



Message From Our Spiritual Head Vaishnavacharya Shri Dwarkeshlalji Mahodayshri

As we offer mangoes to Thakorji on SnanaYatra, our Spiritual Head Vaishnavacharya Shree Dwarkeshlalji Mahodayshri explains the significance of this Manorath:

By offering Thakorji mangoes, we are offering Him the fruit of all our Karmas at His feet, and surrendering our life to Him.

Thakorji says in Gitaji, that we shouldn't have the expectation of the *fruits of our karmas* (activities). We should just perform our karmas and surrender the fruits to Thakorji. We are not here for the fruit of any our karmas, even the good karmas - because even good karma doesn't give us the bliss of Seva. It is only by surrendering to Him that we get the bliss of Seva.

By offering the mangoes, we are saying "I am surrendering myself. Whatever I have considered mine Thakorji, I am handing over to you, and from today Thakorji, *Hu Tamaro Chu*, I am yours" which is also the Panchakshar Mantra.

In return we get to experience the Raas, the nectar, of Seva, just like the experience of the raas of the mangoes. We can also experience this Raas from Bhagwatiji, the ripe fruit of the tree of the Vedas, which gives us the nectar of Love for Thakorji.

Details Of Next Youth Satsang On 21st June

TITLE:
Jeje Shree's Q&A

TIME:
10:30 AM

ZOOM ID:
Details Will Follow

Meet One Of Our Youth Members



Harshil Shah

"I really enjoy learning more about the deeper meaning of different rituals and prayers, and why they're important to us especially in these modern times. Many questions that I have had over the years have started to be answered, or there's been a debate opened up and it really expands my thinking on topics. The more sessions I attend the more I learn, and even though my Gujarati is pretty good the English translations really do help!"

If you would like to give feedback to our youth satsangs and be part of future newsletters sharing your thoughts, please email vaishnavyouthgroup@shrinathdham.org.uk.

June - Pushtimarg Calendar

<u>Ekadashi Jayanti Dates</u>	<u>Full/No-Moon Dates</u>
Tue 2nd : Nirjala (Bhim)	Fri 5th : Full-Moon
Wed 17th : Yogini	Sun 21st : No-Moon

Leela : Fal Vali Bai (The Fruit Seller Story)

Once Krishna was playing in His home in Nandalay. He heard the fruit seller bai coming closer to His home calling out for people to have a look at her produce, Today has been unlucky for her as she has not had the chance to sell anything. Thakorji saw the juicy *aam* (mango) and His mouth started to water. He remembered that His father would sometimes exchange grains for produce, so He grabbed as much rice as He could hold in His two fists, and ran up to her, but in His excitement, He dropped half the grains as He was running.



He approached her with a cheeky smile. "The sight of your *aam* was so lovely and enticing that I simply have to ask: would I be able to exchange these grains for a few mangoes?"

The lady laughed, charmed by His innocence. Despite her poverty and her hard luck of the day, she decides to gift the sweet *balak* (boy) as many mangoes as His little hands could hold.

Thakorji could hardly believe His eyes, and felt excitement and joy at seeing them in His hands. He then ran back into His home, as the fruit seller drops the grains into her basket and begins her journey home.

On the way to her house, she stops at Jamunaji, and puts her basket down. She realises that it feels heavier than it should be. To her surprise, she opens it and realises that all the grains Thakorji has given her have turned into jewels!

Bhavarth (meaning)

In this way, Thakorji never takes anything *emnem* (emptily). Thakorji doesn't care what we've done or who we are. If we simply offer a little bit of pure love to Him, He will reciprocate with an ocean of infinite love.

Thakorji is *bhakt paradheen* (bound by the love of His bhakts): "My only anand is making your manoraths true, just as yours is to make manoraths for me." Prabhu always has ways to make your manoraths true.

The way that the lady gave her fruits to Thakorji, in the same way, we surrender the fruits of our karma as mangoes in the Aam manorath.

Basics Of Pushtimarg : Ashtakshara Mantra (Cont'd)

Shree	Reminder of Swaminiji. Attainment of good fortune
Kri	Remover of sin
Shna	Remover of all miseries
Sha	Ends the repeated cycle of birth and death
Ra	Awakens a desire to learn about Shri Thakorji
Nam	Unwavering devotion for Shri Krishna
Ma	Divine love for our Gurudev who brings us closer to Shri Thakorji
Ma	Unites us with Shri Thakorji, allowing us to serve Him eternally

'**Shree**' represents Swaminiji, thus reminding us of the one dearest to Shri Thakorji. "Shree" also means Lakshmi which means luck or fortune. Therefore, one who recites this name also becomes fortunate.

'**Kri**' removes an individual's most wicked sins. The means for removing sins as stated in scriptures require severe penance. The three types of sins committed by one's body, speech and mind are removed simply by constantly reciting *Ashtakshara mantra*.

'**Shna**' Takes away all the miseries that one experiences in the world. When we become free from misery, our heart and mind become pure and Shri Krishna's seva and remembrance begins.

'**Sha**', the pronunciation of this letter saves one from having to take birth repeatedly in thousands of forms and suffer.

'**Ra**', by pronouncing this letter, a great desire for attaining Shri Krishna arises and deep meaningful questioning begins. We begin to ask 'Who is Shri Krishna? What is His nature? What is the nature of my soul? How can I please Him?' Upon realisation of this knowledge, *bhaav* for Shri Thakorji and therefore total fulfilment is attained.

'**Nam**', by pronouncing this letter, we attain *bhakti* through strong, unwavering divine love for Shri Thakorji. This devotion can only be attained by those who receive Shri Thakorji's grace (*Pushti*).

'**Ma**', *Bhakti* and pure love for our Gurudev is achieved by pronouncing 'Ma'. To progress in Bhakti, the grace of a Gurudev (descendant of Shri Vallabhacharyaji - Vallabhkul) is a must as it is through Them, we develop love for Shri Thakorji. They bridge the gap between Shri Thakorji and our soul. Pure love for Shri Krishna develops when there is pure love for our Gurudev.

'**Ma**', Enables one to enjoy accompaniment of Shri Krishna till eternity and keeps one from undergoing the circle of life forever.

Thus, each letter of *Ashtakshara mantra* is significant in building our relationship with Shri Thakorji. Shri Vallabhacharyaji, through His grace has given us the *Ashtakshara mantra* to grow our *bhakti* and get pure *bhaav* for Shri Thakorji in a simple way. We should aim to practice doing *Japa* of the Ashtakshara mantra everyday to get closer to Shri Thakorji.

Excerpts taken from:

- Introduction to Pushti Marga by Dharmesh Chhantbar
- <https://srikrnsnablog.wordpress.com/category/ashtakshara-mantra-the-meaning/>



Summary Of Last Youth Satsang On 7th June

The last youth satsang was unique, we discussed Vaishnavacharya Shri Dwarkshlalji Mahodayshri's responses to all our questions.

Topics included:

- How lockdown has given us the opportunity to improve our *bhakti*.
- Disciplined bhakti
- Vegetarianism/Veganism
- Thakorjis favourite foods
- Importance of Seva
- Offences
- Bramsabandh
- Negative emotions (anger, jealousy)
- Understanding of the Sudarshan Swaroop

Along with this, our youth had cooking sessions, making vanilla sponge cake and rava toast. Here are some pictures!



We'll be having more of these cooking sessions so stay tuned!

Meet The Newsletter Team

Rutvi Shah: Design & Graphics

"I enjoy putting together the newsletters because I get to expand my knowledge and also get to learn new skills during this experience. It's so fulfilling to be able to contribute to the Haveli and help connect the youth."

Heenal Shah: Thakorjis Leelas

"I joined the team during quarantine and it was so fulfilling having something spiritual to focus on in such a lonely time. The team is so supportive - I'm still learning a lot about Pushtimarg as I go; the team is really helping me out."

Urvi Rajdev: Basics of Pushtimarg

"Hi! I write the basics of Pushtimarg because I wish to share with other youth members how beautiful and fulfilling the path Mahaprabhuji created for us is. I know how difficult learning about our path is when you aren't raised in India so I want to try and highlight the basics to make it easy for everyone to understand."

Umang Rajdev: Editor

"The newsletter gives me the opportunity to learn something new about our beautiful Pushtimarg. I really enjoy watching all of us as the Youth come together to fulfill our Jeje Shree's vision to serve the community and deepen our relationship with Thakorji."

Sonal Doshi: Editor

"This service has allowed me to grow my knowledge of Pushtimarg, and grow my bhakti towards Thakorji by reading His beautiful leelas. I love how we come together at the Youth Satsangs and discuss our thoughts and learn more about each other and build deeper friendships with like minded people."