



# BGT NEWSLETTER



॥ ॐ नमो भगवते गोपीनाथाय ॥

Vol. 1 No. 1

MAY, 2005

## PROGRAMMES / ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY BHAGAVAN GOPINATHJI ASHRAM UDAIWALA, BOHRI, JAMMU

### BAL DIVAS:

On the 25th of December, 2004, the Bhagavaan Gopinathji Trust observed the 'Bal Divas' at Jammu Ashram. Children from all walks of life, whatever their faith, thronged the Ashram



premises right from 9 a.m. in the morning. It was gratifying to watch more than 1000 children participating in the event. The celebrations started at 10 a.m. with the inaugural address by Sh. M.K. Tikoo, organiser of the Trust. He dwelt on the importance of 'Bal Divas' and exhorted the children to cultivate good qualities. The 'Aarti' was conducted by Sh. S.K.Khurdi with the children taking the lead. The atmosphere was one of joy, bliss and peace. After the 'Aarti' was over, gifts were distributed among the children and they looked very jubilant. They were in a festive mood while having their *Prasad* in the lush green lawn of Bhagavaan Gopinathji Vaatika. The function ended at about 1 p.m.

### MAAG MASS:

Hundreds of devotees of Bhagavaan Gopinathji organised a month-long *Jap Homa* at Jammu Ashram during the auspicious month of *Maag Mass* in which thousands of *Nam Mantras* were recited in praise of the Lord. Despite the incessant rains and inclement weather, devotees in quite large numbers attended and participated in the month long spiritual activity to receive

Bhagavaanji's ever flowing grace. They would throng the Ashram early in the morning in spite of hostile weather conditions with enthusiasm and in a spirit of true devotion. It was an awe-inspiring experience and reminded us of the days when devotees in large numbers would circumbulate the *Hari Parbat Hillock* during the month of *Maag Mass* before the displacement of the Kashmiri Pundit Community from the Valley. The prayers were held for the peace and well being of mankind. The month long spiritual activity concluded on 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2005 at 8:30 a.m., which had started on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2005. The programme actually started every day during this month at 5:30 a.m.

### HORA ASHTAMI:

The Bhagavaan Gopinathji Trust organised and celebrated the "HORA ASHTAMI" at Jammu Ashram on the 4th of March, 2005. Hundreds of devotees came to the Ashram for night-long *Jagran* and offered prayers at the feet of the Master. A



sizeable number of artists of repute presented their items and the hall reverberated with the melodious bhajans: the audience listened in rapt attention. The night-long prayers were offered for invoking the blessings of the "MOTHER GODDESS" followed

by mass prayer for peace and the well-being of mankind. The night-long *Jagran* concluded with Bhagavaanji's Aarti at 6.a.m. on the 5th of March, 2005. The Hora Ashtami was also celebrated at 1) Bhagavaan Gopinathji Ashram, Kharyar, Srinagar, Kashmir, 2) Pamposh Enclave, New Delhi and at various Sat-sang Mandals across the country.

### CELEBRATION OF NAVREH:

A huge congregation of devotees attended the annual function held at Jammu Ashram on the 9th of April, 2005 to mark the first Navratra "Navreh Celebrations". The function started at 2 p.m. in the premises of Ashram. The function, as usual, consisted of an Essay competition on the topic "**How best to serve the Bhagavaan, we adore**" in which 62 competitors participated. This annual event is held with a view to promoting Bhagavaan consciousness in the youth. The competitors were categorized as Senior, Junior and Sub-Junior groups. Sh. P.N.Sus, Prof. K.B. Razdan and Prof. M.L. Raina acted as the Judges. The participants who bagged 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in the Senior group are: Ms. Akriti Bhat, Sh. Sumit Wattal and Ms. Manu Bhat respectively. In Junior group: Sh. Nikhil Tikoo, Ms. Trinainy Pandita and Ms. Pulkit Chrungoo & Sh. Paras Chrungoo got 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize respectively. Ms. Neelja Vimal, Ms. Nidhi Sus & Sh. Ayush Raina got 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in Sub-Junior group respectively. Certificates and Trophies were given to the position holders in each group and all other participants were given

certificates and a pen each.

The function was presided over by Col. R.K. Langer, a distinguished writer and scholar. In his address, he was all praise for the



organizers for holding such type of seminars which he said would have moral and educative influence on the youth. He spoke at length on the topic of the essay and the imperatives of 'How best to serve the Bhagavaan, we adore'. He threw light on the divine qualities of Bhagavaanji and explained the significance and implication of Bhagavaan consciousness bearing on service of mankind.

A vote of thanks was presented by the President of the Trust, Ms. Jai Kishori Patwari on the occasion. She threw light on the specific instances of the ways in which the institution is carrying forward the mission of Bhagavaanji.

Sh. M.K. Tikoo acted as the compere on the occasion.

### OBSERVANCE OF ZANGTRAY



An important festival of Kashmiri Pandit Community, "ZANGTRAY", was observed on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April, 2005 at Jammu Ashram as an auspicious day of great spiritual significance in which hundreds of ladies participated.

On the occasion, 9 elderly Kashmiri Pandit ladies were decorated with a shawl each. Shri Kashi Nath Raina (Baagvan) spoke at length on the significance of Zangtray festival with special reference to the traditional dress worn by Kashmiri

Pandit ladies. There was a brief session of devotional music on the occasion. The accomplished artists - Smt Kiran Koul, Smt Naina Saproo, Sh Ravi Bhan and Sh. Iqbal Koul presented melodious devotional songs on the occasion. The audience listened in rapt attention greeting each artist with thunderous applause at the end of their performance. All the activity of the day was held on the lush green lawn of the Ashram Vaatika.

Vice President of the Trust gave a brief lecture on the life and teachings of Bhagavaanji with special reference to Zangtray function.

At the end, the President of the Trust distributed a small packet of salt and Rs.1/= each among the ladies as is given traditionally on this occasion. Sh. M.K.Tikoo acted as compere on the occasion.

### **ACQUISITION OF A HOUSE ADJACENT TO THE BHAGAVAN GOPINATHJI ASHRAM, UDAIWALA, BOHRI, JAMMU**

An emergency meeting was convened to deliberate on the acquisition of a house adjacent to the Ashram at Jammu. The necessity to acquire the house is due to the fact that the said house is falling within the ambit of Ashram expansion and it would

serve as "Dharam Shalla" and the outstation devotees may find relief in staying there for a day or so. Sh. M.K.Tickoo has been authorized to negotiate with the owner of the house and explore the possibility of its acquisition through a sale deed.

### **PROGRAMMES / ACTIVITIES ORGANISED AT OTHER CENTRES**

#### **CELEBRATION OF MAHAJAYANTI AT KASHMIR BHAWAN, PUNE:**

107<sup>th</sup> Mahajayanti of Bhagavaanji was celebrated at Kashmir Bhawan, Pune on the 29<sup>th</sup> of



June, 2004. The programme was organised by Sh.Virender Kaul and Sh. Ravin Trakru under the

able guidance of an ardent devotee of Bhagavaanji, Sh. A.K.Raina, Sh. Ashok Raina presented melodious devotional songs on the occasion. At the end, Prasad was served to hundred of devotees on the occasion.

#### **CELEBRATION OF MAHAJAYANTI AT KASHMIR BHAWAN, KOLKATA:**

Mahajayanti of Bhagavaanji was celebrated at Kashmir Bhawan, Kolkata on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 2004. A sizeable number of Kashmiri Pandit residents of Kolkata participated in the ceremony.

According to Vedic rites a yagnya was performed and conducted by priests of Sh. Shankaracharya Math of Kolkata amid chanting of Vedic hymns. The ceremony concluded by partaking of prasad by all the members present.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **MAHAYAJNYA:**

In memory of Bhagavaan Gopinathji the annual Mahayajnya will be performed on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, 2005 at Bhagavaan Gopinathji centres across the country and abroad. This annual event is held with extra-ordinary zeal and enthusiasm. Thousands of devotees attend the yajnya. Prasad is served to huge gathering. The yajnya ceremony actually begins on the previous evening and is

accompanied by bhajans & kirtan.

It is matter of immense satisfaction for the devotees of Bhagavaanji that the "Bhagavaan Gopinathji Sahasranam" will be released on the Mahayajnya day.

The Sahukaras to be performed on Bhagavaan's Mahayajnya day will henceforth include the Sahukara of thousand names of

Bhagavaanji (as per the booklet being released on the day).

### **PAINTING COMPETITION:**

As usual, a painting competition will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June, 2005 with a view to promoting talent and Bhagavaan Consciousness in the youth. Around 600 children are expected to participate in the competition.

### **MAHAJAYANTI:**

The Mahajayanti will be celebrated on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July, 2005 at various Centres in the country and abroad. The programme starts with the Paaduka poojan and then, a good number of Sadhus are fed, and given *dakshina* (cash offering). Prasad is served to thousands of devotees on the Mahajayanti day.

### **RELEASE OF BOOK ON "SAINTS OF EMINENCE":**

As all are aware, Bhagavaan Gopinathji Trust had organised a photo exhibition of 'Saints of Eminence' at Jammu Ashram for a week from

27<sup>th</sup> of October 2002 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2002. The Trust complied the photographs of 81 saints along with the biographical material into a compact volume, which will be released as a publication of the Trust on the Mahajayanti day.

### **GURU PURNIMA:**

Another important festival Guru Purnima will be celebrated on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July, 2005 at Bhagavaan Gopinathji Ashrams and also at various other places in the country and abroad.

### **BHAKTI SANGEET:**

The Trust remains usefully involved in carrying out various programmes aimed at promoting Bhagavaan Consciousness.

Prem Sangeet Niketan, Jammu has proposed to hold a musical concert (including Leelas & Bhajan) dedicated to the Bhagavaan at Jammu Ashram. The President of the Prem Sangeet Niketan has conveyed to us that their artists will offer their services with utmost pleasure. The date of holding of the musical concert will be communicated to you as and when it is fixed.

New Release

**MAHA - MANTRA**

Audio  
CD / Cassette

### **ATTENTION**

The following devotees are requested to send the report of the activities held at their respective centres to the President at Bhagavaan Gopinathji Trust, Udaiwala Road, Bohri, Jammu or Email us at [bgashram@sancharnet.in](mailto:bgashram@sancharnet.in) for use in the News-letter issued quarterly.

- |                       |                   |                          |                    |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Sh. Surinder Raina | Srinagar          | 9. Sh. Vijay Kaw         | Udhampur           |
| 2. Sh. Rajinder Raina | Delhi             | 10. Sh. Bal Krishen Koul | Nasik, Mumbai      |
| 3. Sh. R.K.Raina      | Banglore          | 11. Sh. Vijay Teng       | Ahmedabad          |
| 4. Sh. B.N.Fotedar    | Mumbai            | 12. Sh. Rita Koul        | Ranchi, Bihar      |
| 5. Smt. Ragni Koul    | Baroda            | 13. Smt. Sudha Sopori    | Jodhpur, Rajasthan |
| 6. Prof. O.N.Bhan     | Canada            | 14. Sh. Vinod Bhan       | Karnal             |
| 7. Sh. J.L.Dhar       | Jalandhar         | 15. Ms. Rita             | Australia          |
| 8. Sh. Chand Ji Malla | Tumkur, Karnataka |                          |                    |

**(WE ENCOURAGE REPORT THROUGH E-MAIL WITH IMAGES / PICTURES)**

**Editor: Sohan Krishen Khordi**  
**Associate Editors: Sanjay Raina, Sunil Raina**

**Printed & Published on Behalf of the Bhagavaan Gopinathji Trust**  
**Tele: 0191 - 2503783, 2555775, Email: [bgashram@sancharnet.in](mailto:bgashram@sancharnet.in)**