



ଚିରନ୍ତନ

Chirantan (Newsletter)

ଓଁ ଜୟ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଜୟ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଜୟ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଓଁ

Editor: Dr. Bigyani Das

ଅକ୍ଷୟ ଦଶମୀ, ଜାନୁଆରୀ ୨୦୦୭, 18th Issue, January 2007 <http://www.jogaworld.org>



ସର୍ବେନ୍ଦ୍ରିୟଗୁଣାଭାସଂ ସର୍ବେନ୍ଦ୍ରିୟବିବର୍ଜିତମ୍ ।
ଅସକ୍ତଂ ସର୍ବଭୂତେବ ନିର୍ଗୁଣଂ ଗୁଣଭୋକ୍ତୁ ଚ ॥

Sarbendriya GuNAbhAsam Sarbendriyabibarjitam
Asaktam Sarbabhruchchaiba NirguNam GuNabhoktru cha!!

ଏହି ଶ୍ଳୋକଟି ଭଗବତ୍ ଗୀତାର ତତ୍ତ୍ଵୋଦ୍ଦେଶ ଅଧ୍ୟାୟରେ ବର୍ଣ୍ଣନା କରାଯାଇଛି । ଶ୍ରୀ ଭଗବାନ କହିଲେ - ପରମାତ୍ମା ହେଉଛନ୍ତି ସମସ୍ତ ଇନ୍ଦ୍ରିୟର ଉତ୍ପତ୍ତି ସ୍ଥଳ; ତଥାପି ସେ ଇନ୍ଦ୍ରିୟ ବିବର୍ଜିତ ଅଟନ୍ତି । ଯଦିଓ ସେ ପ୍ରାଣୀମାନଙ୍କର ପରିପାଳକ ଅଟନ୍ତି, ତଥାପି ସେ ଅନାସକ୍ତ । ସେ ଭୌତିକ ଗୁଣରହିତ ଅଟନ୍ତି ଏବଂ ତତ୍ ସଙ୍ଗେ ସଙ୍ଗେ ଭୌତିକ ଗୁଣମାନଙ୍କର ପ୍ରଭୁ ଅଟନ୍ତି ।

Lord Krishna told Arjuna in verse 15 of Chapter 13 in “Khyetra-Khyetrajnnya Bibhaagajoga” - “He is the perceiver and power of all senses although He is devoid of all senses. He is the maintainer of all but He is unattached. He is the ruler of the world but He enjoys the modes of nature. He is present within and outside all living entities. He is moving and also the unmoving. Because He is subtle, He is explicable. He is far ways from the ignorant and close to the knower of the Self.”

Lord Jagannath's New Home in DC area (Deity Installations – Week of April 23rd – 29th, 2007)

Members of JOGA have raised funds to install Lord Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra Devi at a newly built Hindu temple in Adelphi, Maryland (10001 Riggs Road). Jagannath devotees are waiting anxiously to see the Lord installed in this new home. The devotees have started monthly bhajan program at the new temple site from the month of December 2006. The deity installation ceremony will be held during the week of April 23rd-29th. Please save the dates and check JOGA webpage for more updates.



The devotees that have donated for the cause since our last August publication are:

*Dr Shivraj and Parameeta Kanugo, VA
Pupun Das, PA
Bimal and Leena Mishra, MD*

Monthly Bhajan Program – Place Change

Thanks to the authorities of ISKCON Temple, Baltimore for their help and encouragement for continuing our monthly bhajan program for nine years. The temple has a new management who insisted upon adhering to singing only ISKCON approved bhajans. We honored the new management's policy. Since Lord Jagannath will be installed in the Hindu Temple, we decided of having our monthly congregations in the Hindu Temple and make preparations to welcome the Lord. From now onwards, monthly bhajan program will be held at Hindu Temple.

ଆଜି ଆସିଛି, ଆସିଛି ହୋରି

(March 10th, at Murugan Temple)
Hori announcement in back side



Bolide Bolide Sakhi Ranga:
The Third Eye:
Building our Dream House (Part II):
Jagannatha Temple in Orissa:
JOGA Educational Projects in Orissa:

Bigyani Das
Shashadhar Mahapatra
Naresh Das
Shashadhar Mohapatra
Debanand Das,
Dhirendra Kar
Hemant Biswal

Thanks to the Sponsors
Holi Information

Bhajan Schedule: Third Saturday of every month

Place: Hindu Temple, 10001 Riggs Road,
Adelphi, MD 20783 (Tel: 301-445-2165)

6:00 –9:00 PM Bhajan, Philosophical
Discussion, Arati, and Prasad

ବୋଲିଦେ ବୋଲିଦେ ସଖୀ ରଞ୍ଜ ଶ୍ୟାମ ଅଞ୍ଜରେ

Bolide Bolide Sakhi Ranga Shyama Angare
ବିଜ୍ଞାନୀ ଦାସ, ଡେଟ୍, ମେରୀଲାଣ୍ଡ



ବୋଲିଦେ ବୋଲିଦେ ସଖୀ ରଞ୍ଜ ଶ୍ୟାମ ଅଞ୍ଜରେ
ଅତର ବୁଝା ଚନ୍ଦନ ଗୋଲିଦେ ସରାଗରେ । ପଦା
ସଜାଇ କୁସୁମମାଳ, ମଣ୍ଡିଦେ ଗଳା ଶ୍ୟାମର
ଜଳାଇ ପ୍ରେମ ଦୀପାଳି ସଜାଇ ଦେ ଅର୍ଘ୍ୟଥାଳି
ଭରିଦେ ଭରିଦେ ସଖୀ ବାସ ଅନୁରାଗରେ । ୧।
ବଜାଇ ମୋହନ ବେଣୁ, କିଶକ୍ତି ସେ ମନ ଯେଣୁ
କେତେ ରଞ୍ଜେ, କେତେ ଛନ୍ଦେ, ନାଚି ନଚାକ୍ତି ଆନନ୍ଦେ
ଗାଇଦେ ଗାଇଦେ ସଖୀ ତୋ ମିଳନ ରାଗରେ । ୨।
ରାସରସିକ ଶେଖର, ସେ ପରା ପରାଶତୋର
କଟାକ୍ଷେ ଦିଅକ୍ତି କାଟି, ରୁପସୀ ହୃଦ ସଞ୍ଜି
ବିକିଦେ ବିକିଦେ ସଖୀ ତୋ ପ୍ରେମ ବିଭବରେ । ୩।

The Third Eye

Shashadhar Mohapatra, Silver Spring, MD

We believe what we see in our own eyes. We see that everybody has two eyes. It is one of those five sensory organs “indriyas”. But, this “third eye” is mysterious to common people like most of us. But, it is not mysterious or unknown to spiritual masters or “gurus”. It is as interesting and fascinating to me as it is to you. As we know, Paramahansa Yogananda was one of the greatest spiritual figures of India. Swamiji has described about this “third eye” in his master piece “Man’s Eternal Quest”.

Most of the “gurus” taught us one thing regarding God realization that I strongly believed in my heart. It is about “sansar dharma”. One can attain God as a “sansari” while performing your regular duties and responsibilities, duties towards your families, relatives, friends, neighbors, communities etc. and simultaneously seeking God within everybody. God is within us. God is within every living being. It is our own “karma” that would lead us to realization of God. In order to attain God-realization, one does not need to go to the Himalayas or sacred places like Benaras, Hardwar, Rishikesh and start “tapasya” or meditation. There is a nice song “ Ei mana Brundabana, ei mana Kasi, ei mana Badrinath, Puri, Baranasi”. One does not need to be a millionaire, does not need a palace, one can attain God being in his cottage. There are beautiful stories about it in puranas.

According to Swamiji, a blind cannot lead another blind. One needs a master, a spiritual teacher or a “guru” who can show us the path and guide us through that path to God realization. A true “guru” is a realized master who knows God and may rightly teach others about Him. It is possible that he who faithfully listens, follows and practices teachings of a “guru” can in fact be like him or excel him. A “guru” can help his disciples to elevate them to his own level of realization or higher.

A “guru” is described as “dispeller” of darkness (gu, means “darkness” and ru, means “that which dispels”). In a divine sense, a “guru” is one who through his self realization and oneness with God is qualified to lead others from darkness of ignorance to the everlasting light of truth, knowledge and wisdom.

To find a perfect “guru” is a challenge and is the hardest part. It is said in scriptures that you cannot find him any time any where you want. You search and search. The time has to be appropriate when you can find your “guru” or a “guru” automatically comes to your life. A “guru” is God send. Some say it is a cumulative effect. It is your past good “karma” that has accumulated in your account plus how much effort and hard work you put in to find God in your present life. The scripture also says: if we move one step towards the Lord, He moves two steps closer to us to close up the gap. So, one has to think seriously and make an effort to make this giant step in the spiritual ladder.

The religious teachers taught that to gain the deepest knowledge one should focus his gaze through the omniscient spiritual eye “the third eye”. It is centrally located on the forehead at a point between the eyebrows- the center of concentration, the seat of soul intuition. According to Yoganandaji, that is the real “crystal ball”, into which the yogi gazes to learn the secrets of the universe. He is the winner, who can go deep enough in his concentration to penetrate that “third eye” and see the God. Those who seek self realization should develop the ability to project their perception through the spiritual eye. This intuitive faculty is sometimes referred as the “sixth sense”. Every one possesses this sixth sense, but most of the people like us do not develop it. Therefore, one needs a “guru” to help to develop this. Some say, this “third eye” is the “omniscient eye”, “the star of the East”, “the inner eye”, “the dove descending from heaven”, “the eye of Shiva” or “the eye of intuition”. To commune with God, it is important for the seeker of God to develop this “third eye” One can open the single eye of intuitive consciousness through the practice of “yoga”.

Building Our Dream House, Part II

Naresh Das, Dayton, MD

Kari Karau Thai Muihn
Mo Binu Anya Gati Nahin

(Lord says, I am the one who makes and breaks things and without my blessing no one can achieve anything)

Miracles do happen time to time. Obstacles become opportunities when Lord is on the lead. The purpose of my writing this article on my experience on building our dream house project is two folds: First, I want to make this educational so that if any of the reader ventures for such ambition, the information here will be useful; Secondly, I want to share my feeling of Lord's blessing in many ways starting from planning the project to the end. I have presented the preliminary ground preparation and foundation work on my first part report in the previous chirantan issue [1]. In this article I will cover the framing, roofing, plumbing and electrical part of our house building project. Final parts of the construction project will be presented in the next article.

The most important job of the house construction project is framing, as the life of the house depends on quality of the material as well as workmanship. Depending on the insulation requirement, the framing can be done using either 4 inch or 6 inch wall thickness. Most of the houses are constructed with 4 inch wall. But if the budget permits, then 6 inch wall can give additional strength as well as better insulation. So in the long run, one can recover the additional expenses for 6 inch wall from lower heating bill. Another important material to decide is whether one wants 2X12 lumber material for floor joist or TJI material which is an engineered material for extra strength. I choose 2x14 TJI floor joist as that is the minimum required strength for long beam of about 35-40 feet long. The roof trusses are another component of framing the house. Once you give the architectural drawing to the manufacturer for trusses, they will calculate the required strength for trusses and give the quote. Trusses are pre-designed and fabricated at the factory before it is delivered at the construction site.

Since framing is the important part of the construction, choosing the right contractor is very important. Also framing contractor's job has to be coordinated with other contractors like electrical, HVAC and plumbing so that they can work while framing is under construction. Getting the framing quote was not easy for me as they have to have detailed construction plan. The quotation price also varies a lot and in my case the variation was 100-200%. After careful evaluation of contractor's past history, I decided with the framing contractor in early Nov.

2005. I also offered a cash bonus with condition that the framing work will be finished by Nov. 30, 2005. To my surprise the contractor brought many workers and they even worked during thanksgiving holidays and completed the framing job 3 days before the deadline. I had to pay the bonus though I didn't want to. But it is worth the money as the subsequent jobs were not delayed for framing. In my case since the winter was on its way, I wanted to have the roofing done before snow comes in December.

Roofing material comes with different grades for longevity as well as color and patterns. Depending on the budget one can put roofing material for 10-50 years lifetime. Also, for materials with longer lifetime the labor cost is higher. While selecting the roofing material, my argument was that the lifetime of long term house loan is 30 years, so why not choose the roofing material of similar lifetime. Typically longer the lifetime of roofing material it has higher resistance to wind. Since I don't have home owner's association (HOA), choosing the color and pattern was easy for me. Otherwise one has to submit the roofing material design to HOA as they have to agree comparing the look of the houses in the neighborhood. With Lord's blessing my roofing was placed before the Christmas of 2005 and the house was safe to work even if it snows.

After the framing is done, the first contractor to start the job inside the house is HVAC. As they have to lay big diameter pipes both in the ceiling as well as on the floors, they have to start first. Next in the line was plumber. At this time plumber is to put both hot and cold water pipes as well as install various roughing



(inside wall) fixtures. All bath tops are to be installed at this time. It is also helpful if one orders the plumbing supplies well in advance. This way one can get quality material with fewer prices. Though one can get materials from home stores like Home Depot, Lowe etc, but there are specific suppliers for plumbing fixtures who can provide same material with lower cost. I selected Ferguson supply store with recommendation from my plumber.

Electrical contractor comes next to lay out all the fixtures which go behind the drywall. It is also advisable to put extra wiring for fixtures like ceiling fan and lights at this time. Also this is the time when low voltage wiring is done for audio, phone, cable and security systems etc. Though I didn't have much knowledge on security systems, I had some knowledge on wiring for sound systems and phone etc. With the help of my friend Dell Smith I put all the low voltage wiring. At that time when I enquired from county

permit office, they told that I didn't need any permit for low voltage wiring. However, when my drywall was placed, I called the electrical inspector for final permit and he asked me about my low voltage permit. Since I did the low voltage wiring myself, I didn't have license to apply for the permit nor did I think of applying for one as I found out before that I didn't need one. The inspector threatened me, "You show me the permit or I will ask you to tear of all the drywall and show how you have done the wiring". At that time I was really hopeless. I thought it was again a test for me to show the patience. Since tearing of drywall was not an option, I prayed God to help me solve this problem. While discussing this low voltage permit issue with Marti (construction consultant), he suggested me to meet the inspector personally and see what he says. When I met the electrical inspector and explained how I did the wiring, he asked me to write a letter with some diagram of low voltage wiring. Though a week passed till I submitted the required wiring diagram, I could not talk to the inspector to know the status of my request. While my blood pressure was going high what to do next, I got a call from my electrical contractor that the inspector had passed the electrical part. What a great relief! This proves the statement in the first line of this article that nothing happens unless God wishes.

PS: The author will appreciate any comments or suggestion on this article (Naresh.das@jogaworld.org)
 [1] Naresh Das, Chirantan, Vol 17, p. 6, 2006 (www.jogaworld.org)

Jagannath Temple in Orissa *Shashadhar Mohapatra, Silver Spring, MD*

In Srimad Bhagavad Gita the Blessed Lord says:

dAtavyam iti yad dAnam , diyate 'nupakariNe
 deshe kAle cha pAtre cha, tad dAnam sAttvikam
 smrtam

It means that the charity which is performed as duty, at the proper time and place, to a worthy person, and without expectation of return, is considered to be "sAttwika" (which is the best) charity.

What could be a better gift than the donation to the construction of temple for Lord SriJagannath which is to inspire thousands of people in the path of "satya", "dharma", "shanti" and "prema" ?

JSS (Jagannatha Seva Sanstha) is a charitable organization, created more than 3 years ago, to strengthen the foundation of Jagannath Culture in rural Orissa, to help local schools, poor and sick people as well as needy students. JSS is building this temple to meet its goal.

The foundation work started on November 20, 2005 and it is progressing very well (Please see the attached picture). The original target to finish the temple work is within five years. This target date may be reduced if we get external help from various donors including individuals and organizations.

The main temple has been designed like the temple at Puri. There would be three temples. The biggest temple at the back will be 65' high, the one in the middle will be 35' and the one at the front entrance will be 45' high. The temple will be built in three phases. The first phase consists of base of the temple (picture). It includes a prayer hall of 50' L x 42'W x 11'H. This prayer hall will be used for religious discourses, shelter during natural disasters, providing vocational training to poor people, teaching computer to the children, renting for wedding and thread ceremonies etc. In the second phase the actual three temples will be built on the top of this hall. The initial estimate for this main temple was 50 lakhs (INR). But, recently the prices of building materials (cement, rods, chips etc.) have gone up. There are also plans to build a "Laxmi Mandir" at the side of the main temple, a kitchen, a residential quarter for the priest and his family, temple boundary, a pond and a public library. There is an existing pond nearby. It will be renovated



to make it bigger and deeper. There is also a plan to create a trust fund to support the annual expenses of the temple including "Rath Yatra". The complete plan is estimated now to be more than 150 lakhs (INR).

Your kind donation to complete this noble effort will be very much appreciated. It is tax deductible. Please write the check to "JOGA", mention that it is for temple project and mail it to Dr. Naresh Ch. Das, 4525 Rutherford Way, Dayton, MD 21036, phone: 410.531.7445. JOGA can write a check to us. May the blessings of Lord Jagannatha be upon us always!

Humble Regards,

Shashadhar & Meera Mohapatra, Hidden Valley Ln.
 Silver Spring, MD 20904, Phone: 301.879.8188,
 Email: smohapatra318@yahoo.com

JOGA Educational Projects in Orissa

Dear Friends:

We cordially invite you and your family to join the members of Jagannath Organization for Global Awareness (JOGA), a philosophical and educational non-profit organization. JOGA has taken up many educational projects to promote science education in schools. Among them are: i) teachers refresher course for high school science teachers, ii) establishing satellite science center in Unit I high school in Bhubaneswar and iii) science talent scholarship in Orissa, India.

Science Teachers' Refresher Course: As you know the quality of education depends on the quality of teachers for which, the teacher's training is very much essential. JOGA has organized teacher's refresher course program in many districts in collaboration with circle inspectors of schools. College faculties from many reputed colleges teach in the refresher course program. We also use audio/video multi-media presentation during the refresher course. Till now we have completed the refresher course in 13 circles and our goal is to complete in all 20 circles of the state.

Science Center in Unit I High School: JOGA is also establishing science center at Unit I high School in Bhubaneswar. The laboratory space preparation including utility hook up is completed. Equipments are purchased. We have also hired a person for laboratory assistant position and he is expected to start the job from Jan 2007. We are also working with science teachers of the school to help in organizing the experiments. The science center



picture here shows the outside entrance of the science laboratory at Unit I high school.

Talent Search Examination: Every year Maheswar Memorial Trust in Bhadrak district organizes talent search examinations among the tenth grade students. Based on the results of multiple choice questions from various science subjects, students are selected to receive scholarship



JOGA sponsors this scholarship. Each student is awarded Rs. 1000.00 scholarship and a certificate of merit. This year more than 400 tenth grade students appeared on the entrance test that was held on Dec. 10, 2006 at three different centers (picture is shown).

We invite you to visit our webpage: www.jogaworld.org to get more information on various educational projects. The purpose of this letter is to solicit your donation to support any of the above mentioned projects. Your support will send a strong message to support quality education through training and community involvement to other members of the community.

Your generous donation will be deeply appreciated by the Board of Directors of the organization. **JOGA is a non-profit tax-exempt organization and hence all the donations are tax deductible. The checks in favor of "JOGA" should be sent to JOGA, 4525 Rutherford Way, Dayton, MD 21036.**

Dr. Naresh C. Das, MD (Naresh.das@jogaworld.org)
Mr. Hemant Biswal, VA (hbiswal@hotmail.com)
Dr. Koneti Rao, MD (koneti@hotmail.com)
Dr. Meena Sahu, MD (msahu@geologics.com)
Mr. Dharendra Kar, NC (dhirendrakar@hotmail.com)
Dr. Debanand Das, MD (deb_das@hotmail.com)

Bhajan Program sponsors:

Thanks to all the families for their participation and contribution for the success of the bhajan program. What a better way to celebrate your family's special function such as birthday, Memorial Day etc at temple and offer prasad to the devotees. That is what many of our community members are doing by sponsoring bhajan program. Our heartfelt thanks to the following families for sponsoring feasts on different months:

Naresh and Bigyani Das, MD
Indu and Jhunu Mishra, MD
Debaki and Anjana Chowdhury, MD
Joy Gopal and Sulochana Mohanty, MD
Nrusingha and Bandita Mishra, MD
Sarat and Sujata Dalai, MD

Today's thought:

When you make a mistake, don't look back at it long. Take the reason of the thing into your mind and then look forward. Mistakes are lessons of wisdom. The past cannot be changed. The future is yet in your power.

- Hugh White

HOLI FESTIVAL

Organized by
Jagannatha Organization for Global Awareness (JOGA)
www.jogaworld.org

10th March, 2007
Saturday, 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Murugan Temple Auditorium
6300 Princes Garden
Parkway, Lanham, MD
20706,
Ph. (301) 552-4889



Bigyani Das (410) 531 7455; Meera Mohapatra (301) 879 8188; Urmila Sahu (301) 540 5920; Bandita Mishra (301) 540-4641; Sikha Sen (410) 531 1943; Julie Acharya Ray (443) 992 4217; Hemant Biswal (703) 5812925; Joy Gopal Mohanty (410) 796 0608.

Donations: Family-\$25, Single-\$10

Program:

- ❖ Holi procession of Deities
- ❖ Arati and Bhajan
- ❖ Cultural: Songs, Dances, Drama "Sri Ganesha", Skits by Adults, Talent Shows and much more
- ❖ Prasad/Dinner

Balabhadra Sponsorship: \$200.00
Subhadra Sponsorship: \$150.00,
Jagannatha Sponsorship: \$100.00
(All donations are tax deductible)

Contacts:

Please confirm your participation by Feb. 24, 2007 to any of the following volunteers. For cultural participation, please confirm by February 17, 2007.

Direction to the temple: From I-95/I-495 CAPITAL BELTWAY, take BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON PKWY exit, exit number 22A, towards BALTIMORE. Take MD-193 exit towards GREENBELT/NASA GODDARD. Keep LEFT at the fork in the ramp, Turn LEFT onto MD-193 E/GREENBELT RD. Turn RIGHT onto Hanover Pkwy which will become PRINCESS GARDEN PKWY.



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This is not intended as a solicitation if your home is already listed with another broker.

Chirantan is the bi-annual newsletter of Jagannath Organization for Global Awareness (JOGA).
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