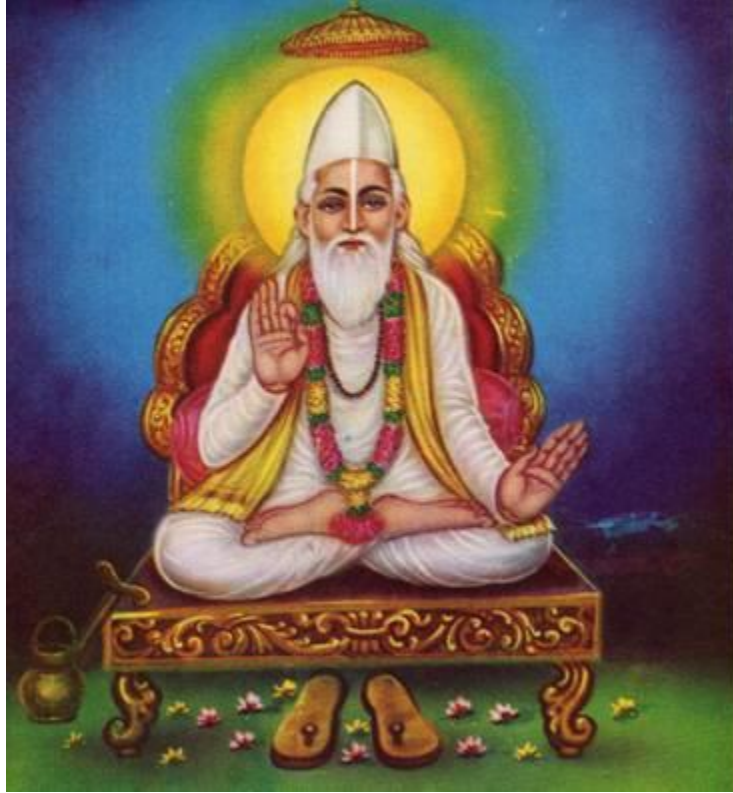




II SATYANAAM II

# *Divya Drishti*



*2013 Edition*

*by Mahant Jay Jaggessur*



## SATYANAAM

*EDITORIAL by Mahant Jay Jaggessur*

Is there a standard way of expressing happiness? Or bliss? Every time we set goals or make plans, we look forward to a better future. A better life. But if we reflect on how many times we set expectations and yet after achieving our goals we find there is still emptiness, still way to go. Is life just a constant race of endless goal setting? The fact is that our expectations blind us, our desires tempt us, our ego betray us. And all this happens because we become an easy prey to Maya (Illusion).

As much as it is good to have goals in life, attachment to results is what deviate us from our primary goal. Our life journey as a human being is a sacred path, which if taken properly, saves us from the cycle of births and rebirths. Since the ultimate goal is liberation (moksh), any other goal we may have in our life should be secondary to yhis ultimate goal. Obstacles are everywhere. And obstacles can present themselves as people, situations, actions... People tend to believe that these obstacles come their way and hinder them in their pursuit of their goals. In fact it is our own thoughts that create the obstacles. What we see as obstacles could well be wake-up calls for us to re-direct ourselves towards the right goal. Every time we stress ourselves about something which is not happening as per our expectations, we demonstrate our distrust in the Higher Self. If we understand that our mission is to realize our "Self" ( the Lower Self) and direct it back to its source, then in everything we think, speak or do, we have to see the "play" of the Higher Self. But if we doubt it, and blame people, situations, circumstances for every bad result, then we are clearly not on track.

Doing what we need to do and accepting results, whatever they may be, is what we should aim at. Now both these two actions are difficult for most of us. How do we know what we need to do? This is where the role of your Guru comes into play. Your Guru is your guide and adviser. Once you have his advice and blessings, the rest is your responsibility to implement his prescriptions. But because of mundane influences coming from all directions, many people cannot resist the pressure of giving in to fallacies. Many deadly diseases which never existed before have come to existence through peoples' wrongdoings. HIV AIDS, mad cow disease, lung cancer have all been triggered by people. We know that smoking leads to lung cancer, even the cigarette packet warns people of that, but still the number of smokers has been increasing decade after decade. We know that grapes are a good source of anti-oxidant, are a good source of minerals, yet wine sells more than grapes. We know that barley is good for cholesterol control, blood sugar level control, yet the preference goes to beer. We know that tulasi ( Holy basil) has numerous medicinal properties, but marijuana wins at

the market place. So, are the Guru's instructions only good in the temple? And once we are out of the temple, we leave it all to the vagarious pressures of the world?

We aim for a better life, we want to stay away from sufferings, but we are the main cause of the misery that befalls us. And then, in all ignorance, we start blaming people, circumstances, even God. How can we blame God for sufferings which we have triggered ourselves. As we sow, so we reap, goes the saying. If we want happiness in our life, we have to sow the seed of happiness. Unless we start with the right seed, we cannot expect in the fruits the sweetness we want. Satguru Kabir Saheb has said :

“ Karein booraayi sukh chahe, kaise pave koye

Rope per babool kaa, aam kahan te hoye”

As we step into the New Year 2014, I convey my best wishes for a sound spiritual growth, loaded with plenty of good actions. With the blessings of Satguru Kabir Saheb, may all of us prosper and persevere in the path to liberation.

Blessings,

Mahant Jay Jaggessur

### **MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT**

As 2013 comes to a close, and we embark on a New Year, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all of you who have been supportive of the Kabir Association of Toronto and its mission. Although still a small group, we have made a lot of progress these last three years. I sincerely hope to have your continued support as we move forward and make a difference in helping to build a better society.

Satsangs are an excellent opportunity for all of us to gain and share knowledge, thus equip us all with the tools to be able to face life and its challenges with a better perspective. Year after year, we have witnessed how the world has been struck by numerous disasters, many of which have been triggered by Man himself. As devotees of the Lord, we know and understand that our actions have direct bearing on our ultimate goal of life. We have a choice : either we take the side of those who are always dividing, fighting, or we go for peace and love by demonstrating it ourselves. Imagine a world where everyone loves everyone, where there is only peace, no weapons, no thoughts of hatred or jealousy, no fight for religious supremacy, no competition among

nations. Because we are so used to a world where war prevails, where back-biting seems to be natural, where everyone wants to be superior, you will surely think that a world of love and peace cannot exist. Did you know that if the world food production was to be shared equitably among all countries, there would not be famine anywhere in the world? No one would die of hunger, or diseases? Did you know that if the wealth of the whole world was to be re-distributed no one would be poor on this planet? God has created abundance, but Man, through his greed and ignorance has restricted the flow of this abundance to one and all.

Satguru Kabir Saheb's message in this respect is very clear ;

“ Sanyi itnaa dijiye jamein kutumb samaaye

Mein bhi bhookhaa naa rahoun, Saadhu bhi bhookhaa na jaaye”

If people were to consider humanity as being just one big family, spread over different parts of the planet, and understand that sharing resources and expressing love to all their brothers and sisters across the globe, then, why would we see misery? Why would we have wars? Just like we talk more and more of the world as being a global village, the inhabitants of this planet are also inter-related through a huge genealogical network. If we feel the pain of our close family members, are we moved when we see or hear other people's miseries? Let us not be insensitive to our fellow brothers' and sisters' sufferings. In our prayers, we always beseech the Lord to take care of ourselves, our family, and the whole world. It is only fair to demonstrate that care and love in actual life.

My dear friends and supporters of the Kabir Association of Toronto, I have no reason to believe that if we are all motivated by one and the same cause, we will all succeed in attaining our objectives. Let us all gear our efforts to establish bonds of love among one and all; let us share happiness and celebrate life; let us contribute our part in ensuring peace in every household. With faith and perseverance, we shall all succeed, and enjoy every moment of our lifetime.

May Satguru Kabir Saheb always shower His blessings on all of us, and may us all prosper happily and peacefully.

Happy New Year 2014!

Mahant Jay Jaggessur

Vice-President, Kabir Association of Toronto

## **2013, A Review**

In many ways, 2013 was a year of great achievements. The association and members of the association have demonstrated their potential by reaching to new heights, and this has been acclaimed at different levels.

Our regular activities continued to attract devotees and other people as we conducted our monthly Satya Vaani satsangs, and monthly Bal Jyoti satsangs. In June, we also celebrated Pragatya Divas with great splendour and fervour. The same structure will continue in 2014, and a calendar has been issued with important dates.

### HOLI CHOWTAAL

On March 16<sup>th</sup> 2013, we were invited to participate in a Holi Sammelan by the Indo Caribbean Golden Age Association (ICGAA). This was an excellent opportunity to expose Satguru Kabir Saheb's philosophy on Holi celebrations through singing of chowtaals. Our performance was very much applauded by the audience. The ICGAA also presented a commemorative plaque to the association in recognition of our participation. Our group's performance started off with a rhythmic drum beat, while children entered the stage carrying flags from our homelands ( India, Pakistan, Mauritius, Trinidad & Tobago, Guyana, and Zambia). The singers accompanied the drum beat with cymbals (jhaals), making their entry to the stage as the children waved the flags. The singing was divided into 2 parts : the first part was the traditional chowtaal singing and the second part was a rhythmic controversy in bhajan-style. Both parts were made from Satguru Kabir Saheb's words, composed by Mahant Jay Jaggessur. The second part was also accompanied by a dandiya dance, which enchanted the audience in a crescendo. The organizers were very amazed by our performance and are looking forward to have our association participate again next year.

### KABIR NITE

Satguru Kabir Saheb was honoured in a special way in May this year with the organization of a Kabir Nite by Jodie Lobana of Evolving Creation. Jodie Lobana, who is a Chartered Accountant by profession, is also a humanitarian and spiritual researcher. The Kabir association of Toronto collaborated with her to set up this program, which was also marked by the presence of Dr J Das from Vancouver. The program which was held at the Maja Prentice Auditorium of the Burnhamthorpe Library had an audience of around 200 people. Professional musicians were hired to accompany bhajan singers. Some bhajans were also accompanied by classical dance performances by Ketaki. Mahant Jay Jaggessur and his wife Reckha were the main singers, and captivated the audience with the deep spiritual messages of Satguru Kabir Saheb. Both of them were also honoured by the Minister of State for Sports, Hon Bal Gosal. Dr J Das was also recognized for his contribution to spreading the message of Satguru Kabir Saheb.

### VISIT BY Dr J DAS

As Dr J Das visited Toronto in May to attend the Kabir Nite, he also participated in our Bal Jyoti satsang. It was a pleasure and honour to have him deliver his message to the children of Bal Jyoti. At the same time many devotees seized the opportunity to meet with him. He also gave 2 interviews to Jodie Lobana, which have been posted on Youtube.

### PRAGATYA DIVAS

As is the custom every year, this year also we celebrated Pragatya Divas on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, which was a Saturday. Mahant Pattiram Saheb and Mahant Vithal Das Saheb also graced the chowkaa aarti ceremony which was officiated by Mahant Jay Jaggessur. The latter shared the message from Hazur Ardh Naam Saheb on this special occasion, and also gave his message.

### OTHER SUMMER AND FALL EVENTS

Our annual summer outing was held on July 27<sup>th</sup> at the Bluffer's Park in Scarborough. Many devotees joined in this outdoor get-together, which was also a great opportunity to visit the park area, the lakeside walk, the cliffs, and enjoy large playground areas. It was also an opportunity for many to demonstrate their talents in volley ball, badminton, cricket, cliff climbing, and many other fun games. This was also the time to surprise Kamini Bahen by celebrating her birthday. Unfortunately, rain came to spoil the rest of the program. Our President, Bemal Saheb, was very kind to convene every one by his residence to continue the program.

In August, the Association organized a garage sale event with items contributed by various devotees of our satsang group. This event was held at Mahant Jay Jaggessur's residence, and was very successful. Items remaining after the garage sale were donated to charitable organizations.

Our September Bal Jyoti satsang was also very special. Mahant Chabinath Nagessar from Trinidad & Tobago visited us and gave his message to Bal Jyoti satsangis.

### 2012 FAMILY FUN DAY

Our annual 2012 Fun Day was held on Dec 15<sup>th</sup> at the Mississauga Valley Community Centre from 5 pm to 9 pm. Everyone had fun : kids, teens, adults, elders... The favourite game for kids was Charades, which revealed their hidden talents. The spoon race also created an unusual excitement in the hall. Blindfold drawings, Guess, Throw the ball, Tail the donkey were enjoyed by everyone. Finally the limbo game was the best show of the night. The program ended with performance by karaoke singing, dandiya dancing, Punjabi folk dancing, which engaged the whole audience.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

By Mahant Jay Jaggessur

### ***Moco kahan tou dhoonde bande, mein to tere paas mein***

Once upon a time, there was a very dedicated spiritual man named Sukhchand who wanted to meet with God. And in his search, he went to several pilgrimages, visited many temples, met with many Sages... None of what he did made him see God. After making his last pilgrimage, he decided to go back to his village, disappointed and frustrated. On his way back, he came across an ascetic who was sitting under a tree. He thought he would take a rest there, and maybe have good company for the night. So, he chose a spot and cleared it to make a resting place for the night. At that time, the ascetic asked him if he needed help, to which he replied " No, thank you. I don't think you can help me." "Why?" asked the saadhu. " I have been searching for ten years now, and I've still not found what I am looking for. I have exhausted all possible resources; there is no way you could find me what I'm searching for." Seeing his frustration and his disappointment, the saadhu did not ask any more questions, and let him rest. In the morning when Sukhchand woke up, he was surprised to find the saadhu standing by him with water and fresh fruits. Surprised, because he dreamt of that same scene. He thanked the saadhu and then related to him his long and unsuccessful search for God. The saadhu said : " I think that you are just steps away from God. Don't be disappointed." Relieved by the saadhu's words, he asked him if he could accompany him. The saadhu said : " You may if you wish. But I'm telling you, you are just a few steps away from God."

In the evening, when both of them decided to rest, Sukhchand went to sleep early. At night he had a dream. He dreamt that he arrived at his village after his long pilgrimage, and everyone in the village celebrated his return. He was being given a royal welcome; he was seated on an elephant, accompanied by guards. As he reached the central part of the village, he was led to a splendid room, with all kinds of luxuries. And that room was the same one he used to live in; it just got more beautiful. After some time, people starting coming to see him one by one, each with a different problem. He resolved each one's problem and everyone was so happy as their problems got resolved right away, miraculously.

In the morning when he woke up, he related his dream to the saadhu, and asked him for the significance of this dream. The saadhu told him : " I told you, your destination is just steps away from you. This dream is your confirmation. You have travelled so much, met with so many Sages, worshipped so many holy places, visited so many temples, yet you did not find God. Because God was already in your house. The God you are searching for is within you. All the solutions to your problems are within you. Go for the



inner journey, explore the inside and ignore the outside." Saying these words, the saadhu disappeared. Sukhchand realized that these words did not come from any ordinary person, but from God himself. Satguru Kabir Saheb says :

"Saadhu avat dekh ke charanan lagoon dhyaaye,

Naa jane kis roop mein, Narayan mil jaaye".

We often search on the outside, thinking that we will find the imperceptible. God is within us, all the divine powers are already within us. We just need to realize our "self".

## **TOTAL SURRENDER**

*By Mahant Jay Jaggessur*

Nice clothes, nice look, nice house, nice car, nice food... people are attracted to all these niceties and day after day work towards filling their lives with nice things and never get satiated with desiring for more. In so doing, people become slave to their body, to their belongings, to their family, friends, relatives... This is what is called attachment. Ignorant of the fact that all these are temporary, they fail to attach themselves to what is eternal.

The Guru teaches us to detach ourselves from these material encumbrances. If used properly, all these material objects would serve our purpose, and not turn us into slaves to serve them. The more we attach ourselves to the world and to worldly attributes, the further away we go from our goal. The relationship between the Guru and the disciple is also built on a non-material plane. The connection between the two can only be experienced if both the Guru and the disciple are truthful.

« Guru aissa chahiye jo shishya se kacchu na lei  
Shishya aissa chahiye jo Guru ko sab kuch dei »

As much as we think that the disciple must surrender body, mind and possessions (tan, man, dhan) to the Guru, the expectation of the Guru is far from being materialistic. Surrendering here does not mean physically passing on. This surrender is basically a detachment; relieving oneself from the grips of material bondage by trusting the Guru who is the only guide and philosopher. If we place our trust unconditionally in the Guru, everything else is meaningless, i.e. whether the car is a Porsche or a mini, whether the house is a palace or a hut, whether we travel first class or economy class... The road to liberation is rough, whether you think of going by private jet or by ox cart. It is not a journey which can be enjoyed by having external luxuries. Because it is an inner journey, you are the only one to walk on that path. Nobody will be there to see if you are travelling first class or cheap economy. The path is so narrow ( and that's why it is

difficult), that there is no space for more than one. Which means that you have to shun your ego, and merge with God to get to your destination.

“Jab mein thaa tab Guru nahin, ab Guru hai, mein naahin  
Prem gali ati saankari jamein do na samahin »

You need to have the dexterity to be able to walk that path. The Guru is the one who shapes you, instructs you so that you are ready to take the road. If you are encumbered with all material possessions and tied up in family bonds, you will not be able to embark on that road. The choice is whether we want to get out of the cycle of births and re-births or we remain attached to it. Unless we are ready to give up all attachments, and use the world and its attributes only as a temporary dwelling, we will not be able to attain liberation.

## **BHAJAN**

### **Saadhu bhaai, kheti karo**

Kheti karo Hari naam ki, Saadhu bhaai

Roopayaa na laage, paissaa na laage

Kawri na laage cha daam ki

Tan man bail surati har waah

Raiyaa lagaawo Guru gyaan ki

Aas paas santan ke deraa

Maraiyaa howe Shree Ram ki

Kahat Kabir soono bhai Saadhu

Balihaari waha naam ki

*Oh brother Saadhu, cultivate the crop of “Naam”. It costs nothing to cultivate “Naam”, not even a penny. Make of your mind and body the bull, and make of your concentration the plough. With each furrow you dig, find the Guru’s knowledge in it. Be in the company of Saintly people, always. Let your shelter (hut) be that of the Lord. Kabir Saheb says: “Glorify the name of the Lord so that your “self” is immersed in Him”.*



Singers preparing for Holi chowtal



President, Haimraj Dass receiving plaque of participation for Holi chowtal



Singers at Kabir Nite program



Left to right: Haimraj Dass (President), Jaiparam Jaggessur (vice), Jodie Lobana (receiving certificate)



Left to right: Pres Haimraj Dass, Mht Jaiparam Jaggessur, Mht Vithal Dass, Mht Patiram Ramroop, Mht Chabinath Nagessar



Outing at Bluffer's Park

## Dates of satsangs - 2014

Month	Purnima Vrat	Satyavaani Satsang	Bal Jyoti
January	15	11	25
February	14	8	22
March	15	15	29
April	14	12	26
May	13	10	24
June	12	12*	21
July	11	5	19
August	9	9	23
September	8	6	20
October	23	18	25
November	6	1, 29	15
December	5	-	13

\*On June 12 a Chawka Arati will be held at 11:00 am  
for Pragatya Divas

\*Satyavaani and Bal Jyoti Satsangs are held at 3386  
Homark Dr, Mississauga, ON L4Y 2K7 at 4:30 pm  
Ph# 289 232 7063

More info @ [www.kabirsaheb.org](http://www.kabirsaheb.org)