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# **BAPASHRI**

## **AS EXPERIENCED BY**

# **KIDS**

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**Anadi Muktaraj Pujyashri Narayanbhai G. Thakker**

**Omnibeneficial Series - 49**



**Founder President: Pujyashri Narayanbhai G. Thakker**  
**Shri Swaminarayan Divine Mission**

**Ahmedabad-13**







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*Emblem of  
Shri Swaminarayan Divine Mission*



*The Emblem depicts the lotus-feet of Lord Shri Swaminarayan. There are sixteen signs referred to in Samudrik Shashtra as the signs confirming the divine origin of God, the incarnate.*

*\* Nine signs in the right foot.*

- Swastika stands for the auspicious Figure of God.*
- Astakona (octagon) suggests that the divine compassion is constantly flowing in all the eight directions: North, South, East, West, South-East, North-East, South West and North-West.*
- Urdhvarekha indicates continuous progress of souls by the divine grace.*
- Ankusha (the spur) indicates that the Supreme Power, the cause of all causes controls everything and it also suggests that we must restrain the inner enemies.*
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Dhwaj (a flag)	or Ketu stands for the spiritual victory of God, the absolute form of Truth.
Vajra (weapon of Indra)	stands for the prowess of God which destroys the weaknesses of the souls and frees them from the fear of time, actions and delusions.
Padma (the Lotus)	symbolises the tenderness and compassion of God which helps the devotee attain detachment from the mundane life, the way a lotus remains unaffected by water.
Jambu (rose apple)	symbolises the sap of divine joy that one receives from communion with God.
Jav (barley)	confirms that God takes care of the crops and the needs of those devotees who are in communion with Him and who perform non-violent Yajnas by offering foodgrains such as barley, sesame seeds etc. to the Holy Fire.
	* Seven signs in the left foot.
Meen (fish)	asks us to reach God, the source of the spiritual energy, the way a fish swimming against the current, reaches the source of a stream.

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<p>Trikona (triangle)</p>	<p><i>symbolises liberation of the soul from the mental, physical and mundane problems and difficulties. It also stands for the need to free oneself from the trial of Ishwar, Maya and Brahman and to remain steadfast in Parbrahman the ultimate reality.</i></p>
<p>Dhanush (bow)</p>	<p><i>defends the faith by protecting the devotees against evil influences.</i></p>
<p>Gopada (foot-mark of cow)</p>	<p><i>suggests the beneficial qualities of cows as well as of the saints who are dear to God.</i></p>
<p>Vyoma (the sky)</p>	<p><i>signifies the infinite and detached all-pervasiveness of God.</i></p>
<p>Ardhchandra (the crescent)</p>	<p><i>shows that the way the moon increases slowly and gradually, one can attain perfection through patient meditation of God.</i></p>
<p>Kalasha (the pot at the top of a temple)</p>	<p><i>stands for the supremacy and absoluteness of God.</i></p>

*Keeping the divine signs depicted in the emblem of the Mission before our eyes, we have been conducting spiritual activities for the welfare of mankind through our Gnan-Dhyan-Seva programmes. We bow down to the lotus-feet of Shri Hari and pray for His divine guidance and assistance in the fulfilment of our mission.*

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**Shri Swaminarayan Divine Mission  
Omnibeneficial Series  
Publication Committee**

*Inspiration & Guidance*  
**Rev. Shri Narayanbhai G. Thakker**

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**Supreme Lord  
Shri Swaminarayan**





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## DEDICATION

We offer the flowers of faith and  
devotion in the form  
of this omnibeneficient series of books  
to the lotus  
feet of extremely merciful Anadi  
Muktaraj Param Pujya,  
**Shri Abjibapa**, who was an  
accomplished interpreter  
of the ideal and divine philosophy  
of **Lord Swaminarayan**,  
the incarnate God, eternally  
immanent and divine  
in Personal form and the Master  
of infinite Muktas  
who have attained the ultimate  
state of liberation.  
Param Pujya **Bapashri** spread the  
supremacy of **Lord**  
**Swaminarayan** in all directions,  
made many devotees  
experience the highest state of Anadi  
Mukta, the  
state of an ideal perfection, and thus  
obliged the  
entire mankind by bringing light and  
divine joy of the  
Supreme Lord **Shri Swaminarayan**  
on the earth.

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**Anadi Mahamuktaraj  
Shri Abjibapashri**





## **Offerings !**

We offer our thousandfold salutations  
in the lotus feet of the most compassionate  
**Sadguru Anadi Muktaraj Pujyashri Narayanbhai**  
who established the Omnibeneficial Institute  
**Shri Swaminarayan Divine Mission** to spread  
the flames of Brahmyagya in the form of  
spiritual evolvement who was the greatest supporter  
of pure Religion, Administration and Character  
who has offered his unique contribution for the spiritual,  
social and educational upliftment  
through presenting the suprememost  
philosophy of Shreeji Maharaj and  
Abjibapashri with scientific  
perspective.



**Founder President**



**Pujoyashri Narayanbhai Gigabhai Thakker**









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## **WE BELIEVE**

Shri Swaminarayan Divine Mission intends to bring out a series of books that will not only benefit the entire mankind but also enrich the lives of the people by offering them what is best in Indian thoughts and culture.

In this age of reason, the span of higher education is expanding day by day. The basic aim of higher education is to establish highest moral standards and to inculcate ethical values in life. The highest value and the loftiest goal of life is to experience the supreme joy which comes through communion with God. We hope the readers will find this series very useful in the achievement of these ultimate goals.

In a time, when the span of higher education, science and technology is continuously expanding, we want to mould them in such a way that they do not merely remain the means of producing material wealth and physical comforts, but should be best utilised for the inner development and spiritual perfection of mankind. Moreover, let us not forget that the final stage and purpose of evolution is to develop our self steadily and finally get immersed in the divine happiness of Supreme Lord.

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Man has been gifted with an innate ability to develop continually to attain the divine bliss. This shows that we can strive together and create such social, economic and political conditions as are conducive to an unhampered spiritual progress and sublimation of life. To accelerate this process, we shall have to prepare literature, that inspire and assist the seekers of the divine pleasure.

For the social betterment and spiritual enrichment of the human society Lord Shri Swaminarayan has established a universally acceptable, comprehensive philosophical system. It's a path of pure knowledge which elevates our soul and helps us attain oneness with the Supreme Lord. Vachanamritam and Shikshapatri, are two great classics, containing the essence of the ideal philosophy of Shri Swaminarayan. In a simple but lucid and convincing language, Lord Shri Swaminarayan has tried to spread His message through these two great spiritual works. He also inspired His saints and seers, His liberated householder devotees and scholars to compose plenty of work expressing their own spiritual experiences, to contribute to the understanding of His percepts, which are beneficial to the whole of mankind.

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These books contain the quintessence of the Indian view of life and they also teach the real art of living. Whether one belongs to the East or the West, each one of us will find this series useful as a spiritual guide leading us on the path of divinity, satisfying our longing for the touch of the Divine. Here, through this series, an attempt would be made to show how one can develop one's own self to attain oneness with the Lord Supreme. We are confident that the reading of this literature will help us overcome all conflicting deformities of modern life and usher in an era of peace, harmony and tranquillity.

We will incorporate in this series all positive and constructive ideas and religious tenets which are in consonance with our ideology and objectives.

In order to reach readers in different parts of India and abroad, we hope to publish this series, not only in Gujarati but also in Hindi, English and other languages.

We are hereby seeking everyone's active co-operation and assistance for the success of the Mission's activities. We pray for the divine grace of Lord Shri Swaminarayan to lead us and guide us in this great endeavour of ours.

V. S. 2043  
Shri Hari Jayanti  
April 18, 1986  
Ahmedabad.

Humblest of Humble  
**Narayanbhai G. Thakker**  
Founder President  
Shri Swaminarayan Divine Mission

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## PREFACE

We feel great pleasure in offering this small book to our young readers under the title 'Bapashri - As Experienced By Kids' with blessings and best wishes of the most compassionate respected Sadguruvarya Anadimukta Param Pujyashri Narayanbhai. The innate instinctive mind of an average child is clean and clear like a mirror. At this stage, whatever is projected on their minds, is engraved permanently. Therefore, they should be exposed to the ideal literature which could mould their lives in best possible ways.

Muktaraj Shri Narayanbhai was very fond of kids. It was his heartfelt desire to awaken the spiritual awareness of the children and to raise noble and virtuous future generation which can set an example for others to follow. He always used to say, 'Seeds of right principles and ideal values in children should be nurtured constantly through the literature of highest quality, congregations, Brahmyagya etc.. So that they can build and strengthen their character in the best possible way and proceed easily on the path of God-realization by living their lives full of devotion towards Almighty God and without any vices. A small plant can be moulded in any desired direction due to its tenderness, but a tree can not give up its

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rigidity and become flexible! Similarly, once young age is passed it becomes very difficult to make changes during adulthood and old age. Therefore, we must start moulding children right from their childhood.

It is not easy to comprehend the divine life of Anadi Mahamuktaraj Shri Abjibapashri. We have made a humble gesture to present his life experiences in simple and easy to understand language for the children. We hope, our efforts would be appreciated. We wish that each and every flower of this bouquet of life-experiences of Bapashri shall spread the fragrance and inspire our young readers in real sense.

To conclude, we sincerely pray from our innermost heart, to the Ultimate Supreme Lord Shreeji Maharaj, the most compassionate Bapashri and Sadguruvarya Pujyashri Narayanbhai to bestow their boundless blessings on each and everyone who co-operated in preparing and publishing this book as well as the innocent young readers who are the most deserving for the grace of God.

16 February, 2004  
Samvat 2060,  
Maha Vad Ekadashi

**Publication Committee**  
**Shri Swaminarayan Divine Mission**  
**Ahmedabad**

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1

## Boon Of Shreeji

A beautiful village called Baladiya lay in the region of Kutch. Panchabhai and Devba lived in this village. Though they were poor, they were not unhappy. They worked hard to earn their livelihood and readily accepted the earning as God's will and lived contentedly.

Devba was a great devotee of God. Firm faith and strong belief, she had in God. They had four daughters, but no son. Everyday Devba worshipped and prayed to God.

'O God! with Your blessings I have four daughters, but no son. Have mercy and grant me a boon of a son. Years passed in worshipping God. But Devba was not disheartened. Her faith in God was also not shakened.

Everyday with new hope she would pray to God. Devba was fully confident that one day God would definitely listen to her prayers.

Everyday Devba used to go to a lake called 'Kali Talawadi' to have bath. This Talawadi was blessed by Maharaj. Small hills surrounded the Talawadi. A lot of birds lived in fully bloomed trees.

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Every morning the atmosphere used to hum with sweet songs of the birds.

At this place Devba used to meditate God after having bath. As usual, one beautiful morning Devba went to Talawadi to have bath. Anyhow her mind was full of joy. The atmosphere also felt cheerful to her. Devba could not realize the reason behind her ecstasy.

She sat down to meditate after having bath. A beautiful vision of God appeared in her heart. 'Lady! open your eyes,' she heard a voice. Whose voice was that? She opened her eyes and behold! She found Shreeji Maharaj in person, standing in front of her smiling sweetly.

Devba (cried out), 'Maharaj! Is that you!' Maharaj replied, 'Lady! I am pleased by your devotion. Ask for a boon.' With deep reverence, Devba replied, 'God! I had full faith that one day you would definitely bless me with your Darshan.' Maharaj chuckled and said, 'I am pleased by those who have full faith and strong belief in Me.'

Devba was enchanted by the sight of divine form of God and she almost forgot to ask for a boon. Maharaj reminded her, 'Devba, ask for a boon.' Devba was delighted. She thought, 'I wish I had a son as handsome as God.' God asked, 'Devba, what are you thinking? Tell Me which boon would you like Me to grant?'

Devba pleaded, 'Maharaj! Please grant me

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a son like You.'

Maharaj replied smilingly, 'Devba! God is unique! I am one and only of My kind.' Devba was disappointed and asked, 'O God! O Lord! Will I never be blessed by a son like You? Alas! would my wish never be fulfilled?' Maharaj replied happily, 'Devba, don't feel disheartened. My Anadimukta is similar to Me. He would appear as your son. He would bring a lot of people in My abode.' God disappeared.

Devba was spellbound. She looked here and there but could not find Maharaj. She was puzzled. She thought, 'Indeed! Has God really granted me a boon?' Hurriedly she proceeded towards her house, immersed in thoughts. To convince Devba God through His inspiration, showed Devba a series of saints on both the sides of the path.

Throughout they repeated, 'Lady! You will be blessed by a son!' Now Devba was convinced. She narrated the incident to Panchabhai. Panchabhai was also delighted. The couple prayed to God wholeheartedly.

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**Difficult words :**

Boon - Blessings

Ecstasy - A state of extreme delight

Behold - Look

Chuckle - To laugh softly

Enchanted - Delighted

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Unique - Only one of its kind  
Disheartened - Disappointed

**Points to ponder :**

- Devba had worshipped God for years with strong belief and full faith, therefore God pleased upon her.
- Similarly, we should strengthen our faith and belief in God and God will fulfill our heartfelt desires.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What was Devba's heartfelt desire?
2. What did Devba pray to God everyday?
3. Which boon was granted by God to Devba?
4. How was Devba convinced about the boon?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Devba and Panchabhai lived in a place called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Devba used to go to \_\_\_\_\_ to have bath everyday.
3. Devba worshipped God with. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Complete the following sentences :**

1. My Anadimukta \_\_\_\_\_ to my abode.

**Make sentences using the following words :**

unique, firm, wish, faith.





## Birth Of Anadimuktaraj

It was a shivering chilly night in the month of Kartik. Usually at night all the people slept under the quilts in their houses. But today the people of Baladiya were awake. They were in a jubilant and rejoicing mood. There was gaiety everywhere. The atmosphere was also cheerful. The house of Panchabhai was decorated beautifully.

What was the occasion? What was the reason behind so much gaiety around? It was the day on which Anadimukta (of Shreeji Maharaj) was going to appear as per the boon of Shreeji Maharaj.

Everybody was waiting eagerly. Anadimuktaraj appeared as a son of Devba at 9:10 P.M. [Samvat 1901 Kartik Sud Ekadashi, Monday (20-11-1844).]

Blessed was the day and blessed was the moment. Everywhere there was festive atmosphere. People of the town congratulated Panchabhai. Ladies started singing auspicious songs. All the four daughters of Devba were waiting eagerly to see their brother. And Devba? Devba's devotion for years had been rewarded.

Anadimukta was born as a handsome

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and healthy baby as per God's boon. Devba was immersed in boundless joy. Again God appeared in front of Devba.

Devba began to pray in meditative state. 'O Lord! You are the most compassionate! You have blessed me by fulfilling my wish. You are the most merciful.'

God disappeared. Devba woke up and looked at her son. And behold! There was a garland of flowers in his neck and a Tilak of Kumkum on his forehead! Devba summoned Panchabhai and said, 'Again God has blessed me with His Darshan and adorned our son with this garland as His blessings.'

Panchabhai said with deep gratitude, 'Extremely fortunate we are that the Anadimukta of God has appeared as our son.' Devba spoke decisively, 'We shall never treat this Mukta as a human being. We shall never forget that he is an Anadimukta sent by God.'

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**Difficult words :**

Jubilant - Feeling great joy

Quilt - Heavy, padded bed cover

Auspicious - Indicating successful future

Immersed - Absorbed

**Points to ponder :**

- Shreeji Maharaj send His Anadimuktas on Earth to liberate numerous souls.
  - The arrival of an Anadimukta affects people as
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well as nature.

- The day on which an Anadimukta appears on earth is auspicious. All of us should participate in the celebrations of the day every year.
- An Anadimukta should never be treated as a human being.

### **Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Why were people of village Baldiya in rejoicing mood?
2. When was Anadimukta born and at what time?
3. Why is the day of Kartik Sud Ekadashi considered as an auspicious day?
4. What is the date of birth of Anadimukta as per English calendar?
5. What did Devba request Panchabhai not to forget?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. The people of Baldiya were \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Devba had been rewarded.
3. We are extremely \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ of God has appeared as our son.
4. Muktraj appeared at \_\_\_\_\_ P.M. at night.

**Complete the following sentence :**

1. We shall never treat \_\_\_\_\_ sent by God.



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## Dialogue With Mother

It so happened one day. Devba made her son sleep in a cradle. She was sitting next to the door and was working. While working, she kept an eye on the cradle. Suddenly she noticed four glorious men coming out of the room.

They disappeared after going a little further. Devba was frightened, 'Although I am sitting next to the door, how did those men enter the room? I hope my son is alright.' Hurriedly Devba entered the room. She found her son smiling in the cradle. Devba lifted him and started playing with him.

She was lost in thoughts, 'Who were those men? From where did they come? Where did they disappear?' And lo! one month old son spoke, 'Ma! Why do you forget that I am not an ordinary child; I am an Anadimukta sent by Shreeji Maharaj. I will take the deities who visit me for my Darshan to the abode of God. This is God's will.'

After completing the speech, he became quiet like a small child. Devba was astonished to hear such words from the mouth of her one month old child. She stared at him. Son was

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laughing happily.

Devba, that very moment, remembered the boon of God. She spoke to her son, 'See, how forgetful I am! God had told me that a Mukta would appear as my son. But I forget everything, whenever I look at you as a handsome, little child. Now I will remember.' The son did not reply. Devba said, 'Son! say something.' But Muktaraj kept on smiling like a small child.

Devba was delighted and started playing with her son. While playing, Devba said to Panchabhai, 'Let us decide upon a name for our son.' Panchabhai replied, 'We shall call him by a name of your choice.' Devba reminded, while granting the boon God said that a Mukta would appear. 'Ab' means now and instructed to call him 'Abjibhai'. So let us call him 'Abjibhai'.

Panchabhai agreed, 'It is a beautiful name given by God Himself.' Sisters began to play happily with their brother calling him Abjibhai. Devba was pleased at such affection of sisters towards their brother.

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**Difficult words :**

Glorious - Full of glory or divine light

Dialogue - Conversation between two people

Frightened - Extremely scared

Astonished - Greatly surprised

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**Points to ponder :**

- Limitations imposed by age do not apply to an Anadimukta sent by Maharaj.
- When Swami Brahmanand was in the womb of his mother, he had informed about the arrival of Maharaj.

**Exercise****Answer the following questions :**

1. Why did Devba panick?
2. What did the one month old child say to his mother?
3. Which name was given by Maharaj to the child?
4. What are the names of Abjibhai's parents?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. I am not an \_\_\_\_\_, I am \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A Mukta would appear \_\_\_\_\_, therefore call him \_\_\_\_\_.



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## 4

### Sharp Intellect

The days passed into months and the months passed into years. Abjibhai was growing up gradually. One day Devba reminded Panchabhai, 'Abjibhai has grown up now. Let us send him to school.' Panchabhai replied, 'On an auspicious day, I will enroll him in a school.' One auspicious day Panchabhai took Abjibhai to school.

The teacher was delighted to see Abjibhai. The teacher said, 'Abjibhai, you will get very good marks, if you study attentively.'

Abjibhai touched the feet of the teacher and said, 'I will obey you and study with total concentration.' The teacher was much impressed. Whatever the teacher taught, Abjibhai studied it single mindedly. Everyday he used to go to the school. He directly came back home as soon as the school was over. He discussed with Panchabhai about his studies in the school saying, 'Today the teacher taught me alphabets.' Sometimes he would come and say, 'Today he taught us spellings. I have fully learnt them.'

Abjibhai passed the examination with first

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rank. Panchabhai looked very happy, but inside he was sad. He regretfully confessed to Devba, 'We are poor. Abjibhai is clever in his studies. But how to arrange for the fees? I do not have money.'

Abjibhai heard this while standing outside. He told Panchabhai, 'Father, please allow me to help you in fields. I have learnt to read. I will read and study on my own at home.' Panchabhai was choked with emotions and tears rolled down his eyes on hearing such words from his wise and sensible son.

Abjibhai decided that he would learn to read and write on his own. He would go to temple and read Vachanamrit slowly and attentively. Thus, he learnt to read fluently. Later on, he used to read Vachanamrit during congregations in the temple and everyone listened to it.

Quite often Abjibhai asked his friends Karsan and Jadavji, 'Come on, let us sing a Keertan.' Karsan hesitated, 'I can not sing properly yet.' Abjibhai encouraged him, 'So what? If we see in the book and remember God while singing, we can learn it easily.' Jadavji said, 'We can not remember like you.' Abjibhai said, 'Everyday I learn small portions from a book. Thus I have learnt a lot by heart.' Jadavji proposed, 'Please, sing one Keertan for us.' With the remembrance of God, Abjibhai began to sing. All the Haribhaktas gathered to listen to the Keertan sung in such a sweet, melodious voice.



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The Keertan was over. They inquired, 'Abjibhai, who taught you to sing so nicely? Everyday you sing a new Keertan. Who teaches you? How do you remember so many Keertans?' Abjibhai replied, 'There is nobody to teach me. I learn everyday with full concentration and with the remembrance of God. In this manner I study. First time I sing with the help of a book and learn it by heart. Next time I do not have to refer to the book.' How wonderful!

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**Difficult words :**

Obey - To carry out commands

Concentration - Intense mental focus

Regretfully - Feeling sorry or upset

Fluently - Spoken or written with ease

**Points to ponder :**

- Here, it is clearly indicated that Abjibhai is an Anadimukta. He had learnt only alphabets in the school, yet he learnt to read and write very well by himself. He could remember a Keertan by heart by reading it only once. Only an Anadimukta can do this.
- Abjibhai remembered eleven hundred *Chosar* (Keertans with four poems in connection) by heart.
- The moral of this incident is: We should learn with full attention whatever is taught by a teacher and we should revise it at home. If we

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make efforts with the remembrance at God, nothing is impossible.

- Financial capacity of one's father should be always kept in mind.

### **Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What did Abjibhai say to his teacher?
2. Why did Abjibhai study at home?
3. What did Abjibhai learn in the school?
4. What did Abjibhai say to his father?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. I will study \_\_\_\_\_.
2. As soon as the school was over, Abjibhai directly came back \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Abjibhai is very \_\_\_\_\_ in study, but we have no \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I cannot \_\_\_\_\_ properly.
5. If we sing from the \_\_\_\_\_ and with the remembrance of \_\_\_\_\_, we can learn it by heart.



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## Darshan in Multiple Forms

It so happened one day. Abjibhai was helping his father in his work. The work was about to get over. His friends were talking among themselves.

Natha said, 'No one can catch Abjibhai while playing the game of catch & catch.' Kunvarji agreed, 'He runs very fast, therefore he is our leader.' Dhanji proposed, 'Today let all of us together try to catch him.' Kesra asked impatiently, 'But why has Abjibhai not yet joined us?' That very moment Abjibhai reached there. All the friends rejoiced.

Gangji began to speak, 'Abjibhai, we can never catch you in the game of catch & catch, so....' Abjibhai interrupted, 'Because I run keeping God with me and all of you run alone, so you can not catch me.' Kesra said, 'Today we have decided that you shall run alone and all of us together will try to catch you.'

Abjibhai was amused. He said, 'Well, let us try it today.' Kanji was thrilled, 'Today let us see, how Abjibhai could spare himself from being caught.' Dhanji instructed, 'All of you! surround him in a circle,'

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so that Abjibhai can not sneak out.' Thus a proper array had been formed. With the saying 'Jai Swaminarayan' Abjibhai began to run. All of them ran behind him. Gangji screamed, 'Kesra, where are you running? Abjibhai is in front of me. Come here!' Kesra denied, 'No, Abjibhai is in front of me! You come here.'

Dhanji cried out, 'All of you! come here fast! Here is Abjibhai.' Then Kunvarji called urgently, 'Come quickly, let all of us together catch Abjibhai!' Indeed! Abjibhai had created his own forms and appeared in front of each of his friend. Each of them tried to catch Abjibhai who had been running ahead of him. Kunvarji looked at Dhanji. Abjibhai was running ahead of Dhanji. He looked at Jadavji and saw Abjibhai running ahead of him also. He dropped down after noticing such an amazing incident. He called all the friends, 'All of you! sit down, No one can catch Abjibhai. I am tired!' All of them came back exhausted and almost collapsed under the tree.

Everyone started saying each other, 'Abjibhai was running ahead of me. You did not come. Otherwise we would have caught him today!' Kunvarji said, 'Abjibhai appeared in front of all of us. I saw that. Abjibhai was running ahead of each of us.' Everybody was amazed. They said, 'Let us ask Abjibhai what miracle has he performed today?' All the forms of Abjibhai united in to one. He approached in a single form smiling softly towards

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his friends. They asked unanimously, 'Abjibhai, what an amazing act have you performed today? We are all exhausted running behind you. You were running in front of each of us!'

Abjibhai replied innocently, 'I do not know anything, (I am not aware of it). Whatever God has shown you is true.' They could not accept the explanation given by Abjibhai. They realized that Abjibhai was not an ordinary child like them!

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**Difficult words :**

Multiple - More than one of the same type

Impatiently - Restless

Thrilled - Fully excited

Sneak out - To move out quietly

**Points to ponder :**

- No task is impossible for an Anadimukta.
- A game of an Anadimukta is also an aspect of his divine playful character.
- Anadimukta always gives credit to God for all his virtues.
- We should help our parents in their duties as per our ability. We should always remember God while performing any act.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What was Abjibhai doing in the orchard?
  2. What did the friends decide?
  3. Why was Abjibhai never caught by his friends?
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4. What reason did Abjibhai give Gangji for not being caught?
  5. Which trick was tried upon by his friends to catch Abjibhai?
  6. Give the names of the friends of Abjibhai.

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. I run keeping \_\_\_\_\_ with me.
2. You should run \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ will try to catch you.
3. Abjibhai began to run with the words \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Abjibhai \_\_\_\_\_ in front of all of us.

**Complete the following sentence :**

I do not know \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ is true.



## A Magnificent Marvel

One day as usual Kunvarji, Gangji and Dhanji went to the orchard. Abjibhai was working in the orchard. Gangji asked, 'Abjibhai, let us go to play.' Abjibhai replied, 'Let me ask my father.' Kunvarji said, 'Come on, no need to ask!' Abjibhai explained, 'We must ask the permission of our parents before going out or before going to play. Let me go and ask. I will be back in a moment.' They waited for him. Abjibhai took permission and joined them. 'Let us go.' He said. 'It is very hot today. Let us go to the well and play the game of jumping into the water.' Proposed Gangji.

They all agreed. Abjibhai suggested, 'Let us play, but we should not jump without some condition.' 'Then?' They asked. Abjibhai replied, 'We must keep one condition. Everyone should speak 'Jai Swaminarayan' loudly, clap his hands and jump into the water. But the whole body should not immerse into the water. The portion below waist should remain under water and the portion above waist should remain above water. Tell me, do you agree?'

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They agreed 'You are our leader, so we agree to whatever you say!'

Kunvarji cried out 'Jai Swaminarayan' loudly, clapped his hands and plunged into water. Poor child! He completely submerged into water.

Gangji also dipped himself in water. For Dhanji, only head remained above water.

Gangji said, 'Abjibhai, now it is your turn.'

Dhanji reminded, 'You have challenged us, now you have to perform it.' Abjibhai clapped his hands, uttered 'Jai Swaminarayan' loudly and jumped into water.

And behold! They were astonished. Kunvarji screamed, 'Hey! look there! Look at the body of Abjibhai! It is exactly fulfilling the condition.' Gangji confirmed, 'Oh Yes! The portion above his waist is not even wet! Exactly half the portion of his body is immersed into the water!'

They inquired Abjibhai, 'Abjibhai how did you manage to achieve this? Would you teach us also?' Abjibhai replied, 'I visualized the divine form of God in my heart, recited the name of God and jumped. I had a feeling that God also jumped with me, therefore I could achieve it.' Kunvarji, Dhanji and Gangji were fascinated.

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**Difficult words :**

Magnificent - Splendid

Marvel - Wonderful happening or event

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Submerge - To sink completely

Utter - To express in words

**Points to ponder :**

- We can create wonders by involving God with us in our activity.
- If we perform any task with the remembrance of God, we can make impossible things possible.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Which game did the friends decide to play?
2. Which condition had been placed by Abjibhai?
3. Who could perform as per the challenge? Why?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. We should not \_\_\_\_\_ without any condition.
2. Everyone should speak \_\_\_\_\_ loudly, \_\_\_\_\_ his hands and jump.
3. Kunvarji completely \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Exactly \_\_\_\_\_ the body was immersed.



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## A New Game

One beautiful morning, Mangla Aarti was about to begin in the temple.

Kunvarji, Natha, Dhanji etc. all the friends had got up early and had arrived at the temple. They were waiting for Abjibhai. Daily he used to reach the temple early. But that day he was late. Whatever the reason may be Kunvarji was glancing at the door frequently.

At last Abjibhai entered the temple with an aged gentleman.

Natha asked, 'Why are you late today?' Abjibhai replied, 'This aged gentleman was not able to walk without support, therefore I helped him. So I am late.'

Aarti started so everybody joined it. After Aarti was over Dhanji said, 'Abjibhai, let us go to play.' Abjibhai proposed, 'Let us play a new game today!'

They cheered up. And responded in chorus, 'Yes, please come on, let us play a new game.' Abjibhai requested, 'First of all, please go and find some small and big stones.' All of them ran here

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and there with excitement to collect stones and came back with stones. Abjibhai arranged the stones one on another and said, 'Look, this is a temple and Maharaj is gracefully adorning the temple. Kunvarji, please bang two stones with each other so that it sounds like a bell. I will perform Aarti.' Natha and Dhanji also joined in singing the Aarti.

Abjibhai gave everyone the Prasad of leaves. Abjibhai instructed, 'Now close your eyes.' They obeyed, 'Now visualize the idol of God in your heart and meditate upon it.' said Abjibhai. They followed.

After a while Natha opened his eyes. At the same time Kunvarji also opened his eyes. Both of them woke up Dhanji. Natha asked, 'What kind of new game is this?' Kunvarji pointed out, 'Abjibhai has not yet woken up.' Dhanji suggested, 'Let us wake him up.' Kesra went to Abjibhai and said, 'Abjibhai, let us go to play.' They shook him up, but he did not wake up. They went a little away and started playing.

Kunvarji said wearily, 'There is no fun without Abjibhai, but it seems he has slept off.' Natha agreed, 'Yes, who can sit for such a long time? Definitely he has slept off.' After a long time Abjibhai came out of meditation. Natha and Kesra teased Abjibhai, 'See, he had one nice nap. He suggested to play a new game and himself slept off.'

Abjibhai said, 'I was meditating. It is

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tremendously blissful to visualize idol of God in one's heart.' Jadavji teased, 'You are lying. You had slept off.'

Abjibhai tried to convince them, 'I will die, if I had slept off. I am telling the truth. I swear.' Natha was curious, 'Then what were you doing?' Abjibhai explained, 'You are playing here in dust, but I was playing with God and His saints. I was watching Maharaj.'

Dhanji was puzzled, 'Can we see Maharaj by closing our eyes?' Abjibhai assured, 'Yes, we can see. We should look at the idol and try to visualize the same in our heart. I can see God as soon as I close my eyes.' Kesra informed, 'We were happily playing here.' Abjibhai confessed, 'I find meditation more joyful than playing all these games.'

Kanji complained, 'Abjibhai always talks about God. He can not think of anything other than God.' Abjibhai admitted, 'Yes, I can not think of anything other than God. There is no bliss similar to that of God. That is the most exhilarating experience.' So emphatically spoke Abjibhai that nobody could tease him further.

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**Difficult words :**

Chorus - To speak or sing together

Wearily - Very tired

Tremendously - Very large proportion

Blissful - Feeling eternal joy

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**Points to ponder :**

- Shreeji Maharaj has instructed in Shikshapatri to serve aged and sick people. Here, it is clearly indicated that Abjibhai was a kind and caring person.
- The bliss of Shreeji Maharaj is of highest quality and unique. Abjibhai teaches us that the bliss of Shreeji Maharaj could be attained through meditation. Therefore, we should practice meditation right from our childhood.
- An Anadimukta appears distinct even while playing different games.

**Exercise****Answer the following questions :**

1. Which Aarti was about to begin in the temple.
2. Why was Abjibhai late in the temple.
3. Which new game did Abjibhai teach?
4. What were the friends teasing Abjibhai?
5. What did Abjibhai reply?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Abjibhai entered the temple with \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Let us play \_\_\_\_\_ game today.
3. Kunvarji, please bang \_\_\_\_\_ with each other, so that it sounds like a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Abjibhai always talks about \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Now, visualize \_\_\_\_\_ and meditate upon it.

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**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. We were playing happily here.
2. Can we see Maharaj by closing our eyes?
3. There is no bliss similar to that of God.



## Marvellous Miracle Of Sling

It so happened one hot summer day.

Abjibhai was playing the game of Amlī-Piplī with his friends. Nobody could catch Abjibhai. Jadavji gave up, 'I am not going to chase. I am exhausted.' Said he. Gangji also joined him and said, 'Me too, I am hungry too.' Kunvarji and Kesra said, 'We are also feeling hungry.'

Dhanji asked, 'What shall we do? Let us bring food from somewhere.' Abjibhai suggested, 'Let us go to my house and eat whatever is available.' They consented happily, 'Come - come, let us go.'

Karsan hesitated, 'Abjibhai, your mother would be at home. She will not give food to so many children and will scold.' Abjibhai assured, 'My mother has gone out. No one is at home. Let us go.' All of them went to Abjibhai's house happily.

Abjibhai checked up in the kitchen. Food was not ready. What possibly could he offer to eat? Kesra asked, 'Abjibhai, what happened? Is there no food?' Abjibhai replied, 'Food is not ready. But there is jaggery kept in the sling. If we can bring it down, we can eat it.' Kunvarji observed, 'Sling is very high.'

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How to bring it down?' Abjibhai said, 'There is a solution.' 'Please tell quickly. I am starving!' Said Natha hastily.

Abjibhai instructed, 'All of you form a circle and bend down. Rest of the children would stand on their back. I will climb on top and bring down the sling.' All of them followed the instructions and Abjibhai brought down the sling. Then Abjibhai held the jaggery in his hands and closed his eyes.

Kanji was impatient, 'What are you doing? Please, give me jaggery immediately.' Abjibhai explained, 'I was offering jaggery to God. We should not eat anything without offering it to God.'

Abjibhai distributed jaggery which had been offered to God, to all his friends. Jadavji kept looking at the door. Kanji whispered, 'Jadavji, keep eye on the door. Please inform us if someone comes back.'

Gangji said hungrily, 'Abjibhai, it would be more satisfying if there is something to eat with jaggery.'

Abjibhai proposed, 'Let us grind Bajra and prepare Kuler. All of them welcomed the idea cheerfully. Abjibhai provided Bajra to grind. Dhanji helped in grinding Bajra. Abjibhai prepared Kuler. Karsan requested, 'Please give me more.' Abjibhai informed, 'All of you will get equal quantity. God does not like partiality.' Abjibhai offered Kuler to all his friends with remembrance of God. Jadavji shouted, 'All hide! Devba has returned.' They were scared.

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They couldn't decide which way to go. They ran here and there.

During this commotion, Devba entered the house. She noticed that the sling was brought down and the children were having jaggery. She lost her temper. Devba bent down to keep the container of butter milk on the ground. Gangji sneaked out saying, 'Abjibhai, I am leaving.' All the friends followed him. Kunvarji was about to fall down. Natha banged with Jadavji. They ran out of fright without looking back.

Abjibhai was laughing. Devba was enraged looking at Abjibhai. She scolded Abjibhai, 'Why did you bring all your friends home?' Abjibhai replied politely, 'We all were feeling hungry and Maharaj was also feeling hungry.'

Devba was irritated, 'It seems you have finished all the jaggery. Let me check it up.' She checked the sling and found that jaggery was untouched. She also checked the grinder and realized that it had been unused. Devba was surprised. Her anger vanished.

Abjibhai reminded her, 'I am not an ordinary child who is mischievous. I have been offering Kuler to God. Why are you so upset with me?' After witnessing the miracle, Devba realized that her son was an Anadimukta.

**Difficult words :**

Chase - To run after someone.

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Exhausted - Extremely tired

Sling - A rope or strip by which something is hung

Enraged - Extremely angry

To Vanish - To disappear completely

**Points to ponder :**

- Any object to wear or eat can not be used by a person without offering it to God.
- Abjibhai teaches us that we should have food after offering it to God. Food should be divided in equal quantities. Partiality should be avoided. Impartial behaviour pleases God.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Which game was being played by the friends?
2. Why did friends go to Abjibhai's place?
3. How did they bring down the sling?
4. What did Abjibhai give everyone to eat?
5. Why did Devba's anger vanish?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Gangji said, 'I am also \_\_\_\_\_.'
2. Abjibhai your \_\_\_\_\_ would be at home she will not give \_\_\_\_\_ to so many children.
3. Abjibhai said, '\_\_\_\_\_ is not ready but there is jaggery kept in the \_\_\_\_\_.'
4. I was offering \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

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**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. We should not eat anything without offering it to God.
2. It seems you have finished all the jaggery.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Is mischievous child who an am I not ordinary.



## **Definition Of An Anadimukta And Darshan To Friends**

It so happened one day. Abjibhai had finished his work in the field. He had a wash and sat down under a tree to meditate. All the friends arrived. Abjibhai did not wake up from the meditation.

Kunvarji complained, 'Abjibhai is always sitting with his eyes closed.' Jadavji explained, 'He says that he meditates.' Dhanji informed, 'My father says that Abjibhai is Anadimukta and he has appeared through God's boon.' Gangji confirmed, 'Yes, it is true. That is why he can perform miracles.'

Natha said, 'Abjibhai reminds us now and then to worship God.' Such conversation was going on when Abjibhai woke up from his meditation.

Dhanji inquired, 'Abjibhai, were you meditating?' Abjibhai replied, 'Yes, as soon as I close my eyes I see the idol of Maharaj. I feel blissful.' Gangji asked, 'Even more blissful than playing games with us?' Abjibhai admitted, 'Meditation is the most blissful experience in this life.'

Kanji was inquisitive, 'Dhanji says that you are an Anadimukta and you can experience God'

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all the time.' Kunvarji asked, 'Abjibhai, who is an Anadimukta?' Abjibhai explained, 'Anadimukta is the one who remains immersed in the bliss of the divine form of Maharaj. As a fish lives in the water, similarly an Anadimukta lives in the divine form of Maharaj. Anadimukta does not perform a miracle, but Shreeji Maharaj performs it through him. Anadimukta remains absorbed into the bliss of Maharaj.'

Gangji was confused, 'Abjibhai, I could not follow you.' Abjibhai clarified, 'Now listen, when we play catch & catch, we concentrate on a person who is to be caught. Similarly full attention of an Anadimukta is focused on Maharaj. As sugar dissolves into milk, similarly an Anadimukta dissolves into the idol of Maharaj. Maharaj Himself acts through him, so no task is impossible for an Anadimukta.'

Gangji asked, 'Are you also an Anadimukta?' Abjibhai smiled. Dhanji pleaded, 'Abjibhai, you are a great Mukta, would you help us to have Darshan of God?' Abjibhai was pleased, 'I will. I will certainly help you. By God's grace, all of you will have Darshan of God. Please close your eyes and try to visualize the idol of God.'

They followed his instructions. Abjibhai described each and every part of God. And behold! They all were blessed with the Darshan of God! They were feeling full of joy by having Darshan of God. They were fully absorbed into the vision of God.

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After a while Abjibhai uttered, 'Jai Sahajanand Swami Maharaj. All rise.'

They opened their eyes. Kanji was thrilled, 'Wow! Abjibhai, you made us have Darshan of God very well. Why did you wake me up? I was feeling blissful!' Dhanji was excited, 'I saw Dharmpita and Bhaktimata along with Shreeji Maharaj.' Kunvarji disclosed, 'I had Darshan of Hari Krishna Maharaj.' And Jadavji declosed, 'I had Darshan of Ghanshyam Maharaj.'

Every one discussed their experiences of Darshan. Abjibhai said, 'Today Maharaj was very pleased with all of you. Therefore, you had such a beautiful Darshan. You should not discuss this experience with other people. This is the secret of meditation.' All the friends went home delighted.

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**Difficult words :**

Confused - Lacking clear understanding

Clarify - To make clear or easy to understand

Dissolve - To mix completely with liquid

**Points to ponder :**

- Abjibhai himself has described the attributes of an Anadimukta, here.
- Anadimukta has immense capacity. Shreeji Maharaj performs all the activities on behalf of him.
- We should have belief and faith in the speech of an Anadimukta.

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- Divine Darshan of God, Which is very rare to experience, could be experienced easily through compassion of Anadimukta.

### Exercise

#### Answer the following questions :

1. What was Abjibhai doing under the tree?
2. What is the most blissful experience of our life?
3. Write down the characteristic of an Anadimukta described by Abjibhai.
4. What did Dhanjibhai request to Abjibhai?
5. What did all the friends see during meditation?

#### Fill in the blanks :

1. Abjibhai is always sitting with his \_\_\_\_\_ closed.
2. Abjibhai is \_\_\_\_\_ and he has appeared through God's \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is the one who remains immersed in the bliss of \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Who speaks the following statements :

1. Are you also an Anadimukta?
2. Abjibhai, you are a great mukta, would you help us to have Darshan of God?

#### Arrange in proper sequence :

1. Is who remains in immersed Anadimukta the one the divine form of the bliss of Maharaj.



## Significance Of Kanthi

Devba was very fond of her son Abjibhai. She used to pamper him. One day she felt like seeing her son wearing a necklace. She called Abjibhai and put on a necklace.

Abjibhai asked, 'Ma, What is this?' Devba explained, 'This is necklace. It should be worn in the neck. Everyone wears a necklace, you too wear it.' Abjibhai did not like it. He wanted to remove the necklace somehow. He asked Devba, 'Why do you make me wear this?'

Devba tried to explain, 'This is an ornament. It looks beautiful on you. Please, wear it.' Abjibhai inquired, 'Ma, What happens if we wear this?' Devba couldn't answer. Abjibhai complained, 'I feel it heavy. It is choking me.' Devba tried to convince, 'But everyone wears it.' Abjibhai protested, 'Let them wear. I want Kanthi in my neck. Necklace is like a noose. If we don't wear Kanthi, how would people know that we are Satsangi?'

Devba listened attentively. Abjibhai continued, 'We are known as Satsangi by wearing Kanthi. It pleases God. What could we achieve by



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wearing a necklace? It is just to show off. But God is pleased only if we wear His Kanthi in our neck.'

Devba agreed, 'Son! you are right I made you wear necklace because all were wearing.' Abjibhai said, 'Kanthi is the real ornament for a Satsangi.' Devba was pleased to hear the views of her son. She was proud of her son. She realized that her son had such deep understanding.

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**Difficult words :**

Significance - Importance

Pamper - To treat with excessive care

Ornament - Decorative object

Noose - Rope used to tie an animal or to hang people

**Points to ponder :**

- Double folded string of Tulsi beads in the neck is the symbol of a Satsangi.
- The real ornament for a Satsangi is Kanthi.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What did Devba put on her son's neck?
2. How did Abjibhai feel about it?
3. What does Abjibhai call a Kanthi?
4. What is a person wearing a Kanthi called?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Mother put on a \_\_\_\_\_ in Abjibhai's neck.
2. Necklace is like a \_\_\_\_\_ in the neck.

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3. I prefer \_\_\_\_\_ in my neck.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ is pleased, if we wear \_\_\_\_\_.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Satsangi ornament for a real is the Kanthi.

2. A noose necklace is like.



## Great Understanding In Young Age

It was the festival of Diwali. All went out wearing new clothes. Devba was at home feeling sad. Abjibhai entered the house playfully. He asked Devba, 'Ma, why are you looking sad?'

Devba replied, 'Today everyone goes to the temple wearing new clothes, but you do not have new clothes.' Abjibhai consoled her, 'My clothes are washed and clean. I do not want new clothes.'

Panchabhai said regretfully, 'Son! You are wise and understanding, therefore you do not demand. If I had money, I would have bought you new clothes and sweets.' Abjibhai tried to reconcile his parents, 'Only money does not give happiness. Great kings have a lot of money, but are all of them happy? Simplicity gives real pleasure.'

Abjibhai continued, 'Ma, please do not worry. Man does not look good by wearing good clothes. He should be pure within. This pleases God. Outer beautification does not make one pure.'

Devba was overwhelmed with joy. Tears rolled down her eyes. Abjibhai wiped the tears of his mother and said, 'Ma, If we do not possess

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anything, there are no obstacles in worshipping God. Worship and prayer of God give real happiness.

Panchabhai and Devba felt peaceful after listening to such statements from Abjibhai. Abjibhai wore his daily clothes which were washed and clean. He went to the temple with his friends.

His parents were also proud of such a cultured and sensible son.

**Difficult words :**

Reconcile - Explain to pacify

Simplicity - Of humble background

Overwhelmed - Over powered through emotions

**Points to ponder :**

- Money does not give real happiness in life.
- Abjibhai teaches that if the parents are not well to do financially. We should not insist or demand things.
- If a person is not pure within, outer beautification does not make him look beautiful. Less possessions in life make it more convenient to worship God.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Why was Devba feeling sad?
2. What did Abjibhai say Devba?
3. What gives real happiness?
4. How did Devba and Panchabhai feel peaceful?

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**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Why do you look \_\_\_\_\_?
2. Son, you are \_\_\_\_\_ and therefore you do not demand.
3. Outer \_\_\_\_\_ does not make man \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is pleased by the inner \_\_\_\_\_.



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## 12

### Prediction

It was early morning. Abjibhai was performing prayer with his father Panchabhai. Kesra came running.

After finishing the prayer, Abjibhai asked, 'Why have you come running?' Kesra said, 'A great saint from Bhuj is visiting the temple. His name is Swami Achyutdasji.' Panchabhai was glad to hear the name.

He told Abjibhai, 'Son, Both of us shall go to visit him. He is a great saint.' Abjibhai told Kesra, 'You carry on. I will come with my father.' Panchabhai suggested Abjibhai, 'Let us request him to initiate you into Vartmaan.' Abjibhai asked Devba, 'Ma, What is Vartmaan?'

Devba explained, 'Vartmaan means initiation by a great Mukta. He will tie you Kanthi and give one vow which should be followed lifelong. That is called Vartmaan.' Abjibhai was glad. Devba told Panchabhai, 'I am giving you a packet of whole sugar. You buy one coconut from the market.'

Panchabhai agreed. Abjibhai wore clean clothes and went to the temple with Panchabhai.

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Abjibhai offered the packet of whole sugar and coconut at the feet of Swami Achyutdasji and bowed down. Panchabhai pleaded, 'Swami! He is my son. Please initiate him into Vartmaan.'

Swami Achyutdasji was a great saint. He knew everything. Looking at Abjibhai, he realized that Abjibhai was an Anadimukta. And he had been sent by God. Abjibhai sat besides Swami. Swami was delighted to see Abjibhai. He told Panchabhai, 'Panchabhai, you are very lucky. Your son is a great soul. He is a great Mukta of God!' Panchabhai confirmed, 'Yes Swami, He worships God the whole day and God appears in personified form in front of him.'

Swami added, 'Panchabhai, you may not realize it now, but let me tell you a secret. He will grow up as a great Mukta. A lot of people will visit him for his Darshan.' Panchabhai inquired, 'Swami will it really happen?'

Swami promised, 'Yes, Abjibhai will liberate a lot of souls and take them to Akshardham. At present he has concealed his greatness, therefore it could not be known. But later on he will unfold (reveal) his greatness.' Panchabhai was delighted and bowed down to Swami.

Swami advised, 'Panchabhai, You are very fortunate that such a Mukta is born as your son. Never consider him as your son. He is an Anadimukta.'

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Panchabhai promised, 'Swami, I will always remember. Sometimes he has shown us his greatness.' Abjibhai was sitting quietly with closed eyes.

Swami tied him Kanthi and put on a garland which had been offered to God.

Abjibhai bowed down to Swami. Swami blessed him and said, 'Please perform your duties properly which have been assigned to you by God.' Abjibhai smiled.

Panchabhai was delighted to hear Swami's words. He bowed down to Swami. Swami blessed him. Panchabhai went home happily. He narrated the incident to Devba. Devba was also very pleased.

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**Difficult words :**

Prediction - To forecast in advance

Initiate - Admit as a new disciple

To conceal - To hide

Reveal - To disclose

**Points to ponder :**

→ Only a Mukta knows about the greatness of another Mukta.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. From where did the saint arrive? What was his name?
2. What does the term to initiate into Vartmaan



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mean?

3. What did Swami realize looking at Abjibhai?

4. What did Swami tell Abjibhai?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Abjibhai was performing \_\_\_\_\_ with his father.

2. Let me tell you one \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Abjibhai will \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of souls and take them to \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Never consider him as your \_\_\_\_\_. He is an \_\_\_\_\_.

**Make sentences using the following words :**

lucky, conceal, fortunate.



## Miracle Of Kali Talawadi

It so happened on a hot summer day. All the friends were sitting under a tree. Kunvarji said, 'There is no fun playing under the Sun.' Gangji proposed, 'Let us play in shadow.' Kesra objected, 'What can we play sitting at one place?' Dhanji teased, 'Abjibhai can play sitting at one place. He can meditate.'

Vashram suggested, 'Let us go to lake.' Abjibhai agreed, 'Let us go for a swim in the lake, so that nobody feels hot.' Jadavji was excited, 'Yes, let us go, it would be fun.'

All of them proceeded towards the lake. For some time they swam. Kesra said, 'Let us dive under water.' Abjibhai challenged, 'Let us see who can remain longer under water.' Vashram was thrilled, 'Wow! That would be interesting!'

Dhanji announced, 'Abjibhai, I will win this game. I am good in diving.' Kesra declared, 'I will remain under water for longer time than you.'

Gangji proclaimed, 'Water is my kingdom! I am an expert. I will definitely win this game.' Kunvarji said, 'I can not hold my breath under water'

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for a long time. Therefore I will keep count about who comes out of the water first.'

Jadavji asked, 'Abjibhai, why are you quiet?' Abjibhai replied, 'Each of you say that he is an expert. So What can I say? Let us see what happens.'

All of them dived under water. Abjibhai also recited, 'Jai Swaminarayan' and dived. Kunvarji came up in a short while and waited for the next one to come out.

After a while Vashram came out. Kunvarji asked, 'Arre...! You have come out so soon?' Vashram informed, 'I was feeling suffocated under water. So I came up.'

Kunvarji said, 'Let us see, now who comes up.' And in a moment Kesra came up with the sound Oh! Oh!....

After coming out he said, 'Phew! I would have fainted, had I remained under water any longer!' Vashram and Kunvarji started laughing, 'What? You were supposed to remain under water for a longer time than Dhanji!' Kesra said defensively, 'Because both of you were talking, I thought everyone has come out of the water. Therefore I also came up.' Vashram said, 'Don't you boast. You would have fainted, had you not come out.'

And there came up Gangji. They made fun of Gangji, 'Hello! King of water! Still Dhanji and Abjibhai are under water. Why did you come up so soon?' Gangji could not utter a single word. He sat

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down in a corner with a fallen face.

Now Dhanji came out. Looking at them he boasted, 'See! I told you. I told you. I was going to remain under water for longest duration. Everyone has come out. I am the last one to come out.'

All of them spoke in chorus, 'No.... you are not the last one. Abjibhai is still under water.' Dhanji was crest fallen. He could not say anything. They waited for Abjibhai. Kunvarji said, 'You all were praising yourselves. Abjibhai did not speak a single word, but still he has not come out!'

Gangji noticed, 'Jadavji, you have put on your clothes!' Jadavji replied, 'No, I did not dive under water. I do not know how to dive.' They all laughed.

Some more time elapsed. Abjibhai did not come up. Gangji was concerned, 'Abjibhai has remained under water for such a long time. Still he has not come up.'

Dhanji shouted, 'Abjibhai, please come out you have won. All have come out.' There was no response. They were waiting. Kunvarji was worried, 'It has been a long time. Why Abjibhai has not come out?' Gangji was anxious, 'I am worried'. Dhanji suggested, 'Let us shout together.'

They shouted together. But Abiibhai did not come up. Jadavji panicked, 'I am scared. I hope he has not drowned.' They were frightened.

Kesra proposed, 'Let me dive and check up.' Kesra came up. They stared at him. Kesra

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announced, 'I could not locate Abjibhai.' Vashram had a doubt, 'I hope he is not hiding somewhere after coming out.' They searched for him.

They couldn't find Abjibhai. Dhanji was desperate, 'Let all of us dive under water and look for him.' They all dived, but Abjibhai was seen nowhere. They were frightened.

Gangji was distressed, 'What shall we do? What shall we inform his parents?' They were very nervous. Jadavji and Vashram were on the verge of crying. Kesra suggested, 'Let us pray to God.' They started praying, 'O Lord! O Merciful! Please bring back Abjibhai.' They prayed vigorously. Tears were rolling down while praying. And behold....

Abjibhai come out of the water saying, 'O Lord! O Merciful!' They screamed with joy together, 'Hey.... Abjibhai has come out!' Kesra hugged Abjibhai. His eyes were full of tears.

Dhanji broke down, 'Abjibhai, where were you? How long we searched for you!' Gangji said, 'You were seen nowhere. We were frightened.' Jadavji said, 'We thought you had drowned.'

Abjibhai explained, 'All of you dived praising yourselves and I dived remembering Maharaj. I had Darshan of Maharaj and I went for a pilgrimage to Gadhda, Chhapaiya, Vadtaal etc. places with Maharaj.'

Kunvarji asked unbelievably, 'How is it possible? You were under water.' Abjibhai replied,

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'By God's grace everything is possible. You wouldn't believe, but I visited the places of pilgrimage.'

Gradually everyone had realized that Abjibhai was an Anadimukta. So they believed him.

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**Difficult words :**

To recite - To repeat loudly

To boast - To exaggerate

To elapse - To pass by

Distressed - Extremely unhappy

Vigorous - With lots of physical or mental energy

**Points to ponder :**

- Maharaj has instructed in Shikshapatri that one should not praise oneself.
- Abjibhai proved his ability without praising himself.
- By the grace of God, God-realized Muktas can visit a number of places by physically remaining at one place.
- We should also try to prove our ability by performing a task rather than praising ourselves.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Where did they go to play due to heat?
2. Which game did they decide to play in the lake?
3. What was Gangji boasting about?

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4. Why were Jadavji's clothes dry?
  5. Why did everyone panic?
  6. What did Abjibhai say after coming out?
  7. Who came out of the water last? Why?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ can play sitting at one place.  
He can \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Let us play to \_\_\_\_\_ under water.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. Abjibhai, I will win this game.
2. Water is my kingdom.
3. Each of you says that he is an expert, so what can I say?



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## Detachment Towards Worldly Affairs

It was a pleasant evening. Abjibhai was sitting in the courtyard with his parents and sisters. Abjibhai was reading Vachanamrit. Other people from the town also joined them.

Recitation of Vachanamrit was over. Chieftain of the town addressed Panchabhai, 'Abjibhai is nine years old now. Why don't you fix his marriage?' Panchabhai expressed his fear, 'We are poor, who would be ready to give his daughter to my son?' Panchabhai's neighbour reminded him, 'You are poor, but your son Abjibhai is a great Mukta of God. He has miraculous powers. Everyone knows that.'

Nathabhai agreed, 'Yes, it would be a great honour to send off one's daughter to your house!' Abjibhai protested, 'But I do not want to marry. I want to worship God.'

Chieftain explained, 'Son, you are still young. You do not understand customs and formalities.' Abjibhai argued, 'Because I am young. I do not want to marry at such a young age.'

Nathabhai tried to explain, 'Son, It is a

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custom in our village to get married in young age.' That day Gangji Bhakta from Maankuva was present there. He proposed, 'I am ready to marry my daughter with Abjibhai.'

Panchabhai was delighted. Abjibhai protested again, 'I do not want to marry now.' But everyone insisted, 'You must marry.' Abjibhai did not say anything. He went inside the house. Abjibhai's marriage was fixed with Devubai.

Gangbai was Devubai's mother. She was also pleased when she knew about it. Abjibhai was singing the Keertan, 'Re Sagpan Harivarnu...'. Devba heard this. She told Panchabhai, 'Abjibhai is not at all willing.' Panchabhai replied, 'That is true. But later on we shall not be able to find such a good family.'

Although Abjibhai was not willing, Panchabhai fixed the wedding. Abjibhai spent a lot of time meditating God from the day his marriage was fixed.

Devba tried to reconcile, 'Son! we should follow the custom of our town. But don't be disheartened. Do not go into meditative state on the day of wedding. After marriage, worship God as long as you like. Nobody would object.'

Abjibhai was relieved listening to such statements of his mother. He promised his mother, 'Ma, please do not worry. I will not meditate on that day.' Thus Abjibhai married Devubai with a

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lot of gaiety and celebrations.

**Difficult words :**

Customs - Traditional practice

**Points to ponder :**

- An Anadimukta has no interest in worldly formalities. He has no inclination towards any worldly activities, except worship of God. But they behave as per worldly customs.
- An Anadimukta should not be treated as a human being looking at his humanly behaviour.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Who were sitting in the courtyard? What were they doing?
2. What did the people of the village advice?
3. Who proposed to marry his daughter with Abjibhai?
4. Why was Abjibhai not ready to get married?
5. Whom did Abjibhai marry? Where?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Abjibhai was reading \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Abjibhai got married at the age of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The name of Abjibhai's wife was \_\_\_\_\_.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. Son, you are still young. You do not understand formalities.

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2. Abjibhai is not at all willing to get married.

**Make sentences using the following words :**

insist, reconcile.



## Blessings Through Betel Leaf

It so happened one day. As usual Abjibhai went to the temple. As soon as the prayer was over, everyone went home.

Abjibhai was standing in front of the idol of God. He was absorbed into the Darshan of God. God had been watching His Anadimukta. Abjibhai was immersed into the idol of God.

He felt that the idol of God was extraordinarily divine that day. Maharaj was smiling at Abjibhai. 'Maharaj is pleased today' thought Abjibhai. Maharaj began to talk to Abjibhai, 'Abjibhai, How are you?' Abjibhai was puzzled, 'Who is talking in such a sweet voice?' He looked here and there. Maharaj spoke again, 'How are you? Abjibhai!'

Now Abjibhai realized that such a sweet voice could be of none other than Maharaj! He gazed at the idol. He asked Maharaj, 'O Lord! Did You speak to me?' Maharaj replied, 'Yes, I spoke to you! How are you?' Abjibhai was elated. He was full of joy.

He responded in a voice full of joy and gratitude, 'O Lord! I am fine!' Maharaj instructed,

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'Abjibhai, now you must begin the work for which I have sent you.' Abjibhai dutifully replied, 'Yes, My Lord! I will obey Your command.' Abjibhai bowed down to God. Maharaj stretched His hand. Abjibhai stared.

Maharaj offered, 'Here, take this betel leaf as My blessings.' Abjibhai couldn't believe his eyes. He froze like a statue. Maharaj spoke again, 'Take this, it is for you.' Abjibhai felt blissful. God Himself had offered him betel leaf.

Maharaj blessed him, 'Abjibhai, You are My Anadimukta, therefore you are eligible for My blessings. For others, it is rare to have My Darshan!'

Abjibhai returned home feeling blessed and blissful.

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**Difficult words :**

To gaze - A long steady look

Elated - Extremely happy and excited

Eligible - Qualified

**Points to ponder :**

→ Maharaj blesses His Anadimukta frequently when he appears on earth.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What did Abjibhai feel while having Darshan of Maharaj?

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2. What did Maharaj speak to Abjibhai?
  3. What did Maharaj offer Abjibhai as His blessings?



## Obedience

It was spring time. Abjibhai and his friends were playing in the orchard.

Karsan observed, 'It is a beautiful day, today.' Vashram looked around and said, 'Yes, I feel like going out for a picnic.' Abjibhai suggested, 'Let us go to Kera. My uncle owns an orchard there.'

Kesra was excited, 'We can have raw mangoes there! Come, let us go. It would be fun!' Abjibhai reminded, 'First of all, take the permission from your parents. We shall meet here after ten minutes.'

All of them immediately ran home to ask permission and came back after a short while. They left for Kera. They were talking while walking. Abjibhai was narrating incidents of God. Gangji and Kesran were little ahead.

Karsan stopped suddenly. He pointed out to Gangji, 'Look! what is that?' Abjibhai and other friends also reached there. Kesra and Vashram inquired, 'What is it?' Abjibhai noticed, 'Someone has dropped a gold chain.' Gangji recommended, 'Let us give it to your uncle!' Abjibhai refused, 'No,

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we should not touch the things which do not belong to us.'

Vashram said, 'Then let it be there. Why should we bother?' Abjibhai was confused, 'Then someone else would take it. Poor owner! He would lose his chain. Now, What to do?' 'Should we bury it?' asked Abjibhai. Kesra replied impatiently, 'Yes, let us do that. So that we can proceed towards uncle's place and reach there fast.'

Before Abjibhai could say anything, they buried the chain. Abjibhai said, 'We should not touch the things owned by someone else. But now what?' Vashram was in a hurry, 'Let us go, Abjibhai. Don't bother about it.' Abjibhai was still confused, 'But how would the owner of the chain find out that the chain is buried here by us?'

Kesra asked, 'What shall we do now?' Abjibhai declared, 'I will sit here till the owner of this chain comes. All of you can go.' Gangji joined him, 'I will sit with Abjibhai.' Kesra also joined them, 'Then I am also not going.' Other friends also stayed back.

Vashram was disappointed, 'Had we gone to uncle's place, we would have been enjoying.' Jadavji was bored, 'God knows when would the owner of the chain return?' Abjibhai proposed, 'Let us play Antakshari of Keertans.' They enjoyed the game. After a short while, a man approached slowly as if he was looking for something. Kesra indicated, 'See, that gentleman is looking for something.'

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Abjibhai instructed, 'How do we confirm that he is the owner of this chain? We shall inform him only if he asks, Otherwise nobody would mention anything.' The person reached there. He asked children, 'Have you found something here?'

Gangji was about to say that they had found one gold chain. But Abjibhai interrupted, 'What are you looking for?' The gentleman replied, 'I have lost my gold chain. Has anyone found it?'

Now Abjibhai was convinced that he was the real owner of the chain. Therefore he informed, 'Yes, we have found the chain. Our God has instructed us not to take or touch any object owned by someone else. But we have buried it there, so that no one could see it. Please take it out. How possibly you could have found a buried chain? So we all were waiting for you.'

The owner of the chain was very happy. He thanked Abjibhai and said, 'You are a very sensible child. You also follow God's teachings. I am pleased. Please, accept these money. All of you spend it.'

Abjibhai refused politely, 'No, Thank you. We have followed our God's instructions. We can not take money. He asked his friends, 'Let us go. We have performed our duty.' All the friends reached to uncle's orchard in Kera. They described all the details about the chain to uncle. Uncle also was pleased with Abjibhai.

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He informed children, 'Today you can have as many raw mangoes as you please. I will give you salt and pepper also.' They cheered up. They played a lot of games and enjoyed till evening.

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**Difficult words :**

Orchard - Area of land where fruit trees are grown

To recommend - To advise as the best choice

To bury - To place in a groove

**Points to ponder :**

- Shreeji Maharaj has instructed in Shikshapatri that one should not touch an object owned by someone else. If we take an object owned by someone else, it is called theft.
- Friends expressed different opinions about the chain, but Abjibhai remembered the instructions of Shreeji Maharaj and followed them properly.
- We should always follow instructions of Shreeji Maharaj it pleases our family members and Maharaj.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What was the season?
2. Which place did all the friends decide to visit?  
To whom did it belong?
3. What did Karsan notice on the road?

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4. What were the different opinions expressed by the friends of Abjibhai?
  5. What did Abjibhai decide about the chain?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Let us go to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Abjibhai was narrating the incidents of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Someone has dropped his \_\_\_\_\_.
4. He offered \_\_\_\_\_ to Abjibhai.
5. We have followed the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. Come on, let it be there, why should we bother?
2. We should not touch an object owned by someone else.



## Inclination Towards Selfless Service

Days were passing by. Abjibhai had stopped to go to play with his friends.

Kunvarji was concerned, 'Why does Abjibhai not join us to play?' Kesra informed, 'His Ma is ill.' Dhanji added, 'Whole day Abjibhai looks after her.' Kesra missed him, 'Nobody tells the stories of God in his absence.'

Vashram confessed, 'There is no fun playing without Abjibhai.' Jadavji said, 'His Ma is feeling better now. Yesterday I visited Abjibhai's house, but he was not at home.' Gangji pointed out, 'See, there is Abjibhai. Let us call him to play.' They ran towards Abjibhai. Kanji asked, 'Abjibhai, please join us. Let us play.'

Vashram complained, 'For so many days, you have not joined us to play. Now your Ma is also feeling better.' Abjibhai replied, 'Do you know that aged gentleman, who stays near temple? He is very sick. No one is there to look after him. So I remain with him for the whole day to attend him.' 'But he remains in bed throughout the day.' Said Kunvarji.

Abjibhai replied, 'I give him food, wash his

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clothes, massage his feet and he has severe headache sometimes. So I massage his head also. Poor soul! He is all alone! I will not go to play for a few days.'

Kesra was disappointed, 'Abjibhai, there is no fun without you.' Said he. Abjibhai consoled, 'I will definitely join you all, once he feels alright.' Dhanji requested, 'Abjibhai, I will also go with you. Please teach me how to serve.'

Abjibhai was delighted, 'Come on! Let us go. It is very easy to serve.' Kesra also joined, 'I will also go with you.' Said he. Karsan and Jadavji refused saying, 'We would not join you. We are going to play.'

Jadavji said, 'We enjoy playing games.' Vashram tried to convince, 'That elderly gentleman is not your relative. Let us go to play.' Abjibhai explained, 'If we serve sick people, they bless us. It pleases God, too.'

Kunvarji said mysteriously, 'Abjibhai, if I disclose a secret, you would not go to that old gentleman.' Abjibhai declared firmly, 'That is impossible! What is the secret?' Kunvarji revealed, 'Saints are going to visit the temple after four days.' Abjibhai inquired, 'Who told you?' Kunvarji informed, 'These days you are hardly seen at the temple. As soon as Aarti is over, you rush to take care of the sick. People were talking in the temple.' Abjibhai promised, 'When saints visit the temple, I will go

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there to attend to them. But right now we are going to look after the elderly gentleman.'

Kesra said, 'Oh yes! Now onwards we will also join Abjibhai to serve people. When saints arrive we would visit them for their Darshan.' Abjibhai, Kesra and Dhanji proceeded towards the house of sick, old gentleman.

Abjibhai taught them how to massage his feet, head etc. Dhanji and Kesra experienced a great pleasure.

They confessed to Abjibhai, 'Today we have realized that how pleasing it is to serve other people.' Four days passed like a blink of eyes.

The old man recovered slowly. Fourth day he went to temple with the support of Abjibhai. Abjibhai asked Dhanji, 'Dhanji, please check up if the saints have arrived.' Dhanji went to find out. 'Abjibhai, saints have arrived.' said he.

Abjibhai was delighted. He went to see the saints. He bowed down. He returned home hurriedly. He requested Devba, 'Ma, saints are visiting the temple. Please give Dal, rice, flour etc. raw materials to cook.'

Devba did not respond. What possibly could she say? Alas! There was no ration in the house. All the containers were empty. Abjibhai requested again, 'Ma, please, give me required ingredients to cook.'

Devba was sad. She said, 'Son! what could

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I give? Everything is over all the containers are empty.' Abjibhai went to the kitchen. He filled up required materials in a bag and left for a temple. Devba inquired, 'Son! what are you carrying?' 'Raw food materials to cook.' Answered Abjibhai.

Devba went to the kitchen and checked up all the containers. They were empty. She came out and inquired, 'Son! All the containers are empty. From where did you get the stuff?' Abjibhai informed, 'Maharaj gave the materials for His saints.' And he left smiling softly.

Vaalba was puzzled, 'Ma, how did brother get the stuff?' Devba explained, 'He is an Anadimukta of God. He is very fond of selfless service. Therefore, he can manage anything miraculously. Recently, he looked after that aged gentleman. Today he has performed this miracle.'

Panchabhai also joined them, 'He enjoys serving people. He even forgets to go to play while serving people.'

Abjibhai went to the temple and offered the raw food materials to the saints, 'Please accept these ingredients and cook the food and offer the food to Maharaj.' Saints were pleased. They blessed Abjibhai, 'You have served us. God will be pleased with you. We also bless you!'

Abjibhai went home cheerfully.

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**Difficult words :**

Inclination - Liking, tendency

To console - To comfort in sadness

To derive - To draw a conclusion

Ration - A fixed daily allowance of food

**Points to ponder :**

- Shreeji Maharaj has instructed in Shikshapatri that one must serve one's parents and the people who are sick.
- Here, Abjibhai's virtue of serving people is highlighted. Other friends went to play, but he did not join them and attended to the old gentleman. He served the saints also by providing them raw materials to cook.
- Shreeji Maharaj had also served Sevakram in the forest.
- God and His Anadimuktas perform all the activities to teach us.

**Exercise****Answer the following questions :**

1. Why did Abjibhai not go to play?
2. How did Abjibhai attend to the aged gentleman.
3. What reason did Vashram give for not serving the old gentleman? How did Abjibhai respond?
4. Who joined Abjibhai to attend to the old gentleman?
5. What do we learn from Abjibhai's behaviour?



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**Fill in the blanks :**

1. There is no fun \_\_\_\_\_ without Abjibhai.
2. If we serve the \_\_\_\_\_ we get their \_\_\_\_\_ and it pleases \_\_\_\_\_ too.
3. Abjibhai is very fond of \_\_\_\_\_ people.
4. He forgets to \_\_\_\_\_ also while serving people.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. That elderly gentleman is not your relative. Let us go to play.
2. Today we have realized that how pleasing it is to serve other people.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. If sick serve we bless people they us and God too it pleases.



## Honesty In Work

It so happened one day. Devba told Abjibhai, 'Son! Now you have grown up. Try to help your father more in his work.' Abjibhai replied, 'All right Ma. Now onwards I will work longer hours in the fields.'

Panchabhai requested, 'Son, I will take care of the fields. If you could go and work in other people's fields, we could get some money.'

Abjibhai agreed, 'Yes father, from tommorow, I will work in other people's fields.' Next day Abjibhai got up early and went to someone else's fields to work. Other workers were also working there.

One of them asked, 'Abjibhai, how come you are here?' Abjibhai replied, 'To cut the crop.' Another worker said jokingly, 'Bhagat, would you cut the crop or sit in meditation?' They all laughed. Abjibhai did not respond. He began to work with extra speed. Noticing this, a worker said, 'See, he is working fast. Let us work faster.'

But nobody could overtake Abjibhai in speed. Abjibhai alone finished the work of four to

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five persons. One of the workers noticed that Abjibhai had been working continuously and he did not stop to rest.

He came to Abjibhai and advised, 'Abjibhai, take rest for sometime the owner would not object.' Abjibhai replied, 'The owner pays us to work. So, we should not work lazily. We should work honestly. In the evening, I will go home and take rest.'

Other workers were tired after working for sometime. One of them said, 'The owner is not around. Let me sit down for a short while. I am really tired.' The other one also sat down. The third one sat down in the middle and whispered something in the ears of both of them.

Abjibhai was busy working. One of them went running to the owner. He complained to the owner, 'Sir, Bhagat is spoiling the crop. He is not cutting it properly.' The owner was alarmed, 'Really? Let us go and see.' Jealous workers felt happy. They thought that the owner would scold Abjibhai.

The owner came and checked up. Abjibhai was working properly. Both the jealous workers were sitting down. The owner noticed this. He praised Abjibhai, 'Wow! you have finished a lot of work.' He scolded the worker who had gone to complain, 'Why do you come with false complaints? Bhagat has worked more then all of you together.'

He also scolded the people who were sitting down. 'Why are you sitting down. Go back to work.'

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Shouted he. They tried to defend themselves. They said, 'Just now we sat down! Whole day we were working.'

The owner said, 'I know whenever I am not around you all sit and chat. Only Abjibhai works for the whole day.' They were quiet. In the evening, the owner paid more money to Abjibhai. He told, 'Bhagat, you are very honest. Other workers work lazily. Today you have finished a lot of work. I am very glad. There are some grains in cart. Please, take that also. You have finished a lot of work.' The workers who were teasing Abjibhai and working inefficiently got less money and they did not receive any grains.

They regretted their misbehaviour. They apologized Abjibhai. They prayed to Abjibhai, 'Bhagat, we are sorry. Please, forgive us. Now onwards we will never trouble you.' Abjibhai accepted their apology. He said, 'It is all right. But if we work honestly, without laziness, it pleases the owner.' They unanimously agreed, 'Yes, we have realized it today.'

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**Difficult words :**

To object - To disapprove

To whisper - To say very softly

Alarmed - Fear aroused by feeling of danger

Unanimously - In complete agreement

**Points to ponder :**

→ Shreeji Maharaj has mentioned in Vachanamrit

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- that one must avoid laziness and idleness.
- Abjibhai teaches us that we should avoid laziness in any work and should perform it with honesty then we get the best reward.

### Exercise

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What did Devba mention to Abjibhai?
2. Why did Abjibhai go to someone else's fields?
3. How did the workers tease Abjibhai?
4. What did Abjibhai say to the worker?
5. Abjibhai worked equivalent to how many workers?
6. What did the jealous workers achieve?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. If you could go and work in \_\_\_\_\_ fields, we could get some \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Bhagat, would you cut the \_\_\_\_\_ or sit in \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The owner pays us \_\_\_\_\_ to work. So we should not work \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Bhagat, you are very \_\_\_\_\_.



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## Great Lesson In A Small Incident

Abjibhai's parents passed away. Abjibhai had to perform all the household formalities. Abjibhai was taking care of all the responsibilities. He used to work in the fields as well as looked after the house.

Years passed by. Abjibhai had four children. The eldest child was daughter. Her name was Vaalba. The second one was Kanjibhai, then Radhaba and Manjibhai was the youngest son. All the four children were well behaved and sensible. They never quarrelled with each other.

One day, Vaalba asked Abjibhai, 'Father, can I come to the fields with you?' Abjibhai asked, 'What will you do?' Vaalba promised, 'Father, I will not trouble you. I will play.' Abjibhai consented, 'All right. Let us go.'

Vaalba was playing in the fields. She wandered away while playing. All of a sudden Abjibhai heard Vaalba screaming.

Abjibhai sent Jadavji who was working in the fields, 'Jadavji, run and find out why did Vaalba scream?' Jadavji went running. Vaalba was crying.

Jadavji asked, 'What happened, Vaalba?'

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Why are you crying? Let us go to Abjibhai.' Abjibhai took Vaalba in his lap. He carressed Vaalba lovingly and asked softly, 'Dear, what happened? Why did you scream?'

Vaalba couldn't stop crying. Abjibhai said soothingly, 'Enough Dear, Now stop crying and tell me what happened?' Abjibhai lovingly wiped the tears of Vaalba.

Vaalba stopped crying and said, 'Father, I saw an animal which was big, dark, having a long tail and it was looking dangerous.' Abjibhai asked, 'Where?'

Vaalba pointed out, 'Over there. A little away from the fields. I was frightened looking at such a big animal and screamed.'

Abjibhai explained, 'Dear, we are protected by Lord Swaminarayan. Therefore, nobody can frighten us.' Vaalba inquired innocently, 'Father, if we always remember God, do we ever feel scared?'

Abjibhai assured, 'No, we should always remember God and have courage at all the occasions. God will always help.' Vaalba asked again, 'Father, would God certainly help?'

Abjibhai reassured, 'Yes, of course. We should always have faith and belief in God. Always remember God while performing any activity. You will never be frightened.' Vaalba promised, 'Father, now I will always remember God.'

Abjibhai explained further, 'Whenever there

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is the Sun, is there any darkness?' Vaalba replied, 'No, There is always light.' Abjibhai said, 'Similarly wherever there is Lord Swaminarayan, there is no fear. Therefore, always remember God.'

Vaalba understood, 'Yes father, Now I will never be scared. Whenever I am scared, I will recite the name of God.' Abjibhai confirmed, 'Right, now you will never be afraid.' Vaalba went back to play. Now she was not scared.

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**Difficult words :**

To caress - To touch lovingly

Soothing - Easing pain through kindness

**Points to ponder :**

- We should not be scared of anyone after having the protection of the Supreme Lord Shree Swaminarayan.
- If we have faith in Bhagwan Swaminarayan, He would definitely help us.
- Abjibhai teaches us that we should have courage and should never be scared. If we recite the name of God, God makes us feel courageous and the fear vanishes.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. How many children did Abjibhai have? Mention their names in sequence.
2. Why did Vaalba scream?



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3. When do we not feel scared?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Abjibhai had \_\_\_\_\_ sons and \_\_\_\_\_ daughters.
2. We are \_\_\_\_\_ by Lord Swaminarayan, therefore nobody can \_\_\_\_\_ us.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Always God if we do feel ever we scared remember.
2. Lord wherever there no is Swaminarayan is there fear.



## Divine Darshan

There lived a barber in Vrishpur. He was aware of the greatness of Abjibhai.

He used to shave Abjibhai regularly. 'I am privileged to serve such a great man.' Thought he. One day, he went to Abjibhai's place for shaving.

Abjibhai said, 'Please come in, I have been waiting for you.' The barber began to shave. He had been chatting with Abjibhai while shaving. Suddenly he stopped shaving in between.

Abjibhai asked, 'Why have you stopped?' Barber replied, 'Bava, light is spreading out of your head.' Abjibhai asked, 'Light? How is it possible?' Barber repeated, 'Light is spreading out of your head. I can not see anything.'

Abjibhai replied, 'May be it is sunlight, penetrating through tree. Come on! Hurry up! I have a lot of work in the fields.' Barber replied, 'Bava! I am not crazy! I know that you are a great Mukta.'

Abjibhai absorbed the light back. Barber pointed out, 'See! Where is sunlight? The light had been spreading out of your head.' Abjibhai uttered, 'You are fortunate that you had such Darshan.'

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Barber prayed, 'Bavaji, bless me.' Abjibhai said, 'Bless you!' Barber prayed again, 'Bavaji, I have served a great saint like you. Please bless me that I achieve all the happiness in this life as well as thereafter.'

Abjibhai granted, 'All right! I Bless you!' The barber was elated. He went back. He declared to all his customers, 'Abjibhai is a great Mukta. All of you recognize him and serve him.' They asked him, 'Tell us, how do you know?' Barber wouldn't reply.

At last he narrated the incident when people insisted. And concluded happily, 'Bavaji has personally blessed me. I am very lucky.'

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**Difficult words :**

Privileged - Enjoying special right

Penetrating - Entering by piercing

**Points to ponder :**

→ Whoever serves an Anadimukta with awareness of his greatness, attains bliss in this world as well as in the next world.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What did the barber think?
2. What did the barber see?
3. Which explanation of Abjibhai could not be believed by the barber?

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4. What blessings did the barber ask from Abjibhai?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bava, \_\_\_\_\_ is spreading out of your \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Bava, I am not \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Bavaji, I have \_\_\_\_\_ a great saint like you. Please \_\_\_\_\_ me.



## A Great Lesson

As the glory of Abjibhai spread around, people used to call him 'Bhaishri' or 'Bhai' out of respect. Bhaishri was meditating in orchard. Bhimabhai, Khimjibhai, Nathjibhai, Laxmibhai etc. came for his Darshan. Bhimabhai observed, 'It seems Bhaishri is not around.'

Laxmibhai looked around and said, 'May be he has gone somewhere.' Khimjibhai pointed out, 'No, he has not gone anywhere. There he is under the tree.'

Nathjibhai suggested, 'Bhaishri is meditating. Let us go and sit next to him.' Khimjibhai cautioned everybody, 'Please don't talk, otherwise Bhaishri would be distracted.' Cool breeze was blowing. Bhimabhai said, 'Breeze is really soothing. I hope I do not fall asleep.'

Nathjibhai agreed, 'I am also feeling drowsy for a long time. If I doze off, Laxmibhai, please wake me up when Bhaishri comes out of meditation.' Khimjibhai also requested, 'Laxmibhai, please wake me up too!' All of them dozed off.

Laxmibhai was awake for sometime, then

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he also dozed off. Bhaishri woke up from the meditation and noticed that all the visitors had dozed off. Bhaishri wanted to have bath. So he left.

Suddenly Laxmibhai opened his eyes with a jerk and found out that Bhaishri was not around. He woke up everyone and informed, 'Wake up! Bhaishri has left.' Nathjibhai said, 'Oh Gosh! Bhaishri left when we dozed off.'

Khimjibhai guessed, 'He must have gone to temple. Let us go to the temple.' They went there and inquired. Bhaishri was not there. Laxmibhai asked one Haribhakta, 'Has Bhaishri arrived here?' Haribhakta replied, 'No, may be he has gone home.'

They hastened towards the house of Bhaishri. Devubai informed, 'He is not here. He must be in the orchard!

Nathjibhai was anxious, 'Hurry up! otherwise Bhaishri would leave the orchard.' Bhaishri was not there. One of the workers informed, 'Bhaishri is at another orchard.'

They hurriedly proceeded towards the another orchard. Bhaishri was meditating under a tree. They brightened up. Bhaishri woke up after a short while. He asked innocently, 'When did you arrive?'

Nathjibhai explained in detail. Bhaishri advised, 'When we go for the Darshan of Maharaj or His Mukta, we should ignore bodily impulses like hunger, thirst, sleep etc.. Otherwise we may loose

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the opportunity of their Darshan. Khimjibhai agreed politely, 'Bhai, you are right. When we dozed off, you came out of meditation and left.'

Bhaishri pointed out, 'You dozed off for a short while and Darshan was delayed for such a long time.' Laxmibhai realized that, 'Yes Bhai, It has so happened today!' Bhaishri said, 'Dharshan of a Mukta is like piercing a bead during a flash of lightening. And a flash is always instantaneous. Isn't it?'

Nathjibhai agreed, 'Yes Bhai.' Bhaishri explained further, 'We should be eager for the Darshan. We should not feel lazy. A moment of past can not be captured again. If we miss the Darshan, nobody knows when would be the next opportunity.'

All of them promised, 'Bhai, Now onwards we will never act out of lazyness.' Bhaishri preached, 'God's grace is priceless. Today it is available easily. Greatness of God could be understood from a true saint of God. Such knowledge can liberate a devotee.'

They were glad that Bhaishri taught them a valuable lesson. They bowed down to Bhaishri. Bhaishri blessed them.

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**Difficult words :**

To caution - To warn

Distracted - Unable to concentrate

Drowsy - Feeling sleepy

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Impulses - Sudden desires

**Points to ponder :**

- When we go for the Darshan of God and His Mukta, we should ignore the bodily impulses like hunger, thirst, sleep etc.
- We should have Darshan of God and His Mukta with eagerness.
- When a Mukta is available for the Darshan, we must grab the opportunity. Otherwise we may miss the chance.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Why was everyone feeling sleepy?
2. Where did Bhaishri go after he woke up?
3. Where did Haribhaktas look for Bhaishri?
4. What was the advise of Bhaishri regarding the Darshan of God and His Muktas?
5. How is the Darshan of great Muktas?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bhaishri was \_\_\_\_\_ in the orchard.
2. Bhaishri wanted to have \_\_\_\_\_, so he left.
3. While going for a Darshan, we must ignore the bodily \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The Darshan of a Mukta is like piercing a \_\_\_\_\_ during a \_\_\_\_\_ of lightening.
5. God's grace is \_\_\_\_\_. Today it is available \_\_\_\_\_.



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**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. God greatness of true knowledge liberate God of such can saint understood could a devotee be a from.



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## Ignored The Pain For The Sake Of Children

Days were passing by. Bhaishri was not able to get up from the cot. Kesrabhai went to inquire about Bhaishri's health.

Bhaishri said, 'From the day my back is hurt by the heavy weights, I am not able to get up. I have severe back pain.' Kesrabhai suggested, 'Bhai, If you warm it up using a heated cloth, you will feel better.'

That very moment, children from the village entered. They said something to Vaalba. Bhaishri noticed this. He asked Vaalba, 'Dear, what are the kids saying?' Vaalba replied, 'Father, They want to have dates.' Bhaishri called out, 'Children, come here! what do you want?'

Children replied, 'Bapa! We want to eat dates.' Bhaishri gave them permission, 'Really? All right. Take it.' Children pointed out, 'Bapa dates are very high. How could we take them?' Kesrabhai intervened, 'Children! come after a few days, when Bhaishri feels better. He would pluck them for you.'

Children did not utter a single word. They

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stood there watching Bhaishri. Kesrabhai (insisted), 'Please go away. Bhaishri is feeling very painful.' Kesrabhai could hardly finish the sentence and he noticed that Bhaishri was not on the cot.

Kesrabhai and children were puzzled, 'Where is Bhaishri?' They looked around. Bhaishri was not seen any where. One of the children spoke, 'Where did Bhaishri disappear within a fraction of second?'

Kesrabhai was bewildered, 'Just now he was here.' They looked at each other wondering, 'Where is Bhaishri?' That very moment Bhaishri called out from the tree, 'Why are you looking here and there? I am on the tree! I have climbed the tree to pluck the dates for the children.' Kesrabhai spoke with urgency in his voice, 'Bhai, you are having back pain. You will suffer more. Please, come down.'

Bhaishri replied, 'If the children request for the dates, I can not refuse them. Maharaj will cure my back pain.' Bhaishri plucked the dates collected them in his Dhoti. Children were gleeful.

They were screaming under the tree. 'Bapa! There! on that branch, there are ripe dates'. 'Bapa! There is a big bunch of dates. Please, pluck it.' Screamed another child. Bhaishri went to all the branches and plucked a lot of dates. He climbed down.

Children were jumping with excitement.

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'Bapa, please give me! please, Bapa!' Bhaishri announced, 'All of you will get. But first of all, sit down in a queue and recite God's name.' They followed the instruction. Bhaishri distributed dates to all the children and blessed them, 'Children, have dates. They are blessings of Maharaj. Eat as much as you can.'

Children were very happy. After having dates, they bowed down to Bhaishri and left running. Kesrabhai spoke in a scolding tone, 'Bhai, you had severe back pain. Why did you climb the tree?'

Bhaishri explained, 'Children requested for the dates so lovingly. How could I refuse them?' Kesrabhai argued, 'But you are suffering so badly.' Bhaishri said, 'Children are Nirgun form of God. Even God is fond of them. My pain is insignificant against their happiness.' Kesrabhai said, 'Bhai You are great?'

This incident indicates Bhaishri's affection for the children. He was so fond of kids that he ignored his body pain. He went through a great trouble to please them.

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**Difficult words :**

Severe - Strict

To intervene - To interrupt

Suffer - To be badly affected by

Gleeful - Joyful

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### Exercise

#### Answer the following questions :

1. Why was Bhaishri not able to get up?
2. Why did children go to the orchard?
3. Why were children not able to pluck the dates?
4. Where did Bhaishri disappear suddenly?
5. What did Bhaishri say about children?

#### Fill in the blanks :

1. I am not able to get up from the day my back is hurt by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Bapa, they want to have \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Bhaishri was on the \_\_\_\_\_.



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## Ever Present In Children's Protection

Bhaisri owned a beautiful orchard. Every child considered this as his own orchard. Children used to visit the orchard quite frequently.

They would carry whatever they like. Once three girls went to the orchard. They climbed up the tree and were plucking the berries.

Devubai observed this from a distance. She tried to caution them, 'Girls, You would fall down.' One of the girls noticed this and told the other one, 'Devubai is approaching. Climb down quickly.' The second girl hurriedly came down. The third girl couldn't climb down in time. She had climbed up very high.

Watching Devubai coming closer, one girl panicked, 'Hurry up. Run fast! Devubai is quite close.' Both the girls ran behind a tree and tried to hide there. The third girl remained on the tree.

Both the girls warned the third girl, 'Come down quickly.' The third girl said, 'If I come down, I will be caught.' The first one suggested, 'Then climb down from the other side.' The girl tried to descend

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from the other side.

Branches of tree were thin that side. The moment she stepped on the branch, it broke down. She was hanging holding the branch.

Bhaishri noticed this from a distance. Before the girl had fallen down, he went there running and caught the girl in his hands. Bhaishri assured her, 'Dear, don't get scared. You have not hurt yourself.'

Bhaishri was with the other two girls also. He caressed them, 'Girls, please don't be scared.' One of them said, 'Devubai will scold.' Bhaishri assured, 'No body would scold. Please take whatever you want.'

Bhaishri appeared at both the places at the same time. Bhaishri manifested two forms. He was consoling all the three girls simultaneously using his both the forms.

He advised Devubai, 'Why should we scold children? Trees belong to Maharaj and kids also belong to Maharaj. Even birds enjoy the fruits and kids too.' Devubai said defensively, 'I thought the girls might fall down.'

Bhaishri informed, 'This girl would have fallen down out of fear.' Devubai promised, 'I will never scold again.' The girls were astonished looking at two forms of Bhaishri. Bhaishri merged his both the forms into one and offered berries to all of them.

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All the girls enjoyed the berries. They went home happily.

**Difficult words :**

Descend - To move down

Defensively - Defend against attack

**Points to ponder :**

→ Bhaishri was very fond of children therefore he was always careful that the kids should not be in trouble and he used to rush to help them and protect them.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What were the girls doing on the tree?
2. Why did the girls climb down hurriedly from the tree?
3. Why did the third girl fall down?
4. What did Bhaishri advise Devubai?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Every child considered Bhaishri's \_\_\_\_\_ as his own.
2. The trees belong to Maharaj and the \_\_\_\_\_ too.
3. Bhaishri had manifested two \_\_\_\_\_.





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## Great Reward For A Small Favour

It so happened one day. It was a quiet afternoon. Everybody was relaxing in the orchard. Bhaishri went for a round in the orchard. Bhaishri noticed that a small girl was playing in a corner. Bhaishri went closer. The girl was fully absorbed in her play. Bhaishri was right behind the girl.

The girl had collected dry sticks and she was trying to make a cot out of them. Bhaishri slowly pushed from behind and the cot was broken. The girl did not bother to look behind and started to grumble, 'Who is that? I have been working for such a long time. Why did you break it like this?'

Bhaishri started laughing and said, 'First look behind and see who is here?' The girl was fond of Bhaishri. She turned back and found Bhaishri. She was ashamed and pulled herself back. Bhaishri called her, 'Come here.' The girl regretted, 'I did not know it was you.'

Bhaishri called her again, 'Come on here!' The girl apologized again, 'Without seeing you, I spoke to you harshly. Please, forgive me.' Bhaishri was pleased as the girl had realized her mistake

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and apologized.

He went to the girl and consoled her, 'It does not matter. Take this sweet. You have regretted your mistake and apologized. Therefore, I am pleased. Always remember that Bhaishri had broken your cot and offered you sweet.'

The girl bowed down to Bhaishri. Bhaishri reminded again, 'If you remember this incident, I will take you to God's abode.' Years passed by. The girl grew up. She had full faith in the promise of Bhaishri. She always remembered the incident of her childhood and the promise of Bhaishri. She served Bhaishri and performed other works also.

Days passed by. One day she fell ill. She informed everybody, 'Bhaishri has promised me. So he will take me to the abode of God.' Everyone tried to explain, 'He must have said it to consol you as a child. By now Bhaishri must have forgotten it.'

The girl said firmly, 'Others may forget, but Bhaishri never forgets. I have full faith.' And Bhaishri did not forget his promise. Alongwith Maharaj he appeared in front of the girl.

The girl was blissful. She told everyone, 'I told you! isn't it? Here is Bhaishri accompanied by Maharaj. He has come to take me to God's abode.' With these words she left her body.

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**Difficult words :**

To grumble - To complain in nagging way

Harshly - In hurting way

Abode - One's home

**Points to ponder :**

- Anadimukta is a door leading towards salvation.
- If we can repent our mistakes in front of a Mukta like that girl, we can reach closer to God.
- If we keep faith and belief in the statements of a Mukta, he always keeps his words.

**Exercise****Answer the following questions :**

1. What was the girl doing?
2. What did Bhaishri do from behind her back?
3. Why was Bhaishri pleased?
4. What did Bhaishri promise to the girl?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. The girl had gathered \_\_\_\_\_ and she was trying to make a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Without seeing you, I spoke harshly. That is my \_\_\_\_\_. Please \_\_\_\_\_ me.
3. She had full \_\_\_\_\_ in Bhaishri's \_\_\_\_\_.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Remember incident this take you will I to God's you if abode.

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## Nurturing The Sprouts

It so happened one day. Bhaishri was working in the orchard. Daughter Vaalba entered the orchard.

Vaalba requested, 'Father, I also want to work.' Vaalba was very young. What possibly could she do? Bhaishri said thoughtfully, 'Vaalba, birds are spoiling the grains. You chase them away.' Vaalba was chanting the name of God and was chasing the birds away.

Bhaishri called her, 'Dear, Come here.' Vaalba replied, 'Father, birds would eat the grains.' Bhaishri assured, 'Now, they will not! Please, come here.' Vaalba went to him and sat down. She kept an eye on the grains. Birds were not able to go near the grains.

Vaalba was astonished. Now she was convinced and concentrated at Bhaishri. Bhaishri requested, 'Dear, if you could prepare Ponk, we could have it.' Vaalba asked, 'Father, how could I light a fire here?' Bhaishri offered, 'Let me light the fire.'

Bhaishri went and collected dry sticks and

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lighted the fire. Vaalba prepared Ponk. Bhaishri closed his eyes and offered the Ponk to Maharaj. Vaalba inquired, 'Father, why are you sitting with closed eyes? Please, have Ponk.' Bhaishri explained, 'You have prepared the dish so lovingly. I was offering it to Maharaj. Now this is not Ponk.'

Vaalba was confused, 'But, this is Ponk.' Bhaishri explained, 'No, now this is pious offering of Akshardham. I offered this Ponk to Maharaj. Maharaj accepted it. Now this is Prasad.'

Vaalba and Bhaishri had little Ponk and kept aside some for the others. Bhaishri asked, 'Dear , Do you know, how to meditate?' Vaalba replied, 'I keep on gazing at God. I do not know much.' Bhaishri tried to teach, 'Dear, we should take an idol of God which is appealing to our eyes.'

Vaalba interrupted, 'Father, I like the idol of God very much which I worship everyday.' Bhaishri continued, 'We must get up early and install the idol on a nice mat.'

Vaalba was curious, 'Father, I do this everyday. Is this called meditation?' Bhaishri said patiently, 'Dear, You should not interrupt in between. First listen carefully whatever I teach.'

Vaalba apologized, 'Yes Father, Now I will not interrupt. If I do not understand something. I will ask you in the end.' Bhaishri continued, 'We should install the idol on a mat and should gaze at it for a few minutes. Then we must close our eyes and try

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to visualize it in our heart. All right?' Vaalba replied, 'All right, Father. Now I will try to do it.'

Bhaishri advised, 'Dear, if you try to practice meditation now, you will definitely achieve meditative state and Maharaj would be pleased.'

Vaalba promised, 'Father, daily I will get up early and meditate.' Bhaishri concluded, 'We must not forget the idol of God while performing other activities. We should endeavour to remember it all the time. If we make an effort right from our childhood, Maharaj would be pleased soon.'

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**Difficult words :**

To nurture - To promote or encourage the development

Pious - Religious

Curious - Eager to learn

Endeavour - To try hard

**Points to ponder :**

- We should offer everything to God before eating it. When we go out we must visualize Maharaj in our heart and offer Him food and then have food.
- Bhaishri firmly believed that the children should be taught devotion towards Maharaj right from their childhood so that they do not go astray.
- Bhaishri teaches us that while elders are talking, we must listen to it attentively and if we

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do not understand something we must ask in the end.

→ Here Bhaishri also teaches how to meditate.

### Exercise

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What was Vaalba doing in the fields? What did Bhaishri ask her to do?
2. What did Bhaishri call Ponk as?
3. How did Bhaishri teach to meditate?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bapa, even I want to. \_\_\_\_\_.
2. She was \_\_\_\_\_ the name of God and \_\_\_\_\_ the birds.
3. Vaalba, please prepare \_\_\_\_\_, so that we could \_\_\_\_\_ it.
4. This is not \_\_\_\_\_. This is Prasad of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. We must keep the \_\_\_\_\_ on the mat and gaze at it.
6. We should endeavour to remember the idol of God \_\_\_\_\_.



## Samadhi

### –Child’s Play For An Anadimukta

Sadguru Nirgundasji Swami was seriously ill. Bhaishri and many other saints were sitting near him.

They were looking worried. Nirgundasji Swami was peaceful. Swami spoke to Bhaishri, ‘You go into Samadhi quite often. Some times you remain in Samadhi for days together.’

Bhaishri did not respond. Swami requested, ‘Bhai, please go in Samadhi now.’ Bhaishri inquired, ‘Why?’ Swami explained, ‘Please, enter the Samadhi and ask Maharaj when would He take me to His abode?’ Bhaishri said, ‘Swami, for you, where is the necessity of transit? You are always absorbed into the divine form of God.’

Swami agreed, ‘You are right. But please go and ask when would He allow me to leave this body?’ Bhaishri said, ‘Swami, as if you don’t know! Actually you know every thing.’

Swami tried to explain, ‘In Vrishpur, you used to enter the Samadhi, therefore people of Vrishpur had the privilege of Darshan. Here also



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please enter the Samadhi and inquire Maharaj. So that all can have the opportunity of Darshan. Thus, everyone would come to know about your greatness.'

Bhaishri resisted, 'So what?' Swami insisted, 'No Bhai, you please enter the Samadhi and inquire Maharaj.' Swami requested persistently. Therefore Bhaishri consented. Bhaishri went into Samadhi. Everyone was observing. What would happen?

Bhaishri woke up late in the evening. They approached Bhaishri. Bhaishri informed, 'I went to Maharaj through Samadhi. Swami was fully absorbed into the divine form of Maharaj and was looking blissful.'

Everyone listened attentively, Bhaishri continued, 'Swami is great. He is an Anadimukta.' The saints agreed, 'Yes, we know that.' Bhaishri concluded, 'Maharaj told me that He will come on Aaso Sudi Ekam at 1:00 a.m. in the night to take Swami with Him in His abode.'

They were astonished. Some of them were ignorant and couldn't believe this. They asked Bhaishri, 'How did you know?' Bhaishri replied, 'Maharaj has informed me. Otherwise why should I say such thing?' They said, 'We shall see.' They couldn't believe the statements of Bhaishri.

Bhaishri returned to Vrishpur. It was Aaso

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Sudi Ekam, Padava. Haribhaktas and saints were attending to Swami. They knew that Maharaj would come to take Swami with Him.

The ignorant people came to witness. Maharaj took Swami with Him to His abode at exact 1:00 a.m. Everyone was full of grief. The people who did not believe repented. They talked among themselves, 'We questioned the statements of a great Mukta Bhaishri. Now we must go to Vrishpur and beg for his forgiveness.'

They went to Vrishpur and asked for the forgiveness. They repented their misbehaviour.

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**Difficult words :**

Transit - Moving of goods or people from one place to another

Grief - Deep sorrow

Repent - To feel regret

**Points to ponder :**

- Swami Nirgundasji was an Anadimukta. He knew Bhaishri very well, but to make others realize the greatness of Bhaishri, he asked Bhaishri to enter the Samadhi.
- Bhaishri used to remain in Samadhi for days in Vrishpur. Sometimes he used to remain in Samadhi for seven days, sometimes for eleven days and sometimes for twenty one days.
- It is very difficult, even for the saints and ascetics to enter the Samadhi, but for an

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Anadimukta it is very easy.

### Exercise

#### Answer the following questions :

1. Why did everyone look worried?
2. What did Swami ask Bhaishri to do?
3. What did Bhaishri observe during Samadhi?
4. What did Bhaishri inform after coming out of Samadhi?

#### Fill in the blanks :

1. You quite often enter \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Please, enter the Samadhi and ask \_\_\_\_\_ that when would He come to take me to His \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Swami, for you where is the question of \_\_\_\_\_? You are always united with \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Arrange in proper sequence :

1. Blissful into Swami was the fully was divine absorbed looking Maharaj of form and.



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## Blessings Of God Through Drops Of Water

It so happened one day. Bhaishri was sitting on a cot in the orchard. A Haribhakta went there and bowed down to Bhaishri.

Bhaishri asked, 'What is the purpose of your visit?' Haribhakta replied, 'Bhai, I have taken a vow. If you permit me, I want to fulfill it.' Bhaishri consented, 'What is it? tell me.'

Haribhakta informed, 'I have taken a vow to offer food to all the ladies of the village.' Bhaishri said, 'It is a very good idea.' Haribhakta was pleased, 'Bhai, can I fix the date?' asked he. Bhaishri asked, 'Bhagat, When you will offer food to the ladies, what would their children eat? Don't you feel that they would be left alone at home?'

Haribhakta said thoughtfully, 'Bhai, I did not think about the kids.' Bhaishri explained, 'Children at home would cry. First we should offer food to the kids. Children are innocent . They are Nirgun (free from good or bad attributes).

Haribhakta listened carefully. Bhaishri continued, 'God is pleased if we offer food to

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children.' Haribhakta understood, 'Bhai, You are right. I will invite all the ladies along with their children.' said he. Bhaishri was pleased.

On the day of feast, Haribhakta went to Bhaishri. He invited Bhaishri, 'Bhai, Please join us to bless us all.' Bhaishri accepted the invitation, 'Please, call me when children are ready to have food.' said he. All the children sat down in a row.

They were talking among themselves. Bhima said, 'Bapa is very fond of me.' Jadva said, 'Bapa is more affectionate to me then you.' Laxmi declared, 'Bapa is mine. I am his most favourite.' Heerji denied, 'No, that is not true. Bapa is attached to only me. He never scolds me.'

Bhimji spoke, 'Once I committed a mistake, but he did not scold me. He lovingly explained me. Bapa belongs to me only.' Khimji announced proudly, 'Whenever I go to meet Bapa, he takes me on his lap and gives me sweets.' The youngest Karsan from the last row declared firmly, 'Bapa is mine, mine, only mine!'

Bhaishri was standing behind their back and listening to their conversation. He came in front and said lovingly, 'Bapa belongs to you all, now stop discussion.' Children bowed down to Bhaishri.

Bhaishri asked for a jug of water. He dipped his hand in it and recited the name of God. Then he sprinkled the water on children. He blessed them saying, 'Even a single drop of this water

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would liberate you.

Children were very happy. Bhaishri said, 'Now have your food.' Children enjoyed their food.

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**Difficult words :**

Vow - A solemn and binding promise

Attributes - Qualities.

**Points to ponder :**

- Bhaishri always remembered children.
- Here it is clearly indicated that children are very fond of Bhaishri. Every child considers him as his own and he feels that Bhaishri is the most affectionate towards him. This is the characteristic of an Anadimukta. He showers affection on each and everybody, so that everybody feels that Bhaishri belongs to him only.
- When Mukta is pleased, he can liberate even through a drop of water.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Whom did Haribhakta want to offer food? What did Bhaishri suggest to him?
2. What did children feel about Bhaishri?
3. How did Bhaishri bless children for the salvation?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. When you invite \_\_\_\_\_ for the

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- food what would their \_\_\_\_\_ eat?
2. Children are \_\_\_\_\_. They are \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. If we offer food to the children \_\_\_\_\_ is pleased.
  4. Even a \_\_\_\_\_ of this water will \_\_\_\_\_ you.



## Helpful During Trouble

It so happened one afternoon. Bhaishri was sitting on a cot laid under a tree. His nephew Govind Bhakta arrived. Bhaishri inquired, 'Govind! Son! what brings you here?' Govind replied, 'Bapa, I have come for your Darshan.'

Bhaishri advised, 'Darshan of God is the most blissful. We should be more attached to the idol of God.' Govind Bhakta said, 'All right Bapa. Please bless me.' Bhaishri blessed him, 'Bless you son!'

Govind Bhakta requested, 'Bapa, please assign me some service.' Bhaishri replied, 'There is no work.' Govind Bhakta insisted, 'Bapa, assign me any task, please, oblige me.'

Bhaishri asked, 'There is one chore, could you do that?' Govind Bhakta replied eagerly, 'Yes of course, Bapa, please, tell me.' Bhaishri pointed out, 'Son! see. There is a banyan tree next to the well. Look at one of the branches. It is hanging right on the top of the well.'

Govind Bhakta replied, 'Yes Bapa, I can see that. The branch has grown very big.' Bhaishri



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continued, 'Birds sit on that branch and spoil the water of the well. Could you cut that branch?'

Govind Bhakta replied enthusiastically, 'Bapa, I will cut it right now!' Govind Bhakta climbed the tree with an axe. He began to cut the branch. Bhaishri was sitting on a cot and watching him. Bhaishri cautioned him, 'Son! Be careful! sit properly while cutting the branch.'

Govind Bhakta responded, 'Yes Bapa, I will be careful.' Suddenly, the axe fell down into the well. Govind Bhakta panicked, 'Now, what to do? Bapa assigned me a small service and I let the axe slip into the well.'

He heard the voice of Bhaishri, 'Govind, why have you stopped, finish your work!' Govind Bhakta said timidly, 'Bapa, How could I cut? Axe has slipped into the well.'

Bhaishri inquired, 'How did it happen!' Govind Bhakta informed, 'Bapa, the handle must be loose, so while cutting the branch it fell down into the water.' Bhaishri consoled him, 'Doesn't matter, I will take it out now.' Govind Bhakta was puzzled, 'Bapa, how could you take it out? Well is very deep.' Bhaishri assured, 'I will take it out.' With these words, Bhaishri stretched his hand from the place where he had been sitting. Govind Bhakta stared, 'What is Bapa doing?'

Bhaishri continued stretching his hand. He was sitting under a tree. The extended hand reached

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inside the well. Govind Bhakta was astonished. He couldn't utter a single word. Only the word 'B...a...a...p...a' came out of his mouth.

Bhaishri took out the axe from the well without moving from his place. He handed it over to Govind Bhakta on the tree. Govind Bhakta was sitting on the branch holding it with both the hands.

Bhaishri instructed, 'Take the axe, Govind! Fix it into the handle and cut the branch.' Govind Bhakta stared at the extended hand of Bhaishri. Bhaishri repeated, 'Son, take this.' Govind Bhakta fixed the axe and continued his work.

He was dazzled, 'What did Bapa do? How did he manage to stretch his hand so long?' He finished his work, had a wash and went to Bhaishri.

He asked Bhaishri, 'Bapa, How could you perform that?' Bhaishri asked innocently, 'What?' Govind Bhakta said, 'Bapa, you know everything. I saw it with my own eyes.! You stretched your hand and gave me axe.'

Bhaishri replied, 'Had I not given you the axe, How could you have cut the branch?' Govind Bhakta stuttered, 'But, B...a...a...p...a, H.a.n.d...'. Bhaishri interrupted, 'Govind! Son! No task is impossible for an Anadimukta. By grace of God, they can perform any miracle.'

Govind Bhakta fell down at the feet of Bhaishri and spoke, 'Bapa, please, bless me that I

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attain unity with Maharaj. If you bless me, definitely I will attain the bliss.' Bhaishri was pleased and said, 'Son! Maharaj has sent me to offer the bliss of God. Bless you!'

Govind Bhakta was choked with gratitude, 'Bapa, Today the purpose of my life is fulfilled.' With these words, he bowed down again to Bhaishri. He went home happily.

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**Difficult words :**

Oblige - To do a favour

Enthusiastically - With keen interest

Dazzled - Impressed greatly

**Points to ponder :**

→ Maharaj performs all the acts through Anadimukta, therefore nothing is impossible for an Anadimukta.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What did Bhaishri explain Govind about Darshan?
2. Which task did Bhaishri assign to Govind?
3. How did Bhaishri take out the axe from the well?
4. What blessings did Bhaishri give to Govind?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Darshan of God is the most \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Would you be able to cut that \_\_\_\_\_?

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3. Bapa assigned me a \_\_\_\_\_ and I made the \_\_\_\_\_ fall into the well.
  4. Son! Govind! Nothing is \_\_\_\_\_ for an \_\_\_\_\_



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## Grace Of Murti In Lieu Of Worldly Example

On one nice evening Bhaishri was going home from the orchard. On the way, he saw one small girl carrying a bunch of grass. Bhaishri told the girl, 'Dear, You have dropped your coin.'

The girl threw down the bunch of hay from her head and looked for her coin. She asked, 'Bapa, where is the coin?' Bhaishri indicated, 'See! It could be lying that side!' The girl went there running. Coin was not there.

She came back and said, 'Bapa, it is not there.' Bhaishri exclaimed, 'No! Then it must be lying a little farther.' The girl went running and looked around everywhere for the coin. Bhaishri sent her here and there a few times. She eagerly went around to search the coin.

At last, She was exhausted and complained, 'Bapa, There is no coin! You simply took me for a ride! You made me throw down the bunch of hay, also.' Bhaishri called her, 'Come here!' She went to him.

Bhaishri caressed her head lovingly. He

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took out a coin from his pocket and gave it to her, 'Take this.' The girl refused, 'That is your coin.' Bhaishri spoke, 'How much trouble did you take to look for a coin? How attentively you were searching for a coin!'

The girl agreed, 'Everyone would look for a coin.' Bhaishri asked, 'Have you ever made such effort to attain God?' The girl confessed, 'No, Never!' Bhaishri explained, 'If we make an effort wholeheartedly to attain God, He would be pleased and would appear in front of us.'

The girl asked innocently, 'Really? Bapa!' Bhaishri assured, 'Yes, definitely, He would appear in front of us. Always remember this incident that Bapa made you run around to look for a coin and later gave you one coin.'

The girl inquired, 'If I remember this incident, what shall happen?' Bhaishri promised, 'I will help you to have the Darshan of God.' The girl bowed down to Bhaishri. Bhaishri suggested, 'Come, I will help you to lift the bunch of hay.'

The girl went home happily. She always remembered the incident with Bhaishri even when she grew up.

Bhaishri helped her to attain the Darshan of God and kept his promise.

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**Difficult words :**

Exclaimed - To speak suddenly out of excitement

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or surprise

Exhausted - Extremely tired

**Points to ponder :**

- If we take one step towards God, He comes seven steps closer to us. It is only required to take the first step.
- Bhaishri teaches us that as we get attracted towards worldly possessions and try to achieve them, similarly, if we strive to attain God, God will definitely be pleased and bless us with His Darshan.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Where was Bhaishri going?
2. What did Bhaishri tell the girl?
3. Why was the girl running here and there?
4. What did Bhaishri advice to the girl?
5. Which promise did Bhaishri keep?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. The girl was carrying a \_\_\_\_\_ on her head.
2. You have dropped your \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Bhaishri took out one \_\_\_\_\_ from his pocket and gave it to her.
4. If we work hard to achieve \_\_\_\_\_, He would be pleased and bless us with His \_\_\_\_\_.

**Make sentences using the following words :**

coin, effort.

## Wish Fulfillment

Chhapaiya is the birthplace of Shreeji Maharaj. Bhaishri went to Chhapaiya with a group of pilgrims. Premjibhai used to serve Bhaishri.

One day it rained in Chhapaiya. Premjibhai observed, 'Bapa! what a beautiful rain!' Bhaishri agreed, 'Atmosphere has become pleasant due to rain.' Premjibhai was curious, 'Bapa, in Kutchh also may be it is raining!' Bhaishri denied, 'It is not raining in Kutchh and it is not going to rain.'

Premjibhai asked, 'Bapa, What does that mean?' Bhaishri clarified, 'This year there would be famine in Kutchh.' Premjibhai did not speak a single word. At night, Premjibhai was awake. He was thinking, 'How would my sons know that there is going to be famine this year? If I were there I would have informed them to look after the field properly.'

Bhaishri perceived the thoughts going on in Premjibhai's mind. Bhaishri advised, 'Premji, Don't think too much. Go to sleep.' Premjibhai was embarrassed, 'Bapa, you found out about the thoughts going on in my mind! All right, I will not



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think now. I will obey God's will.'

Bhaishri called out, 'Premji, wake up! I want to go for a bath.' Premjibhai tried to explain, 'Bapa, doors of temple are locked.' Bhaishri said, 'Doesn't matter close your eyes.' Premjibhai closed his eyes. After a few moments Bhaishri asked, 'Premji, open your eyes.' Premjibhai opened his eyes. He was astonished.

He exclaimed, 'Aare! Bapa! What a miracle? We are standing next to Narayan Sarovar!' Bhaishri was laughing. Bhaishri called him, 'Premji, sit here. There is a fresh breeze.' Premjibhai was so amazed that he sat down without speaking a single word.

That very moment, they heard the sound, 'H...u...m.... H...u...m...' Premjibhai looked around. He couldn't see anything. He asked Bhaishri, 'Bapa, what is this sound?'

Bhaishri said smilingly, 'You will find out soon.' And lo! There arrived a plane! Premjibhai was dazzled. Bhaishri called him, 'Premji! Son! Come and sit in the plane.'

Premjibhai couldn't comprehend, he was flabbergasted! He quietly sat down next to Bhaishri. The plane took off. In a shortwhile, they reached Vrishpur.

They stopped by Premjibhai's orchard. Premjibhai's sons were sleeping. Bhaishri woke them up. Bhaishri inquired, 'Why are you sleeping?'

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Why don't you look after the orchard?' Premjibhai's son bowed down to Bhaishri.

He thought that he had been dreaming. He promised Bhaishri, 'Yes Bapa. Now I will not sleep. I will look after the orchard.' Bhaishri clarified, 'Son! This is not a dream. We have come all the way from Chhapaiya to inform you that this year there is going to be famine.'

Son asked, 'Bapa, is there going to be famine?' Bhaishri confirmed, 'Yes. Please sow the seeds in the fields, but not in the orchard.'

Son assured, 'Yes Bapa.' Bhaishri took leave, 'That's all. We had come to inform this.' Bhaishri and Premjibhai sat in the plane.

Son did not have a single clue about the happenings. But he was certain that Bapa had warned him. So he had to follow his instructions. The plane took off and stopped at Narayan Sarovar. Bhaishri and Premjibhai got down. Immediately, the plane disappeared. Premjibhai had been observing silently.

He looked at Bhaishri one moment and the next moment he looked at the place where plane was standing. Bhaishri asked, 'What is it Premji?' Premjibhai stuttered, 'Bapa, these... all these...'

Bhaishri asked lovingly, 'Premji your wish has been fulfilled, isn't it?' Premjibhai affirmed, 'Yes Bapa, but all these...'

Premjibhai had a number of doubts in his

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mind. Bhaishri suggested, 'Premji, let us go to temple. You go to the guest house and try to sleep.'

Premjibhai went to the guest house, but he couldn't sleep. He kept on thinking about the miracle, performed by Bhaishri.

**Difficult words :**

Famine - A severe shortage of food and water

Perceived - To become aware of

Embarrassed - To feel shy or ashamed

Comprehend - To understand

Flabbergasted - Highly astonished

**Points to ponder :**

- Anadimuktas fulfill all the wishes of their affectionate devotees.
- For Anadimuktas, there are no barriers of time and place.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Where did Bhaishri go with a group of pilgrims?
2. What was the desire of Premjibhai?
3. How did Bhaishri fulfill Premjibhai's desire?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the birthplace of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. It is not \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ now, and it is also not going to.
3. And suddenly a \_\_\_\_\_ arrived.

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4. In a shortwhile, they reached \_\_\_\_\_.
  5. The plane took off and reached \_\_\_\_\_.



## Akshardham As A Reward

There was a Brahmin called Chunilal. Chunilal was wise and he was a devotee of God. He was very clever in his studies. He was studying in Mumbai.

Chunilal was very affectionate towards Swami Ishwarcharandasji. He used to visit Swami frequently. Swami would narrate the incidents of God.

Swami advised, 'Chunilal! We must be able to recognize an Anadimukta of God and we should remain in touch with him.' Chunilal was curious, 'What happens by the contact of Anadimukta?' He inquired.

Swami explained, 'Maharaj performs all His acts through His Anadimukta.' We can know about the glory of Maharaj through their contact. If he is pleased, we can attain abode of God.'

Chunilal asked, 'Swami who is such Anadimukta?' Swami informed, 'He stays in a village called Baladiya in Kutchh. His name is Abjibhai.' Chunilal was very eager for his Darshan.

He told Swami, 'Swami, let us go to Baladiya

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for his Darshan.' Swami informed, 'We visited him recently. Now we can not visit him again without his permission.' Chunilal was disappointed.

Swami consoled him, 'Chunilal, Don't be sad. You may proceed for his Darshan.' Chunilal requested, 'Swami, I have never had Darshan of Abjibhai. It would be better if you could accompany me.'

Chunilal forcefully persuaded Swami. Swami agreed finally, 'Chunilal, when we go to Baladiya next time, we shall inform you through a letter. That time you join us.'

Chunilal requested, 'Swami please write me a letter to Mumbai address. I will go to Mumbai to study.' Chunilal left for Mumbai to continue his studies. Months passed by.

One fine day Chunilal received a letter from Swami. Chunilal was delighted. Swami wrote, 'Chunilal! We have arrived Baladiya for the Darshan of Abjibhai. If possible, please join us.'

Chunilal was in dilemma, 'My examination is going on. How could I go?' He wrote back to Swami. 'Swami, Half of my exmas are over and I have to appear for the remaining half. So please inform me, if I could join you as soon as the exmas are over or should I visit my home on the way to Baladiya.'

Swami gave this letter to Bhaishri. Bhaishri was intuitive, he knew everything. He informed Swami, 'Please write him to visit his house first and

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then come here.'

Chunilal finished his exams and went home. He fell sick. He asked his father, 'Father when would I be all right? I want to go to Baladiya.'

Father consoled him, 'Son, soon you will be alright. Treatment of Vaidya (Ayurvedic doctor) will improve your health.' Everyday Chunilal inquired his father about his health. Whole day he used to think, 'When would I feel better and when could I go to Baladiya for the Darshan of Anadimukta Abjibhai.' Chunilal was yearning for the Darshan.

Chunilal couldn't be cured of illness. His lifespan was over. Bhaishri alongwith Maharaj appeared in front of Chunilal. Chunilal told his father, 'Father, Maharaj has arrived to take me to His abode.'

Father asked, 'Where is He? I can not see Him.' Chunilal indicated, 'Here He is.' Chunilal was full of joy. Maharaj spoke, 'Chunilal, here is my Anadimukta Abjibhai for whose Darshan you wanted to go to Baladiya. He has come here to see you.'

Chunilal informed his father, 'Father, Bhaishri also is accompanying Maharaj.' Father asked, 'But you do not know Bhaishri. How did you recognize him?'

Chunilal replied, 'Maharaj introduced him.' Maharaj spoke again, 'Chunilal, you had heartfelt desire for the Darshan of My Anadimukta, isn't it?'

Chunilal confessed, 'Yes Maharaj, I was very eager for his Darshan.' Maharaj revealed, 'You

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desired wholeheartedly, therefore I have come to take you to My abode. Abjibhai informed Me that Chunilal's wish is (heartfelt) real, so please take Him to your abode.'

Chunilal was grateful, 'Maharaj, you are the most compassionate.' Maharaj spoke, 'Whoever remembers My Anadimukta wholeheartedly becomes eligible for My abode. Now let us go.'

Chunilal took permission of his father, 'Father, I am leaving.' Maharaj took him to His abode.

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### **Difficult words :**

Yearning - An intense desire

Intuitive - Possessing the quality of intuition

### **Points to ponder :**

- If we remember an Anadimukta wholeheartedly, he appears in front of us in his divine form.
- Even if a living being has not been able to have Darshan, but has total devotion, then the most compassionate Mukta liberates his soul.

### **Exercise**

#### **Answer the following questions :**

1. Where was Chunilal studying?
2. In whose contact was Chunilal?
3. Whom did Swami recommend to contact?
4. When and how did Chunilal attain the Darshan of Bhaishri?



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**Fill in the blanks :**

1. There was a \_\_\_\_\_ called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Chunilal was very fond of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We must learn to recognize the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and should remain in \_\_\_\_\_ with them.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Eligible wholeheartedly becomes abode My for remembers My Anadimukta whoever.
2. Wholeheartedly have you desired come to therefore I you take to My abode.

**Make sentences using the following words :**  
affection, contact, unity, eagerness.



## The Greatest (Best) Mantra

It so happened one day. Bhaishri was passing by remembering God. He was not aware of the surroundings. Suddenly a poisonous snake came out of the shrubs.

He bit (cut) Bhaishri and retreated back to the shrubs. Bhaishri went to the orchard chanting Swaminarayan, Swaminarayan and sat down. A Haribhakta noticed this. He went to other workers in the orchard and informed them, 'Bhai has been bitten by a snake. It was a big, dark snake.'

All went running to Bhaishri. Bhaishri was meditating. One of them suggested, 'Let us call Vaidya!' The other said, 'No, no let us call a snake charmer. He would remove the poison.' Everyone had different suggestions.

Bhaishri through his power, stored the poison in one part of his body. He did not allow it to spread. The news spread into the village. There lived a snake charmer in the village.

He offered, 'Take me there. I would know if the snake was poisonous.' Snake charmer arrived. He recited a few mantras. He found out that the

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snake was poisonous.

The snake charmer was surprised. He said, 'He has been bitten by a poisonous snake, but he has not allowed the poison to spread.' All were surprised. Snake charmer inquired Bhaishri, 'Do you have any medicinal herbs?'

Bhaishri asked, 'For what purpose?' Snake charmer revealed, 'You have stored poison in one part of the body. I have come to know through mantras.' Bhaishri informed, 'I do not have any herbs.'

Snake charmer inquired further, 'Then you must be knowing some Mantra. Would you teach me that Mantra?' Bhaishri replied, 'Yes, I have a Mantra. I will definitely teach this Mantra to you.' Snake charmer was delighted, 'Please, teach me now. I will be obliged.'

Bhaishri disclosed the secret, 'The Mantra is Shri Swaminarayan.' Snake charmer argued, 'But this is not a Mantra. This is the name of your God.' Bhaishri confessed, 'I have only this Mantra.'

Snake charmer was suspicious. 'You are saying this, because you don't want to teach me the Mantra.' Said he. Bhaishri assured, 'I have this Mantra only.' Snake charmer thought, 'He will not reveal the Mantra easily. Let me spread the poison in his body through the power of Mantras. Then let us see how he could remove it.'

Snake charmer began to chant the Mantra. Bhaishri went into meditation Snake charmer

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observed closely, Bhaishri woke up chanting Jai Swaminarayan. Snake charmer was astonished. He fell down at the feet of Bhaishri.

He apologized, 'You are a great person. So far it has never happened that anyone could remove the poison spread by me. You did not allow the poison to spread. Please, forgive me.' Bhaishri replied, 'It is all right.'

Snake charmer bowed down to Bhaishri and left.

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**Difficult words :**

Retreat - To withdraw or retire

**Points to ponder :**

- Wild animals and insects are not capable enough to harm a great Anadimukta.
- Bhaishri did not allow the poison of poisonous snake to spread in his body through his prowess.
- An Anadimukta like Bhaishri can save thousands of people from the effects of poison. How could poison harm him?

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What had bitten Bhaishri?
2. Which Mantra did Bhaishri teach to the snake charmer?
3. What did the snake charmer do to find out

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the Mantra?

4. Why did the snake charmer fall down at the feet of Bhaishri?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Suddenly a \_\_\_\_\_ appeared. He \_\_\_\_\_ Bhaishri and retreated.
2. Bhaishri accumulated the \_\_\_\_\_ in one part of his body through his \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Do you have any \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The Mantra is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. You are a \_\_\_\_\_.



## Compassionate Nature

As Bhaishri grew older, his affectionate Haribhaktas used to call him 'Bapashri' or 'Bapa' lovingly.

One day, Bapashri was walking towards a village Kumbhariya from Anjar. He was accompanied by saints and Haribhaktas. Bapashri was describing the glory of God.

Bapashri mentioned, 'We should feel compassionate towards all the living beings. One day we all have to go to God's abode. No living being is inferior.'

They were listening to the narratives while walking. Across the road, there was a hole made by a mouse. A mouse stayed in this hole. Saints and Bapashri passed by the hole. At the same time, a mouse came out of the hole. A kite was flying in the sky.

Kites like to eat mouse very much. As soon as, it noticed a mouse coming out of the hole, it attacked the mouse. But Bapashri saints and Haribhaktas reached there.

The kite was frightened of so many people.

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It left the mouse there and flew off. The mouse was hurt by the claws of the kite. The mouse was struggling.

Haribhaktas told Bapa, 'Bapa, the mouse is hurt badly. It is bleeding heavily.' Bapashri felt compassionate towards mouse. He took a pinch of dust from the ground, recited the name of God and threw it on the mouse.

Haribhaktas asked, 'Bapa, What are you doing?' Bapashri explained, 'I am liberating this poor soul.' In a short while, the mouse died. Haribhaktas inquired, 'Bapa, the beings like mice could be liberated like this?'

Bapashri explained, 'It had the Darshan of saints and Mukta at the end time. It heard the name of God while dying. So it is liberated. They were all surprised.

They talked among themselves, 'Only Bapashri can perform such wonders. Nobody else could. He has liberated even a mouse. How marvellous!' And they proceeded towards their destination while talking.

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**Difficult words :**

To liberate - To free from

Marvellous - Excellent

Destination - The place where someone is going

**Points to ponder :**

→ Even a breeze of air which has touched an

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Anadimukta, touches us, then our sins of many birth are cleansed.

- When a great Anadimukta like Bapashri decides to liberate a soul out of compassion, then there is no doubt about the liberation of that soul.

### Exercise

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What was the new pet name of Bhaishri?
2. Where was Bapashri going?
3. On the way, what was Bapashri doing?
4. How did Bapashri liberate the soul of a mouse?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bapashri was walking from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. On one side of the road, there was a \_\_\_\_\_ of a mouse.
3. The kite \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Bapashri took a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ from the ground \_\_\_\_\_ the name of \_\_\_\_\_ and threw it on the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. God of while liberated dying it is so heard it the name.
2. Bapashri nobody can else only perform could



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wonders such.

**Make sentences using the following words :**  
glory, pinch, compassion.



## Rescued The Steamship

Once Bapashri was travelling by a steamship. Bapashri was chanting the name of God, sitting in a corner of the ship.

In a shortwhile, wind started blowing. Big waves rose in the sea. The sailors tried to control the ship. The intensity of the storm increased.

The ship was swinging here and there. The people, travelling by the ship looked worried. They were anxious. The stormy weather became worse. The sailors tried very hard, but due to storm, water filled up into the ship.

The travellers panicked. They thought that the ship was about to sink. The sailors warned everyone, 'Please remember your God. Now it is upto God. The situation is out of our control.'

Travellers were frightened. They prayed to God. Bapashri was sitting quietly. Water raised into the ship. There was a muslim travelling by the ship. He asked Bapashri, 'Aren't you scared?' Bapashri replied, 'God will take care of everything. Why should we worry?' The muslim asked again, 'Aren't you scared of dying?'

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Bapashri replied quietly, 'If this body dies, we would go to God. What is so scary about it?' Muslim prayed, 'It seems you are a saint. You are not scared. But please save us.'

Bapashri sat with his eyes closed. The muslim prayed again and again, 'Bapji, families of all these people would become orphans. My relatives also must be waiting for me. Please, save us.'

The muslim offered prayers to his God too. The ship was almost filled up with the water. They thought that they were going to drown. Steamer would sink. Bapashri extended both his hands. He slipped his hands under the ship and lifted the ship.

No one noticed this. They were surprised. How come the ship was floating on the water? But the muslim noticed this. He was flabbergasted! People were talking among themselves, 'By grace of God the ship is saved from sinking.'

The muslim tried hard to speak that the gentleman sitting in that corner had saved them all. But he could not speak. He kept on watching.

Till the ship reached the shore, Bapashri supported it with his hands and saved it from sinking. The travellers thanked God after reaching the shore. Now, the muslim was able to speak, 'This saint has saved us today.' Said he. They said, 'But he was sitting quietly in a corner!'

The muslim revealed, 'You are not aware, but I witnessed it. He extended both his hands and

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lifted the ship above the water. He has saved us.' They asked again, 'Did you notice that?' The muslim confessed, 'Yes, I watched it all the time, but then I could not speak.'

The muslim bowed down to Bapashri. He said gratefully, 'Bapji, You have saved us all today.' The travellers also bowed down to Bapashri. The muslim offered, 'Bapji, I have a basket of dry fruits. Please accept it.'

Bapashri refused politely, 'No, I can not take it.' The muslim gave it forcibly. He himself became a devotee of Lord Swaminarayan.

Bapashri distributed the dry fruits among the passengers as Prasad.

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**Difficult words :**

Intensity - Quality of being intense

Flabbergasted - Completely astonished

**Points to ponder :**

- Anadimukta can achieve whatever they decide. Nothing is impossible for them.
- When a Mukta unfolds (demonstrates) his prowess, even a Muslim surrenders to Lord Swaminarayan.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Why was steamship swinging to and fro?
2. What did the sailors inform the travellers?

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3. What did the Muslim ask to Bapashri?
  4. What did Bapashri answer?
  5. What did the Muslim pray to Bapashri?
  6. How did Bapashri save the passengers travelling on steamship?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bapashri was travelling on a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ were trying hard to save the steamship.
3. Aren't you scared of \_\_\_\_\_?
4. If I loose this \_\_\_\_\_, I will be able to go to Maharaj.
5. Bapji, \_\_\_\_\_ of these people would be orphaned.
6. Bapashri extended his \_\_\_\_\_.
7. This \_\_\_\_\_ has saved us today.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. Please remember your God. Now, it is up to God.
2. Aren't you scared of dying?
3. God will take care of everything.



## Pleased By Affection Towards Children

A faithful devotee of God named Somchandbhai lived in the city of Karanchi (which is now in Pakistan). He used to run a night school for the children.

He taught religious teachings of God to the children. He taught children how to worship God. Children enjoyed all these. Once Bapashri visited Karanchi. Haribhaktas welcomed Bapashri ceremoniously.

They took Bapashri to temple. They took him around for sight seeing. But Bapashri kept on asking, 'Do you have something in Karanchi which I am looking forward to visit?' Haribhaktas wondered, 'Which place does Bapashri want to visit?'

Daily Haribhaktas invited Bapashri at their place. Bapashri used to visit their place. On returning back to temple he used to say, 'What I want to see is not here.'

One day Muktaraj Somchandbhai came to see Bapashri. He bowed down to Bapashri. Bapashri noticed that Somchandbhai was a very simple

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person. His clothes were also simple. Bapashri asked, 'Maharaj! Are you involved in any activity related to Satsang?'

Somchandbhai replied humbly, 'Bapa, Nothing much. I run a night school for the kids.' Bapashri cheered up hearing about the children, 'Really! What do you do?' Asked he.

Somchandbhai replied, 'Bapa, I teach the narratives of God to the children and also teach them how to worship God.' Bapashri confessed, 'From the day I reached Karanchi, I wanted to visit a place where children are being taught good values.'

Haribhaktas were astonished. One of them asked, 'Bapa, did you want to visit a night school for the children? What is there to see?' Bapashri replied, 'It has all to be seen.'

Haribhakta inquired, 'What all?' Bapashri explained, 'Kids are like tender plants. They could be moulded the way we want to. If we teach them right from their childhood how to worship God, then they grow up as Muktas of God.'

Nobody said anything. They agreed with Bapashri. Bapashri was pleased with Somchandbhai. He asked, 'Muktaraj, when would you take me to show your school?'

Somchandbhai replied happily, 'Bapa, today a lot of people have come to visit you. Please, come tomorrow.' Bapashri accepted the invitation, 'All right! I will visit your school tomorrow.'

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Somchandbhai was very glad. He informed all the children to be present on the next day. Somchandbhai informed the kids, 'We are very lucky. Bapashri is going to visit us. Bapashri is a great Mukta. All of you ask for his blessings.'

Children were also delighted. The next day, Bapashri arrived. All the children welcomed him enthusiastically. Then all of them took their seats with discipline.

Bapashri was very impressed by the cleanliness of the school and the discipline of the children. He asked the children, 'Who taught you all these?' The children replied, 'Our teacher.'

Bapashri announced, 'Today, I am going to take a test. Let me see how Muktaraj has taught you. May I take the test?' Children were excited. They said in a chorus, 'Yes, Bapa. Certainly.' Bapashri was already delighted by the decent behaviour of the children. He asked simple questions to the children, 'Who is our God?' Nobody answered, but all of them raised their hands. Bapashri said, 'Please answer! Don't you know?' Somchandbhai intervened, 'Bapa, all of them know. All of them have raised their hands. But only that child would answer whom you would ask.' Bapashri was very happy seeing such discipline among the children.

He asked one child, 'Who is our God? Please answer.' He answered, 'The ultimate God Lord Swaminarayan.' Bapashri asked next question,

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'Where was He born?' Again all of them raised their hands.

Bapashri smiled and asked another child, 'You answer.' He answered, 'In Chhapaiya.' Bapashri asked a few more questions. To whomever he asked, 'That child answered properly.' Bapashri was pleased by all.

He told children, 'All of you have passed the test and your teacher who has taught you such good lessons and proper behaviour also passes.' Children bowed down to Bapashri. Bapashri advised them, 'Always worship God in this manner. If right now you make it a habit to worship God, Maharaj would be pleased.'

Children requested, 'Bapa, please bless us!' Bapashri granted their request, 'Bless you all. I am very pleased by all of you.' He praised Somchandbhai, 'You are doing a very good activity. We must teach our children how to worship God right from their childhood.'

Somchandbhai bowed down to Bapashri. Bapashri informed, 'You teach good values to the children. Therefore, Maharaj is pleased with you. I am also delighted.' Bapashri blessed Somchandbhai and returned back to the temple.

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**Difficult words :**

Ceremoniously - Excessively formal

Tender - Gentle and kind

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To mould - To shape up

**Points to ponder :**

- Bapashri was very fond of kids.
- Bapashri was pleased, if someone worked for the children and taught them good values.
- As Bapashri used to say, we should develop the habit of worshipping God from today itself. Therefore, we could please God and His Muktas.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Which city did Bapashri Visit? Who lived there?
2. What was Bapashri looking for?
3. What did Bapashri like the most about children?
4. How did Bapashri praise Somchandbhai?

**Fill in the blanks :**

- 1 There lived a great devotee named \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Somchandbhai was running a \_\_\_\_\_ for the children.
3. All the children raised their \_\_\_\_\_.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Maharaj right now worship make God it would you habit be pleased if a to.
2. Children their worship we God must right to from teach our how childhood.

## Miracle During Yagya

Bapashri had invited the saints from Ahmedabad. The saints arrived.

Bapashri proposed, 'Saints, I would like to perform a Yagya.' Saints welcomed the idea, 'Bapa, it is a very good idea.' Bapashri requested, 'Please, tell me an auspicious day. So that, we can begin the preparations.'

Bapashri went to the orchard. A Haribhakta was sitting there. He asked Ishwarcharandasji Swami, 'Swami, why does Bapa perform Yagya frequently? Why does he gather so many people?'

Swami explained, 'Maharaj has sent Bapashri to liberate a lot of living beings. When Bapashri performs Yagya, a lot of Haribhaktas visit the ceremony. Bapashri blesses them willingly to attain the bliss of Maharaj. Thus, a lot of living beings could be liberated simultaneously.'

Haribhakta was convinced, 'Swami, Now I knew why Bapa performs Yagya frequently.' Swami fixed an auspicious day and informed Bapashri. Bapashri gathered required materials.

He instructed the volunteers to offer their

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services. Volunteers happily performed various tasks. Some of them were cleaning, some of them were cooking. A few were preparing 'Sheera' and few were preparing 'Sukhdi'. A few volunteers were filtering Ghee.

The volunteers who were preparing sweets were shouting, 'Please, bring ghee quickly. Hurry up.' The volunteers handed over filtered Ghee.

A volunteer named Ratna said, 'Almost all the containers of Ghee are emptied.' Shamji agreed, 'Yes and they need more Ghee.' Ratna was doubtful, 'I feel that we would be short of Ghee.'

Teja was also tense, 'Now we can not get Ghee anywhere.' They were worried. Damji said, 'If Ghee is over, we cannot prepare sweets.' Then what could we offer as Prasadam?'

They were thinking. The volunteers who were preparing 'Sheera' came and asked for Ghee. They gave them Ghee. Ratna suggested, 'Now only few containers are left. Let us inform Bapa.'

Shamji went running to Bapashri. Bapashri inquired, 'What is the matter, Shamji. Why have you come running?'

Shamji informed, 'Bapa, we are filtering Ghee.' Bapashri couldn't follow, 'Yes very good! But why have you come here?'

Shamji explained, 'Bapa, the containers of Ghee are all empty. Perhaps we would be short of Ghee.'

Bapashri asked, 'Really! Let us go and

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check up.' Bapashri entered the room where Ghee was kept. Ratna joined him, 'Bapa, it seems we may be short of Ghee.' Bapa asked, 'Where are the containers?'

Bhimji showed him, 'Bapa, here are the empty containers and these are the containers with Ghee.'

Bapashri was carrying a stick. He checked a container by knocking the stick on it and asked, 'Is this empty?' He knocked the stick on another container and asked, 'Is this empty? I don't think so!'

Thus, he checked several containers. And said, 'These are all filled up with Ghee. You are worrying without any reason.' Ratna tried to explain, 'Bapa, they are not full of Ghee. We have arranged empty containers that side.'

Bapashri said mischievously, 'Why don't you check up first?' Ratna went there and checked up and cried out, 'Aare! How is it possible?' Then he opened all the containers one by one. He was astonished.

He informed, 'The containers which were knocked by Bapashri are all refilled. Bapa, How did you perform the miracle?' Bapashri uttered, 'This is Yagya of Shreeji Maharaj. Maharaj would see that we are not short of any materials.'

Bapashri went back. As soon as, Bapashri left Khimji, Shamji etc. all the volunteers checked up the containers. The containers were full of Ghee.

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It was a pleasant surprise.

Ratna said happily, 'Bapa has filled up empty containers. Now nothing to worry about. Now we are not going to be short of Ghee. Let them take as much they want.'

After witnessing the miracle, all the volunteers worked with zest and zeal.

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**Difficult words :**

Volunteer - A person offering his services without any charges

Tense - Having physical or mental strain

Zest and zeal - Excited about something

**Points to ponder :**

- Maharaj has mentioned in Vachanamrit that My ceremonial celebrations and playful characteristics should be remembered. At the end, if the Murti could not be recollected, at that time if celebrations and the Darshan of saints are remembered, simultaneously the Murti also could be recollected.
- Through prowess of Bapashri, they never experienced any obstacles while performing Yagyas.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What did Bapashri ask the saints to do?
2. What did Swami Ishwarcharandasji reply to

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Haribhakta?

3. Which miracle did Bapashri perform?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Why does Bapa perform \_\_\_\_\_ frequently ?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ has sent Bapashri to \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of souls here.
3. The volunteers performed various \_\_\_\_\_.
4. If \_\_\_\_\_ is finished then \_\_\_\_\_ could not be prepared.
5. This is the Yagya performed by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. Almost all the containers of Ghee are empty.
2. If Ghee is over, we cannot prepare sweets.
3. These are all filled up with Ghee.
4. How did you perform this miracle?



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## Cooked Vegetable Served As Medicine

There lived a muslim. He had an only son. He loved his son very much. Unfortunately, he caught an uncurable disease.

The muslim went to a Hakim. Hakim was helpless. 'I do not have any medicine for this. Please go to someone else.' Said he. The muslim went to a doctor.

The doctor prescribed a lot of medicines, but there was no improvement. Son was losing weight day by day. Finally, the muslim went to a Vaidya.

The Vaidya prepared some medicine but there was no effect. The muslim was distressed, 'Is there nobody who could cure my son?' thought he. A Haribhakta suggested, 'Abjibapashri lives in Baladiya. Please go and meet him.'

The muslim inquired, 'Is he a Vaidya?' Haribhakta replied, 'No, he is not.' The muslim asked again, 'Is he a Tantrik?'

Haribhakta denied, 'No, brother. He is a great Mukta of God. If he is pleased, he can cure

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your son. Please go and pray to him.'

This advice invoked a new hope in the heart of muslim. He took his son, lying in a cot, to Bapashri. He bowed down to Bapashri and prayed, 'Bapji, please save my son.' Bapashri inquired, 'Why? What is wrong with him?'

Muslim replied, 'Bapji, Nobody knows. Several Hakim, Vaidya and doctors tried, but nobody could cure him.' Bapashri asked, 'Since how long he has been sick?'

Muslim replied, 'For a long time. I am tired of running around. Nobody has been able to cure him.' The muslim broke down into tears. Bapashri looked at the boy. He was looking fragile. He was not even able to sit.

He raised his hands to offer salutation to Bapashri lying down on the cot. Bapashri was touched looking at the boy. He felt tremendous compassion for the boy. Bapashri sighed, 'So much suffering for such a young boy?'

Muslim replied, 'Bapji, Now he is in your hands.' Bapashri went inside and looked for something. There was a bowl of cooked beans. Bapashri brought this bowl outside.

The muslim asked, 'Bapji, what is this?' Bapashri replied, 'This is medicine. Muslim was puzzled, 'Bapji, cooked vegetables are not medicine! Please give some medicine or charm for my son.'

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Bapashri did not respond. He offered the beans to God. Then he went to the boy and lovingly, caressed his head. He spoke to the boy, 'Son! If you finish the whole dish, you will be cured completely, if you finish half of it, you will be cured half and if you will have it a little, you will be cured only a little. So have faith in God and finish this.' Muslim tried to interrupt, 'But Bapji!'

Bapashri smiled. Bapashri had explained so nicely and lovingly, that the boy was fully convinced. He began to eat the vegetable. The Muslim gasped at him. He complained to Bapashri, 'Bapji, I wish you had given some medicine. I've heard a lot about you, that is why I come here.' Meanwhile, the boy finished the vegetable.

He felt new energy in his body. He got up from the cot. He washed his hands and bowed down to Bapashri. Bapashri blessed him.

He reminded the boy, 'Never forget Lord Swaminarayan. He has cured your disease.' The muslim stared at them. What a miracle!

The boy informed his father, 'Father I am completely well. Bapashri has cured me.' The Muslim fell down at the feet of Bapashri.

He spoke with gratitude, 'Bapji, you are a saint. You have done that nobody could perform. That also without prescribing any medicine! Just by feeding cooked beans! Nobody could have performed such a miracle! You are a marvellous

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person.'

He kept on talking while bowing down to Bapashri. The boy who had come lying down on a cot, went home on feet with his father.

He took initiation and wore Kanthi. He became a Satsangi. He remained a Satsangi for his entire life.

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### **Difficult words :**

To prescribe - To recommend

Invoke - To put in use

Tremendous - Very large or impressive

Charm - A magic spell

### **Points to ponder :**

- Maharaj and His Anadimukta are kind and merciful towards all, irrespective of their caste or creed. Therefore, they are called the most compassionate.
- Bapashri is very fond of children. Therefore, he instantly relieves them of pain. He does not discriminate on the basis of caste or creed among the children. Each and every child is equally dear to him.
- Hakim, doctors etc. could not achieve any improvement, but Bapashri performed the miracle without any medicine.
- Anadimuktas have great prowess. They can achieve whatever they want.

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## Exercise

### Answer the following questions :

1. The son of a Muslim was suffering from what kind of disease?
2. To whom did the muslim go for the treatment?
3. To whom did the muslim go in the end?
4. What did Bapashri give as medicine?
5. What did Bapashri tell the boy?
6. What did the muslim ask in place of cooked vegetable?
7. How was the son of the muslim cured?
8. What did the muslim tell Bapashri after his son was cured?

### Fill in the blanks :

1. The boy had an \_\_\_\_\_ disease.
2. The muslim asked, 'Is he a \_\_\_\_\_?'
3. Bapji, please \_\_\_\_\_ my son.
4. Please, give my son some \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Have \_\_\_\_\_ in God and finish it.
6. You are a \_\_\_\_\_.



## Luminous Darshan

There lived a devotee of God named Kalyansingh. He used to meditate for a long time.

He had only one desire, he wanted to realize the divine luminous form of God. Daily he would meditate for six to seven hours.

He considered Bapashri as Anadimukta. He was in contact with Bapashri. Bapashri was also pleased with him. Kalyansinghji would follow Bapashri wherever he would go. But he used to come late during congregations.

Once Bapashri asked him, 'Kalyansingh, why do you come late in congregations? Why do you lock yourself in a small room?' Kalyansinghji explained, 'Bapa, I am looking for Maharaj. I am yearning for luminous Darshan of Maharaj.'

Bapashri inquired, 'What do you do sitting in the room?' Kalyansinghji replied, 'I meditate upon Maharaj. I look for Maharaj.' Bapashri revealed, 'Maharaj Himself is present in this congregation and you are looking for Him in a room. How could you meet Maharaj there?'

Kalyansinghji promised, 'Bapa, I will attend

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from tomorrow.' Bapashri informed, 'If you come here, I will make it possible for you to have Darshan of God.'

Kalyansinghji was full of joy. He thought that for such a long time he had been meditating but through the grace of Bapashri, he would certainly have the Darshan of Maharaj.

He assured, 'Bapa, tomorrow morning, I will definitely come early.' Kalyansinghji went to his room. He couldn't sleep. He was feeling restless due to joy. Every now and then, he would check up if it was morning. He was eagerly waiting for the morning.

It was early morning. He got up. He had bath and purified himself. He went to Bapashri. He prayed to Bapashri, 'Narayan Hare! The poor devotee is begging for the bliss of Maharaj. Have mercy on me and grant me a favour.'

Bapashri was testing his patience, 'Still there is time!' said he. Kalyansingh was impatient, 'Bapa, I have spent the night with so much difficulty. Now how long should I wait?' Bapashri repeated, 'Still there is time.'

Kalyansinghji sat down. He would look at Bapashri frequently, but Bapashri didn't even look at him. He kept on talking. Bapashri got up, when it was time for recitation (Parayan).

He informed everyone, 'Let us go. Today I have to help Bhagat to have Darshan of Maharaj.' They were glad that they would have a chance to

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witness. All went to the temple.

Bapashri had already informed in the temple. Therefore, all the preparations were made. The idol of God was adorned with flowers.

They had lighted the lamps and incense. The atmosphere in temple was pious and fragrant. They lighted Aarti. Bapashri showed, 'Kalyansinghji, Look at the throne. Who is adorning the throne?'

Kalyansinghji stared at the idol without blinking his eyes. Bapashri and Haribhakta begin to recite the Aarti. Kalyansinghji was not aware of it.

Suddenly he noticed brilliance spreading out of the idol. He smelled various scents. He had never observed such beautiful appearance of Maharaj.

He was completely absorbed into the graceful and divine form of Maharaj. He was not at all aware of the happenings in the temple. The Aarti was over.

The tears of joy and affection were rolling down from the eyes of Kalyansinghji. He bowed down again and again to Bapashri and repeatedly said, 'Bapa, You are the most compassionate. You are merciful. Through your grace, I had luminous Darshan of Maharaj.'

Bapashri caught hold of him and hugged him. Again Kalyansinghji prayed to him, 'Bapa, you have fulfilled. my wish. You are great, you have divine prowess.'

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Bapashri spoke playfully, 'Kalyansinghji, now enjoy the bliss of Maharaj. Let us go to Katha.'

Kalyansinghji felt divine. He was totally changed after the luminous Darshan of Maharaj. He used to narrate the incidents of God. Haribhaktas also went to visit him.

**Difficult words :**

Luminous - Enlightening

Congregation - A group of worshippers

Fragrant - Having a pleasant smell

**Points to ponder :**

- Anadimuktas appear to liberate the seekers. He grants the Darshan of Maharaj to the eager devotees.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. For how long did Kalyansinghji meditate?
2. What did Bapashri mention about Maharaj's presence?
3. How did Bapashri make Kalyansinghji to have Darshan of Maharaj? Where?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. There lived a great devotee of God named \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Bapa, I have only one \_\_\_\_\_, to have the Darshan of Maharaj in \_\_\_\_\_.
3. What do you do sitting in the \_\_\_\_\_?



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4. In this congregation, Maharaj \_\_\_\_\_ is present.
  5. Bapashri was testing his \_\_\_\_\_.
  6. Kalyansinghji, now \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Maharaj.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Desire only wanted he the divine God of form luminous had one he to realize.
2. Congregation are Himself Maharaj present looking is this and in you for Him in a room.



## Stopped The Rain

A few Haribhaktas from Kumbharia came to see Bapashri. Bapashri was meditating in the orchard.

Haribhaktas sat down. Bapashri woke up from the meditation. Haribhaktas bowed down to Bapashri. Bapashri inquired, 'What is the purpose of your visit.'

Haribhaktas informed, 'Bapa, we are planning to organize a series of religious lectures (Parayan) in Kumbharia. Bapashri was pleased, 'Very Good. what is there to ask?'

Haribhaktas invited him, 'Bapa, we have come to invite you to attend the function and oblige us.' Bapashri accepted the invitation, 'I will certainly attend the function. I will definitely come to attend the Parayan.'

A Haribhakta requested, 'Bapa, alongwith the Parayan, you narrate incidents of greatness of Maharaj. Your narrations make people happy.'

Bapashri consented, 'Yes of course! God has sent me here to spread His glory.' Haribhaktas were delighted. They asked, 'Bapa, would you like

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us to come here to receive you?' Bapashri replied, 'No, you will have plenty of work there. I will find my way.'

Bapashri reached Kumbharia on the day of function. He noticed that Haribhaktas had erected the pendal outside the hall.

He advised Haribhaktas, 'Please shift the pendal inside. It would be inconvenient if it rains.' Haribhaktas continued working without responding.

Bapashri noticed that nobody is making any sitting arrangements inside the hall. He knew that it was going to rain heavily. He called Haribhaktas and instructed, 'Please shift this tent inside the hall. People would be troubled if it rains.' A Haribhakta informed, 'Bapa, a lot of people are going to attend the lecture. Therefore, we have made arrangements to sit outside.'

Bapashri knew in advance, so he frequently instructed everyone. But there were many people, so nobody followed the instructions. Bapashri told Ishwarcharandasji, 'These people do not believe me, but tomorrow they are going to suffer.'

Swami agreed, 'Bapa, you know that it is going to rain. But they do not know, therefore they are not obeying your instructions.' Bapashri complained, 'Because they are not aware, I am warning them, but they refuse to believe.'

Swami explained, 'Bapa, they are not aware of your ability.' Bapashri wondered, 'Now what to

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do? It is going to rain heavily.' Swami requested, 'Bapa, have mercy on them and stop the rain.' Bapashri did not reply.

Next day morning the sky was cloudy. Nobody noticed it while working. The lecture began on time. Simultaneously the wind also began to blow. Everyone noticed it.

They had a doubt that it was going to rain. Aarti of God was over. They worshipped the holy book. The wind was blowing with intensity. They were concerned, 'Now, what will happen?'

A Haribhakta remembered, 'Yesterday Bapashri had warned that it was going to rain.' The other one said, 'He also suggested to erect the tent inside the hall. But we did not follow his suggestion. Now what will happen.'

It started to rain with big droplets. They panicked. Haribhaktas repented, 'We didn't believe Bapashri yesterday, so now how could we request him to help?'

One of them proposed, 'Let us talk to Swami Ishwarcharandasji. He will convince Bapashri.' They went to Swami. They confessed to Swami, 'Swami, Yesterday Bapa tried hard to persuade us to keep the pendal inside the hall, but we did not listen to him. Now it is raining.'

Swami said, 'Bapa is intuitive. Therefore he warned you.' Haribhaktas apologized, 'We are sorry. Now please help us out.' Swami asked, 'What can I

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do?’ Haribhaktas prayed, ‘Please request Bapashri on our behalf.’ Swami suggested, ‘You pray to him and I will also join you. Bapa is very compassionate. He will respond to our prayer.’

All of them went to Bapashri. They beseeched, ‘Bapa, we did not follow your instructions. We are very sorry. But if the rain does not stop now, all are going to suffer.’

Swami also joined, ‘Bapa, have mercy. They have realized their mistake. If the rain does not stop now, people are really going to suffer.’

Bapashri softened up by their prayer. And said, ‘All right. It would not rain. Now begin the lecture.’ As soon as Bapashri said this, the rain stopped.

Haribhaktas were full of joy. They bowed down to Bapashri. People from surrounding places who attended the lectures were astonished.

They asked each other, ‘It is raining heavily in our village. How come there is no rain in Kumbharia.’ Haribhakta disclosed the secret, ‘This is the prowess of Bapashri.’ It did not rain in Kumbharia during the Parayan. It was raining heavily in surrounding places.

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**Difficult words :**

Plenty - A lot of

Simultaneously - At the same time

Persuade - To make believe

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Beseech - To pray

**Points to ponder :**

- By the grace of God, an Anadimukta also can perform all those tasks which could be performed by God.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. From which place did Haribhaktas come to visit Bapashri?
2. What did Bapashri suggest the Haribhaktas again and again?
3. Why did Haribhaktas ignore Bapashri's suggestion?
4. What happened when the function started?
5. What did Bapashri mention when Haribhaktas pleaded him?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bapa, we would like to organize a \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Please, erect the \_\_\_\_\_ inside the hall, if it \_\_\_\_\_ people would be troubled.
3. Bapa, they are not aware of your \_\_\_\_\_.
4. This is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Bapa.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. His glory spread here to has God sent me.



## Sweetened The Salty Water!

Once Bapashri went on a pilgrimage along with a group. A lot of Haribhaktas used to join when Bapashri went with the group.

They used to sing Bhajans while travelling. One day they left for another village. The other village was far away. They were talking among themselves, 'The next village is far off. It would be very late by the time we reach there. We are very hungry.'

A Haribhakta suggested, 'Let us talk to Bapa.' They spoke to Bapashri, 'Bapa, we all are feeling hungry. The next village is far off. If you permit, let us have some refreshments.'

Bapashri asked, 'This is the outskirts of which village?' A Haribhakta informed, 'Bapa, Joshipura.'

Bapashri consented, 'All right, let us have refreshments.' There was a well close by. Some of the members went to the well to fetch the water. A haribhakta informed, 'The water in that well is salty and bitter.' They came back.

Haribhaktas proposed, 'Why don't you sit

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here? We shall go somewhere and bring some drinking water.'

A few Haribhaktas went together. Bapashri said, 'I want to have bath.' Bapashri went to the well. Haribhaktas informed, 'Bapa, the water in that well is hard and bitter. Even the animals do not drink it.'

Bapashri said, 'Let us check up.' Haribhakta confirmed, 'Bapa, We know it. For years nobody drinks water from this well. Bapashri fetched a jug full of water. He recited the name of God and emptied the jug into the well.

Then he asked one Haribhakta, 'Please, fill up one jug of water from the well.' Haribhakta fetched the water. Bapashri filtered it and had a sip.

And asked, 'Is this salty water? This is nice and fresh sweet water.' Hearing such statements of Bapashri, all the group members went there running.

They tasted the water. Water was really tasty. The all had refreshments and drank the water. They talked among themselves, 'Due to prowess of Bapashri, hard water turned into soft and sweet water.'

Then they proceed towards their next destination.

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**Difficult words :**

Out skirts - Out lying area of a city or village

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Bitter - Not good in taste

Refreshments - Light food or drink

**Points to ponder :**

- With the contact of an Anadimukta the living beings of Rajas and Tamas nature who are like hard and salty water, become of Satwik nature just like soft and tasty water.
- Bapashri had converted the hard water of a well situated in the outskirts of Joshipura village, into soft water. Even today the water is soft and tasty. And it is the evidence of Bapashri's prowess.

### **Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. With whom did Bapashri go for the pilgrimage?
2. What did the members of the group want to do before arrival of the next village?
3. How was the water of well?
4. How did Bapashri convert the water of the well into soft water?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. They were travelling with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
2. If you permit, let us have some \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The water in that well is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. He fetched a jug full of water \_\_\_\_\_ the name of God and emptied the jug into \_\_\_\_\_.

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- the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. By the prowess of Bapa, hard water turned into \_\_\_\_\_ water.



## A Mukta Recognizes Another Mukta

Once Bapashri went to Mooli in a group for Samaiya (religious grand function). On his way back to Baladiya, Bapashri used to visit various places. He used to visit Haribhaktas of those places.

Once while travelling, Bapashri reached Dhrangadhra. There lived a poor Haribhakta named Gigabhai. He used to accompany Bapashri when Bapashri visited other Haribhaktas houses. He had one desire, 'I wish Bapashri would visit my place!' Then he thought, 'I am very poor. How could I invite Bapashri? What if he refuses?'

Gigabhai was feeling sad by such thoughts. Bapashri knew about the wish of Gigabhai. He looked at him and smiled. Gigabhai's house was close by. Bapashri asked the driver of the cart, 'Please stop the cart. I want to go to urinate.' On hearing this, Gigabhai had an idea in a flash of a second.

He went running to Bapashri and requested, 'Bapashri, please come to my place. It is close by.' Bapashri went to his house. Gigabhai

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was full of joy. He was thinking that Bapashri was very passionate and kind. He came to know about my wish, so he visited my place!

When Bapashri returned from the washroom, Gigabhai took him to a cradle. His eleven months old son was lying in the cradle.

Gigabhai prayed, 'Bapa, please bless my son!' Diwaliba was standing next to Bapashri. She requested, 'Bapa! please bless him that the son of Gigabhai may also grow up as a devotee of God.'

Bapashri took the child in his hands. He put on a dot of Kumkum on the forehead of the child using the Kumkum from the dot on his own forehead.

The child looked at Bapashri and chuckled happily. Bapashri also smiled at him. Bapashri spoke, 'This child is a favourite Mahamukta of Shreeji Maharaj. He is going to liberate many souls. He will get involved in omnibeneficial activities.' Gigabhai was full of joy listening to such auspicious statements of Bapashri. Tears of joy were rolling down his eyes.

By the blessings of Bapashri the child grew up as pious person. He liberated many souls. He helped a lot of people in trouble. He liberated many ghosts and souls those wandered and haunted in search of liberation. He liberated a lot of evil spirits. He helped a lot of people to

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attain the bliss of Maharaj. He was also very fond of children. When he used to teach in school, children would grasp it immediately. He taught children to be an ideal child. He established an institute called 'Shri Swaminarayan Divine Mission' by the blessings of Bapashri. He performed many great activities. That child was none other than our beloved, our dearest Muktaraj Narayan Mama.

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**Difficult words :**

Haunting -Wandering here and there

Pious - Pure and religious

Omnibeneficial - Beneficial to all

**Points to ponder :**

- Anadimukta do not discriminate between rich and poor. He considers only the devotion of a devotee.
- Only an Anadimukta can recognize another Anadimukta.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. From where had Bapashri come after attending the ceremony?
2. Whose house did Bapashri go to urinate?
3. What blessings did Bapashri showered on the child?

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**Fill in the blanks :**

1. There lived a poor Haribhakta named \_\_\_\_\_.
2. He is a Mukta of God and he has arrived to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.



## Feast Of Ashadhi Amas

Day by day, Bapashri was growing old. Sometimes he used to fall sick, so that Haribhaktas could serve him. After accepting their service, he would be all right on his own.

But this time, the play of sickness prolonged. Saints and Haribhaktas were concerned. They feared that Bapashri might leave his body.

Therefore, Swami Ishwarcharandasji, Muni Swami etc. prayed to Bapashri. Muktaraj Dhanba also pleaded, 'Bapa, we are not at all happy, as you are sick.'

Muni Swami said sadly, 'Bapa, nobody eats properly.' Dhanba informed, 'Because you are not well, everyone is feeling sick.'

After listening to everyone's prayer, Bapashri promised, 'Maharaj has heard your prayer. Now, I will not go to His abode. I will be all right soon.'

They were very happy. Bapashri instructed, 'Now cook the food and offer it to God.' Slowly Bapashri recovered. Bapashri told Swami, 'Swami, Maharaj allowed me to stay back.'

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Swami was grateful, 'Bapa, you are so merciful.' Bapashri asked for his opinion, 'I have an idea, let us organize a series of lectures (Parayan) at 'Chhatedi'. Swami welcomed the idea, 'Bapa, it is a marvellous idea.' The Parayan went on very well.

On the day of completion, Bapa complained to Swami, 'Swami, from the day I fell sick, children have not been able to come and see me.' Swami explained, 'Their parents did not allow them to come and see you, because you were sick. So how could they come and see you. Poor kids.'

Bapashri suggested, 'On the final day of lectures, let us offer food to all the children of the village. They would be happy.'

Swami agreed, 'All right, Bapa. The kids will have an opportunity of your Darshan'

The Parayan was over on Amavasya of the month of Ashadh. All the children from the village gathered at 'Chhatedi'. They bowed down to Bapashri. Bhimji, inquired, 'Bapa, what happened to you?'

Bapashri explained, 'Son, I was not feeling well.' Bhimji complained, 'My father did not allow me to come close to you.' Bapashri consoled, 'Now he will not object.'

Karsan came running and hugged Bapashri and spoke, 'Bapa, why did you fall sick? Nobody was talking to us. In orchard, nobody gave us food.'

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Bapashri promised, 'Come tomorrow. I will give you whatever you want.'

Ruda informed, 'Bapa, nobody loves us like you. They used to scold us if we came close to you.' Bapashri announced, 'Children! I sent off the sickness looking at your affection. Now, come to me everyday. Nobody would stop you.'

Teja asked, 'Bapa, would you tell us the stories of God?' Bapashri assured, 'I will tell you the stories of God and I will give you Prasad also.'

Children were delighted. Bapashri instructed, 'Come on, now. Sit down in a queue.' They sat down in a queue. Haribhaktas served the food. Bapashri told, 'Now recite the name of God and have food.'

Bapashri was very happy looking at the children. He came to serve sweets (Ladu). He gave as many sweets as they asked.

The kids were screaming, 'Bapa, please give me. Bapa, please give me two... Bapa, I want four. Bapashri served all of them. He blessed them, 'Children! please enjoy!'

He asked one child, 'What is your name?' The child replied, 'Bapa, I am Ruda.' Bapashri gave him sweets (Ladus) and asked, 'Ruda, what is this?' Ruda replied, 'Bapa, this is sweet (Ladu).'

Bapashri denied, 'No Son! You are enjoying the bliss of Maharaj. Please, remember it.' Ruda promised, 'Yes, Bapa. I will always remember.'

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He went to Teja and asked lovingly, 'Teja! Son! How are the sweets (Ladu)?' Teja said, 'It is tasty.' Bapashri explained, 'The bliss of Maharaj is also very tasty.' Teja bowed down to Bapashri. Bapashri assured, 'God will certainly grant you the bliss.' Karsan called Bapa, 'Bapa, please bless me. I am left out.'

Bapashri promised, 'Nobody would be left out. Tell me, did you like the sweets (Ladu)?' Karsan replied, 'Yes Bapa.' Bapashri asked again, 'Did you like it very much?' Karsan confirmed, 'Bapa, I liked the sweets (Ladu) very very much.' Bapashri put a whole piece of sweet (Ladu) in his mouth.

Karsan was not able to speak. He spoke with some effort, 'Bapa.... I.....' Bapashri made fun, 'What? What are you saying?' All the children were laughing. Karsan spoke, 'Bless me....'

He could manage to speak only this much. Bapashri said affectionately, 'You will also attain the bliss of Maharaj as sweet as Ladu.' Karsan bowed down to Bapashree. The feast was over.

Children went to Bapashri and sat down. Bapashri asked, 'All of you! Did you enjoy the food?' Children spoke together, 'Yes, we enjoyed very much.'

Bapashri taught, 'The way you had food, attentively, similarly remember God with full attention?' They promised.

Karsan asked, 'Bapa, next time when

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would you feed us like this?' Bapashri thought about it. Ruda, Teja etc. also joined, 'Yes Bapa, we enjoyed very much. Next time when would you feed us?'

Bapashri promised, 'Every year, on the day of Ashadi Amavasya. I will feed you here at this place. Kids clapped happily and rejoiced, 'Ye... Every year we are going to enjoy here!'

Bapashri was also delighted looking at the happiness of the children.

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**Difficult words :**

Feast - Formal dinner

Marvellous - Wonderful

**Points to ponder :**

- An Anadimukta does not fall sick. He acquires sickness so that other people could have an opportunity to serve him.
- Anadimukta acquires sickness according to his will. Therefore, sickness is under their control.
- A Mukta can cure his sickness as per his will. Bapashri organised the feast on Ashadhi Amavasya. Afterwards every year he used to organize feast there. The custom is being followed till today. Even today children of the village have food at the monument (Chhatedi) on the day of Ashadhi Amavasya and attain the blessings of Bapashri.

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### Exercise

#### Answer the following questions :

1. Why did Bapashri released the illness?
2. After releasing the illness, what did Bapashri do?
3. At the end of the Parayan whom did Bapashri offer food?
4. What did Bapashri mention while serving the kids in a queue?

#### Fill in the blanks :

1. Now, Bapashri was growing \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Bapa, nobody \_\_\_\_\_ properly.
3. I have an idea, let us organize a \_\_\_\_\_ at the Chhatedi.
4. Children please \_\_\_\_\_.
5. You are \_\_\_\_\_ the bliss of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The bliss of Maharaj is also very \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Every year, on the day of \_\_\_\_\_ I will feed you here.

#### Arrange in proper sequence :

1. Tasty very is also bliss of Maharaj the.



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## Chased Away Illness In Its Personal Form

Ramjibhai was staunch devotee of God. He was aware that Bapashri was an Anadimukta. He understood his greatness and used to visit Bapashri regularly. Ramjibhai had one son. His name was Devraj.

Devraj was also a devotee of God. Devraj was very fond of Bapashri just like other children. Devraj stayed in a village next to Vrishpur.

But he used to visit Bapashri frequently for his Darshan. Once Bapashri was sitting in the orchard. A Haribhakta was also there.

Bapashri was concerned, 'For a long time, Devraj has not come to visit me. It seems he is ill. Haribhakta affirmed, 'Yes, Bapa. He is very ill. He is bedridden.' In the evening Bapashri went to Ramjibhai's place.

Ramjibhai was delighted on seeing Bapashri. He bowed down to Bapashri and spoke with gratitude, 'Bapa! you have obliged us. Welcome to our house!'

Bapashri informed, 'I have come to visit

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little Haribhakta.' Devraj was lying down inside and was praying to God and Bapashri, too. On seeing Bapashri Devraj was very happy.

Bapashri sat next to Devraj. He caressed his head. He spoke to Devraj lovingly, 'Son! Devraj! Remember God all the time. He will cure you very soon.'

Devraj said hopefully, 'Bapa, your visit is going to chase away my illness.' Bapashri inspired him, remembrance of God is the best medicine. Have faith in God.' Devraj brightened up. He assured, 'Bapa, I will not be scared. I will always remember God.'

Bapashri was pleased. He caressed Devraj's head and returned Vrishpur. Devraj was happy. He would recall his conversation with Bapashri and would feel cheerful. Night set in. His illness worsened.

But Devraj did not loose courage. He ceaselessly prayed God and Bapashri. Devraj had full faith and strong belief in the statements of Bapashri. Ramjibhai encouraged him, 'Son! don't get frightened.'

Devraj assured him, 'Father, Bapa has promised me so I will be all right soon. I am not afraid.' Late night, everyone went to sleep. Bapashri appeared in front of Devraj in divine form. He observed that Bapashri was chasing away the illness.

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He had tied a noose around the neck of illness and was beating it up with a stick. He was chasing it out of the village.

Devraj stood up. He cried out, 'Father! See! Bapa has arrived!' Ramjibhai consoled him, 'Son! Try to sleep. You are dreaming.' Devraj was excited, 'Father, I am fully awake. Bapa is driving out my disease.'

Ramjibhai asked, 'Where is he? I can not see anything.' Devraj pointed out, 'Here he is. Please have his Darshan!'

Ramjibhai was worried, 'Devraj! Son! It seems, your condition is deteriorating. Please, try to sleep. In the morning we shall call for a Vaidya.'

Devraj replied, 'No, father, I am completely cured. I do not need Vaidya. Bapashri is very compassionate. He has driven away my illness.'

Ramjibhai was worried. He thought that Devraj was hallucinating due to illness. He comforted Devraj, 'Devraj, son! Remember God!' Devraj explained, 'I was remembering God. And suddenly Bapa arrived and chased away the disease.'

Ramjibhai was not able to understand the phrases 'beaten up' and 'chased away'. He thought that his son was feeling worse than earlier.

He offered water to Devraj, 'Son! Drink water and try to sleep.' He did not believe Devraj's explanation. He made Devraj sleep.

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Devraj woke up in the morning. He spoke to Ramjibhai, 'Father, let us go to Vrishpur to have Darshan of Bapashri.' Ramjibhai noticed that Devraj was perfectly all right.

Both of them went to Bapashri. Bapashri chuckled looking at Devraj and asked, 'Hello, Devraj! Do you feel better now?' Devraj replied, 'Yes, Bapa. You have beaten up my illness badly.'

Bapashri clarified, 'You were remembering God, therefore God responded to your prayers.' Devraj informed, 'Bapa, You had come in the night. You beat up the disease with stick and drove it out of the village.'

Ramjibhai couldn't understand their conversation.

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**Difficult words :**

Staunch - Firm

Frequently - Quite often

Affirm - Consent, agree

Noose - Loop of rope around neck

**Points to ponder :**

- If we have faith and belief in Anadimukta, he would chase off the disease (in personal form) from our body.
- Bapashri was very fond of kids. Therefore whenever kids remembered him wholeheartedly, he used to reach there and remove their pain.



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### Exercise

#### Answer the following questions :

1. What was the name of the son of Ramjibhai?
2. Why did Bapashri go to the house of Devraj?
3. What did Bapashri advice Devraj?
4. How did Bapashri cure Devraj's illness?
5. Why did Ramjibhai not believe the story of Devraj?

#### Fill in the blanks :

1. Devraj was very \_\_\_\_\_ of Bapashri.
2. Devraj, \_\_\_\_\_ God all the time. He will \_\_\_\_\_ you very soon.
3. He had tied a \_\_\_\_\_ around the neck of the \_\_\_\_\_ and was beating it up with a \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Arrange in proper sequence :

1. God remember will always be scared I not Bapa will I.
2. Prayers God to responded your therefore remembering you God were.



## Kindness Towards Devotees

Lalubhai was a devotee of God. He lived in the city of Karanchi. He used to chant the name of God all the time. Even while passing through the market he would chant loudly 'Maharaj! Swaminarayan!'

Once he was passing on a road chanting the name of God. He was not aware and had an accident. Lalubhai was hurt badly. People gathered there. Lalubhai had fainted.

People admitted Lalubhai in a hospital. Lalubhai had fractured his hands and legs. When he regained his consciousness, he asked, 'Where am I?'

A patient, close by informed him, 'You are in the hospital.' Lalubhai did not like to stay in hospital. Doctor came to see him. Lalubhai requested, 'I want to go home. I do not like here.'

Doctor consoled, 'Lalubhai, you are hurt badly. You will have to stay here for a few days. After that you can go home.' Lalubhai requested again, 'Here, I am not able to worship God properly. Please, discharge me.'

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Doctor said firmly, 'You can not go home now. You will be discharged after few days.' Lalubhai had deep reverence for Bapashri.

Whole day, He would remember Maharaj and Bapashri. He kept on calling loudly, 'Maharaj! Bapa! Please come.' The patient in the next bed scolded, 'Why do you keep on calling Bapa? Remember God!'

Lalubhai confessed, 'I am remembering God!' And again called out, 'Bapa, Please come.' The patient reminded, 'See! Again you have forgotten God and are calling out for Bapa.'

Lalubhai explained, 'That Bapa is capable of healing me.' The patient had a doubt, 'May be he is hurt badly, therefore he has forgotten God.'

Lalubhai did not respond. He continued his prayer. Night set in.

Maharaj and Bapashri entered the hospital in their divine form. The patients were sleeping. Lalubhai was awake. He was praying. Looking at Maharaj and Bapashri he was ecstatic, 'Wow! O Merciful! You are the most compassionate. You have had pity on me. You have obliged me by responding to my prayers. At last you have come.'

Maharaj and Bapashri smiled. Lalubhai complained, 'Maharaj! Bapa! I do not like in the hospital at all.' Bapa consoled, 'That is why Maharaj and I have come here.'

Maharaj and Bapa removed the bandages

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from the body of Lalubhai. They gave a healing touch to his entire body with their hands. Lalubhai was perfectly all right. Maharaj and Bapa disappeared.

It was early morning. The patients woke up. They noticed that Lalubhai was sitting in the bed. He was reciting the name of God. A patient was shocked, 'Aare! Why did you remove your bandages?' The other warned him, 'Why are you sitting up? You will be in pain. The doctor would scold you.'

Lalubhai revealed, 'Nothing will happen to me. I am perfectly all right.' They inquired, 'Till last night, you were in bandages. You were screaming for Bapa.'

Lalubhai informed, 'My that Bapa had come in the night. He removed my bandages. He has healed me. Today, I will go home.' The patients asked, 'When did your Bapa arrive? The door was locked.'

Lalubhai explained, 'He does not need a door to arrive.' The patients asked, 'From where did he enter? What kind of Bapa is he? He doesn't even need a door to enter?'

Lalubhai answered, 'There is a village called Baladiya in Kutchh. He lives there. His name is Abjibhai. He is my Bapa.'

A patient asked, 'But how did he manage to come here?' Lalubhai explained, 'He is

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Anadimukta of God. He came here in his divine form. He healed me and disappeared.' They were astonished.

The doctor came for a round. He scolded Lalubhai, 'Aare, Lalubhai! Why are you sitting up? Your pain would worsen.' Lalubhai and patients laughed.

The doctor asked, 'Why have you removed the bandages? Who did this without asking me?' Doctor called for his assistant. Lalubhai explained, 'Nobody is responsible. God and His Anadimukta arrived to heal me. Now, I am perfectly all right. Please, discharge me. I would like to go home.'

Doctor examined Lalubhai. The body was completely healed. There was not a single wound. Lalubhai was perfectly all right. Doctor was shocked, 'How are you healed in a single night?'

Lalubhai informed, 'This is the miracle of Maharaj and Bapa.' Doctor couldn't believe, 'This is impossible. You must be a great devotee of God. That is why such miracle has happened.'

Doctor bowed down to Lalubhai. Lalubhai said, 'Bhai, please, get up. Bhagwan Swaminarayan and his Anadimukta Abjibhai has performed this miracle.'

Again the doctor bowed down. Lalubhai came home chanting the name of God. Doctor became the devotee of Bhagwan Swaminarayan.

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**Difficult words :**

To faint - To lose consciousness

Reverence - Great respect

Heal - To recover or regain health

**Points to ponder :**

- God and His Anadimuktas certainly respond to a prayer which has been performed wholeheartedly and destroys the pain.
- Anadimuktas do not experience the barriers of time and place.

**Exercise****Answer the following questions :**

1. Who lived in the city of Karanchi? Whom did he remember all the time?
2. Why was Lalubhai admitted into the hospital?
3. What did the patients advise Lalubhai?
4. Who healed the injuries of Lalubhai? How?
5. What did the doctor feel impossible to happen?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ was a devotee of God.
2. He used to chant the name of \_\_\_\_\_ all the time.
3. People admitted \_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Lalubhai used to remember \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Maharaj and Bapa removed the \_\_\_\_\_ from the body of \_\_\_\_\_.

## Simplicity Of Bapashri

Bapashri used to organize Yagya quite frequently in Baladiya. Haribhaktas from various places used to attend the Yagya.

Saints also used to attend. Haribhaktas would sing Bhajans; prayers etc. Bapashri would narrate the incidents of God. Saints and Haribhaktas enjoyed Bapashri's narratives more than Katha. Bapashri would offer savouries and sweets to the devotees who attended the Yagya.

Bapashri himself used to serve food and feed everyone affectionately. He used to serve food to the saints also with a lot of affection.

Saints requested, 'Bapa, why don't you also join us?' Bapashri denied politely, 'No, I feel more comfortable at home.' Bapashri went home. Vaalba and Radhaba asked, 'Bapa, you are performing the Yagya. Whole village is having tasty food. If you allow, we would prepare some sweets for you.'

Bapashri replied, 'Dear, you know that only Rotla, Khichdi, Gavar or Ratadiya and buttermilk suit me.' Radhaba insisted, 'Bapa, we would be glad if

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you have something special sometimes.'

Bapashri replied, 'Dear! Simple food is considered Satwik. Satwik food should be taken.' Vaalba served the food to Bapashri. Bapashri began to eat. Bapashri was about to finish his food and suddenly Vaalba realized, 'Bapa, I forgot to give you buttermilk.'

Bapashri replied, 'It does not matter. Give me now.' Vaalba scolded lovingly, 'Bapa, why don't you ask, if we forget to serve something? You never ask for anything.'

Bapashri had buttermilk at the end and left for the temple. A Haribhakta came for his Darshan. He suggested Bapashri, 'Bapa, you have organized such a big Yagya. At least today change your old clothes made up of coarse material. Please, wear fine clothes.'

Bapashri replied, 'I feel comfortable in simple clothes.' Haribhakta insisted, 'Then please wear new clothes.'

Bapashri protested, 'I feel hot in new clothes. I wash the new clothes first and then wear them.' Bapashri entered the temple. A Haribhakta had brought a basket of sweets.

He offered it to Bapashri, 'Bapa, please distribute these Prasad of sweets to everyone.' Bapashri began to distribute. He offered the sweets to all the Haribhaktas who had attended the Yagya from a single basket.

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Haribhaktas were surprised, 'Sweets are not getting over from the basket!' Each and everyone who had attended the Yagya received the Prasad.

Bapashri turned the basket upside down! A Haribhakta noticed, 'Bapa, you didn't have sweets.' Bapashri excused, 'Sweets do not suit me.'

Saints inquired, 'Bapa, you never have them.' Bapashri explained, 'If we eat everything whatever is available, then we become addicted to them. Later on we crave for them. Therefore, desires of taste should be kept under control. It pleases Maharaj.'

Saints agreed, 'Bapa eats simple food and wears simple clothes.' Bapashri confirmed, 'Simplicity pleases Maharaj.' It was time for the Aarti. Everyone proceeded inside.

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**Difficult words :**

Savouries - Tasty refreshments

Coarse - Rough

Addicted - Become a slave to some habit or drug etc.

Crave - Strong desire

**Points to ponder :**

- Anadimukta can live a life of their choice, but they prefer to live a simple life to set an example for us.
- Bapashri teaches us that simplicity is the real virtue.

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→ Satwik food helps in the process of God realization.

### **Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What did Bapashri organize quite frequently in Baladiya?
2. What usually happened during Yagya?
3. What did Bapashri eat at home?
4. Why did Bapashri refuse to eat sweets?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bapashri used to narrate the incidents of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Bapashri used to offer \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Simple food is considered \_\_\_\_\_.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Available we is everything we become if eat addicted his then to them whatever.
2. Pleases kept it taste under desires control Maharaj of should be.



## The Best Medicine

It so happened one day. Kanjibhai, the eldest son of Bapashri, had fever. He was also coughing badly. Bapashri was out of station.

As soon as he reached home, he went to Kanjibhai. Bapashree inquired about his health, 'How are you feeling, Son?'

Kanjibhai replied, 'I am down with fever and cough.' Bapashri caressed his head and covered him properly with a sheet. He narrated the incidents of God.

Bapashri advised, 'Kanji, we must always remember God during any sort of emergency or trouble. We should never forget God and His Muktas.'

Kanji said, 'Bapa, whole day I remember God while lying down. I was waiting for you to return.' Bapashri continued, 'Son! remembrance of God is the best medicine. It can cure all the diseases.'

Kanji uttered, 'Yes Bapa.' Bapashri was massaging Kanji's head and spoke, 'Kanji, son! We must take medicines, but if medicines are not accompanied by the remembrance of God, they are

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not effective.'

Kanji was listening attentively, His pain was reduced through the stories of Bapashri. Bapashri continued, 'Remembrance of God and His Muktas is real medicine.'

A Haribhakta called in to inquire about the health of Kanjibhai. Haribhakta asked, 'It seems Kanjibhai is having very bad fever and cough.' Bapashri assured, 'He will be all right.'

Haribhakta suggested, 'I have a very effective medicine. Why don't you try it out? It will cure the illness.' Bapashri informed, 'Kanjibhai is taking the best medicine.' Haribhakta asked 'Really? What medicine is that? What do you put in it?'

Bapashri disclosed, 'Not much. There are only two ingredients.' Haribhakta was impatient, 'What are they?' Asked he.

Bapashri revealed, 'Maharaj and Mukta, combination of these two is being taken by him as a medicine. Haribhakta was astonished. He asked Bapashri, 'Is this called a medicine?'

Bapashri affirmed, 'Yes, this is the best medicine. My Kanji would be cured by these two.' Haribhakta was doubtful, 'But, you must give some medicine.'

Bapashri assured, 'If we remember Maharaj and Mukta wholeheartedly, they definitely help us out.' Haribhakta couldn't believe the statements of Bapashri.

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After a few days, He again went to see Kanjibhai. Kanjibhai was perfectly all right. He was working normally. Haribhakta was surprised.

He asked Bapashri, 'Is it true that Kanjibhai has been cured without taking any medicine?' Bapashri replied, 'We gave the medicine.'

Haribhakta exclaimed, 'I knew it! Without medicine nobody could be cured. which medicine did you give?' Bapashri reminded, 'Did you forget? Only two things, Maharaj and Mukta. Illness was cured by them.'

Haribhakta couldn't believe. He asked Kanjibhai, 'Kanjibhai, which medicine did you take?' Kanjibhai replied, 'Bapa used to tell me the stories of God and His muktas and their glory. I used to feel peaceful listening to these narratives. I also prayed Maharaj. God has cured my illness.'

Haribhakta was astonished. He fell down at the feet of Bapashri. He confessed, 'Bapa, nobody can do this except you. Only the name of God has cured the disease, such miracle I have witnessed for the first time.'

He bowed down to Bapashri and returned to his village.

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**Difficult words :**

Confess - To admit

**Points to ponder :**

→ The best medicine for all the illness is the

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- name of Shreeji Maharaj.
- Bapashri used to teach children that God should be remembered during the tough times. Remembrance of God along with the efforts make us successful.

### **Exercise**

#### **Answer the following questions :**

1. What was wrong with Kanjibhai?
2. What was given to Kanjibhai as medicine?
3. What did Bapashri do to cure the illness?
4. Which two things were given by Bapashri as a medicine?

#### **Fill in the blanks :**

1. Son! Remembrance of \_\_\_\_\_ is the best \_\_\_\_\_.
2. If the medicines are not accompanied by the \_\_\_\_\_ they are not \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Remembrance of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is real medicine.

#### **Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Medicine by and him Maharaj as a being Mukta is combination these taken two of.



## Identity Card To Enter Akshardham

Bapashri had accepted illness. He was not able to get up. Bapashri remained in meditative state. Haribhaktas attended to him.

Bapashri requested the Sevaks (attendants), 'Please, help me to have bath.' Sevaks replied, 'Bapa, you are sick. How would you have bath?' Bapashri suggested, 'Please, carry me in a chair.' Sevaks gave him bath in his chair. Bapashri instructed, 'Please, bring my worshipping kit.' Sevaks brought it.

Bapashri said, 'Please, put on a Tilak and a dot on my forehead.' Sevaks tried to convince, 'Bapa, you have done prayer. Now if you do not put on Tilak and dot it does not matter. It is allowed to the sick.'

Bapashri insisted, 'However sick I am, please put on Tilak and dot on my forehead.' Sevak put on Tilak and dot. A Haribhakta came to see Bapashri. Bapashri asked him, 'Have you finished your prayer?'

Haribhakta informed, 'Yes, I have finished my prayer.' Bapashri asked, 'You have finished your.'

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prayers and have you not put on Tilak and dot?' Haribhakta repented, 'Bapa, I forgot.'

Bapashri explained, 'A Satsangi should always put on Tilak and dot. If you do not put on Tilak and dot, how would people know that you are a Satsangi?' Haribhakta apologized, 'Bapa, I am sorry. Now I will never forget.' Bapashri instructed, 'Please go and put on now.' Haribhakta left.

Bapashri spoke, 'A Satsangi must put on Tilak, dot of Kumkum and Kanthi. When we go to Akshardham and if we have not put on Tilak and dot, nobody would allow us inside. If we have put on Tilak and dot, nobody would stop us. We can reach directly to Maharaj. For a Satsangi Kanthi, Tilak, dot are like identity card to enter the Akshardham. Without these identity marks nobody would allow you to enter. You must always keep them on you.'

Sevaks and Haribhaktas promised, 'Bapa, we shall always remember this.'

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**Difficult words :**

Convince - Make one feel sure

Repent - Feel sorry

**Points to ponder :**

1. As you need an identity card to enter the school, similarly Kanthi, Tilak and dot are the identity signs to enter Akshardham.
2. If we put on Kanthi, Tilak, dot, then we belong



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to Lord Swaminarayan.

### Exercise

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Why did Bapashri have bath sitting on a chair?
2. After performing the prayer, what did Bapashri ask to do? Why?
3. What was the opinion of Bapashri about Kanthi, Tilak and dot?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bapashri had accepted \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Please, put on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on my forehead.
3. If we do not put on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, how could people know that we are a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Tilak and dot are identity card to enter the \_\_\_\_\_.



## Great Teachings

It was the auspicious day of Shrihari Jayanti (Manifestation day of Shreeji Maharaj). Bapashri went to the temple for the Darshan. Small children were also there in the temple. The children bowed down to Bapashri.

Bapashri instructed, 'All of you, sit down.' Children requested, 'Bapa, today is the birthday of God. Please, tell us the stories of God.' Karsan requested, 'Bapa, please tell us how to behave.' Bapashri informed, 'Today I will teach you how to please God.'

All the children were excited, 'Yes Bapa! Tell us. Please, tell us.' Bapashri began to explain, 'Everyday we should get up early and have bath. Then we should remember God. We should worship Him attentively and then we should meditate upon Him. Right from the childhood, we should cultivate the habit of worshipping God. Thus, God is pleased.'

Karsan asked, 'If we worship God whole day, would he be pleased?' Bapashri explained, 'We should not sit at one place the whole day and worship God. While performing all our duties, we

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should remember God.'

Khimji also had a doubt, 'While having bath and while eating also, should we remember God?' Bapashri confirmed, 'Yes, we should never forget God, even while performing any activity.'

Nathji informed, 'Bapa, Daily I remember God before having food.' Bapashri congratulated, 'Very good! Everyone should do that. Before consuming any food or drink, we should always pray to God.' Ruda inquired, 'When we go to school to study, how can we pray there?'

Bapashri explained, 'When you go to school, you should visualize that God is accompanying you. If you study as if it has been assigned by God then it becomes a prayer. If you study properly in the school, it is as good as worshipping God.'

Ruda asked again, 'If we study properly, does it please God?' Bapashri reassured, 'If you study with the remembrance of God, it certainly pleases God. When you go for the exams you must pray, 'Maharaj! Join me for the exams!'

While Bapashri was teaching, two kids began to fight. Bapashri asked, 'What happened? Why are you fighting?' Laxmi complained, 'Bapa, he ate up my dates.'

Bapashri caressed Laxmi's head lovingly and said, 'Laxmi! If we share our food, it also pleases God. If we eat alone then we are called selfish.'

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Bapashri came to his seat and taught the children, 'Children! we should never be selfish. We should always be kind. We should always be ready to serve. We must serve the saints.'

Teja said proudly, 'Bapa, I do all these things.' Bapashri explained, 'It is very good. But we should not be proud of it. We should not praise ourselves. It does not please God.'

Bhima informed, 'Bapa! I serve the saints everyday.' Karsan complained, 'Bapa, he is lying.' Bapashri continued, 'Son! we should never tell lies. Always speak truth. Even when we have committed mistake, we must tell the truth and accept our fault.'

Karsan asked, 'Bapa, can we eat the stuff sold in the market?' Bapashri explained, 'They use garlic and onions. They do not clean the grains properly. They do not cover it properly. Such impure eatables sold in the market should not be eaten. If we eat them, we fall sick.'

Khimji asked, 'If we find something lying on the road can we take it?' Bapashri explained, 'Shreeji Maharaj has forbidden in Shikshapatri. We should not take the things which do not belong to us and should not even touch them!'

Children were listening to the statements of Bapashri attentively. Bapashri concluded, 'If we always remember God and follow His instructions then Maharaj would be definitely pleased.'

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**Difficult words :**

Cultivate - To develop

Consume - To eat or drink

Forbidden - Not allowed

**Points to ponder :**

- Here Bapashri teaches us how to please God.
- We should learn to worship God right from our childhood.
- Maharaj is pleased, if we follow the instructions of Maharaj as explained in Shikshapatri.

**Exercise****Answer the following questions :**

1. On which day everyone gathered in the temple?
2. Which story did the children want to listen?
3. Which narrative (story) did Bapashri suggest to tell?
4. During which activities Bapashri has mentioned to remember God?
5. How should we eat any eatables?
6. How can we worship God while attending the school?
7. How should we go to appear for the exams?
8. Of what qualities we should not be proud of?
9. What kind of speech should we always speak?
10. What eatables should not be eaten?

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**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bapa, today is the birthday of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. I will teach you how to \_\_\_\_\_ God.
3. Children we should never be \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We must serve \_\_\_\_\_.
5. We should not praise ourselves, it does not \_\_\_\_\_ God.
6. The things which do not belong to us should not be \_\_\_\_\_ and not even \_\_\_\_\_.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. Should we remember God even while having bath and while eating?
2. When we go to school to study how can we pray there?
3. Laxmi! If we share our food it also pleases God. If we eat alone we are called selfish.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. performing while our we all should duties remember God.
2. Certainly study if with you the it remembrance pleases God of God.
3. Tell must we accept even we when have mistake our committed fault truth and the.



## Knowledge Simplified

Muni Swami was reciting Vachanamrit in a congregation. Swami Ishwarcharandasji could not follow one Vachanamrit, therefore he asked a question.

Bapashri answered it in simple language. Swami was pleased, 'Bapa, you explain beautifully in a very simple language, so it is understood easily.'

Bapashri clarified, 'Vachanamrit is difficult to understand. Everyone can not understand it as it is.' Muni Swami thanked again, 'Bapa, because you explained it we immediately understood.'

Swami Ishwarcharandasji was concerned, 'Bapa, now we can understand with your help, but in future how would the seekers understand the Vachanamrit?'

Bapashri proposed, 'Swami, we can do one thing. You can write down the questions and answers discussed during the congregations. Later on we shall publish them.'

Swami was delighted, 'Bapa, it is a very good idea. This will be very useful to the seekers.' Swami Vrindavandasji also agreed, 'Yes Bapa. Thus

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we would be able to prepare a beautiful guide on Vachanamrit.'

Everyday Swami Ishwarcharandasji asked questions from Vachanamrit to Bapashri. Bapashri explained them in simple, easy to understand language. Swami jotted down the answers.

Simultaneously, Swamishri noted down the teachings of Bapashri on various topics like glory of Shreeji Maharaj, Anadimukta's state of being etc. explained on various occasions.

As soon as the task was accomplished, Swami showed Bapashri the two books titled, 'Vachanamrit Rahsyarth' and 'Bapashri Ni Vato.'

Bapashri congratulated him, 'Swami, you have done very well. God is pleased by you.' Swami bowed down to Bapashri. Bapashri blessed him.

Bapashri asserted, 'These books explaining the essence of Vachanamrit and teachings of Shreeji Maharaj are going to be extremely helpful to the seekers. Swami was delighted.

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**Difficult words :**

Jot down - Write important points quickly

Accomplished - Achieved

Assert - Speak firmly

**Points to ponder :**

→ A true saint always wishes well for everybody.

→ He is the real Mukta whose only desire is to see that the living beings attain God.



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→ Anadimukta is always working for the salvation of living beings. (The questions from Vachanamrit which were asked by Swami and explained by Bapashri are published and known in Satsang as 'Vachanamrit Rahasyarth PradipikaTika', And the narratives of Bapashri which have been compiled and are published by Swami in two parts are known as 'Bapashri Ni Vaato' in Satsang.)

### **Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Who was reciting Vachanamrit in the congregation?
2. Who explained Vachanamrit?
3. What did Bapashri instruct Swami?
4. How was the commentary on Vachanamrit prepared?
5. Which other permission did Swami ask from Bapashri?
6. What did Bapashri say in reply?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. In future, how would the \_\_\_\_\_ understand the \_\_\_\_\_?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ asked questions to Bapashri and Bapashri explained them in \_\_\_\_\_ language.
3. A beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ on Vachanamrit

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would be prepared.

4. Swami showed Bapashri the two books titled \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.



## Blessings Of Salvation To All

Once Swami Ishwarcharandasji, Swami Vrindavandasji and Brahmchari Nirgunanandji were sitting with Bapashri in his orchard.

Bapashri was absorbed in thoughts. Swami Ishwarcharandasji asked, 'Bapa, What are you thinking?' Bapashri informed, 'The place near Kali Talawadi where Maharaj gave Darshan to my mother is a blessed place.'

Swami Vrindavandasji agreed, 'Yes, Bapa. Whenever I visit that place, I feel extremely peaceful.' Bapashri suggested, 'I am thinking that let us erect an umbrella shaped monument there. So that in future also people could visit that place for Darshan.'

Swami Ishwarcharandasji, appreciated? 'Bapa, it is a very good idea. Let us not delay this work.' Bapashri proposed, 'Let us begin the work.' The work to erect the umbrella shaped monument began which was popularly called 'Chhatedi'.

Haribhaktas offered their services. In a short time the monument 'Chhatedi' was ready. Swami suggested, 'Bapa, let us organize a Yagya on this occassion.' Bapashri confessed, 'Even I was

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thinking the same.'

They fixed an auspicious day for the Yagya. People arrived from various places. Haribhaktas served them and listened to the Katha. Swami requested, 'Everyone has worked very hard in erecting this Chhatedi monument. Bapa, please bless all of them.'

Bapashri blessed everyone present, 'This place is very auspicious. This is a blessed place. I bless all of you, all the Haribhaktas present, birds, animals, humans etc. everyone who has served and all the eligible dieties who have visited this place in their planes. I bless you all that this is your last birth! I will unite all of you in the divine form of Shreeji Maharaj!!'

They were blissfull. Swami prayed once again, 'Bapa, please bless those also who are going to visit this place in future.'

Bapashri granted, 'Today, I am very happy. I bless them also. Now onwards I will liberate all those deities, humans, animals, birds etc. who will visit this blessed placed for the Darshan of lotus feet of Shreeji Maharaj. I will liberate even the birds who will fly over this Chhatedi monument!!!'

Swami was full of gratitude, 'Bravo! Bapa, very good! You are really great. Till date no one has blessed in such a way.'

Swami Vrindavandasji was delighted, 'Bapa, you have made the salvation easily available

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to all the living souls.'

Every one present was blissfull having attained such unique blessings.

**Difficult words :**

Monument - A structure erected in memory of a person or event

Gratitude - Thankfulness

Salvation - Liberation

**Points to ponder :**

- Blessings of an Anadimukta are eternal.
- Bapashri was always concerned about the betterment of every living being. He always thought that how the souls could attain God. His each and every action and behaviour was for the liberation of living beings.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What was the suggestion of Bapashri?
2. What blessings did Bapashri grant to the volunteers?
3. What blessings did Bapashri grant for the living being who would visit the monument in future?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. The place near \_\_\_\_\_ where Maharaj gave Darshan to my mother is a \_\_\_\_\_ place.

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2. Let us erect an \_\_\_\_\_ shaped \_\_\_\_\_ there.
  3. I will \_\_\_\_\_ all those living beings who will visit this \_\_\_\_\_ place for Darshan.
  4. The \_\_\_\_\_ who will fly over this Chhatedi \_\_\_\_\_, I will \_\_\_\_\_ them also.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. Whenever I visit that place. I feel extremely peaceful.
2. Bapa, It is a very good idea, let us not delay this work.



## The Last Act

Bapashri had acquired illness. The devotees attended to him. Days were passing by. Bapashri was not improving. The devotees were worried.

Bapashri informed, 'Please, go home. I am feeling better.' Sevak Premji stayed back. Bapashri took Premji in confidence, 'Premji, I will tell you one secret.'

Premji said, 'Tell me, Bapa.' Bapashri informed, 'You should not tell it to anyone.' Premji agreed, 'Bapa, I will not tell.'

Bapashri insisted, 'Promise me.' Premji was doubtful. He said, 'Bapa, why are you insisting?' Bapashri forced again, 'You must promise me.' Premji promised, 'I promise you, Bapa.'

Bapashri revealed, 'The task which had been assigned to me by God, is accomplished.' Premji was shocked, 'Bapa, What are you talking?'

Bapashri explained, 'Maharaj sent me to spread His glory and to liberate the living beings. It is accomplished. Now, I will unite with the divine form of God.' Premji was crying.

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Bapashri consoled, 'Premji, Bachcha! Why are you crying? My body will not remain, but I am always there united with Maharaj.'

Premji said, 'Bapa, When you are around, you make us aware of Maharaj. You bless us. Afterwards what will happen?'

Bapashri comforted him, 'I am not likely to leave! I will bless you all remaining united with Maharaj.'

Premji asked, 'May I inform Swami Ishwarcharandasji and Swami Vrindavandasji?' Bapashri reminded, 'Premji, you have promised me.'

Premji pleaded, 'Bapa, how can I do that?' Bapashri said firmly. 'It is upto Maharaj. You must keep quiet.'

Premji cried whole night. It was early morning. Premji's eyes were swollen due to crying. Bapashri's sons inquired, 'Premji what happened?' Premji couldn't speak. Tears came into his eyes.

Kanjibhai asked, 'Bapa, what is wrong with Premji.' Bapashri explained, 'He is sad because I won't be around in this body for long.' Kanjibhai became nervous, 'Bapa, we all need you.'

He also started crying. Bapashri tried to console, 'Now I will listen to your prayers while remaining united with Maharaj.' Kanjibhai couldn't utter a word!

Bapashri showed that his condition was deteriorating. Kanjibhai supported him and made

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him sit on the cot. Bapashri slipped into meditation. On the last night only a few Haribhaktas were with Bapashri.

Bapashri opened his eyes. They put on a dot of Kumkum on his forehead. Bapashri gave them blessings of liberation and communion with divine form of God. Bapashri went into meditative state.

Haribhaktas were singing Dhoon. They kept on chanting Dhoon. Bapashri was united with the divine form of God. (Samvat 1984, Ashadh Sud Pancham, friday, Dt. 22/06/1928).

Haribhaktas had Darshan of Bapashri with tearful eyes.

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**Difficult words :**

Swollen - Bulging

Deteriorate - To become worse

**Points to ponder :**

→ Anadimukta of Maharaj is never born nor dies. He is always united with the divine form of Maharaj.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What was Bapashri going to inform Premji?
2. Why was Premji crying?
3. How did Bapashri console Premji?
4. How does Bapashri bless us now?

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**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Bapashri had acquired the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Premji was \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ which had been assigned to me by God is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. My \_\_\_\_\_ will not remain, but I am always there united with \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Bapashri gave them blessings of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with the divine form of God.

**Arrange in proper sequence :**

1. Liberate to spread the living beings and His glory sent Maharaj me to.
2. Maharaj while with I now listen your remaining to prayers united will.



## Cultivating Morale Life

Swami Ishwarcharandasji was consoling everyone. They were listening quietly. Bapashri was not present physically.

Even the children had arrived from various places. Karsan was crying, 'Where is Bapa? I want to meet him.'

Swami consoled, 'Son! Karsan, don't cry. Bapashri is here only. He is watching you from the idol of Maharaj.'

Ruda asked crying, 'Why is he not calling us? Why is he not talking to us?' Ruda was sobbing while talking. All the children were crying.

Swami tried to stop, 'Please, don't cry. You must follow the teachings of Bapashri. Do you remember? What did Bapashri taught you?'

Karsan replied, 'Bapa told me that we should always remember God.' Ruda tried to recollect, 'Bapa told me that we should always remember God even while working.'

Teja joined, 'Bapa told me that we should never tell lie.' Swami explained, 'If we follow Bapa's teachings, he would be pleased. Even today, he

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would bless you.'

Laxmi added, 'Bapa told me that we should not become selfish. We should be kind and serve everyone.'

Kesra informed, 'Bapa told me that we should always visualize God with us while studying and while writing exams.' Kunvarji disclosed, 'Bapa told me that we should obey God's instructions properly.'

Teja said, 'Bapa taught me that we must respect everyone. We should not hurt anyone by our speech or behaviour.'

Khimji spoke, 'Bapashri taught me that we should be friendly with everyone. We should avoid jealousy and hatred. We should feel humble and polite. Then onwards I always try to behave in such manner.'

Bhimji revealed, 'Bapa told me that we should not get addicted to bad habits. We should always remain in contact of saints. We should remain in good company. Now, who will teach me so lovingly?'

Bhimji broke down. Looking at him everyone started crying. Swami was satisfied that everyone remembered whatever Bapashri had taught them and everyone is trying to follow it in their life.

Swami tried to console, 'Please, don't cry. If we pray wholeheartedly, Bapashri would certainly listen to it. We must pray Bapashri also along with

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Maharaj. Bapashri is very fond of children. He immediately responds to the prayers of children.'

Such statements of Swami consoled the children a little bit. They began to pray Bapashri alongwith God in front of the idol of God.

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**Difficult words :**

Sobbing - Weeping aloud

Morale - Courage and discipline

Humble - Modest

**Points to ponder :**

→ We must respect and follow the instructions and teachings of Shreeji Maharaj and His Anadimuktas. We should not let them degrade.

**Exercise**

**Answer the following questions :**

1. Why was Swami consoling everyone?
2. What did Swami ask the children to follow?
3. What did Bapashri teach Karsan?
4. What did Bapashri teach Kesra?
5. What did Bapashri teach Bhimji?
6. What did Bapashri teach Laxmi?

**Fill in the blanks :**

1. Son, Karsan! Don't \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ is here only. He is watching you from the \_\_\_\_\_ of Maharaj.
2. Bapa taught me that we should never tell

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3. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Even today Bapa would \_\_\_\_\_ you.
  4. Bapa taught me that we must obey the \_\_\_\_\_ of Maharaj properly.

**Who speaks the following statements :**

1. If we follow Bapa's teachings, he would be pleased.
2. Why is Bapa not talking to us?
3. Bapa told me that we should not become selfish, we should be kind and serve everyone.

**Make sentences using the following words :**  
consolation, blessings, eternal.





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*What does Shri Swaminarayan  
Divine Mission stand for?*



*With a view of translating the omnibeneficient divine message of Lord Shri Swaminarayan into action for the spiritual and worldly happiness of mankind:*

- (a) We try to provide financial assistance to the needy without any discrimination and uphold the ideal of seva-sadavrat, selfless service.*
  - (b) We are planning to establish and run health-centres and hospitals. We are offering assistance to institutions providing medical help to the people.*
  - (c) We construct, develop and maintain temples and spiritual centres, commemorating great spiritual leaders with a view to bringing peace, happiness and divine joy to people.*
  - (d) We encourage creative activities aimed at educating people through literature and art.*
  - (e) To satisfy the spiritual thirst of the devotees we want to establish and*
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*manage libraries, research centres and museums or assist individuals and institutions involved in such activities.*

*(f) We strive to achieve harmony and amity in our society by publishing books that enhance our cultural and spiritual life and take mankind on the path of progress and perfection and thus elevate man to the spiritual heights.*

*Therefore, we want*

*(1) to undertake and organise activities aimed at strengthening and improving the moral standards which form the basis of our social life.*

*(2) to launch programmes for the spread of universal brotherhood, social unity, fellow-feeling, amity, compassion that will end all discords and establish permanent peace; for without peace there cannot be progress.*

*(3) to organise conferences to bring all the religions and warring groups on a common platform and strive for harmony among them for the social and spiritual welfare of mankind.*

*The Mission, through constructive programmes and spiritual activities, aims at total development of human society in order to make it worthy of receiving the divine bliss through communion with God.*

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