



Email: vaishnavyouthgroup@shrinathdham.org.uk

Website: <https://shrinathdham.org.uk> Tel: 020 8861 1207

Wednesday 21st April 2021

Message From Our Spiritual Head Vaishnavacharya Shri Dwarkeshlalji Mahodayshri

It gives me great joy to know that you are learning Shree Mahaprabhuji's Shodash Granths. The Shodash Granths are not different to Shree Mahaprabhuji's Swaroop, and are also considered to be Vallabh ni Geeta (Geetaji of Shree Mahaprabhuji). They are His eternal teachings and teach Vaishnavs the art of living. You should do *Shravan* (listen), *Manan* (contemplate) and *Chintan* (think) about these teachings, and then try to implement them in your lives. We listen to a lot about Shree Vallabh, but the Shodash Granths are Shree Vallabh Himself - we are listening to Shree Vallabh when we listen to and read Shodash Granths. We should know that there is no difference between His Swaroop and His teachings/words.

My suggestion to each of you as you learn these wonderful teachings is to simply start by remembering the names and the essence of each granth. Note down key teachings from each of these granths, and contemplate on them and try to implement them in your life. Do this for each granth. For example, from Siddhant Muktavali, you might take away *Krishna Seva Sada Karya "Always performing Shree Krishna's Seva for His Anand."*

Keep thinking of these key teachings from each of the Shodash Granths and in this way start to learn more about Shree Mahaprabhuji's teachings, and hence the essence of Pushtimarg.



Leela - Origin Story of Utsav & Tithi Tippani

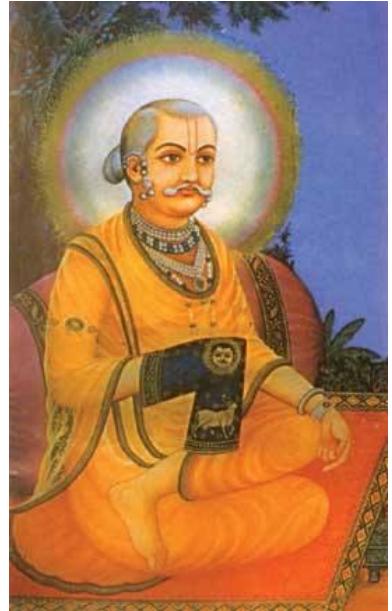
As Vasant Panchmi was approaching, the Vaishnavs of Ujjain requested Shri Gusainji's sevak Krishna Bhatt for Vasant celebrations. Krishna Bhatt said according to my calculations next Wednesday should be Vasant Panchmi and on that day we will play the Faagun Khel and sing Dhamaar.

It was Wednesday and Shreejibawa (Shree Thakorji) was in a hurry to have Rajbhog and said to Ramdasji Mukhyaji that even if all the *samagris* are not ready then it's fine, just prepare whatever is ready. Once you have offered the Rajbhog just sit near the door. When I make a sound with this silver bowl you quickly request Kakaji (Shree Gusainji) to come and offer the *bira* to me.

"Khannnnnnnnnnn" the sound of the silver bowl was heard and

Ramdasji Mukhyaji saw that Shreejibawa was signalling him to get Kakaji for the *bira*. Quickly Ramdasji Mukhyaji went to Shree Gusainji and informed Aapshri to come and quickly offer *bira* to Shreejibawa. Shree Gusainji stared at Shreejibawa's *Mukharvind* (lotus face) and offered Shreejibawa *bira* and Aapshri felt something was not right.

Aapshri told Shreejibawa that he felt there was something hidden from him and held Shreejibawa's *Shrihast* (hand) and saw that Shreejibawa was hiding a colour filled *picchhari* (water gun). Shree Gusainji asked Shreejibawa to show what he was hiding and tried pulling the *picchhari*. Shreejibawa also did not want to let go of the *picchhari* and in this process the nozzle of the *picchhari* was pushed and "sarrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr" went the coloured water in Ramdasji's eyes.



As Ramdasji was rubbing his eyes because of the colour, he saw a very different scene - there was a beautiful garden and Shreejibawa was playing Holi with the Vrajbhaktas. Ramdasji rubbing the colour from his eyes told Shree Gusainji: "Krupanath, I have now understood why Shreejibawa was in a rush to have Rajbhog as Shreeji wanted to go and play Holi."

Ramdasji asked Shree Gusainji, "Krupanath at which Vaishnav's place would have Shreeji played Holi today as Vasant Panchmi is tomorrow?". Gusainji said there is a vaishnav in Ujjain named Krishna Bhatt. He does not know that Vasant Panchmi is tomorrow and mistakenly has celebrated Vasant Panchmi utsav today.

After some days Krishna Bhatt came to Gokul to see Shri Gusainji. Aapshri asked Krishna Bhatt, "This year on which day did you celebrate Vasant Panchmi"? Krishna Bhatt replied that it was on a Wednesday.

Shree Gusainji said to Krishna Bhatt that it was *chaturthi* (4th) and not a *panchmi* (5th). Since your *bhaav* was pure and you had lovingly celebrated Bhaktvatsal, Shreejibawa had come to your place to play Holi. Henceforth do take proper care of the *tithis* and *utsavs*. Then Krishna Bhatt came back to Ujjain.

After some days Shree Gusainji's messenger came to Ujjain and gave a silk *pothiji* to Krishna Bhatt. When Krishna Bhatt opened the *pothiji* he saw a chart, i.e *tippani* in which Shree Gusainji had listed all the *tithis* and *utsavs*. This is how *Utsav* and *Vrat tippani* came into practice. Every year Shree Gusainji used to create *tippani* in which Aapshri used to mention all the forthcoming *tithis* and *utsavs*. From the time of Krishna Bhatt to this day the tradition of *tippani* continues on in Pushtimarg.



Bhakti Radio App



Shri DwarkeshLalji-International
Vaishnav Sangh



@vaishnavsanghofuk



Shri DwarkeshLalji-International
Vaishnav Sangh

Basics Of Pushtimarg : Vasant Rutu/Rasiya na Divaso

Vasant Panchami marks the first day of Spring, which is described as the King of all seasons. It takes 40 days for a season to come into full bloom. In Pushtimarg the 40 days leading up to Holi, and Spring coming into full bloom are celebrated momentously. They are celebrated by singing songs called *Rasiya* in *Vasant Raag*. *Rasiya* recounts how the infuriated Gopis (milk maids), took their sweet revenge on Krishna and His friends. The season of "Khel" (to play) is perfectly described in these *Rasiya*.

Khel no utsav is celebrated with the bhaavs of each *yuth* (i.e. Groups of Gopis) and thus each of the 10 days celebrates the unique nature of the 4 *yuths* :

1. **First Ten Days:** Vasant Khel, Lalita Sakhi, Rajas Bhaav
2. **Next Ten Days:** Dhammar Khel, Chandravaliji, Tamas Bhaav
3. **Next Ten Days:** Faag Khel, Shree Swaminiji, Satvik Bhaav
4. **Last Ten Days:** Hori Khel, Shree Yamunaji, Nirguna Bhaav

As the days progress, Vasant celebrations increase. In the first 10 days, the celebration is more peaceful, and the natural beauty of spring is appreciated. Dhammar Khel (day 11-20), is more extravagant with people being playfully forced into the celebration. In Faag Khel, Pichkaris are used and Gopas and Gopis are dancing and singing in every street of Vraj. During the final 10 days of Holi Khel, the Gopis and Gopas split in two groups and have playful competitions.

Fresh flowers, sprouts and young shoots of trees and shrubs are brought into the haveli to celebrate the renewal of nature. Coloured powders that describe different *bhaavs* are played with:

1. **Gulal** (Red coloured): Shree Swaminiji's *Hasya* (smile)
2. **Abir** (White coloured): Shree Swaminiji's *mukharvind* (lotus face)
3. **Chandan** (Yellow coloured): Shree Swaminiji
4. **Chova** (Dark coloured): Shree Yamunaji

During 'Khel' darshan - when Thakorji is playing Holi, Shree Charanarvind (lotus feet) of Shree Thakorji and Jhaari, Bantaji are covered with a cloth, since if a Bhakta sees the Charnarvind of Thakorji during Khel, *Dasya Bhaav* (sentiment of a servant) remains and *Sakhya Bhaav* (sentiment of a friend) disappears and thus, the *Raas* (nectar) of Holi Khel cannot be fully relished. Thakorji is adorned in new white Vastra and Gold or Enamel shrungar during *Khel*.

The Festival of Holi itself celebrates the death of the demoness Holika (Nursih leela). The day after is the last day of Khel - Dolottsav/Dhuleti and the 4-khels are celebrated as a culmination of the festivities on behalf of the four *yuths* of the *gopis*. A few days later, the Lord plays *phool faag* (with flowers and petals of varied hues) to remind Himself of the joys of *Rasiya Khel* when He played with *Abir*, *Gulal*, *Chandan* and *Chova*, and replaces that Khel with flowers.

Upcoming Events/Manoraths :

- 21st April - **Ram Navmi**
- 23rd April - **Kamada Ekadashi**
- 7th May - **Mahaprabhuji Pragatya Divas**
- 14th May - **Akshay Trutiya**

