here someday. And those who are already here are not in no case others if we have not totally exhausted our community sense and its significance as well the value of THE SENSE OF BELONGING. I sincerely hope that will not happen.

In order to recap the concept once again I will very briefly submit a couple of reasons which hopefully might appeal to some community minded brothers and sisters who fortunately are still in plenty and their solidarity and compassions still remain intact.

It is a proposed sanitorium project of

sixteen small apartments with plans for a children's play space and other such essential facilities. If visited by our people even once in a while the difference of living in a peaceful environment will be understood and gradually be relished as old habit though harmful die very hard. Some of us slowly but surely may think of having a small place of their own and thus a movement may take place for more growth in such type of houses with beginning by some few enterprising and forward looking folks. I do not claim that it will certainly happen. However we can not know unless we give it a trial. And mind you investment in the real state anywhere in India is never lost. The appreciation may not be similar to big cities but it will be still an asset added for coming generations. Also as situation and understanding by people and authorities of this nation are changing it is quite possible that pragmatic laws in regards to renting may come in force bit sooner or later and thus creating a source of income too for some so desirous for whatever reasons. What more one can say about the project? Already the value of land we have purchased is appreciated and thus there is no problem of material loss to the community in anyway. However we are losing a very precious time on this particular concept to materialize. Also let me submit that though presently we have lots of problems and confusion and also lack of will in regards to the concept of HOME FOR AGED but it is got to take place on a bigger scale a day less or more and let us not be careless about this pending reality. And

though we think that it will be confined to a couple of rooms in Sewafund?

I also wish to remind those of us who remain perpetually in a state of criticism of our people involved here in community work. I have no hesitation in accepting the fact that there exists plenty of shortcomings on our part BUT does someone realizes the fact that it is a very difficult job maintaining these institutes as our community assets while they all fall in a category of Public Trust and extremely vulnerable in so many ways. Is it not the fact that in spite all three of these institutes with the combine of money from our NRI members and those present here have expanded as assets and reasonably well kept? So why are we hesitating to go beyond Bombay and of course hopefully more in Bombay too.

With so much happening around us beyond our comprehending it is indeed a grave mistake not to plan and execute for the future and once again I humbly wish to remind you all my brothers and sisters that there can not be better beginning than this project. It is pregnant with plenty of possibilities for the community in the future and let us give it a try. We have absolutely nothing to loose but if things go as we envisage it will prove to be a marvelous step ever taken by us after the partition when we lost our own NAGAR.

Ashok Gajria.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To, The Editor
Jaishree Krishna

I was highly anxious since very long to introduce our Bhatia Parivar forum Panchayat Members through this to you to enhance & strengthen Bhatia - Brotherhood. I therefore beg to state as below:

Bhatia Parivar forum Panchayat was established in Dec.1997 for Sindhi Bhatias coming from all places i.e Nasarpuri, Karachi, Hyderabad, Thatta, Khairpur state, Rohri, Sukkur, Shikarpur & other places in Sindh. It has progressed well and our membership has spread all over India, U.A.E., Muscat & abroad.

I have great respect for Thattai Bhatias. I had visited this peaceful happy city having brotherly and helping hand with each other. I also salute to your Panchayat which is said to be very rich & has progressed efficiently with your own place, Auditorium, Clinic, School etc. of your own. You deserve all congratulations, which depicts well integration & love amongst Thathai Bhatias. I do not know whether it is correct to ask? You have confined yourself to small section of Krishnavanshi Bhatias i.e you offer membership to only real Thathai Bhatias. If the girl from Thathai Bhatias get married to Non Thathai Bhatia family - The husband who is non-Thathai Bhatia does not get your membership but the wife who is from Thatha family gets membership. Is this correct or rumour?

You have given name to your Panchayat as Thathai Panchayat , but in fact in Sind the place used to be called as Thatta. I very much appreciate what Mr. Ram C. Bhatia has expressed himself on page 11 of your Magazine Jan to April 2005, which says:

"Let us come together, be together, work together, For coming together is Beginning, For keeping together is Progress & Working together is Success." With best wishes all the time to come & high regards for you & your all members of Thattai Panchayat.

Bhatia Parivar Forum Indore.

Hon. President

B. K. Bhatia

All you wanted to know about the National Park

Location: Borivali

Coverage Area: 104-sq-kms

Main Attraction: Kanheri Caves, Lion Safari, Tiger Safari

Best Time To Visit: Throughout the Year
Sanjay Gandhi National Park, better known as "**Borivali National Park**" is set in hill ranges around the suburb of Borivali in Mumbai. Notified in 1974, it offers a pleasant change from the usual sights and attractions of the big city. It is hence common to see the park teeming with school picnics, college picnics and other organized excursions.

The undulating green lands of the **Borivali National Park** are just the kind of surroundings to which one would love to retreat for some moments of quiet introspection or meditation. The great panoramic view of hills, valleys, lakes and open expanses can actually have a therapeutic effect on mind, body and soul.

Compiled by: Shri Hemchand. N. Java.

MY MOST MEMORABLE JOURNEY AND CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Chinese New Year Celebrations (Part - II)

We witnessed lion dances through out in first few days of the new year. The lion dance is performed by two 'dancers'. One at the head and one at the tail of the lion. The dances were accompanied by loud music on drums, songs and cymbals. Every chinese new year has its name- The year of Dragon, Snakes, Horse, Goat, Pig, Rabbit, Monkey, Rooster (Chicken), Dog, Rat, Ox and Tiger. The current New year is a year of dog. We were told that next new year will be year of pig.

Our daughter- in-law had very interesting things to tell us about the New Year celebrations. She told us that traditionally Chinese think that whatsoever happens on new years day will reflect one's fortunes for the rest of the year. Therefore there are certain practices which should be avoided on New year's day to ensure that the rest of the year goes smoothly. Some do's and dont's are listed at the end of this article. Chinese new year is the time for feasting and all the dishes that are prepared are meant to symbolise abundance and wealth for the whole family. On new year day chinese do not serve red meat and put all those chipped and cracked dishes away over the New Year

period. Eating from an imperfect dish means are imperfect start to the year.

"Neen Go" (Noen Go) as new year's cake is a must cake is eaten for breakfast and served to visitors. The rice flower used in the cake symbolizes cohesiveness, the round shape represents unity of Family and the slight rising of the cake indicates rising fortune.

Our daughter-in-law put together a tray of togetherness (Chun-hok) for the new year. The tray was packed full of dried fruits, Sweets and candies and served to guests and relatives who visited. The tray had eight sides (the number eight is lucky in Chinese and is a symbol of prosperity) and was filled, among other, with goodies like red dates which bring hope for prosperity, melon seeds for proliferation and cookies. On New years Day 'Jai choi' a vegetable dish is eaten. The various ingredients are root vegetables or fibrous vegetables lotus seeds, black moss, sea weeds, dried beans, curd and bamboo shoots which in Chinese sounds like a "wish for all to go well"

Noodles symbolise longevity and are always served uncut, it is customary in China, to eat Noodles on birth days and so on the seventh day after the New year "Yon Yet" which means everybody's birthday noodles are eaten for a universal birthday celebration.

Gold is every where over the New year-real or not, deep fried to 'Golden brown' goodies are very popular including "Yau Gok" - a crecent shaped crispy biscuit - filled with a sweet nut and sugar mixture which resembles the traditional Chinese Gold ingot (tael) and 'Jin Dus' Golden crispy pastry is symbolic of prosperity.

Shops and houses are filled with Tangerines-a symbol of good fortune and oranges-a symbol of wealth over the New Year. We were told that chinese word for tangerines sounds like "luck" and the word for orange sounds like "wealth" Pameloes also make an appearance.

Finally do's and dont's during the Chinese New year.

Things to do

Greet others with Kung Hai Fat Choi. give to lai seers to each child as happiness comes in twos. This is Chinese way of passing good luck to the next Generation.

Wear New Cloths - preferably in red for luck. Business owners also give 'lai see' to there employees and associates.

Things to avoid

No house work or cooking is allowed for the first two days of the New year.

Sweeping and cutting are especially taboo.

Dont wash hair on first and last day of the New Year.

Dont drop your chop sticks.

Dont say words related to sickness and death.

Dont borrow or lend money.

Dont slaughter poultry or live stock to avoid any association with death.

Avoid breaking anything as it is indicative of bad luck ahead.

A word about the performance of Gruha Pravesh Puja. Brahmin was called from Honkong to perform the Puja. He had brought all materials including Havan Samagiri except coconut which, of course we had brought from Mumbai. Before the chhabis of Shri Ganesh, Shri Nathji and Shivji the puja was performed with all elegance & rituals. About 25 Indian and Chinese guests were invited.

As far the meals, contract was given to two marwari cooks from Shenzhen. The menu included vegetable Pulau, Dahi / curd, cucumber raita, mixed vegetable of Tomato Potato and green peas. As regards the sweets they included Motichur Ladoos, Jilebeas and Mohanthal. farsan included Bhavnagari Gathias and Tikha Gathias (Motichara). At the insistance of the Brahmin Pujari Rawa sheera was prepared at home for the Bhog. Lunch dishes were delicious and every one was delighted to have Indian food in Shenzhen.

Ram Lilwa.

Concluded

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महलों

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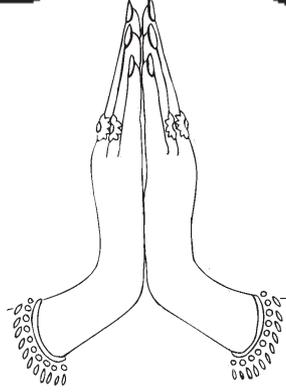
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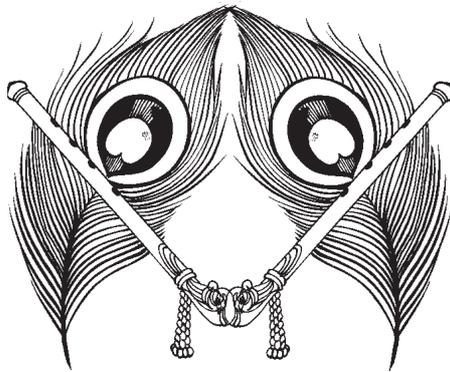
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80 PLUS IN SAMVAD AS GUEST WRITERS

Preface :- We commence a new column with our respected octogenarian brothers of our community who share the sweet memories of their childhood, youth & native place - Thatha & Karachi.

It is our hope that this will bridge generation gap and bring community folks together.

May YOU live to be 100 whole century.

Editor.

Shri Maghanmal J. Pancholia was here in Mumbai . We share with him his early memories which are being written for the benefit of our readers.

Shri Magabha - I was born in Thatha in joint family at Khetpal Para in 1924. My father Shri Jethanand Muljimal Asar had three brothers. Our ancestor's house had three floors. Ground floors had tabela for horses. We had number of cows and our breakfast consisted of milk.

I used to go to Saagbazar with my uncle . In mango season we used to get 100 mangoes in one and half rupees. Other vegetables were available in plenty and at low cost.

My earlier childhood memory of Naraindas Govardhandas school of our headmaster who once punished whole class for mischief of one student. Nobody dared to speak. I dared to tell him that this mischief was done by his son. He was impressed & told everybody to speak the truth .

My other memories include to eat "Siro puri" at Gali's corner and enjoyment at Makli - Takri where there were natural fruits . It was historical place. It was two miles from town.

As told to Ram Bhatia

Shri Vallabhdas Muljimal Asarpota was gracious to meet us to share his memories.

I was born at Karachi . My date of birth is 26-11-1920. In Thatha we used to live at Palang Para. I was educated at N.J.High School Bunder Road Karachi . I was married in year 1937 to Smt Rukmani d/o Naraindas Mulchand Khianra. I had four daughters who are happily married. My two grandsons Piyush Mahesh & Chetan Lalchand are managing their family business under my guidance. In Karachi, we were having Puj Mahajan where persons used to assemble at Dasehera and Santa and Ganthia used to be distributed. There was one function of janeo change.

Once Hirabha (Hiranand U Gajria) from Jodhpur came and he was kind enough to build a bigger Hall named Uttam Hall. Shri Jethanand Karani was head, Shri Asanmal Tikamdas Gajria, Jethanand & Tirathdas used to be secretary. But memories I cherish & remember is of Bhatia Yuvak Sangh which was body of youths who used to help greatly in funerals of our community people. The founder member Shri Chandumal J Bhatia had one big Hall in his house for Bhatia Yuvak Sangh where active memmbers assembled. The group consisted of 1)Jeevandas Assanmal Gajria (जीऊभा) 2)Bhudhanmal Tirathdas Gajria (बुधनभा) 3) Moolraj Lakhumal Gajria (मण्डुभा) who were meeting daily in club type of atmosphere. There was one Sahata Fund found where needy people were helped. It was supported by donors who believed in Gupt daan .

As told to Ram Bhatia

YATRA - CHARDHAMKI

(PART - II)

YATRA - BADRINATH

Badrinath from November to April, every year Chardham are closed. As it is inaccessible because of extreme cold. They reopen on the Akshay-tritiya day, which comes around last week of April or first week of May. Badrinath is the temple of lord Vishnu. All Darshan and Pooja are performed according to Vaishnavite traditions. Badri means berries exact age of this Temple is not available, but mention of it has been made in the Vedas. Adiguru Shankaracharya had reinstalled the idol of Lord Vishnu, the temple is situated at the right bank of Alaknanda, at an Altitude of 3,133 Meters above the sea level. The idol is in meditative pose, with palms locked in Sidhasaans, and is the yogic of the Lord Vishnu.

The left of Lord Vishnu are Narayana and Nara the other deities are Uddhava, Garuda and Narada Reposing peacefully above is Krishna's Sudarshna Chakra. Pujari's are from Kerala, Namboodri Brahmins. During summer months, Vishnu is worshipped in the Shringara form and in winter Lord Vishnu worshipped in Yogadhyans form by Gods and Goddesses. He remains inaccessible to human beings. It is believed that during the six winter months Narada and other Gods perform the Holy rituals and worship Lord Vishnu. The proof lies in the fact that the lamp lit during the closing ceremony at the

start of winter months to burn bright after six months, when the temple is reopened for the summer. Places of pilgrimage around Badrinath are Joshimath, Mana, Vyasgufa, Ganeshgufa, Bhimpool or pul over the river Saraswati made of huge slab of stone known as Bhimshila. From those points Pandavas crossed to there way to the heaven. The view is spectacular, as the river Saraswati thunders down with a deafening roar through the sculptured gorge and churns out milky white gushes of water. Joshimath, also known as Jyotimath, is the places where Adiguru Shankaracharya attained enlightenment under the Mulberry tree called 'Kalp Vriksha', which has been there for 2400 years. He wrote the famous "Shankar Bashya" in this cave and revived Hindu religion. He set up 4 math in the four corners of our country, which are famous Chardhams of Hindu Pilgrims the first math was established here in Joshi math. The Holy town is full of temples like Narasimha temple etc. Auli popular hill resorts is also nearby, where youngsters go for tracking and paragliding.

PURANIK KATHA OF BADRINATH

One day in the heavens Lord Vishnu was reclining in this Shesha-shayya, on the bank of Celestial lake. Goddess Lakshmi was caressing his feet. Naradmuni saw this blissful scene rebuked Vishnuji for stooping to the ways of worldly comforts. To prove to his devotees that he was a yogi even in midst of pleasures, Vishnu sent Lakshmi away and disappeared into Himalayan Valley covered

with wild berries (Badri). He remained absorbed to give up Yogadhyana and assume original Shringara form. Since then the valley of Badrivana remained a valley of Meditation. Lakshmi and Lord Vishnu are not worshipped as a divine couple but as individual deities. Lord Krishna advised Uddhava to spend rest of his life in Badrivana i.e. " Uddava Geeta"

Next article will be written to take you all to Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamonotri till then
Jai Shri Krishna.

Concluded
Dr. Lalita H. Palep.
Prabhadevi - 400 025.

AN OLD TRUTH REMEMBERING

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole, which she carried across her neck.

One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water, at the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After 2 years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house."

The old woman smiled, "Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?" "That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house."

Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good in them.

By Amrita Thakkar.

नया साल

नए साल के उत्सव का अर्थ
है एक बार फिर नई जिन्दगी
शुरू करने का उत्सव । इस
अहसास के साथ अगर हम
नया वर्ष मनाए , तभी उनकी
सार्थकता है ।

- विनोबा

MUMBAI FACT FILE

You gotta read this. its awesome!

B_O_M_B_A_Y

Bombay has no bombs and is a harbour not a bay.

Churchgate has neither a church nor a gate. It is a railway station.

There is no darkness in Andheri.

Lalbaag is neither red or nor a garden.

No king ever stayed at Kings Circle.

Nor did Queen Victoria stay at Victoria Terminus.

Nor is there any princess at Princess Street.

Lower Parel is at the same level as Parel.

There are no marines or sailors at Marine Lines.

The Mahalaxmi temple is at Haji Ali not at Mahalaxmi.

There are no pigs traded at Dugar bazaar.

Teen bati is a junction of 3 roads, not three lamps.

Trams used to terminate at Kings circle not Dadar*Tram Terminus (Dadar T.T.).

Breach Candy is not a sweetmeat market, but there is a Hospital.

Safed Pool has the dirtiest and blackest water.

You cannot buy coal at Kolsa street.

There are no Iron smiths at Lohar chawl.

There are no pot makers at Kumbhar

wada.

Lokhandwala complex is not an Iron and steel market.

Null bazaar does not sell taps.

You will not find ladyfingers at Bheendi Bazaar.

Kalachowki does not have a black Police station.

Hanging Gardens are not suspended.

Mirchi Gully does not sell chillies.

Figs do not grow in Anjir Wadi,

Sitafals do not grow in Sitafal Wadi,

Jackfruits do not grow at Fanaswadi

But it is true that you may get fleeced at Chor Bazaar!!!

AMCHI MUMBAI

A City where everything is possible, especially the impossible.

Where lovers first love and then marry,
Where there is place for every Tom, Dick and Harry.

Where telephone bills make a person ill,
Where a person cannot sleep without a pill.

Where carbon-dioxide is more than oxygen,
Where the road is considered to be a dustbin,

Where college canteens are full and classes empty,
Where Adam teasing is also making an entry,

Where a cycle reaches faster than a car,
Where everyone thinks himself to be a star,

Where sky scrapers overlook the slum,
Where house collapse as the monsoon comes,

Where people first act and then think,

Where there is more water in the pen than ink,

Where the roads see-saw in monsoon,
Where the beggars become rich soon,

Where the roads are levelled when the minister arrives,

Where college admission means hard cash,
Where cement is frequently mixed with ash.

This is Mumbai my dear, But don't fear,
just cheer, come to Mumbai every year!

THINGS TO PROVE YOU'RE A BOMBAYITE.

1. You say "town" and expect everyone to know that*this means south of Churchgate.
2. You speak in a dialect of Hindi called 'Bambaiya Hindi', which only Bombayites can understand.*
3. Your door has more than three locks.
4. Rs 500 worth of groceries fit in one paper bag.
5. Train timings (9.27, 10.49 etc) are really important events of life.
6. You spend more time each month traveling than you spend at home.
7. You call an 8' x 10' clustered room a Hall.
8. You're paying Rs 10,000 for a 1 room flat, the size of walk-in closet and you think it's a "steal."
9. You have the following sets of friend: school friends, office friends and yes, train friends, a species unique only in Bombay.

10. Cabbies and bus conductors think you are from Mars if you call the roads by their Indian name, they are more familiar with Warden Road, Peddar Road, Altamount Road.

11. Stock market quotes are the only other thing*besides cricket which you follow passionately.

12. The first thing that you read in the Times of India is the "Bombay Times" supplement.

13. You take fashion seriously. You're suspicious of strangers who are actually nice to you.

14. Hookers, beggars and the homeless are invisible.

15. You compare Bombay to New York's Manhattan instead of any other cities of India.

16. The most frequently used part of your car is the horn.

17. You insist on calling CST as VT, and Sahar and Santacruz airports instead of Chatrapati Shivaji International Airport.

18. You consider eye contact an act of overt aggression.

19. Your idea of personal space is no one actually standing on your toes.

20. Being truly alone makes you nervous.

21. You love wading through knee deep mucky water in the monsoons, and actually call it "romantic".

22. Only in Bombay, you would get Chinese Dosa and Jain Chicken.

Thanks

By - Hemant Gajaria. (Zack)

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

All readers are requested to intimate the change of address so that records can be updated and correspondence mailed correctly.

All members are also requested to contact Panchayat office for:

- a) The members who have not collected their Patal amounts are requested to collect the same during Oct. to Dec. 2006.
- b) The members who have not paid their subscription fee for the year 2006 to 2007 are requested to pay their Subscriptions during October to December 2006.
- c) New Membership forms can also be collected at office.
- d) Members desirous of having Community Certificate for admission purpose etc should give their applications to the Panchayat

office.

Contact - Usha Bhatia

Tel. No.28091770 / 2807 0377 p.p.

In case of any difficulty they should contact us.

Issardas H. Asarpota (Hon. President)
Ramchandra C. Bhatia (Hon. Gen. Secretary)
Tel. No.: 2801 2413

It is matter of great pleasure that our community members are donating to Shree Thathai Bhatia Panchayat.

The details are as follows:

1. Smt Jaybala Hemendas Gandhi
2. Shri Muljimal Damodardas Khiara
3. Shri Lakhumal Muljimal Thaker

We acknowledge the receipt of above and profound thanks to donors.

॥ Jai Ambe ॥

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BHATIAS

This article appeared in The Illustrated Weekly of India - June 23, 1974, has been reproduced here for the benefit of new generation. Attention is drawn towards article on Shi Maganmal Assanmal Kikla. Thathai Bhatia Seva Fund received through our brother Shri Ram. D. Khianra.
- Editor.

Originally a warrior race, the Bhatias now use their fighting spirit to capture trade and commerce. Some of our very eminent businessmen belong to this community.

Bhatias, or Bhattis as they were called in the days of yore, claim their descent from Raja Bhoopat in Lahore who acquired fame for his valour, courage and administrative shrewdness. He and his dynasty came to be known as "Bhattis" or "Bhatti" and the word "Bhatia" is its derivation, which warriors by vocation. Todd, the renowned historian, writes "They (Bhattis) founded successively Tannot, Deraval and Jaisalmer in Samvat 1212 (1156A.D.)

The year 1316, during the reign of Raja Mulraj, was a crucial one for the Bhatia race. It was threatened with extinction. It was at this time that Allauddin Khilji invaded Jaisalmer and besieged it for a full year. With their resources of arms, ammunition and food dwindling, Raja Mulraj took a momentous decision. The aged and the very young were sent away from the fortress through a secret exit and Raja

Mulraj with his soldiers launched a do-or-die offensive. Allaudin's army was momentarily shaken but it received timely help from Mandor, and Mulraj and his brave men met their end fighting valiantly. As a result of this massacre, thousands of widowed women, in keeping with the highest tradition of the race, flung themselves on to the funereal pyres of their husbands.

The two thousand families who had escaped from Jaisalmer settled in Punjab and made their mark in trade and commerce. However, within a few years when their daughters reached marriageable age, a problem arose. Since the choice was limited, could endogamous marriage be permitted? In Multan the Bhatias held a historic meeting. Pandits discussed the issue and ordained that boys and girls whose blood relationship went beyond seven generations could be married to each other. This marks the beginning of the formation of clans or nookhs, as they came to be called.

With their pioneering instinct and abilities, the Bhatias spread out in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Khandesh, Halar and Kutch. Those who settled in Kutch came to be known as "Kutchhis" and those in Halar as "Halais". The Bhatias in different regions acquired different styles of dress, both in achkans and pagdis, which were distinct in their shape and size.

As far as religion was concerned, most of the Bhatias opted for "Pushti Marg" founded by Mahaprabhu Shree Vallabhacharya in the sixteenth century, which came to be

known as Vaishnav Dharma . Its followers were called Vaishnavites and they wear a U shaped caste mark on the forehead. Today their tutelary deity is "Shree Nathji" - better known as Shree Krishna - so beautifully enshrined at Nathdwara in Mewar.

They follow the customary sixteen rites which come under the term "Sanskar" Important among these are Garbhadhan (nuptial ceremony), Simant(during pregnancy), Upanayan (wearing sacred thread), vivah(marriage) and uthamna (funeral rites).

Simanta is performed during the seventh month of pregnancy. The woman goes through a purificatory puja in which mantas are recited to bless and protect her and the unborn child.

Upanayan is another solemn and widely practised ceremony. The boy (batuk) is given a sacred thread in which he undertakes to fulfill his debt to his Creator, his preceptor and his father. The Guru initiates the boy, giving him the Gayatri mantras. He is given a staff which symbolically impresses on him the responsibility to protect his country and society and work for their welfare through control over his mind, speech and body.

Vivah : Prior to the wedding ceremony, there is a colourful rite which even today prevails among the Bhatias. It is known as "Chhakki". Before solemnisation of the marriage, usually on the previous day , the bride goes to the house of her in-laws to pay her respects to them. She is taken in a well-decorated palanquin and her brother

protectively walks alongside with a drawn sword. (This perhaps dates back to the days when the bridegroom belonged to a distant village and there were many hazards on the way.) Then the groom comes to the home of the bride and hand in hand, they walk round the sacred fire four times. that completes the wedding ceremony.

Uthamna is a custom in which all the friends and relatives of a dead person come at the same time to sympathise with the bereaved family. It is a mass condolence meeting.

Merchants

Bhatia were and still are an inherently adventurous and enterprising people. There is no sphere of commerce and industry which they have not successfully tackled.

They are in the forefront in textiles, cotton, iron and steel, mining, shipping and many other vital undertakings.

Even in sports their contribution has received international recognition. Millionaires in trade and industry, they have many charities to their credit in the form of huge hospitals, dharamsalas, universities, colleges, schools, dispensaries and community wells, both in cities and remote villages, all over the country.

It must be said that the foresight and industry of the Bhatias along with that of the Parsees kept Bombay from remaining a fisherman's island and helped it to become one of India's leading financial

centres.

In this respect, one must mention the name of Jivraj Balu, who is said to be the third Bhatia to have arrived in Bombay - in 1770. He was only 14 years of age, penniless and with very little education. But he rose through sheer hard work and tenacity to be a multimillionaire and on several occasions, lent substantial amounts to the East India Company.

The Bhatia Mahajan is the oldest Bhatia institution. It has served the community for 113 years. The Constitution of this Trust has recently been democratised and streamlined and the Board of Trustees comprises a balanced representation of all the sects of Halai Bhatias.

Some time ago, the institution celebrated its centenary under the presidentship of Gopaldas Padamsee Kapadia. The present President, Soonderdas Morarjee, has held this post for the last 13 years.

Lure of "Foreign"

In recent years the yearning for higher specialised foreign education has grown and quite a number of Bhatia boys and girls, both from well-to-do and middle-class families, have opted for the United States and Germany, Where their achievements have been quite impressive. A large number of them have settled abroad.

Intercast marriage is regarded by orthodox Bhatias as loathsome and corrosive and is strongly discouraged. However, its incidence appears to be on the increase at all social levels-amongst the rich, the middle class and the lower middle class.

NEWS FROM ABROAD (BAHRAIN)

This news has been received at Thathai Bhatia Shewa Fund addressed to Hon. Gen. Secretary, as this information we would like to be known to whole Thathai Bhatia Community as it is a matter of pride for all of us, it is printed below :- Editor

I am sorry, if I have failed in my duty to inform our community about change of our nationality which was bestowed upon us in 2002.

Myself, my son, Ranjit, daughters Poonam & Bharti and both my son-in-laws Mr Vijay S. Bhatia & Mr. Vijay Boloor were all given Bahraini nationality.

I think I was in close contact with our Prime Minister H. H. Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa and Ranjit also had been a co-student with the Crown Prince H.H. Shaikh Salman Bin Hamad Al-Khalifa. I feel honored to be bestowed with Bahrain nationality as a Bhatia and hindu. I am also proud to say that I have truly loved Bahrain as my second motherland where I have spent 58 years of my life and also truly helped in welfare of Bahrain in many ways. Just to tell you, I am in course of opening a vocational training for young Bahraini students in practical repairing of latest electronic equipments such as Plasma LCD TV sets, DVD and other audio-video equipments on non profit basis.

I have built a 10 storey Tower named "Gajria Tower" a photo of which shall be sent to you.

Last & least, I seek the blessing of my community and Shri Nathji give me strength to serve the community and country in general.

Kind Regards

Lala Gajria & family.

पुष्टिभक्ति कीर्तन संगीत

॥ श्री हरिः ॥

॥ श्री गोपीजन वल्लभाय नमः ॥

श्री श्यामसुंदरजी (त्रिभंगीरायजी)के विचारसे हमारे कीर्तनोंको 'हवेलीसंगीत' के नामसे न जानकर 'पुष्टिभक्ति कीर्तन' संगीतके नामसे जाना जाय। अतः यह शीर्षक दिया है।

पुष्टिसेवा प्रणालिका मूलाधार कीर्तन है जो कि हमारी अमूल्य समृद्धि हे। अष्टछाप भक्तकवियोंने श्री महाप्रभुजीकी कृपासे प्रभुकी लीलाओंका जैसा दर्शन किया उन्हींका वर्णन कीर्तन द्वारा उनके मुखसे स्रवित हुआ। ओर भी भगवदीयोंने पद बनाये हैं।

प्रभुकी लीलाओंके शब्द ओर स्वर प्रकृतिसे आये हैं। इनकी ध्वनियाँ मनोभावोंको प्रभावित करती हैं। अलोकिक वाणीमें रचित कीर्तनोंका भगवत सेवामें विशिष्ट स्थान है।

हमारे प्रभु कीर्तनोंसे जागते हैं, पोढते हैं, स्नान करते हैं, शृंगार धारण करते हैं, आरोगते हैं, खेलते हैं। हमारे कीर्तन भाव भावनाओंसे सभर हैं। भावपूर्ण कीर्तनगानसे प्रभु शीघ्र रिझते हैं। कीर्तनोंका पुनः पुनः आवर्तन करनेसे भावुकके हृदयमें रसात्मकता प्रकट होती है। प्रभुको बड़ा सुख मिलता है।

कीर्तन प्रत्येक पुष्टिभक्ति मार्गीयके घरमें विराजमान भगवत् स्वरूपकी सेवाको श्री कृष्णकी ब्रजलीलाकी भावभावनाओंसे भरपूर बनाते हैं। कीर्तनसे सेवा लीलारसात्मिका बनती है।

कीर्तनगानसे भगवतसेवामें प्रवृत्ति बनी रहेगी। पुष्टिभक्तिकी रसधारा निरंतर भक्तजनोंके हृदयमें प्रवाहित होती रहेगी। हृदयमें स्नेहभाव जागेगा। सेवाका आनंद द्विगुणातीत होगा। मन शीघ्र एकाग्र होगा। कीर्तनगान द्वारा वाणी पवित्र बनेगी। प्रभुकी लीलाओंका संगीतबद्ध वर्णन निश्चितरूपसे प्रभुकी उपस्थितिका अनुभव कराएगा। मन और आत्मामें भक्तिमय अनुभूतियाँ भर देगा। यह बाततो है कि कीर्तनगान करते समय शब्दोंका उच्चारण स्पष्ट और भावपूर्ण होना अति आवश्यक है।

श्री निकुंजलता बेटीजी महोदयाके मार्गदर्शनसे राग-रागिनियों पर आधारित पुष्टिभक्ति कीर्तन संगीतका पंचवर्षीय अभ्यासक्रम तैयार किया गया है। प्रतिवर्ष परीक्षाएँ ली जाती हैं।

देश-विदेशके वैष्णव समाजने बड़े भारी उत्साहसे इस अभ्यासक्रमका लाभ लेकर भारी संख्यामें परीक्षाएँ दी हैं और उत्तीर्ण होकर सुंदर प्रमाणपत्र भी प्राप्त किये हैं। प्रमाणपत्रमें श्रीजी, गुंसाईजी एवं अष्ट सखाओंके रंगीन चित्र अंकित हैं।

अभ्यासक्रममें हर पाठ्यपुस्तिकाके साथ कीर्तनकार श्री जमनाप्रसादजी शर्माके स्वरोंमें निबद्ध कैसेट भी बनाई गई है। जिसका उपयोग करके आप अच्छी तरहसे कीर्तन सीख सकेंगे। कीर्तन सीखनेके लिये ठठुई भाटिया सेवाफंडमें कई वर्षोंसे सरलाबेन द्वारा वर्ग चलते हैं। या कीर्तन सीखनेके इच्छुक व्यक्ति इन पुस्तिकाओं एवं कैसेट द्वारा थोड़ी ज़्यादा महेनत करके अपने आप ताल एवं लय, सूरमय एवं भावमय कीर्तन सीख सकेंगे।

कीर्तनमें मधुरता एवं तल्लीनता होनी चाहिये। शब्दोंका उच्चारण स्पष्ट और भावपूर्ण होना चाहिये। अनावश्यक चिल्लाना, ज़ोर ज़ोरसे गाना वर्जित है। हमारे यहाँ बालभावसे सेवा होती है। ज़ोरसे डाँटने पर बालक डर जाता है। हमारे पुष्टिप्रभु बालस्वरूप हैं।

सभी वैष्णवजन इस अभ्यासक्रमका लाभ विशालरूपसे लें। अभ्यासक्रमसे वैष्णवोंके कीर्तनगानमें एकरूपता आयेगी। मुम्बईमें कई वर्ग चलते हैं उसके बारेमें जानकारी एवं पुस्तिका और कैसेट लेनेके लिये आंतरराष्ट्रीय पुष्टिमार्गीय वैष्णव परिषदसे फोन द्वारा या पत्रव्यवहारसे संपर्क करें।

पता:- आंतर राष्ट्रीय पुष्टिमार्गीय वैष्णव परिषद
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શ્રી મગનભલ આસનમલ કીકલા

(સ્થાપક: શ્રી ઠહાઈ ભાટીયા સેવા ફંડ)

હું, દેવજી માવજી ટોપરાણી, ઉમર વર્ષ ૮૪, નાનપણથી જ શ્રીમગનભાઈ કીકલાને ઓળખું ફક્ત ઓળખું જ નહિ પણ અમારા કુટુંબના સર્વે મેંબરો સાથે તેમનો સારો સ્નેહ સંબંધ હતો. કરાચીના, મુંબઈ બજાર વિસ્તારમાં ઘણી માતબર પેઢીઓ હતી. તેમાં "વલભદાસ ઉમરશી" નામે અમારી પેઢી હતી. અમારો ધંધો ઈમ્પોર્ટ-એક્સપોર્ટનો હતો. મસ્કત, ભારેન, દુબઈ, બસરા વગેરે ઠેકાણે ચોખા-ઘઉં-આટો વગેરે એક્સપોર્ટ કરતા. સામેથી ખજુર, ખારેક, મેવો વગેરે ઈમ્પોર્ટ કરતા.બર્મા (હાલ મ્યાનમાર)થી ટીંબર ઈમ્પોર્ટ કરતા. સિંઘ, પંજાબ, બલુચિસ્તાનના અમે સોલ સેલીંગ ટીંબર એજંટ હતા. આ રીતે કરાચીના મુંબઈ બજાર વિસ્તારમાં અમારી ધમધમતી પેઢીમાં, ઘણા લોકોની આવજા રહેતી. તેમાં વેપારીઓ, દલાલો, શુભોચ્છકો, મિત્રો વગેરે હતા. શ્રી મગનભાઈ કીકલા લગભગ દરરોજ આવતા. તેમનું રહેઠાણ અમારા ઘર-પેઢીથી ફક્ત પાંચ મિનિટ દૂર હતું. તે વખતે મારી ઉંમર ૧૫-૧૭ વર્ષની હશે. કીકલાજીની ઉંમર ત્રીસેક વર્ષની હશે. તેઓ ખુબ રમુજી અને હસમુખા હતા. અમારા આખા કુટુંબ સાથે એટલા ભળી ગયા હતા કે જાણે ફ્રેમીલી મેંબર હોય, તે વખતે તેઓ મધ્યમ સ્થિતિના હતા. ત્યાંની સ્મોલ કોર્મોઝ કોર્ટમાં, જ્યુડીશીયલ ક્લાર્ક હતા. તેમના મોટાભાઈ ગોરધનદાસ કીકલા કરાચીના મોટા વકિલોમાં મુખ્ય વકીલ હતા. તેમની ઓફીસમાં કામપણ મગનભાઈ સંભાળતા. પાછડથી ગોરધનદાસ કીકલાને તે વખતની બ્રિટિશ સરકારે હાઈકોર્ટના જજ તરીકે નીમ્યા ત્યારે ગોરધનદાસભાઈ સમાજથી થોડા દૂર થઈ ગયા. બજારુ કામ, પરચુરણ કામ વગેરે મોટા જજથી તે વખતે એટલે ઈ.સ. ૧૯૩૫માં થઈ શકતું નહિં. વકીલ હતા તે દરમ્યાન આવું બધું કામ ગોરધનભાઈ પોતે કરતા. જજ થયા એટલે સમાજમાં ભળવાની તેમના ઉપર નૈતિક પાળંદી આવી ગઈ. તેમના છોકરાઓ ત્યારે નાના હતા, ત્યારે તેમના નાનાભાઈ મગનભાઈએ સ્વૈચ્છિક રીતે આ જવાબદારી ઉપાડી લીધી અને ઘણાં વર્ષો સુધી તે નભાવી. સમાજસેવાનું કામ પણ તેઓ કર્યા કરતા. નગરઠહામાં અને કરાચીમાં, સમાજ સેવક તરીકે તેમનું નામ પ્રખ્યાત હતું.

"ઠહાઈભાટીયા સેવા ફંડ" ના તેઓ મુખ્ય પ્રસ્થાપક હતા. અગાઉ બૈરાંઓની ડીલીવરી વખતે, પોતે અથવા બાળકનું મરણ પ્રમાણ લગભગ ૧ ટકા રહેતું. ડીલીવરી, ઘરમાંજ કરાવવામાં આવતી. દેશી દાયણની મદદ લેવાતી. મગનભાઈ કીકલાને આ વસ્તુ ખુંચી અને તેઓએ કરાચીના અને ઠહા, રોહરી, સખ્ખર, હૈદ્રાબાદ (સિંઘ) વગેરેના વેપારીઓ પાસેથી ફંડફાળો ઉઘારાવી ઠહામાં એક અધતન મેટરનીટી હોસ્પીટલનું નિર્માણ કર્યું. તે વખતના હિસાબે આ હોસ્પીટલ લગભગ ૧ લાખ રૂપીઆમાં નિર્માણ થઈ. અમારી પેઢીનાં સર્વે લોકો, મારા મોટાભાઈ, બીજી માતબર કરાચીની પેઢીઓનાં શેઠીઆઓ, હૈદ્રાબાદ, સખ્ખર વગેરેનાં વેપારીઓ ઠહામાં ઉદ્ઘાટન સમારંભમાં આવ્યા હતા. તે વખતે "ઠહાઈ ભાટીયા સેવાફંડ" નું ઉદ્ઘાટન થયું અને આ હોસ્પીટલના ઉદ્ઘાટન પછી ઠહામાં, સુવાવડમાં બૈરા છોકરાંઓનું અગાઉ જે મરણ પ્રમાણ ૧૦૦માંથી ૧નું હતું તે ૧૦૦૦ માંથી ૧નું થઈ ગયું.

આ રીતે આ સેવાફંડે પોતાના ઉદ્ઘાટનેથી જ કોમની એટલી બધી શુભેચ્છાઓ મેળવી હતી કે ત્યાર પછી કરાચીમાં પણ આવી હોસ્પીટલો ઉભી થઈ. અને ઘરમાં, દેશી દાયણો દ્વારા કરાતી સુવાવડો બંધ થઈ ગઈ.

મગનભાઈ, મળતાવડા અને આનંદી સ્વભાવના તો હતા પણ દુરંદેશી પણ હતા. મેં મારી ભવિષ્યની કારકીદી માટે તેમની સલાહ માગી તો મને બ્રિટીશ ગવર્નમેંટની, દહેરાદૂન ખાતે આવેલી આર્મી ઓફીસરોની સિક્રુટમેન્ટ કોલેજમાં દાખલ થઈ જવાની સલાહ આપી અને પોતાના એક સ્નેહીના છોકરાનો દાખલો આપ્યો. પાછળથી તે છોકરો આર્મીનો કમીશન્ડ ઓફીસર થયો હતો. અને બ્રીગેડીઅર સુધી પહોંચ્યો હતો. તે વખતે હિંદુસ્તાની લશ્કરમાં નેવી કે એરફોર્સ ન હતું.

હું તો આર્મીમાં દાખલ થયો નહિ કારણ અમારું ઈમ્પોર્ટ-એક્સપોર્ટનું જબરું કામ હતું પણ કોલેજની યુનીવર્સીટી ટ્રૈનિંગ કોર્સમાં (U.T.C.) લશ્કરી શિક્ષણ લીધું હતું. પાકીસ્તાન થયા પછી મેં મગનભાઈનો સંસર્ગ ગુમાવ્યો હતો. હું કલકત્તા ચાલ્યો ગયો અને તેઓ મુંબઈ આવ્યા, અને છેવટ સુધી હું તેમને મળી શક્યો નહિં તેનો મને આજે પણ અફસોસ થાય છે.

દેવજીભાઈ ટોપરાણી.

મારા અંતરમાં છબી તારી

મારા અંતરમાં છબી તારી
નિરખી જાઉં વારી વારી...મારા અંતરમાં
મને લગની લાગી તમારી
શ્રીજી બબર લેજો મારી...મારા અંતરમાં
મને તારો ભરોસો મારી
શ્રીજી શરણે રાખજો તમારી...મારા અંતરમાં
ચિત ચોર્યું ગોવર્ધનધારી
અંત વેળાએ દર્શન દેજો મોરારી...મારા અંતરમાં
કહે હેમદાસી તમારી
લૌકિકથી ચિતને લેજો ઉગારી...મારા અંતરમાં
શ્રીજી એટલી વિનંતી મારી
સેવા સ્મરણમાં રાખજો તમારી...મારા અંતરમાં
શ્રી ગોવર્ધનનાથનાં ચરણકમળમાં દંડવૃત
હેમલતા મુરલીધર સદરવાલા.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

Kabhi Alvida Na Kahena

The above sentimental greetings were expressed by Dubai Petroleum Co to honour Shri Jaiprakash N Java who was associated with them for more than 35 years of Service. They paid him rich tributed for his immense contributions to the company,

By his knowledge, Sincerity and devotion. They expressed that since he has made Dubai his home, we will be utilizing his Skills as and when needed and wished him well for his forth coming venture.

On the second innings, Jaiprakash has associated with his son Raj in their new venture entitled Success Consultants. We wish them good luck in their endeavors.

Appointment

News : It is a matter of pleasure that Shri Govind Bhatia (Wabhi) has been appointed as General Secretary (Vyapar & Udyog industries dept) of NCP party. His contact Number is Mobile No. 9324735235.

This news has been published in Mumbai Samachar & Janmabhoomi.

Congratulations.

INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

Polio Drop Facility

Camp was arranged with the cooperation of B.M.C. at Hemandas P Bhatia Polyclinic.

Camp Date : 10th September,2006.

HIRANAND YOGA CENTER

Maharishi Patanjali Yoga Mandal

09-7-06 Guru Purnima Function, pravachan and Prasad, presided by Param Pujya Swami Asanganandji from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

09-9-06 Pravachans :

Morn. 6.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m.

Even. 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.

30-8-06 Bhatia Bhagini Mandal: Meeting and Get to gether was held Time 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. at Hall No.6.

Vallabha Sukhdham

1. 08-7-06 Education Camp (was held) Sadhan Dipica shlokas 51 to 73 from 12.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

2. 30-7-06 Childrens Competition, participants spoke on and one vaarta from " Ashta Sakha"

3. 13-8-06

Shri Krishna Janma Asthami vadhai programme.

From: 5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

4. 09-9-06 Keertan class written exams were held from 2.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

5. 18-9-06 Keertan class practical exams were held from 2.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

6. 23-9-06 to 26-9-06 Seminar on Pratibandh on Prapati and Bhakti was held daily at Shree Vallabh Pustakalaya from 3.00 p.m. To 9.00 p.m. and was projected Live at Shree Vallabh Sukhdham.

7. 07-10-06 to 08-10-06 Shibir on Shri Laloo Bhattjirachit Prameyratnarvaha granth (Pushtibhakti Adhikar vivek) by Param Pujya Shri Yogeshkumarji was held.

Time : 4.00pm To 9.00pm

Kewal Baug Trust

Celebration of "Makar Sankrant"(Utran) on 14th January 2007.

As in the past four years,Kewal Baug has arranged Bhojan For the poor and the needy On Makar Sankrant (Utran).

They served wholesome Khichdi with Vegetable Curry, bread, laddu, banana etc.

Community members wishing to Participate in Makar Sankrant Celebrations

This year may send their DONATION IN CASH OR KIND BEFORE 5TH JANUARY, 2007.

The are requested to Contact

Ms. Rekha or Ms. Dhami on

Tel No. 28623549 / 28072297.

Coming Events

1) Shree Thathai Bhatia Panchayat annual General meeting will be held on Sunday 26th Nov., 2006 at 11 a.m. at Thathai Bhatia Shewa Fund premises.

2) Shri Thathai Bhatia Shewa Fund annual General meeting will be held on Sunday 26th Nov 2006 at 12 noon at Trust premises.

3) Thathai Bhatia Shewa Fund announces Annual get-together on Sunday the 3rd Dec 2006 at Shewa Fund Hall . Details page 22.

4) Kewal Baug Trust "Makar Sankranti " celebration on 14th Jan 2007 . Details page no 21.

SHRADHANJALI

We regret the sad demise of the following brothers & sister of our community and express sympathies to the bereaved families.

Date	Name	Age
06-07-06	Saraswati Khubchand Dutia	76
06-07-06	Navin Lakhoomal Hiranandani	66
10-07-06	Rukmani Kishindas Diwan (Asarpota)	74
26-07-06	Asaribai Chunilal Kisani (Lilwa)	76
29-07-06	Lilaben Murlidhar Negandhi	-
02-08-06	Kishindas Pitamberdas Asser	77
03-08-06	Mukesh Parmanand Sagar (Panchleria)	48
11-08-06	Ramchandra Narsinghdas Khiyara	66
4-10-06	Bholabai Dhamanmal Whabi.	90

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Trustees and the Members of Managing Committee of Thathai Bhatia Shewa Fund are pleased to announce an Annual Get-Together on Sunday the, 3rd December, 2006 at 4.30 p.m. at Shewa Fund Auditorium Dagara Matushri Mandir, Kandivli (West).

Education : It has been further decided to have Merit Prize distribution for the students with outstanding performances at Annual Examination during academic year 2005-2006. Students of Schools, colleges or Universities confirming Diploma or Degrees at Annual Examination during the academic year 2005-2006 only will be eligible for Merit Prizes. Only those students who have been studying in India will be eligible for the prizes.

The merit prizes are as under :

Category	Standard	1st Prize Rs.	2nd Prize Rs.	Consolation Prize Rs.
I	Class I to IV	150	120	100
II	Class V to X	200	150	120
III	F.Y.J.C. & S.Y.J.C.	300	250	200
IV	1st & 2nd Year of B.A./B.Com./B.Sc. 1st, 2nd & 3rd Year of B.E./M.B.B.S./B.Pharma/B.B.A.	350	300	250
V	Govt. Recognised Diploma after 12th Std. (Please mention on Marksheet Duration of your course and which year i.e. 1st, 2nd or 3rd.)	350	300	250
VI	Degree in each Faculty	400	350	300
VII	Pre-Post Graduate Exams	500	400	350
VIII	Post Graduate Degree	700	550	500

Category I : The First and the Second Prize will be given to the highest percentage marks holders and consolation prizes to all those who secure 70% marks or above.

Category II : the First and the Second Prize will be given to the highest percentage marks holders and consolation prizes to all those who secure 60% marks or above.

Category III to VIII : The First and the Second Prize will be given to the highest percentage marks holders and consolation prizes to all those who secure 50% marks or above.

Any 1st and 2nd prize won by students of all ages in Sports and Fine Arts at school and college level also to be submitted for consideration.

Note No. 1 : Every student must send **XEROX COPY OF MARKSHEET ON OR BEFORE 7th Nov.2004** alongwith the following details :

- i) Marksheet must show Name and Address of School/College/Educational Institution.
- ii) Full name of the student with Surname.
- iii) Parents full Name, Address and Telephone No.
- iv) Membership Number of Thathai Bhatia Shewa Fund of Student/Parent must be given. Your membership No. is appearing on top of the Mailing Address Label.
- v) Kindly note that Mark Sheets received without above details or after **7th Nov. 2006**, will not be eligible for prizes.

Note No. 2 : Merit Prizes will be distributed only to those who will be personally present at the Function

Note No. 3 : The Decision of the Managing Committee regarding the merit Prizes will be final and binding on all those who have submitted their Marksheets before the mentioned date i.e.: **7-11-2004** and no complaint in this regard will be entertained.

ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME : Like every year, this year too, we will have a Cultural Programme and all Members and their children can participate in the following events :

1. **FANCY DRESS FOR CHILDREN** : **3 years to 10 years of age**
2. **SINGING /DANCE PERFORMANCE :** **11 years of age and above**

All the participants will be suitably rewarded.

Maximum 10 minutes will be given to each participant for singing, dance performance. **Any filmy song or related item has to be approved.** All interested participants should submit their details such as Name and Age with complete Address, Telephone Number and Membership Number of Self/Parents with details of items they intend to participate/perform to the Manager of Shewa Fund latest by **7-11-2006**

This year, the practice will be conducted in the Shewa Fund premises under the supervision of our Committee members and suitable choreographer.

It is suggested that all Married Adults should get themselves enrolled as Life Members of Thathai Bhatia Shewa Fund.

All members are requested to intimate the change of address if any to the T.B.S.F. so that the same could be updated in TBSF records.

All members are requested to be present in time to make the programme successful.

Yours brotherly,
Ashok M. Gajria
(Hon. Gen. Secretary)

Date :

**THE PRESIDENT, TRUSTEES &
THE MEMBERS OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE**

*Cordially invite you along with your family to participate in
Annual Get Together and Merit prize Distribution programme
and thereafter to "DINNER"*



**ON SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER at 4.30 pm
at THATHAI BHATIA SHEWA FUND**



**Entertainment & Merit Prize Distribution 4.30 pm to 7.00 pm
Dinner 7.00 to 9.00 pm**

Ashok M Gajria.
Hon.Gen.Secretary.

VALLABH SUKHDHAM

IT IS MY UTMOST NISHTHA, IT IS NOBODY ELSE BUT SHRI MAHAPRABHUJI HIMSELF AND ONLY HIMSELF HAS GOT THIS SUKHDHAM BUILT AND WE SHOULD BE VERY HAPPY AND GREATFUL THAT INSPITE LACKS OF PUSHTIMARGIS AROUND WORLD HE CHOSE OUR COMMUNITY TO BE BESTOWED WITH SUCH A DIVINE HONOR. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THIS CROWN ON THE THATHAI BHATIA SHEWA FUND VISA VIS THE COMMUNITY ONE DAY WILL BE A PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE FOR PEOPLE ALL AROUND THE WORLD TO VISIT AS FIRST SUKHDHAM EVER BUILT IN SWATANTRA BHARTA.

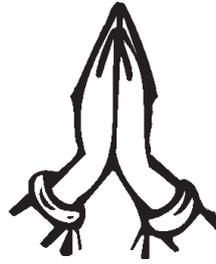
ANNOUNCEMENT

After Jaisalmer-Jodhpur & Dwarka-Somnath Tour it's Your choice now. Please fill up the form given below and mail to The Editor, Samvad, at Shewa Fund address, or hand deliver to Panchayat or Shewa Fund office.

- 1) Full Name:
- 2) Age:
- 3) Phone Nos. Email:
- 4) Address:
- 5) Types of tours preferred:
 - a) Religious tours
 - b) Adventure tours
 - c) Pleasure tours
 - d) Short tours: 3 days
 - e) Long tours 7 days
- 6) Types of transport preferred
 - a) Rail b) Luxury Bus c) Air
- 7) Destinations
 - a) Banglore - Mysore - Ooty - Tirupati.
 - b) Cochin, Backwater areas, Munnar, Allepppy.
 - c) Chennai, Pondichery, Mahabalipuram, Rameshwar, Madurai, Kanyakumari.
 - d) Shree Jagganath puri, Champaran and other pushtimargi bethaks.
 - e) Haridwar, Masoori, Rishikesh, Delhi.

भगवान अवतारका मतलब है परमात्माका जीवात्माके स्तरपर उतरना. कुएमें गिरे हुएको बचानेके लिए या तो रस्सी लटकाई जाती है. अन्यथा घबराकर डूबते हुएको बचानेके लिए तो खंय ही कूदना पड़ता है.

(सुबोधिनी)



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स्वस्थ कारण नहीं.

किन्तु भगवान के साथ रहना अथवा भगवत्-कार्यको पूर्ण
करनेके लिए रहना एक उज्ज्वल बात है. अन्यथा घर छोड़ देना
ही श्रेय है

(सुबोधिनी)

(शास्त्रार्थ निबन्ध)

Shri Haridas Viroomal Gandhi



*The Mercantile Hindu Community of
Thatta Sindh (Dubai)*



Wishes

*Happy Deepavali and Prosperous New Year
To Entire*

Global Thattai Bhatia Community Members

सब कुछ भगवत् इच्छासे हो रहा है भगवान सर्वसमर्थ है, और सभीके हितैषी भी. इत्यादि मनोभाव विवेक कहलाते हैं. विचलित हुए बिना सभी दुःखोंको सहन करना धैर्य है. ऐहिक-पारलोकिक, अशक्य-सुशक्य सभी कार्योंमें केवल एक भगवानको ही अपना आश्रय मानना और अन्य किसीकी भी प्रार्थना या भजन स्वतः किसी कामनाकी पूर्तिके लिए न करना ही, आश्रय है. विवेक, धैर्य और आश्रय की रक्षा सभीको सतत करनी चाहिए.

(विवेक धैर्याश्रय)

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*We wish to thank all our valuable
clients & Community members for
Continuous support*

&

*We wish all a
very Happy New Year
& Happy Diwali*

*with best wishes from
Hemchandra N. Java (Bhatia)*

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