



Rath Yatra

By: Asvi Patel

Rath Yatra consists of two words: *rath*, meaning a chariot; and *yatra*, meaning a journey or procession. Therefore, *Rath Yatra* describes a procession of chariots. Rath Yatra is a major Hindu festival associated with Lord Jagannath held during the month of June or July. The festival commemorates Krishna's return to his home in Vrindavan after a long separation from the people there.

Jay Swaminarayan!



Bal Sandesh

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VOLUME 1, ISSUE 14

JULY 2009

Shri Ghanshyam Bal Yuvak Mandal (SGBYM)

Quotations to Help Guide Your Life...

By: Shrey Patel

"Never think or do bad things to others, else the bad things happens to you," said Lord Shri Hari.

"Learn the power of silence."

"Without any interest, no work is achieved. So keep an interest in everything you do. Only then you will become successful in your work."

"Live such a wonderful life that others can be proud of you. Be a role model for others. Make your life shine like a shining star, where someone can look up to you."

"Together we achieve more."

"Speak the truth but be sure that it is pleasant; a truth that will pain others should not be spoken."

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Shri Ghanshyam's Future...

By: Rani Patel

It was Aso Vad 13. Dharmadev thought, "When I tested Rempratapi, he chose weapons. But what will Ghanshyam choose? Let me test him." He got a stool and spread a piece cloth over it. He then placed a sword, a book, and a golden coin on it. Dharmadev thought to himself, "If Ghanshyam chooses the sword, he will be a great warrior. If he chooses

the book, he will be a great scholar. If he chooses the coin, he will be a very rich ruler of a kingdom." Bhaktimata came with Ghanshyam and made him sit a few feet away from the stool. When Ghanshyam got the chance, he crawled to the stool and picked up the book. Seeing this, Dharmadev became very happy. He thought, "My son will be a great scholar in the world."

Guru Purnima... Vrunda Patel representing SGBYM Students

Guru Purnima is a day that we celebrate by thanking of our Guru. On this day, the Guru is offered worship by the followers. Guru Purnima falls on the full moon day, in the month of Ashadh. The Sankrit root *Gu* means darkness or ignorance and *Ru* means the remover of the darkness. So, Guru means one who removes the darkness of our ignorance. Guru is someone who teaches us spiritually and tells us right from wrong.

In our sampraday, we consider the "Dharmakul" or the Acharyas and their wives to be our Guru. Also, we consider the saints and haribhaktos to be our guru because they are the ones who help us get on the correct path of devotion that leads us to God. In class, our gurus are the teachers because they are the ones who share their knowledge with us and teach us about Lord Swaminarayan. Happy Guru Purnima to our SGBYM Teachers!