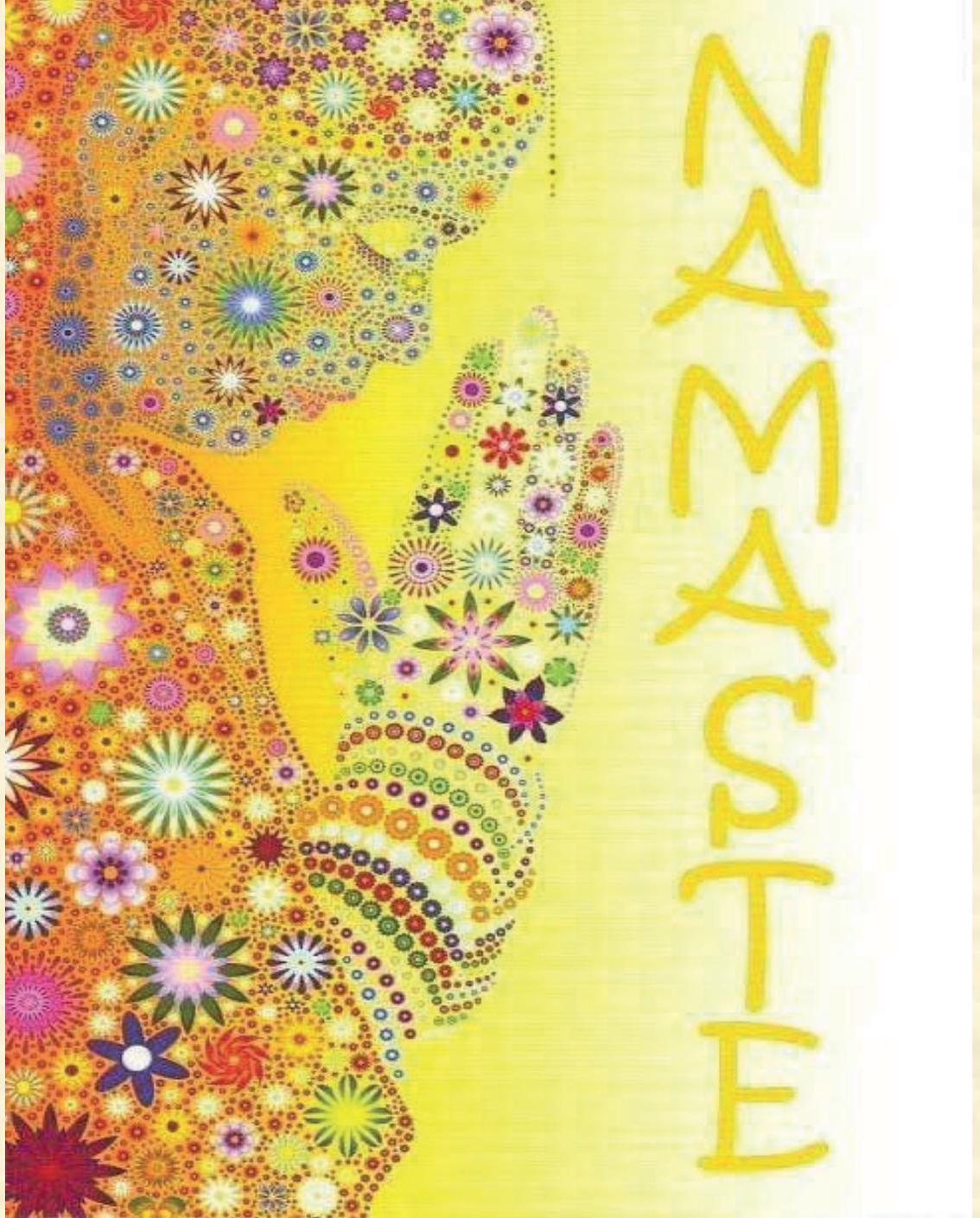


August 2017 Issue 38

# Mandhata Pragati

## मंधाता प्रगति

A M S U K



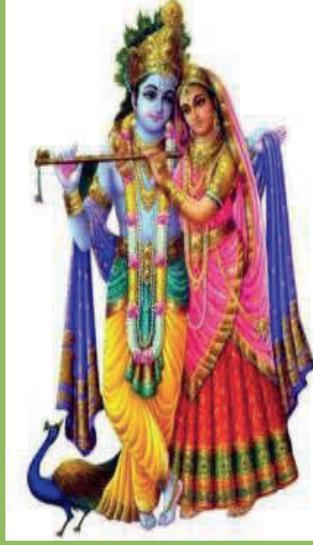
**ASSOCIATION OF MANDHATA SAMAJ UK**

*...serving the Mandhata Community*

Established 1972 [www.mandhata-UK.com](http://www.mandhata-UK.com) Registered Charity No. 1055169

## શ્રી રાધા કૃષ્ણ

મન્મના ભવ મદભક્તો મધાજી માં  
નમસ્કુરુ,  
મામેવૈષ્ણસિ સત્ય તે પ્રતિજાને  
પ્રિયોડસી મે,  
તું મારામાં મનવાળો થા, મારી ભક્તિ  
કર,  
હું તને પ્રતિજ્ઞાપૂર્વક કહું છું કે તું મનેજ  
પ્રાપ્ત થઈશ,  
તું મારો પ્રિય સખા છે.



સર્વ ધર્માન્યસ્તિયજય મામેકં શરણ  
વ્રજ,  
અહં ત્વાં સર્વપાપેભ્યો મોક્ષપિષ્યામિ  
માં શુચઃ  
સર્વો ધર્મને ત્યાગ કરી ને તું કેવળ  
મારા જ શરણ થા,  
હું તને પાપોથી મુક્ત કરીશ માટે શોક  
ન કર.  
(શ્રીમદ ભગવદ ગીતા)

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ના જય શ્રી કૃષ્ણ

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President: Hasmukh S Patel

Hon. Secretary: Hasmukh K Patel

Hon. Treasurer: Dilip M Jina



### MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OF AMSUK

Namaste. Jai Shree Krishna..... Hope you are all well. It's been my pleasure to serve as President for AMSUK. I wish to thank all the management committee and the community members for their continued support for the Samaj.

“Mandhata Samaj” identifies who we are as community. It confers our ethnic, cultural and communal identity and our inheritance. AMSUK as the umbrella organisation of our Samaj, provides guidance, organizes national events in conjunction with the affiliated local Town Mandals with a view to promoting social, cultural and religious activities. The real strength of our Samaj is in the local towns. Our member's active participation there provides the focus for the future Mandhata community that we all desire it to be.

In 2016-17 apart from the management committee meetings and Gamonnati forum to share information, identify issues and seek resolution, AMSUK organised the Sports Festival, Singles Event and Sammelan. Additionally, a charity fund raising event in collaboration with Handsworth Lions Club was also organised. All these events were reasonably well supported by our Community members. On a brighter and encouraging note, we have revived our Youth Forum, which will endeavour to organise more events and activities for the wider community in the future.

Our Samaj like other similar communities is perceived as outdated and over time has attracted fewer new members. AMSUK or its affiliated town Mandals are not truly representative of the estimated 30,000 strong and vibrant Mandhata community that we are. While there is a lots of interest in the Sports festival, the rest of the activities are sparsely attended. There is the element of familiarity “it's the same things / people” but we must not be transfixed in what “we have always done”. While some of the religious festivals have a theme and purpose, we can and do adapt new content and activity. Our social and cultural events are more modern in outlook and appealing to more participants.

Over time, the social cohesion and community network has served us well in our social relationships, family-events and support especially when individuals and families moved to Africa and then to UK. Change is inevitable and it would be foolish to ignore that. There is no reason why the same Samaj structures cannot support, share knowledge and experience to provide a heads-up to the new generations facing new challenges in search for advice and support in career and enterprise. We all have a role to play and benefit from the development and betterment of our Samaj as a whole.

Finally, as we remember those members of our families and friends who are no longer with us and who will be dearly missed, our thoughts and prayers are also with the loved ones of those killed and injured in recent senseless and brutal attacks in Manchester and London. These attacks were at the heart of our democracy and we must all stand united with everyone in battling the evil of extremism.

I wish you all the very best for the future. Should you have any suggestions or compliments regarding AMSUK, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Hon. Secretary Hasmukh Patel ([patelhasmukhlal@gmail.com](mailto:patelhasmukhlal@gmail.com)). We will do our best to respond accordingly.

**Hasmukh S Patel, President – AMSUK. Mob: 07963 702416 e mail: [hasumani@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hasumani@hotmail.co.uk)**



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### REPORT BY THE SECRETARY OF AMSUK

Namaste, Jai Shree Krishna.

Our main aim for the 2016/17 term of Service was to unite the members of our Mandhata Community, work on our Samaj values and reach out to the various age sectors within our community by organising various events and activities.

We had quite and encouraging turnout for our first EC meeting that was held in Dudley on 06<sup>th</sup> November 2016. To enable us to avoid with clashing with other Community events the following EC meetings were pre-booked.

- Second EC Meeting : Sunday, 02nd April 2017 in Wolverhampton.
- Third EC Meeting : Sunday, 25th June 2017 in Leicester in the morning.
- Fourth EC Meeting : Sunday, 06th August 2017 in Walsall.
- AMSUK AGM/Samellan: Sunday, 20th August 2017.
  - This event is to be hosted by Shree Mandhata Samaj, Walsall.

The following events were organized:

- Charity Event : Saturday 18th March 2017 at Shine Star Banqueting, Willenhall.
- AMSUK Singles Event : Saturday 03rd June 2017 in Leicester.
- Gaamonati Meeting : Sunday, 25th June 2017 in Leicester in the afternoon.
- AMSUK Sports Festival : Saturday & Sunday, 12th & 13th August 2017 at the University of Wolverhampton, Walsall Campus.
  - This event is to be hosted by Shree Mandhata Samaj, Dudley.

Further details of the above events can be found elsewhere in this edition of Mandhata Pragati. All these events were reasonably well supported by our Community members.

Other forthcoming events are;

- AMSUK Singles Event: Saturday 07th October 2017
- Also, there are a number of activities planned by our newly reformed Youth Forum.

Should you have any suggestions, complaints or compliments regarding AMSUK, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will do my best to respond accordingly.

Kind regards,

**Hasmukhlal K Patel, Secretary - AMSUK**

e-mail: [patelhasmukhlal@gmail.com](mailto:patelhasmukhlal@gmail.com)

web: [www.mandhata-uk.com](http://www.mandhata-uk.com)

## Progress. What Progress? 2017

I wrote the article below for Mandhata Pragati in 1995. This was 22 years ago. It's hard to believe, but here we are in 2017.

“Our Samaj organisation in UK has been in existence since 1971. So, what have we achieved so far? Individually we have made great strides since our parents came to mainly work in the factories. Today our children with the benefit of parental hard graft and education have more opportunities for white-collar jobs and professional vocations.

Sadly, whilst individually we have made great progress, many of the issues of social customs and traditions raised in the article below persists for the community.

I as President of AMSUK like my predecessors, have tried to focus the community towards these issues with little progress. Unfortunately in this selfish world, that close caring community spirit which we should all be striving for is slowly evaporating as time goes by.

Despite this slow progress in social customs, our Samaj must look towards the future to raise the awareness amongst our members regarding the existence and importance of our Mandhata Community.”

Hasmukh S Patel  
President – AMSUK e-mail: hasumani@hotmail.co.uk

We in Britain live in a multi-racial and multi-cultural society.

Every Community in Britain, whatever its ethnic origin or religious beliefs, has an enormous contribution to make to the society as a whole, as well as enjoy and share the richness and diversity of other religious and cultural traditions.

Our own Mandhata Samaj (UK) is one these community organisations in existence since 1971 and its main aims and objectives are to foster and encourage cultural, religious, social, educational and recreational activities amongst persons of Gujarati origin in the UK.

So the question one needs to ask is what has our Samaj achieved in all these years and what does the Samaj hope to achieve in the next 5-10 years??

We are traditionally a close knit community. However, the influence of Western Culture appears to have taken a stronghold amongst many of our community members and in particular our Youth of today. We all seem to be drifting further and further apart.

Generally, most of us after migrating to this country some 20-30 years ago, has established ourselves and tend to go our own ways. But unfortunately that close caring community spirit which we should all be striving for is slowly evaporating as time goes by.

We seem to have adopted that selfish and carefree attitude like “I’m alright Jack” forgetting how close we all were when we first came to this country. In those days we had very little in way of wealth, own house to live in, luxury of a car, but the most important thing, we had, was our community spirit, friendship and care for family and friends.

## PROGRESS!! WHAT PROGRESS?? 2017 Contd...

It is bad enough with the present generation but imagine what it will be like for the next generation who will obviously be more influenced by the Western Culture. After all youth of today is our future of tomorrow.

Therefore, it is up to us to recognise these issues and address them through the like of Mandhata Samaj and other local community organisations and formulate a strategy to work together in close harmony and redevelop the community spirit and some very important cultural traditions.

We seem to be talking and talking at various meetings, regarding a number of issues but when it comes to implementing the proposals nobody wants to be the "first" or the "guinea pig"

For example in early 1993 a "social custom" report complete with suggested customs was formulated by the sub-committee to control the increasing extravagant expenses incurred in adopting certain social customs on engagement, marriage registration, marriage ceremony, Kanyadan and funeral customs etc.

But here we are in 2017 and still waiting on community leaders to get together, and agree upon a plan of actions, and some if not all of implement the sensible ones.

We must recognise the richness of our cultural traditions, be unanimous and positive with our ideas and promote these to our community members.

Other communities like the Sikh and Muslim seem to have retained that close community spirit. So why can't we?

Our Samaj must sit back and think what our aims were when we first started. What have achieved so far and what do we want to achieve in the future?

Our Samaj must look forward towards the future to provide excellent means not only enabling our community to sustain its cultural identity but to provide an opportunity to others to share our culture and traditions, to learn from us and to contribute to the objective we all share - creation of a peaceful and prosperous community in which every individual and family can develop their full potential and make the fullest contribution to our community.

We must integrate and not segregate.

It's never to late! However, it's better to be late than never!!

And finally, as the saying goes:

***"Hold on to your luggage and walk slowly, if you don't get there today, you will tomorrow"***

**Hasmukh S Patel - Dudley**



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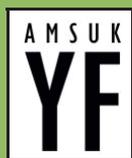
### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.17 Total funds £	31.3.16 Total funds £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>				
Voluntary income	312	5,213	5,525	1,962
Activities for generating funds	3,070	-	3,070	4,361
Investment income	473	97	569	34
<b>Other incoming resources</b>	<u>100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>230</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>3,955</b>	<b>5,310</b>	<b>9,264</b>	<b>6,587</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Donation	-	5,213	5,213	1,537
Governance costs	-	-	-	-
<b>Other resources expended</b>	<u>4,828</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,828</u>	<u>2,158</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	4,828	5,213	10,041	3,695
<b>NET INCOMING/ (OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>	<b>(873)</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>(777)</b>	<b>2,892</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>				
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<u>34,449</u>	<u>19,460</u>	<u>53,909</u>	<u>51,017</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b><u>33,576</u></b> =====	<b><u>19,557</u></b> =====	<b><u>53,132</u></b> =====	<b><u>53,909</u></b> =====

#### Balance Sheet at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Debtors & Prepayments	150		200	
Cash at Bank & In Hand	<u>54,117</u>		<u>59,829</u>	
	<u>54,267</u>		<u>60,029</u>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Creditors & Accruals	<u>1,135</u>		<u>6,121</u>	
	<u>1,135</u>		<u>6,121</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		53,131		53,908
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>53,131</u></b>		<b><u>53,908</u></b>
<b>FUNDS</b>				
Unrestricted		33,576		34,449
Restricted Funds:				
Nairobi Fund		17,795		17,698
Communications Project		<u>1,762</u>		<u>1,762</u>
		<b><u>53,132</u></b>		<b><u>53,909</u></b>



## AMSUK YOUTH FORUM



Namaste and Jai Shree Krishna,

I wanted to take this opportunity to inform you that

**AMSUK Youth Forum** is back!

Having taken a few years out of National Samaj work to concentrate on my young family, I observed the slow but steady decline in Youth involvement within our community. I, along with others wanted to rectify this and hence have revived the Youth Forum.

Despite the sports festival continuing, other such events which encourages our youth from all over the U.K to socialise, engage and create friendships has seen a decline. This has worried me and others within our community for some time. This isn't unique to our samaj as others are facing an equal challenge. The change has been inevitable as our lifestyles have changed. However, if we want our great samaj to exist in the future, we all need to address the issue at hand. The issue being, what can we do to encourage the younger generation to get involved?

The old cliché of 'the youth are our future' is very apt. They are and they will be who ensures the existence or demise of your community in the U.K. If we do not engage with them now, we will lose that generation forever.

I have said many times before, that the hard work of establishing the foundations has been done by our fathers and forefathers. They achieved so much in an alien country to them and established the samaj as we know today – our job is easier, we need only to maintain what they built.

The New Youth Forum has been created with like-minded individuals, who all have a common aim – to unite the youngsters, not only with others in the samaj but also with the wider community. It is not the aim to create a totally separate entity but to work as a sub-committee of the main AMSUK committee.

The core team has already been established and you can see who is who by accessing the new Youth Forum website: [www.amsukyouth.co.uk](http://www.amsukyouth.co.uk)

Town youth leaders will automatically be included as committee members and anyone wanting to be part of the committee are more than welcome to join. All we ask is that you are passionate, committed and will be dedicated to help us all achieve our aim.

I know we have a vast amount of untapped skills and experience in our samaj, I would hope that some of these individuals would come forward and offer theses. We require new ideas and solutions to issues that maybe hampering us to move forward.

I appreciate that giving up time is a major factor for all of us. Work, home life and social lives all eat into the limited hours we all have. However, with modern technology, the use of social media we no longer need to rely on having to be in the same room to discuss issues. We need to be more efficient and that is how this new forum will operate.

The new team has already started planning events. The annual cricket tournament is due to be revived as will the activity day, which was very popular with the towns and especially the younger members of our community. A picnic day is also being planned, so the whole community can enjoy.

However, we also want to hear from you as to what we should be organising, what AMSUK and the Youth Forum should be providing. To facilitate this, we have created a short questionnaire /survey, the link can be found via the website - please take a few moments to provide your feedback as we will utilise this to ensure we deliver what our samaj wants.

The Youth Forum is here to work for you – help us to help you and get involved.

In unity there is strength!

**Hamel D. Patel** - AMSUK Youth Forum Chair

## GAMONNATI FORUM

The Gamonnati forum is for UK based Gams Mandal representatives to meet and discuss common issues for the betterment of our Gams in India. These Gams in the Navsari District are our ancestral homes and inheritance hence we have an affinity with them and entirely appropriate for us to be involved in its development.

This forum has meet over the last 4 years and the many issues have been identified and collated (details on Mandhata-uk.com website). Now the forum is seeking ways to address the issues in our Gams. Few Gams have taken steps but most struggle to even find the basic information due to no or little cooperation back in their Gams. Perhaps the systems over there are not understood or the locals have a distrust of their now "foreign cousins".

Some progress has been made with few local projects where there is cooperation and "hands-on" involvement by the overseas donors. The Gam Panchayat and Sarpanch, who are elected and responsible for local government admiration are the key person to make the difference.

The **Panchayat raj** is the oldest system of local government in India and dates back to the c. 250 AD period. Traditionally, these assemblies settled disputes between individuals and between villages but are also involved in local administration of justice, education, land and utilities. The leader of the panchayat is called the sarpanch or mukhiv and do carry a lot of authority but are not autonomous. Issues and concerns if required can be elevated the higher level right up to the office of Prime minister but would require real perseverance and to deal with the "desi-ways" in the escalation steps.

For Navsari District there is a website that provides the local information and contact details of elected individuals. See <http://www.navsari.panchayatgujarat.gov.in/home> for more information in Gujarati and English for elected contacts and their roles and responsibilities and the wider picture.



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[www.sharmanfielding.com](http://www.sharmanfielding.com)

**Shree Mandhata Youth and Community Association**  
**East London and Essex. Reg Charity:1015211**  
**60 Beverley Gardens, Emerson Park, Hornchurch, Essex, RM11 3NX. Tel 0790594834**

Secretary: Natu Somabhai President: Ramanlal R Patel

V. President: Parshotbhai D Patel Treasurer: Natverlal N Patel  
Asst Secretary: Mohanbhai K. Patel. Assistant Treasurer: Chandralekhaben K Patel.  
Auditor: Parbhubhai S. Patel

Dear all **Jai Shree Krishna** **Jai Ramji Ki** **Jai Ambe Maa**

I wish to submit the following report on behalf of the East London and Essex branch for your information.

1. **Background information about our Association: Shree Mandhata Youth and Community Association East London and Essex (SMYCA)** Our Association was first established in 1979. We became the registered charity in October 1992 and deriving many advantages. We are affiliated member of the British Hindu Forum (BHF) and National Council for Voluntary Organisation (NCVO). We have about 150 families and members of our Association.
2. **Annual General Meeting (AGM) :** Our 2017 AGM will take place on 11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017 AT GUJARAT WELFARE ASSOCIATION 141 PLASHET ROAD LONDON E.13 FROM 4.00 PM.  
We have already sent out our latest News letters to all our East London and Essex members. The agenda have been widely circulated to all our members and the final accounts will be presented at the AGM.. Minutes of the last AGM, and Secretary's report will be presented by Natubhai and approved by the members. Treasurer's report and accounts for 2016/2017, will be presented by Natverlal. Vice President Parshotbhai Patel will present his report. The present Management Committee will be dissolved and a new fresh election will be held and a new Management Committee will be formed for 2017/2018. The new Office bearers for 2017/18 are as follows: President: Ramanbhai Ravjibhai Patel, Vice president Parshotbhai D Patel, Secretary Natubhai Somabhai Patel, Assistant Secretary Mohanbhai Keshavbhai Patel, Treasurer Natverlal N Patel, Assistant Treasurer Chandralekhaben Kiritbhai Patel, Internal Auditor Parbhubhai Somabhai Patel. Jagdishbhai C Patel and Ishverbhai were added as new committee members.
3. **Navaratri/Diwali programmes 2016** were celebrated very successfully. This year the Diwali buffet dinner took place at Panna's restaurant. I would like to thank Mohanbhai K, Hasmukhbhai S. and Natverlal for taking a lead in making this programme successful. Over 100 people attended this event and enjoyed themselves. I would like to thank all our members and Committee volunteers for their help.
4. **Navaratri/Sarad Poonam Programmes 2017** dates are as follows: FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 TO SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017: **Place: Sandringham School. Time 7.45 PM to 11 PM for all the above dates.** Sarad Purnima garba will take place on SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER. The date/details for Diwali programme will be finalised during the Navaratri.
5. **GUJARATI CLASSES:** We have been running Gujarati classes since 1992. We hold these classes every Saturday at VHP temple Ilford from 10.30 AM. I would like to encourage our children to come and learn Gujarati. This service is provided free. Please contact Natu for further information.
6. It is with deepest regret I have to inform you that our President Bhanabhai G Patel died in Pondicherry, South India on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and his youngest daughter NITI died in London on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017. On behalf of our Association we have sent our deepest sympathy to their family. We are very grateful to Bhanabhai for his major contributions to our Samaj.
7. Memorial service was held by our Association on Sunday 11 June 2017 for Bhanabhai and Niti.
8. I would like to thank all our members, volunteers and the committee members for their help and support. I hope they will continue to help and support in the future.

**JAI SHREE KRISHNA.**

**For the Management Committee, Secretary Natu Somabhai Patel : 07906 594834**

# Shree Mandhata Sahyak Samaj Leicester 1

## President's report 2016/2017

**Jai Shree Krishna and Jai Ambe to all**



Herewith I wish to narrate a short version of activities that has been conducted at our Shree Mandhata Sahyak Samaj, Leicester.

Firstly I am thankful to AMSUK committee for allowing us to present an account of Leicester Mandhata Samaj's annual activities.

As most of you know, the whole of past year has been busy with various activities conducted at our hall. The events hosted were enjoyable and successful, mainly due to the participation and hard work of the office bearers, committee members, and of course the Samaj members. Hopefully this trend will continue in coming years and our community members shall stay united to work together to maintain the cultural activities as well as promoting the spirit of harmony and togetherness with the community members.

### **Senior Citizen's Luncheon Club.**

One of the success story in the last decade has been the launch of Senior Citizen Luncheon Club at our Samaj. Having started with a few members, today, with well over hundred senior members are having forthrightly lunch in a great friendly and enjoyable atmosphere. This has been possible due to the hard work and great enthusiasm shown the by senior members, dedicated catering ladies and other volunteers, especially well organised by our convenor Mr. Dahyabhai and his helping sub-committee members.

Through the year there were visits to other towns on invitation, some other trips to sea side, picnic day at Rutland Waters etc. These activities have created good relationship of closeness, of being a large family of all retired senior citizen and to a larger sense share each other's happiness and loneliness, especially those who are on their own.

My congratulations, on behalf of the committee and myself to all senior citizen members, and the subcommittee of luncheon club for carrying out various activities in harmony, wonderful atmosphere and hopefully shall continue in the coming years as well.

We also wish to thank all the donors, who have generously donated at each sponsored lunch event, so as to provide lunch at very nominal price of one pound. Contd...

## **Shree Mandhata Sahyak Samaj Leicester 2**

### **President's report 2016/2017 contd...**

#### **Mandhata Youth Forum.**

Mandhata Youth Forum, that has been running as a subcommittee at our samaj premises. The Leicester Mandhata Samaj is all in favour of encouraging and promoting participation of our youngsters in running of samaj activities. In 2016 the AMSUK Sports Festival was hosted by Mandhata Samaj and Youth Forum, Leicester, in conjunction with AMSUK, very successfully.

The two day event was held in August at Crown Hill school where groups from towns in England participated. We congratulate all participating towns for their co-operation in making the two day event a great success. We also extend our congratulations to Leicester youths for their hard work in hosting the event but also as well deserved overall town winners.

At Diwali time a Diwali show was organised in conjunction with youths, Bollywood dance teacher and her students and Gujarati class pupils, which was very successful and attended by good numbers of our Samaj members.

#### **Gujarati Classes.**

Another activity that has been on going for number of years is the running of Gujarati classes. The committee is thankful to all the Gujarati teachers who have voluntarily, taken up this task and have done it very successfully. At present there are approximately twenty students attending these classes. Unfortunately the numbers of pupils, attending this once a week class has been dwindling.

We had celebration of Republic day celebrations of India, with participation of good number of Samaj members and young children of Gujarati classes and others.

#### **Women's Forum.**

The women's forum are actively involved in helping to hosting religious events like Navratri, Janasthmi, Hanuman Chalisha etc which were hugely successful with large attendances and generous donations received from donors. Credit for the success goes to our dedicated ladies members and our hard working committee members. The subcommittee of Bharajan Mandal which hold bharajan at Samaj once a week and conduct satsung and Bhajans upon request at individuals residence. All financial donation given goes towards the Samaj.

Unfortunately one of dedicated committee member, and dedicated leader of Bhajan Mandal had to re-locate to London with his wife to join their other family members. A farewell party attend by many members of Samaj was organised at our hall to honour the service that was provided by the couple and their family to Mandhata Samaj since inauguration of our Mandhata in Leicester.

#### **Life Membership.**

As in previous years, I once again requested those members of our community who are not life members or paid up members to become one. This applies specially to our youth members, and participating in building greater samaj. Further request, all our younger Mandhata Samaj to voluntarily come forward to take an active part, with their unique capabilities, to build a better and modern Samaj.

#### **Other Activities.**

Activities conducted by our volunteers Yoga Classes and Bollywood dances classes which are thankfully organised and run by Shital Patel. This year we are sponsoring a dozen girls to participate in annual Garba Competition, organised by GHA with other 25 participating teams. We wish Shital and her students very good luck and success in the competition with their hard work in participation.

Lastly, over the last few years we have been in search for new premises for our Mandhata Samaj which we still continue to persue and hope to make the dream a reality. Hopefully, we shall get all the support from our local community and further assistance from our Mandhata community of other towns and AMSUK.

I take this opportunity to thank all the trustees, office bearers and committee members, and samaj members who have helped and supported me in carrying out duties of the president over the past years. I also thank all the donors for their financial support.

I take a great pride and feel-honoured to have been the president and able to serve our community and hope to continue doing so for the welfare and prosperity of our samaj.

**Jay Shree Krishna**

**Dr. Rasikbhai Patel - President.**

**Shree Mandhata Samaj Walsall (1)**

**Shree Mandhata Samaj Walsall, M. B. C.**

**श्री मांधाता समाज वोलसोल**

**विना सहकार नहि उध्दार**

**PRESIDENT**

**Mr Gulabbhai C Patel**

209 Darlaston Road Walsall WS2 9QZ

Tele: 01922 861754

**Mr Arvindbhai G Patel**

**TREASURER**

**Mr Kantibhai N Patel**

**Ms Darshna Patel**

**SECRETARY**

**Mr Jagubhai N Patel**

108 Kingsley Street Walsall WS2 9SD

Tele: 01922 724568

**Mr Morarji B Patel**



**Presidents Report**

Having completed my 17<sup>th</sup> year as President of Mandhata Samaj Walsall, I would like to express how honoured and privileged I feel having held this position. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all fellow committee members, trustees, members of Walsall Mandhata Samaj and my family for your continued support to me and your dedication to our Samaj.

Today I would like to take this opportunity to write a few words about the history of Mandhata Samaj Walsall MBC.

In 1986, Mandhata Samaj UK (now AMSUK) held a colourful cultural show and AGM where over two and a half thousand members of our community from all over the UK attended and participated. This event was a hugely successful celebration proving that our community within the UK were united, enthusiastic and committed to keeping our culture and heritage alive outside of India.

Mandhata Samaj Walsall MBC was established this very same year to serve our community in Walsall. In my opinion the commitment and diligence of our first President, Shree Narshibhai M Patel (now Trustee) made this possible.

Since its creation the committee has worked together in the interest of its members to organise meetings, parties and seaside trips every year. We have participated in both local and national community events.

In 1990, the Walsall Mandhata Youth committee united with its elder committee members to successfully host the AMSUK annual youth festival held in Walsall. Over four hundred youngsters from all over the UK took part and our Walsall youth were successful in winning trophies in a number of sporting events.

Our community elders, brothers, sisters and children have shown a great respect for Hinduism and our culture. We worked together with other Hindu communities to build our unique and prosperous community centre and temple 'Shree Ram Mandir' in Walsall.

It has been 30 years since our establishment and we are still committed to the welfare of our Samaj. To thank our elders for their hard work and commitment in establishing our Samaj, an event was held to show appreciation to those over seventy years of age. This was enjoyed by all who attended.

Today we are firmly united. **'Vina Sahkar Nahi Udhar'**

There is 'No Prosperity without Cooperation' - Unity is our Strength.

My best wishes to AMSUK. Thank you.

Jai Shree Krishna.

## Shree Mandhata Samaj Walsall (2)

### Committee Members



### Secretary's Report. **Jai Shree Krishna**

We are proud to state that Shree Mandhata samaj Walsall provided the following activities during 2015-2016.

- **25<sup>th</sup> October 2015: Senior Citizens over 70s gathering.**

A gathering was held for over 70s who have been with our Samaj since its inception. This was to honour them for their hard work and commitment to our Samaj. The gathering was held at James bridge Copper Club, Walsall, where an honorary award was given to each individual.

- **July 2016: Seaside Trip**

Our annual seaside trip was to Rhyl. Both the youth and senior committee members enjoyed this trip, sharing food and drink and enjoying the day together. This trip is popular every year.

- **11<sup>th</sup> September 2016: Annual general meeting (AGM) for SMS Walsall**

The AGM was held at Shree Ram Mandir Walsall. This included a dinner and entertainment with a live Music band.

- **26<sup>th</sup> November 2016: Diwali & Christmas Party**

A successful event hosted by Walsall Mandhata Youth (WMY) committee with help from senior members. A dinner and dance party was organised, held at Imperial Banqueting Suite in Bilston. This was an outstanding event which included a sweet stall, raffle, live children's entertainment, popular DJ and dhol players.

In addition to all these events we also support various events at Shree Ram Mandir, Walsall.

We would like to thank Shree Mandhata samaj Walsall Walsall Mandhata Youth for their help and support during the year. Together we are stronger.

Regards,

**Jagubhai N Patel** - (SMS Secretary) and Committee member.



the gujarati association  
*Cohesion through culture*

## The Gujarati Association, Wolverhampton 2016 Samellan Report 1

### 1.0 Introduction:

The Gujarati Association – Wolverhampton in collaboration with ‘The Association of Mandata Samaj UK (AMSUK), hosted the 2016 AGM/Sammelan event in Wolverhampton. The event was held at the ‘Sitara Hall’, Mander Street, Pennfields, Wolverhampton, WV3 0JZ, on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

### 2.0 Preparation:

The Gujarati Association (G.A), Wolverhampton only really got the confirmation that we would be hosting the above event mid-July 2016. So it really was a challenge to get everything ready and in place by the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

A special thanks and appreciation to all the G.A Committee and all the volunteers from Wolverhampton that made the event possible. Once again the whole community spirit was there for all to see. The photo above unfortunately only shows a few of the people that were actually involved. Apologies to those who had left before the photo was taken.



### 3.0 Actual Programme:

The AGM / Sammelan event programme was as follows:

09.00am to 10.00am:	Arrival and Registration
10.00am to 12.30pm:	AMSUK AGM
12.30pm to 1.30pm:	Lunch
1.30pm to 5.30pm:	Introduction of Chief Guests, Entertainment programme, Raffle Draw and Closing speeches.

## **The Gujarati Association, Wolverhampton 2016 Samellan Report 2**

The morning attendance (for the actual AGM) was very disappointing (approximately 150 people). This increased to approximately 270 people in the afternoon for the lunch and entertainment programme.

Attendance was the 'key' issue. Initially the AGM/Sammelan was scheduled to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016, but was then moved to the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2016. The problem with the changing of the dates was that it still 'clashed' with other events also being conducted on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. There was a 'Bodali Gaam' meeting in West Bromwich and an 'AGM' meeting in Walsall, both of which affected the attendance of the AGM/Sammelan.

Another significant factor was that a lot of Towns reported that they had not received the correspondence (invitations) in time or not at all. This seems to be an annual occurrence.

Aroonbhai (President of AMSUK) in his defence stated that all the 'Mandata UK' contacts were notified about the date change and did not offer any objections to the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

### **4.0 Summary:**

#### **a) Venue**

Without doubt 'The Sitara Hall' lived up to all the expectations. We had so many complements of the facilities the new hall and how it has benefited Wolverhampton G.A.

#### **b) Catering**

The food was wonderfully cooked by the catering ladies of Wolverhampton and assisted by a large number of volunteers.

#### **c) Guest of Honour**

Unfortunately due to the short notice we were only able to get one chief guest: Chaganbhai Patel (Pethan) now living in Wolverhampton.

#### **d) Entertainment Items**

This too was very disappointing in terms of the number of Towns that participated. Only Wolverhampton, West Bromwich, Walsall and Bolton put forward entertainment items.

From the viewpoint of Wolverhampton G.A, the overall event was still very successful. It was a great achievement as mentioned previously due to the very tight timescale in which the event was organised and delivered.

### **5.0 Recommendations for future events**

The key recommendation is based around attendance:-

a) Organise and publish the date of future meetings at least a year in advance if possible, this would allow towns and GAMS to organise meeting around the AMSUK AGM.

b) Need to encourage more participation from our younger members, this could be achieved by having a shorter meeting and perhaps combine it with a dinner and dance type event; or a singles event.

c) Speak to the youth leaders who organise the sports events on how we improve attendance, perhaps have a slot for the winners of the sports events to come on stage.

d) Create events on facebook and publicise it that way as we understand a lot of people were not aware of the event, send out reminders via 'WhatsApp' or email, not just to the main contacts but to the whole community.

## The Gujarati Association, Wolverhampton 2016 Samellan Report 3

### 6. Finances

The total Income, Outgoings and profit made is shown below:-

<b>INCOME:</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>EXPENSES*</b>	<b>Value</b>
Donations	£1,075.00	Food cost	£460.00
Raffle	£955.00	Catering cost	£865.00
Sale of food	£61.50	Raffle prizes	£50.00
Aarti	£71.85	Video recording	£200.00
		Trophies	£65.00
	£2,163.35		£1,640.00
<b>PROFIT/LOSS:</b>	<b>£523.35</b>		

\*Expenses do not take into account the cost of cleaning/heating/lighting etc.

As agreed with AMSUK well before the event, that any profit made from the event would be donated back to the G.A Wolverhampton.

### 7. List of Chief Guests:

<b>Name of Chief Guest:</b>	<b>Village / Town in India:</b>	<b>Town in UK:</b>
Mr Chaganbhai Patel	Pethan	Wolverhampton

### 8. Raffle Prizes:

	<b>Raffle Prize - Details</b>	<b>Donated By:</b>
<b>First Prize:</b>	24 Inch LED Colour TV / DVD Player	Fatehbhai Patel, Heritage Insurance Brokers (W-ton), 44 Queen Street, W-ton, WV1 3BJ.
<b>Second Prize:</b>	Gents matching watch	Mr Kanubhai B. Patel (Karadi), W-ton Mandhata President
<b>Third Prize:</b>	Ladies matching watch	Mr Kanubhai B. Patel (Karadi), W-ton Mandhata President
<b>Fourth Prize:</b>	£50.00 cash	W-ton Gujarati Association, Mander St, W-ton.
<b>Fifth Prize</b>	Gujarati Food Hamper	W-ton Gujarati Association, Mander St, W-ton.

**Fatehbhai Patel**  
President

**Anil R. Patel**  
Secretary

**Naresh P. Patel**  
Assistant Treasurer

## The Gujarati Association, Wolverhampton 2016 Samellan Report 4

The G.A Committee were very appreciative and honoured by the following two e-mails received after the event from Aroonbhai Patel (Ex-President – AMSUK) and secondly from Dinesh Patel (Vice-President AMSUK). To quote:

### Aroonbhai Patel:

“Namaste Fatehbhai, Nareshbhai and Anilbhai,

On behalf of AMSUK, as my last duty of ex-President, I wish to convey my congratulations and appreciation to you and your fellow members of Gujarati Association, Wolverhampton for hosting a very successful 2016 AMSUK AGM & Samellan. I am also very thankful for the hospitality accorded to all those attending.

Despite the low turnout the day’s arrangements the proceedings were very well conducted which clearly was a reflection of the efforts put in by yourselves and your team. The whole programme was efficiently managed and for a change was completed in good time.

The venue, Sitara Banquet Hall with it’s ensuing facilities, was just ideal. It has clearly justified the decision by the Gujarati Association to build such a hall to cater for the community needs, and much to the benefit of both AMSUK and the Mandhata Community. I wish Gujarati Association, Wolverhampton and it members every success in the future and hope that your community continues to flourish.”

With best regards, **Aroon. Ex-President – AMSUK**

### Dineshbhai Patel

Dear All,

“Aroonbhai in his Email has said all that we could said on behalf of AMSUK. All those who attended I am sure were very appreciative of your team’s efforts at the Gujarati Association. They did well and their enthusiasm was obvious to see.”

Thank you and kind regards. **Dinesh Patel. (vice - President)**

## Mandhata Samaj Bilston

**President** : Mr Amratbhai L Patel.  
**V. President** : Mr Kishorbhai B Patel

**Secretary** : Mrs Manjuben A Patel  
**Asst. Secretary** : Mrs Damyantiben N Patel

**Treasurer** : Mrs Sudhaben B Patel

**Trustees:** Mr Chhibubhai D Patel, Mrs Hemaben K Patel, Mrs Manjulaben I Patel.

### Committee Members:

Mr Dineshbhai B Patel, Mr Girishbhai B Patel, Ishwarbhai R Patel,  
Mrs Indiraben B Patel, Mrs Kusumben D Patel, Mr Menesh K Patel, Mrs Rukhiben C Patel,  
Mrs Savitaben M Patel, Mrs Sangitaben A Patel, Mrs Vimlaben G Patel.

Mandhata Samaj Bilston has been affiliated to AMSUK for a long time. We have about eighty to ninety houses of mandhata community residing in Bilston. The annual membership fees is £5.00 per household.

Our main aim is to bring our community together. Our activities are cultural programmes and outings. Last year we organised a trip to South end on sea and Blackpool which was well supported by the community. We have Diwali gathering and Christmas party at the Bilston Community Centre which is enjoyed by the people. Our forthcoming events are:

1. AGM on 9/7/17, 2. Coach trip to Brighton on 22/7/17, 3. Diwali gathering in October and
4. Christmas Party in December.

We thank the Bilston community for supporting us and hope they will do so in future. Thank you.

**Manju Patel** – Secretary Mandhata Samaj Bilston

## AMSUK Sports Festival 2016 (1)



The AMSUK Sports Festival 2016 hosted by Shree Mandhata Samaj Sahayak Mandal, Leicester was held on 20/21 August 2016 at **Crown Hills Community College**, Leicester.



Over 500 participants took part in a variety of sporting activities during the two-day event. The event was also well supported by many friends and family members who attended the event. Although the event was slightly hampered by the weather, it did not allow to dampen their spirits.



A variety of Sports were played over the two days including the usual netball and football. Leicester wanted to try something different for 2016 and therefore, introduced two new sports that proved very successful over the weekend - Indoor cricket for both seniors and juniors and Dodgeball for juniors only.



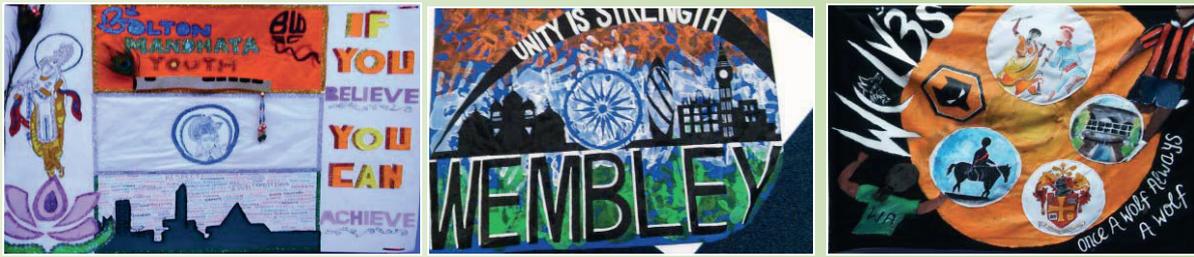
Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves throughout the weekend and many walked away with trophies, some even two or three each. **Leicester** were again the overall winners (two years in a row), with **West Bromwich** coming 2<sup>nd</sup> and **Wembley** coming 3<sup>rd</sup>.



It was delightful to see all participants playing with integrity, dedication and good sportsmanship. The level of skills seen was commendable and each town should be proud of their participants.



## AMSUK Sports Festival 2016 (2)



The weekend catering during the day was provided by a food tent organised by Hasmukhbhai and team. Both hot and cold food was served with a variety of drinks. Thanks go to Hasmukhbhai and his team for ensuring that food was readily available.

The evening entertainment was held at the Prajapati Samaj, in the form of a dinner and dance. Evening catering was provided by the elders of Leicester Samaj. Our thanks go to Ramanbhai, Kantaben and her team.



Overall, Team Leicester felt it was a successful sports festival, despite limitations and niggling problems which were well managed, with lessons learnt for all future Sports Festivals.

To stage such an event it did take many months to plan, with numerous meetings and constructive discussions. Fortunately, for Leicester planning the event was simplified with the invaluable documentation provided by Raj - Project co-ordinator the 2015 Sports Festival hosted by West Bromwich. Thank you to Raj - West Brom and Hamel-Walsall for their advice and support prior to and during the event.

Success of this event would not have possible without the efforts and dedication of the Team Leicester. A big thank you to the organising team Leena, Yateen, Hitesh, Anit, Amit, Mitz, and Kishor, and the Youth members of Leicester for their assistance with set up the day before the event. Special thanks also to the younger members of Leicester Samaj, Jay D, Shreena, Vanisha, Dylan, Tarishna, Piya, Shreya, who came through to give their assistance when things were getting tough. These individuals showed how well they could perform under pressure and tackled issues with maturity and dedication.

The school was also very accommodating to our needs and this allowed the event to run smoothly.

In order to comply with the Health & Safety regulations St John's Ambulance were on site, who were used frequently, and also had Police presence to ensure that we were complying with the procedures for holding community events.

Financially, a surplus of £2,725.37 was reported for the event.

Finally, a big thank you to the Leicester Mandhata Samaj Main Committee and its members for their continued support and provision of Catering.

**Hina Patel-Dhanji - Event Co-ordinator, Leicester.**



## KHO KHO FEDERATION OF ENGLAND

47 The Poynings, Richings Park, Iver SL0 9DS

Tel:+44 7970999562 Web: [www.khokho.co.uk](http://www.khokho.co.uk)

### **About us**

Established in 2014 we aim to promote the sport in a variety of ways. We can train those interested in playing as part of a group, community or organisation, assist with organising tournaments and provide officials to referee the game professionally for competitions held in England.

We are recognised by the Kho Kho Federation of India and we are aware that within the UK there are numerous organisations, clubs and communities playing the game. The rules around the sport impact on its excitement and the ability to display individual/team skill. Therefore, official KKF E rules will be adhered to when the KKF E are involved in any events.



### **KKFE So Far and Our Vision for Future**

Our Founder Chairman, Brij Haldania 's vision to take Kho Kho on an international platform has become true as we have successfully contested against India which is a big step towards KKF E's vision and achievements. We have now successfully executed two national and one international championship.

We have progressed further in our journey with the immense love and support from all the communities involved within UK as well as our partners in India. Our vision now is to take Kho Kho to club level, schools, universities and finally, towards World Cup.

### **Mandhata Players from Team England (International Test matches against India, 2017):**

Aaron Jitendra Parbhu, Dilesh Patel, Jay Gopal (Manager), Manoj Kumar (Coach), Rohit Haldania, Viraj Patel, Priten Patel, Sachin Soma

Kind regards,



Kunal Rastogi -Joint Secretary, Kho Kho Federation of England

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## Globetrotter Backpack

A truly smart, water resistant intuitive design which helps people stay organized in style with 7 well-designed compartments for various items. Padded, adjustable shoulder straps add to the comfort when worn. Upper section is laptop compatible for sizes to 13.3”.



**GLOBE TROTTER**

Dimensions (L x W x D): 44cm x 26.4cm x 15.4cm, Capacity approx.: 28 litres, Weight: 850g, Material: Polyester  
Features:

- Water resistant
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## Globetrotter Drawstring Gym Bag

A lightweight, sturdy, water proof and stylish drawstring bag to suit your active lifestyle. Perfectly sized and tailored with an internal zipped pocket for all your essentials. With its distinctive look and smart detailing - you can be sure to make a style statement, ideal for the gym, school and everyday uses.



Dimension (L x W): 50.8cm x 38cm, Weight: 180 gms, Material: Polyester  
Features:

- Distinctive print/texture and colour
- Inner pocket
- Water resistant
- Ideal for day use / travel
- Complements casual & smart casual attire

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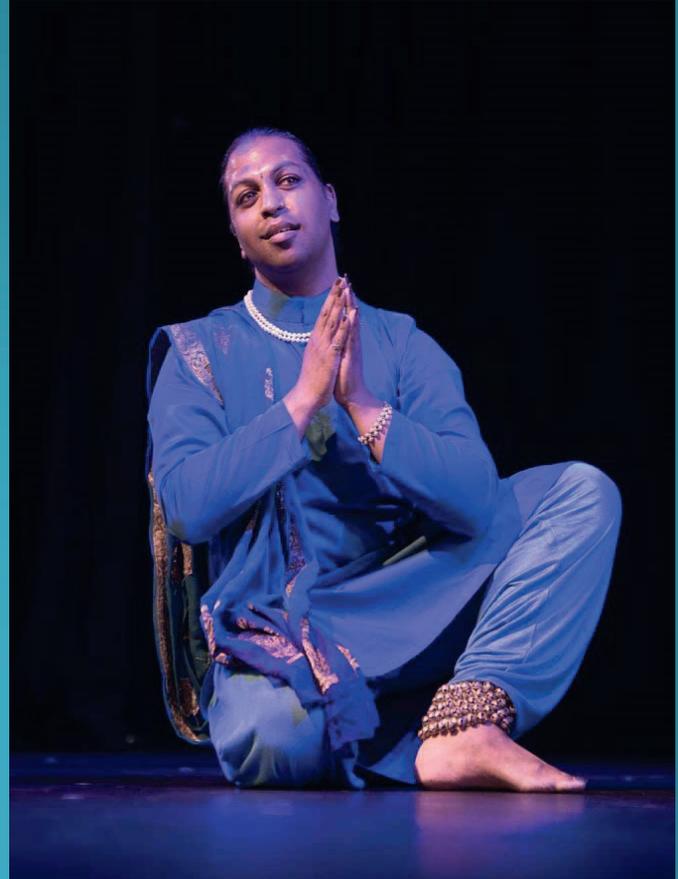
# ARTISTIC DANCE STAR



## Jaivant Patel

An independent dance artist, cultural producer, choreographer and arts consultant based in Wolverhampton.

Artistic Director for **Jaivant Patel Dance** and voluntary community dance organisation, **Jai Jashn Dance**.



Since graduating from The Northern School of Contemporary Dance in 2004 with a BPA (Hons) Contemporary Dance, Jaivant has worked with renowned choreographers such as; Sharon Watson, Laurent Cavanna, Jeremy Nelson, Bisakha Sarker, Tanusree Shankar, Shobana Jeyasingh and Nahid Siddiqui.

Jaivant Patel Dance exists to challenge complexities of inherited notions, perceptions and stereotypes surrounding British-Asian identity. South Asian dance forms, aesthetics and principles inform and influence the creation of contemporary work targeted at diverse audiences. He is currently under the guidance of Nahid Siddiqui for Kathak.



Recognised as a future leader in the arts sector, he was a selected Artist for the 2015-2016 One Dance UK Dancers' Mentorship and Choreographers Observership Programmes.

He was also been commissioned to create a collaborative duet for Southbank Centre's Alchemy Festival in 2016 and performed as guest artist for the inaugural 'Together For Dance' Gala held at Novello Theatre in London's West End.

He is an Independent Artistic and Quality Assessor for Arts Council England and is on the Board of Directors at Dance4.

*Jaivant Patel Dance was a recipient of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and invited to Buckingham Palace to attend The Royal Garden Party, in June this year.*

## An Intrepid venture - London to India

In year 2012, I met Rajendra Karadia in Cheltenham who in a conversation mentioned that he was looking for a companion who could join him to travel to India by car. I was thrilled to hear this, as it had also been my dream for years. For two years, we planned our trip and agreed to start our travel in August 2014. Due to some unforeseen circumstances, we were not able to commence our journey and delayed it for year. In August 2015, there was a massive earthquake in Nepal so again we decided to delay it for another year.



On 28<sup>th</sup> August 2016, intrepid trio,  
**Rajendrabhai, Rameshbhai**  
and  
myself, **Dayalbhai**

commenced our journey to India  
from a park in Leicester.

Our twenty-one year old vehicle was called  
**Con-T1-K1**, decorated with large maps and  
flags of the twelve countries we were going  
through which included U.K, **Belgium,**  
**Holland, Germany, Poland, Lithuania,**  
**Latvia, Russia, Kazakhstan, China,**  
**Myanmar (formerly Burma)**  
and **India.**

The road conditions in Europe, Russia, Kazakhstan and China were good but rough in Myanmar and India. In Germany we experienced car gear problem and had to stop there for five days. Our car broke down again in India but we managed to get it fixed. Our trip, covering 22,000 kilometers took sixty-five days to reach Calcutta. At the border of China, three people accompanied us from U.S.A. I found most interesting journey was in China as Chinese people are very friendly and their country is clean. Surprising no one is able to drive over sixty-nine years and without a guide. The name of our guide was Abby who became so attached that he cried when he left us at the Myanmar border.

We entered India at a place called Moreh (on the Myanmar border) where there was no immigration or custom security, which surprised me. We passed through four provinces, Manipur, Nagaland, Assam and West Bengal. In Nagaland most of the people are Christians who speak English. We reached Siliguri followed by Darjeeling from where we decided to travel in Toy Train Railway system, like the one in Shimla. We wanted to experience a ride on heritage transport. British people built this Railway in 1880 and Darjeeling was a summer resort for British Raj. I was disappointed to see Darjeeling town.

While travelling Kolkata, we passed two major rivers, Brahmaputra near Guwahati and Ganges (the Holyriver) at Kaliachak. We reached Kolkata on **31 October 2016**, which happened to be Hindu New Year 2073.

I have written a book on my venture with further details.

**Dayalbhai B Patel - Wembley.**



## THE ASSOCIATION OF MANDHATA SAMAJ UK

Established 1972

Registered Charity No. 1055169

[www.mandhata-uk.com](http://www.mandhata-uk.com)

President: Hasmukh S Patel

Hon. Secretary: Hasmukh K Patel

Hon. Treasurer: Dilip M Jina

# Singles Event

### Searching for a soulmate, a partner for matrimony?

#### Modern & Professional Singles' Event for the Koli Patel Community

A platform for our Mandhata Koli Patel Community members  
in search for life partners to get together

The invitation is open to singles, divorced and widowed.  
Two categories: Aged 21-40 yrs & over 40 yrs.

*Please note: the Event is only open to  
persons with right to stay in the UK and from within our Koli Patel Community.*

The Singles Event, previously known as Matrimonial, has been ongoing for over 20 years and now takes place twice every year in a neutral and cordial environment.

It is not a matchmaking, dating or Introductions service. Attendance at the Singles Event is by Invitation only, through pre-registration to control the numbers and balance the age and gender of those attending.

All past events have been well attended with around 80-100 attending. There is a nominal charge to the participants to cover the cost of the event.

Feedback from the last two events held in November 2016 and June 2017:

#### Organizer Comments

- *We had people travelling from throughout the UK but it would be nice if they register early.*
- *Participants should make more use of volunteers to talk to people.*
- *59 matches from scorecards, which is highest in the last 5 years.*

#### Attendee Reviews

- *"Very well organised Event, It is well-structured with a modern theme."*
- *"Photo-Wall is a good idea and useful memory jogger."*
- *"Organisers made everyone feel comfortable to participate."*
- *"Food was good and not too heavy."*
- *"Gender/age well balanced."*
- *"Good parking facilities."*
- *"Continued follow up after the event."*

**For further information and details of the next event, please contact:**

Jay Patel, Coordinator - Mandhata Singles Event. 0771 222 8465 [Mandhata@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Mandhata@hotmail.co.uk)  
Leena 07951 842911 [mandhata@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mandhata@hotmail.co.uk)

# CHARITY EVENT

Handsworth Lions Club & The Association of Mandhata Samaj, UK (AMSUK) proudly presented a fund raising concert in aid of charities at the **Shine Star Banqueting Suite** in Willenhall, West Midlands on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**Handsworth Lions Club**  
**& The Association of Mandhata Samaj, UK**  
*proudly presents in aid of charities*

**Dil Ne Fir Yaad Kiya**  
**Saturday 18th March 2017**

**Tariq Saiyed**  
Voice of Rafi

**Roshni**  
Voice of Lata / Asha

**Mohsin Sheikh**  
Voice of Kishore / Mukesh

**With INDIA's Top Musicians**

**Mayur**  
Keyboard Player

**Chirag**  
Dholak / Congo

**Hiren**  
Octapad

**Music Melody Group**

**LIVE IN CONCERT**  
One show only  
*Don't miss it!*

**at Shine Star Banqueting**  
New Railway Street, Willenhall WV13 1LJ

**Ticket Price £19.50 per head includes Buffet Meal - £180 table of 10**  
Tables available on first come basis

**DOORS OPEN: 7:30PM**

Lion Kanu Patel 07961 832916 or Lion Vikram Thakore 07802 197782

**Tickets From**

Dahyabhai 07738 208868	Vinu Chauhan 07956872031
Sarju 07818007286	Jashu Parekh 07503731389
Kokila 07956231054	Jitesh Samani 07958 442746
Hasmukh 07963 702416	

"Dil Ne Fir Yaad Kiya" – Music Melody group from India provided live Bollywood Music performed by very talented musicians Mayur, Chirag, Hiren and singers Mohsin Sheikh, Tariq Saiyed and Roshni.

Over 300 people attended the event. A delicious Buffet Meal was enjoyed by all. Funds were raised for the two charity organisations; Orphanage in Kenya and Mandhata Sports Festival. The total Income of the event was £6,496 and the total Expenditure was £3,896 thus leaving a surplus of £2,600 which was equally shared between Lions Club, Handsworth and AMSUK. Birmingham Patel Bhajan Mandli also donated £101 for the AMSUK Sports Festival.

A cheque of £1,111.11 was also donated by Handsworth Lions Club to a Cancer Research Institute in India.

Everybody enjoyed the melodious music and danced well into the late hours of the evening. Our sincere thanks to all the volunteers, donors and, most importantly all the attendees for supporting the event.

**Lion Kanu Patel**  
Lions Club, Handsworth

**Hasmukh S Patel**  
President – AMSUK



## THE ASSOCIATION OF MANDHATA SAMAJ UK

Established 1972

Registered Charity No. 1055169

[www.mandhata-uk.com](http://www.mandhata-uk.com)

President: Has Mukh S Patel

Hon. Secretary: Has Mukh K Patel

Hon. Treasurer: Dilip M Jina

***If your 18+ why not become a LIFE member of  
The Association of Mandhata Samaj U.K. (AMSUK).  
It's only £25.00 (one of payment)  
Don't delay - Join Today***

Shree Mandhata Samaj UK is a community of Koli Patels originating from and around the areas near Navsari in Gujarat, India. Various community members had initially migrated to East Africa in the 1940/50's and had adopted the name "Mandhata Samaj". Subsequently, during the 1960/70's, the community members had resettled in the UK and continued with the adopted name, formed local Mandhata Samaj/ Mandals in towns they had settled in.

In 1972 the Association of Mandhata Samaj UK (AMSUK) was established as an umbrella organisation of the various "Koli Patel Mandhata Samaj/Mandals" in the UK. In March 1996, following acceptance of the constitution by its members, AMSUK was registered as a charity (Registration No. 1055169) with the UK Charity commission, under the provisions of section 3 of the Charities Act 1993.

AMSUK's aims are to foster unity, promote social welfare and preserve the social, cultural and religious values of the Mandhata Community.

AMSUK's mission is to develop and maintain a strong, vibrant and cohesive Mandhata Samaj that values and promotes our Hindu faith and cultural heritage.

At present the Mandhata community in UK is estimated to be circa 7,000 families with a total of about 30,000 community members. It is one of the largest group of ethnic groups in UK. Apart UK, its ancestry in towns and villages (Gaams) in India, the Mandhata community also resides in many other towns and cities in North America, Africa, Canada, New Zealand and many other countries.

AMSUK has over one thousand members spread across fifteen (15) affiliated towns in the UK including; Bolton, Bradford, Birmingham, Bilston, Dudley, Preston, East London and Essex, Leicester, Loughborough, Luton, Walsall, West Bromwich, Wembley, Wolverhampton and Coventry. However, there are affiliated individual members living in many other towns in the UK, such as; Manchester, Stalybridge, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Rugby, Peterborough, etc.

Please return the completed form together with your cheque made payable  
in the name of "Association of Mandhata Samaj UK" to:  
**The Hon. Secretary, AMSUK**



# Association of Mandhata Samaj UK

[www.mandhata-UK.com](http://www.mandhata-UK.com)

Registered Charity No. 1055169

## APPLICATION FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

The Association of Mandhata Samaj UK (AMSUK) is a registered charity established to promote social welfare of the Mandhata Hindu community. Individuals, over the age of 18 years, from the Mandhata community are eligible to become Life or Annual members in accordance with Clause 7 of the AMSUK Constitution. Such Individuals, therefore, wishing to become members of the AMSUK, shall duly complete the Admission Form as detailed below and submit the same together with the required subscription fee to the AMSUK Secretary.

**I wish to become a member of the AMSUK. If accepted, I shall abide by  
The AMSUK Constitution and its objectives.**

Title: ..... First & Middle Names: .....

Surname: .....

Address (No. & Street Name): .....

Town: .....County: ..... Post Code: .....

Home Tel. No.: ..... Mobile No. ....

E Mail address: .....

Village in India: .....

I enclose a cheque for; (Please tick in box as appropriate) | |

(a) £251 - Patron Life member

(c) £25 - Individual Life member

(b) £151 - Donor Life member

(d) £5 - Individual Annual member

Please return the completed form together with your cheque made payable  
in the name of "Association of Mandhata Samaj UK" to:  
**The Hon. Secretary, AMSUK**

### For Office use

Form Number: .....

Issued by: .....

Received by: .....

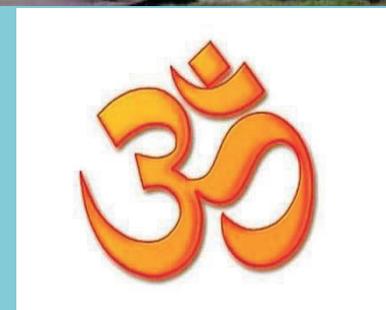
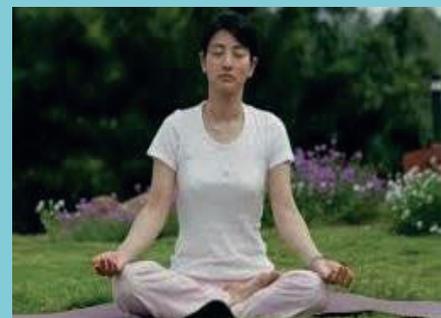
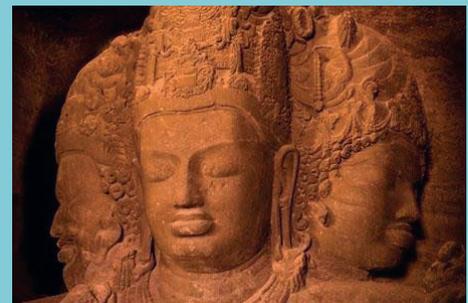
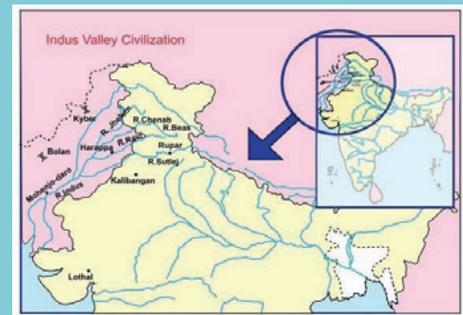
Received on: .....

Application registered: .....

Applicant informed: .....

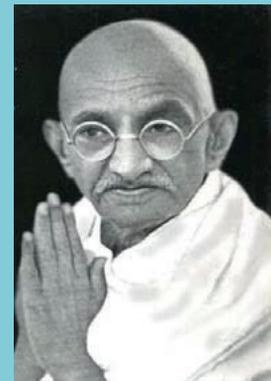
# WE ARE HINDUS

1. Our faith is called Hindu Dharma. It was founded around 2,500BCE and probably the first known religion of man. It has no known founder, teacher nor prophet.
2. The word HINDU comes from the Sanskrit word 'SINDHU' meaning the valley of river Indus hence the people of this region came to be known as Hindus. This is a geographical term so the faithful prefer the faith to be known as '*HINDU SANATAN DHARMA*' [Eternal faith].
3. At the time of its formation, language and means of communication were less developed hence it is presumed that imagery in the form of figurines and statues (*Murtis*) to describe god in his various qualitative manifestations were created. Even today this tradition continues with paintings and pictures of various deities. The Murtis, following a sacred ceremony of *Pran Prastishtha* (consecration) are placed in temples or home shrine that became deities to worship.  
  
Trimurti is one of the many murties that symbolises god's holy trinity: *Brahma* [creator], *Vishnu* [preserver] and *Shiva* [destroyer].
4. Our faith is based on Vedas which is divine revelation to man, hence also known as Vedic-Dharma. There are various scriptures based on Vedas. The Bhagavad Gita being the foremost, consists of Lord Krishna,s counsel of conscious to Arjun on the battlefields but has been relevant to life for evermore. The study of Vedas and its sections dealing with Brahma [God] is called Vedanta. It is studied in Ashrams through Yoga and deep Meditation.
5. We believe in one god - Brahma (*Parmeshwar*) who has divine power. He is all-pervading (*Sarvnivasi*) all-knowing (*Sarvagn*) and all-powerful (*Sarvshaktiman*). There is only one God but is worshiped by Hindus under various deities that define his qualities and capability.
6. We believe in providence of Prayer (*Prarthana*) for spiritual unity with divine power of god. Prayers, worship (*Puja*) and disciplined living helps us to build unanimity with God. All prayers and meditation start and finish with the prolonged proclamation of "A-U-M" () [sounds like Oohhmm]. This sacred symbol and assertion calls for audience with god followed by *Gayatri Mantra* [main prayer for Hindus]. "A-U-M" () is also accompanied with *shanti* [peace] (*A-U-M Shanti*). Hindus pray when and where ever convenient. In the morning before start of the working day or evening after the work is the norm. Visiting the temple (*mandir*) and offering prayers, performing rituals of puja with family and friends becomes an exceptional and spiritually uplifting experience.
7. We believe in Reincarnation (*Punarjanma*). The spiritual life does not end upon death as the immortal Soul (*Atma*) then relocates on to another new born. The body dies but the Soul continues its spiritual journey until its liberation (*moksha*).
8. We believe *Karma* [action/deeds] (*Purushartha*). Rule of Karma, your deeds envisages that what we sow, we shall reap. We are creators of our own fate.



# WE ARE HINDUS

9. We believe that the Soul (*Atma*) is the conscience of a being or creature during their lifetime of worldly action-pursuit (*Samsara and Karma*). Under the rule of reincarnation, Hindus believe that upon death their Soul relocates on to a new born. That new life could be a creature or a human being. This cyclical repositioning of the Soul continues until its liberation (*moksha/mukti*) is granted by the grace of god. The liberation of the Soul can only ensue when that Soul-benefactor life has been a sincere devotee of god and has lived a spiritual, unselfish and benevolent existence. The Lotus flower is symbolic of both Karma and Atma. A Lotus flower despite growing in murky waters in not soiled and remains a pristine bloom. It also carries seeds inside itself for next generation while it blossoms.
10. We believe in peaceful state of mind (*Prasanti*) and joy of life. It is only through pure thought and joy that we can appreciate the immense magnificence and spirituality of God. We rejoice in this spirituality with prayers and recital of devotional songs and music (*Bajans and Kirtan*).
11. We believe in non-violence, compassion and reverence of all living creatures (*Prani-daya or Ahimsa*). To hurt any living creature, by deed, thought or expression is to deny the presence of God. It is only through pure thought deed and joy that we can appreciate the immense magnificence and spirituality of God.
12. We believe in living a life of respect and reverence for all of God's creations, with love for all and hatred for none and special respect for our elders, parents and teachers (*Gurus*).
13. Hindu festivals are an important aspect for the faithful to fast, pray and celebrate: Birth anniversaries of the spiritual deities (*Ramnavmi, Krishna-Asthami, Maha-Shivratri, Saraswati-puja*). Lunar/astrological events of full moon (*Purnima*), new moon (*Amavasya*), Eclipse (*Grahan*), Start of spring (*Holi*), harvest-time (*Navratri and Durga puja*), end of year (*Diwali*) and New-year. Reaffirmation of family or special bonds for brother-sister/couples/priest-congregation (*Raksha-Bandhan*), brother-sister (*Bhai-bij*), for teacher-student (*Guru-Purnima*).
14. For Hindus their faith is one of personal choice, an article of intimate faith in god who resides in each one of us as our Soul (*Atma*) to provide a moral compass and guidance in everyday life activity. The teachings of the faith above reinforces that relationship with god. As their faith is an integral part of one's Soul (*Atma*) there is no particular need for external expression. Prayers are a means of one-to-one with god. Hindus tend live a family or communal way of life maintaining links with their extended family, community and friends. Attendance at the temple or taking part in any ceremonies is of personal choice and there is no coercion except etiquette, respect and regards for others present. Beyond faith the focus is on personal and family development, enrichment of life through arts, culture, music and work, self-respect and contribution into the wider community.



*Dinesh Patel, Hindu Community, SACRE, Swindon Borough Council*

## Shree Shivji Mandir – Avda Falia



### આવડા ફળિયા ખાતે શ્રી શિવજી મંદિરનો પ્રાણ પ્રતિષ્ઠા મહોત્સવ યોજાયો

રિપોર્ટ : સંપાદક - કોળી પટેલ મિત્ર

આવડા ફળિયા ખાતે રમણિય તળાવને કિનારે શ્રી શિવજી મંદિરનો પ્રાણ પ્રતિષ્ઠા મહોત્સવ ત્રણ દિવસ તા. ૨૧-૨૨ અને ૨૩ જાન્યુઆરી ૨૦૧૭ના રોજ હર્ષોલ્લાસથી ઉજવાયો.

તા. ૨૧ ના રોજ સવારથી પૂજા-યજ્ઞનો આરંભ થયો હતો. લગભગ ૧૦૦ જેટલા નવદંપત્તિઓએ આ યજ્ઞવિધિમાં ભાગ લીધો હતો. પવિત્ર મંત્રોચ્ચારો સાથે ભૂદેવો દ્વારા આ વિધિ કરાવવામાં આવી. આ સાથે જ આવડા ફળિયાના પ્રવેશ દ્વારનું ઉદ્ઘાટન પણ ધારાસભ્યશ્રી અને ગુ.વિ. ઉપદેશક શ્રી આર.સી.પટેલના હસ્તે કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. જેમાં મોટી સંખ્યામાં સૌ ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા. બીજા દિવસના કાર્યક્રમમાં પણ ઘણા ભક્તજનોએ યજ્ઞ-પૂજાવિધિમાં ભાગ લીધો હતો. આ પ્રસંગે વિદેશથી પધારેલ ગામવાસિઓની ઉપસ્થિત ખાસ ધ્યાનાર્કર્ષક રહી હતી.

ત્રીજા દિવસનો કાર્યક્રમ સવારથી જ શરૂ થઈ ગયો હતો. આ દિવસે લગભગ ૧૨૫ જેટલા જોડાઓએ યજ્ઞ-પૂજામાં ભાગ લઈ આ ઉત્સવનો લાભ લીધો હતો. બપોર પછીના કાર્યક્રમમાં પણ ઘણી મોટી સંખ્યામાં ભક્તો હાજર રહ્યા હતા. આ પ્રસંગે પૂજા વિધિ સંપન્ન થયા પછી સૂવેનિયરની પુસ્તિકા છપાવીને તેનું વિમોચન પણ શ્રી હીરાભાઈ કોશિયા, શ્રી બાબુભાઈ સી. પટેલ અને અન્ય મહાનુભાવોના હસ્તે કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. સાથે સાથે લકી ડ્રોનું પણ આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. જેમાં સૌએ આનંદ ઉત્સાહ પૂર્વક ભાગ લઈ પોતાના ઈનામી ભેટનો આનંદ લીધો હતો. આ સાથે જ મંદિરના નિર્માણ કાર્યમાં જેઓનો સહયોગ પ્રાપ્ત થયો એવા દરેક નાનામાં રેતી-કપરી નાંખતા મજૂર હોય કે કડિયા, સેન્ટીગવાળા, કલરકામ કરનાર, ઈલેક્ટ્રીસીટી પૂરી પાડનારથી લઈને આર્કીટેક એન્જિનિયર સુધીના તમામનું જાહેરમાં આભાર સહિત સન્માન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. અને વિશેષ સેવા કરનાર વ્યક્તિઓનું શાલ ઓઠાડીને સન્માન કરવામાં આવ્યું

Shree Shiv Mandir was built on land at Vaal vala Talav, donated in 2000 by the Late Shree Hirabhai Bhana Patel and Family.

Shiva Mandir was completed in January 2017.

*SHREE "OHMKARESHWER MAHADEV", SHREE GANESH, SHREE HANUMAN, SHREE JALARAMBAPA and JIVENTICA MAA.*

The opening ceremonies were conducted over three days on 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2017. A full time priest is now in place to conduct the normal daily routine prayers.

The event was well supported by the local people from all the nearby villages as well as from NRI's who were present or had made special journey to be in India at the time.

I take this opportunity to say a big thank you all those who supported this project whole heartedly. I also must congratulate those who were and are still part of this project, and look forward to their continued support in the future.

Rs 1.14 Lakh has been raised so far and the funds continue to come in. It is tribute to our management committee at Avda Falia, UK, NZ, Canada, USA and African countries for providing the accountability and transparency in completing this project. The main driver was the UK members. The project was registered as a charity in Navsari, with accounts being audited to the new standards as per the local requirement's.

We welcome any donations towards any project, payment can be made our Bank in Avda Falia Mokhla Falia, or the UK, Bank Of Baroda: Account Number:91003517 and Branch Sort Code:60-93-84. A receipt will be provided via email:bobcpatel@hotmail.com.



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## ઉજળી ક્ષતિઓ

સારુ નરસુ જોવા મળે છે જીવનમાં, રોજ નવું કંઈ બને છે આ દુનિયામાં,  
સાચાને જીઠા વસે છે, અનેક ચેલેંજો આવે છે, સહેવુ પડે છે થોડું જીવનમા.

૧. ડોક્ટરને ઇશ્વરનું બીજુ રુપ ગણે છે,  
પૈસાના મોહમાં ક્યારેક ફરજને ભૂલે છે, કિડની લીવર કાઢીને બીજાને વેચે છે,  
એકને નવજીવન આપે છે પણ તે બીજાને મારે છે, પાપ કરે છે પૈસાના લોભમાં.
૨. અર્ધ કાનુની એવી પેઢીઓ ચાલે છે, થોડાક રોકોતો હજારો મળે એમ કહે છે,  
હરખમાં આવીને લોકો કરોડો રોકે છે, થોડા વરસો વિતે છે, પેઢી દેવાદાર બને છે,  
લોકોની કમાઈ ડુબે છે, પાયમાલ બને છે લોકો આવા ધંધામાં.
૩. અફવાને વહેમ સૌને ભયભીત કરે છે,  
સત્યને સમજવાની ન કોશિશ કરે છે, પ્રસરી વધીને તે વિકરાળ બને છે,  
તબાહીનું રુપ બને છે, સાવધાન થવું પડે છે, અશાંતી આવી પડે છે આવા સમયમાં.
૪. સ્ત્રીઓને ઘરથી વહાલા ઘરેણા લાગે છે,  
સારુને સુંદર વસાવવા જીદ પકડે છે, સોનાની લાલચમાં ઠગની જાળમાં ફસે છે,  
ઠગતો ટ્રીક એવી રમે છે, ચમકતા સામે ધરે છે, અસલી ગાયબ કરે છે. અંતે મળે છે તેને પિત્તળનાં.
૫. સારો અને માઠો સમય દરેકનો આવે છે,  
સંકટ સમસ્યા ક્યારેક હતાશ કરે છે, દુ:ખોથી ત્રાસીને આપઘાતનો વિચાર કરે છે,  
જે ઘરનાને વહાલ કરે છે, બીજાનો ખ્યાલ કરે છે, જીવનનું મૂલ્ય સમજે છે,  
અટકે છે ખોટું પગલું ભરવામાં.
૬. રાક્ષસી ગેંગ કુર કર્મો કરે છે,  
નાનાને નાદાનોને કીડનેપ કરે છે, દયાહીન થઈને તેને અંપગ બનાવે છે,  
અર્ધઅંગ બેકાર કરે છે, આવકનુ સાધન ગણે છે, બીજા માટે ભીખ માંગે છે,  
જીવવું પડે છે તેને એવા હાલમાં.
૭. અભાગીના ઘરમાં જો કોઈ અવસાન પામે છે,  
દુ:ખદ વેળાએ ન કોઈ પડખે રહે છે, ન તો આશ્વાસન ન કાઈ દિલાસો આપે છે,  
ન કોઈની સહાય મળે છે, લોકો નજરે જુવે છે, લાશ લઈ પહોંચે છે એકલો સ્માશાનમાં.
૮. હજીયે બુરીને ખોટી પ્રથાઓ ચાલે છે.  
દલિત પછાતોને અછુત ગણે છે, હલકાં કામો સોંપીને મજબુર કરે છે,  
હજીય કેમ સુગ ચઢે છે અને તિરસ્કાર કરે છે, સંતાનો છે એક જ ઇશ્વરના.
૯. રેપના બનાવો અફસર બનતા રહે છે,  
મા બહેનોને બેટીઓ ભયમાં રહે છે, વાસનાનો ભુખ્યો જ્યારે હેવાન બને છે,  
ન તો નાનાને ન મોટાને ઓળખે છે, જે નારીની લાજ લૂંટે છે જે નારી પર જુલ્મ કરે છે,  
સ્થાન નથી તેને આ દુનિયામાં.
૧૦. વિતેલો વખત સારો આજે જુદો લાગે છે,  
માનવને માનવથી પૈસો વહાલો લાગે છે, ઘરમાં આપસમાં એવી ઘટના બને છે,  
હરામી બનીને કોઈ મફતનૂ શોધે છે, સંબંધને સગાઈ ભુલે છે ને માહોમાહે ઝઘડે છે,  
બરબાદ બને પૈસાની માયા જાળમાં.
૧૧. લુંટીને ઠગીને કોઈ ધનવાન થયા છે,  
પારકો મુલક જૂટવી કોઈ શહેનશાહ બન્યા છે, બદનામ મૂકીને જેઓ પરલોક ગયા છે,  
તે શુ લઈ ગયાનો ઇતિહાસ સાક્ષી બને છે, સૌ ખાલી હાથે ગયા છે, અહી બધુ છોડી ગયા છે,  
આ હકીકત સૌ જાણે છે, કેમ નહી અટકે લોકો ખોટું કરવામા.

રચના : જગુભાઈ એન. પટેલ,  
વોલસોલ. ૨૦૧૭

# Thoughts ....

## I KNOW NOTHING BUT I DO KEEP AN OPEN MIND

We have so many people to thank for our survival. I know nothing but I do understand that I have to be grateful to so many people. We have to be grateful to our parents, brothers, sisters, friends, teachers and everyone who guides us to develop ourselves and to live better lives.

We all have to be grateful to farmers for their hard labour for growing grains and thereby providing us with foods on our tables (our daily breads) and clothes to wear.

We should also be grateful to builders as they built houses, flats, apartments and maintaining the infrastructures for us all.

We have been receiving these services (SEWA) ever since we came to this world and as they have been serving me for my survival I should be motivated to do GOOD for other people in this world. I should try and serve other mankind. This is not going to solve the world's problems but it's a good beginning.

Let us all do something (no matter how small, or trivial) for our Community and our countries.

**DIWALI THOUGHT:** *Diwali (Deepavali) is not just about lighting lamps outside but let your inner light shine too.*

## WHAT IS CIVILISATION ?

*Civilisation is neither to have electric lights, nor airplane, nor to produce nuclear bombs.*

*Civilisation is not to kill human beings, nor to destroy thing, nor to make war; civilisation is to hold mutual affection and to respect each other.*

## EDUCATION BEGINS AT HOME TO LIVE A SUCCESSFUL LIFE.

Many people have said that education begins at home. It is our responsibilities to provide our children with moral education. We should be teaching them our customs, values and cultures. By teaching our children good SANKAR AND SANSKRITI they will grow to be better citizens and will learn to respect and appreciate other people.

In this modern world everyone is very busy getting educated so that they can get a better career and earn mega money.

Education is important but to live a successful life and prepare for a successful society with education we also need to concentrate on our cultures, customs and values.

The main purpose of our lives is to recognise everybody and live our true nature which is divine. We need to have an identity and a true sense of belonging to live a successful life.

It has become a NORM in the Western world to go to the university and come out with a degree so that you can get a good job; but no university can prepare you for the successful life.. Its only your SANKAR, CULTURES AND VALUES that will help you live a successful life. What is a successful life? it's a big debate. I will try and express *my opinions next time*.

JAI SHREE KRISHNA. FROM **NATUBHAI SOMABHAI PATEL,**  
EAST LONDON AND ESSEX MANDHATA SAMAJ,  
EMERSON PARK, HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.

## LIFE CENTURIAN



Meesha and Dilesh Patel's tribute to their wonderful grandmother, **Gangaben Morarbhai Patel**, born on **23<sup>rd</sup> February 1917**, who reached the remarkable milestone of **100 years** of age.

Our Grandmother, reached the iconic age of one hundred years on February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017 and to mark this auspicious occasion a celebration was held in her honour with all her family and friends in attendance.



**Gangaben with family**

Our grandmother was born in India. One of 6 children, she married young to Morarbhai Lalbhai Patel our grandfather, and moved to Kenya settling in Eldoret, with and their 7 children Manu, Pushpa, Hansa, Aruna, Mina, Raju our father and Dhanvanti. The family then came to England in 1968. Like many people that came to England at that time, they came with very little but they had determination to improve the prospects for their family.

My grandmother is a strong and inspiring person, she not only has brought up her own children but has nurtured and looked after her grandchildren too throughout her lifetime, always cooking and making sure everyone has eaten.

She has real devotion and loves her mandir, listening to bajans and even to this day she still fasts on Fridays, and has done so for the past 40 years. She brings happiness to our lives in so many ways, especially her smile that turns into laughter, and her combination of warmth kindness and caring, she is someone who is wise and whom we love and respect.

We feel truly blessed to have such a wonderful grandmother and would like to thank her for all her care, kindness and support throughout our lives.

**Meesha & Dilesh.**



**Shrimati Dahiben Bhanabhai Jaswantbhai  
Ravjibhai Karadia**  
**Born on April 10<sup>th</sup> 1914**  
celebrated  
her **103<sup>rd</sup> birthday** on April 10<sup>th</sup> 2017, with  
all her family members in the heart of  
London where she has lived for almost twenty  
years.

Mansha, her maiden name, was born and raised in Dandi and is the youngest daughter of four sisters and two brothers, of late Sonaben and Lalbhai Mithabhai Patel, of Azahani Falia, Dandi. She is a mother of two daughters and three sons plus grandmother to eleven and nine great grandchildren.

In early 1945 Dahiben, accompanied by her father-in-law and her two young sons, set sail from Jaamnager on a "Waand" (wooden sail boat) to join her husband Kenya. It took twenty-two days to reach Mombasa, with great difficulty. At times without strong wind the boat did not move at all for days. There were other young families too and they all helped each other through the strange and life experience journey. Since then, Dahiben has travelled to many other parts of the world in greater comfort.

While in India Dahiben has greatly cherished memories of the father of the nation, Shri Mahatma Gandhji. "Together with my Maayi, we served Mahatma Gandhji, who at times stayed in Dandi in a bungalow next to ours. We were privileged to serve Bapuji, cooking his meals, washing his clothes and cleaning the bungalow. We used to sit with Bhapuji, weaving cotton on Raytiyo (cotton spinning wheel)."



The Salt March was breath taking. I remember marching with Bapu but he had such a fast walking pace that we could never keep up with him. Dandi beach was full of countless number of people, all dressed in white Khadi cotton. All men folk wore white Gandhi topi (Indian head ware). We couldn't see the sand." "My husband was a freedom fighter amongst all other Bhapuji supporters. He was arrested with a lot of people in the vicinity and served prison sentences of six months to a year." "I want to go to Dandi, if I am able to travel with God's blessing." She says with a big smile."

She is still able to look after herself. Walks with a walking stick and support with a Zimmer frame. She keeps herself fairly active, surprisingly she has knitted a few scarves for charity. At the age of 80 she took on the task of refurbishing her marital house in Mandir Falia, Karadi, which with the help of her younger son took seven years to finish.

The Lady as the neighbours know her, has been blessed with good health. She has never been in hospital. We wish she continues to stay well and active for a long time.

**Hirabhai, Chottubhai, Ramaben Naresh Gopal,**

**Jasuben Jayram Kishan and Suresh**

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## “વંદન કરીયે આપણા સમાજ ના વડીલો ને”

### A tribute to our Forefathers

વંદન કરીએ આપણા સમાજ ના વડીલો ને,  
કોટી કોટી વંદન હમારા વડીલો ને,  
વર્ષો પહેલા નીકળ્યા પરદેશ માં,  
વંદન કરી એ આપણા વડીલો ને,  
નાની ઉમરે મા બાપ ને છોડવા પડ્યા,  
સગા સંબંધી સ્નેહી જનો ને છોડવા પડ્યા,  
થોડું કમાવા નીકળ્યા પરદેશ માં,  
વંદન કરી એ આપણા વડીલો ને,  
ભાષાની તકલીફ પડી પરદેશ માં,  
સખત મહેનત કરવી પડી પરદેશ માં,  
જે મળ્યું ખાવા પડ્યું પરદેશ માં,  
વંદન કરી એ આપણા વડીલો ને,

ન્યાત જાત ના ભેદ ભુલ્યા પરદેશમાં,  
હીન્દુ મુસ્લીમ સાથ રહીઆ પરદેશમાં,  
કેમ કરી રહ્યા હશે પરદેશમાં,  
વંદન કરી એ આપણા વડીલો ને,  
ઘર ના ઉમરા શોભાવ્યા રહી પરદેશ માં,  
મંદિર મસ્જીદ ગુરુદ્વારા બનાવ્યા પરદેશ માં,  
ગામના માટે કામ કીધા રહી પરદેશ માં,  
વંદન કરી એ આપણા વડીલો ને,  
ધન્ય હો એવા સમાજ ના વડીલો ને,  
ધન્ય ધન્ય આપણા સમાજ ના વડીલો ને,  
સમાજ નો દીવડો પ્રગટાવ્યો પરદેશ માં,  
વંદન કરી એ આપણા વડીલો ને,(૩)

The above poem illustrates the importance of remembering our forefathers who, at very young age travelled to Africa and England to seek better lifestyle.

The poem denotes the numerous problems and experiences encountered, both when leaving the home land and settling afresh in totally unfamiliar lands.

Our forefathers fought and worked very hard to maintain their roots by building temples, gurudwaras and mosques, in order to preserve religion and culture for the future generation. They never forgot their motherland, sending large sums of donations to maintain their homes and villages in India.

In respect to our elders we salute and honour them for the sacrifices they made in lightening our paths.

**Maganbhai R Patel – Pathanker, Walsall.**

### SHRADHANJALI



*In Loving Memory*

*Late: Shree Kanjibhai Lalabhai Patel*

*22/11/1925 - 14/07/2011*

*He never looked for praises, he was never one to boast. He just went on quietly working for the ones he loved the most.*

*His dreams were seldom spoken, his wants were very few, most of the time his worries went unspoken too.*

*He was there a firm foundation through all our storms of life. A sturdy hand to guide us in times of stress and strife.*

*A true friend we could turn to, when times were good or bad. One of the greatest blessings, a man we are all proud of. We will always love and miss you. Forever in our hearts.*

*Om Shanti Shanti Shanti...*

*Shantiben Kanjibhai Patel and Family*

## Shradhanjali



*In Loving Memory of  
Shree Maganbhai  
Nanabhai Patel  
1926 - 1997*

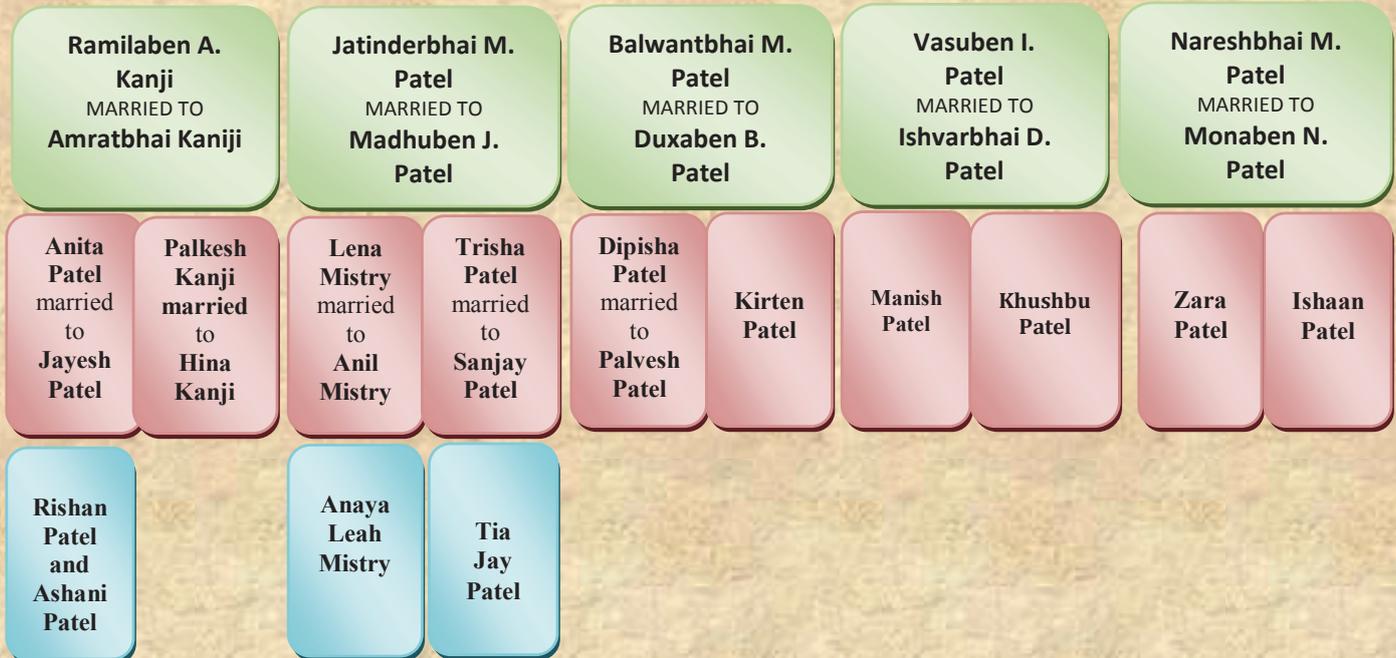


This October marks the 20th anniversary since our father sadly passed away.

A very loving and affectionate husband, father and grandfather; someone who did so much for his family and community with all his heart. It's hard to forget someone who gave us so much to remember. He has been and always will remain in our hearts forever.

Dada, you and baa are the roots and foundation to our family tree, your children the branches, your grandchildren the leaves and your great grandchildren the blossom. When we think of you we think about your loving nature, your heart of gold, your trips to town in your suit, the hidden polo mints in your pocket and that quiet mischievous laugh as we got into trouble and were being shouted at. To know you is to love you, never selfish, always loving and a man that everyone admired. Thank you for the influence on our life. Our regret is that you never got to see your family grow to what it is today but no doubt you look down on us and continue to water the tree that has grown from your roots.

**Om Shanti Shanti Shanti...**





## શ્રદ્ધાંજલી

સ્વ. શ્રી છનાભાઈ નાગરજી પટેલ

જન્મ: 13 એપ્રિલ 1905

નિધન: 27 ડિસેમ્બર 1979

સ્વ. મોટલીબેન છનાભાઈ પટેલ

જન્મ: 6 માર્ચ 1915

નિધન: 29 નવેમ્બર 2016 (101)

જીવન પર્યંત તનતોડ મહેનત કરી, સુખમાં દુઃખમાં હસ્તા રહ્યા.  
દુઃખથી કદી ડગ્યા નહીં, ધર્મ કદી ભુલ્યા નહીં, વૃક્ષ બની છાયા આપતા રહ્યા.  
તમારો પરોપકારી મિલનસાર, સેવાભાવી સ્વભાવ, સદાયે અમને માર્ગ ચિંધતો રહેશે.  
પ્રભુ આપના દિવ્ય આત્માને પરમ શાંતિ અર્પે એજ પ્રાર્થના.  
કદી ના ભુલાશે આપની છત્રછાયાનો વારસો.  
કદી ના ભુલાશે તમારી આંગળી પકડી ચાલેલા બે ડગલાં.  
કદી ના ભુલાશે આપની એ વ્હાલભરી ખીજ.  
કદી ના ભુલાશે આપના અઢળક વ્હાલનો વારસો.

ૐ શાંતિ શાંતિ શાંતિ

Residence: 209 Darlaston Road, Walsall, WS2 9SD  
At & Post: Ancheli, Via Amalsad, Gujarat, India.

શ્રી નાથુભાઈ છનાભાઈ પટેલ, પુત્ર; અ.સૌ. કમળાબેન નાથુભાઈ પટેલ (USA)  
શ્રી ગુલાબભાઈ છનાભાઈ પટેલ, પુત્ર; અ.સૌ. પ્રેમલતા ગુલાબભાઈ પટેલ (UK)  
શ્રી રમેશભાઈ છનાભાઈ પટેલ, પુત્ર; અ.સૌ. પાર્વતીબેન રમેશભાઈ પટેલ (USA)  
શ્રી ખંડુભાઈ છનાભાઈ પટેલ, પુત્ર; અ.સૌ. ગીતાબેન ખંડુભાઈ પટેલ, (USA)  
ગં. સ્વ. નીરુબેન રમણભાઈ પટેલ, પુત્રી; સ્વ. રમણભાઈ હીરાભાઈ પટેલ, જમાઈ (India)  
અ.સૌ. ચંચળબેન રઘુભાઈ પટેલ, પુત્રી; શ્રી રઘુભાઈ કલ્યાણજી પટેલ, જમાઈ (USA)  
લલીતાબેન નાનુભાઈ પટેલ, પુત્રી; સ્વ. નાનુભાઈ વશનજી પટેલ, જમાઈ (USA)  
સતીશભાઈ પૌત્ર; સુરભીબેન પૌત્રી; જયશ્રીબેન પૌત્રી; ડો. જીજ્ઞાબેન પૌત્રી;  
ભરતભાઈ પૌત્ર; ભાવનાબેન પૌત્રી; વિભુતીબેન પૌત્રી; સુનીતાબેન પૌત્રી;  
મિલનભાઈ પૌત્ર; કેતનાબેન પૌત્રી; અનુષ્કા; અનામીકા; ઝારા, પ. પૌત્રી  
તથા સર્વ કુટુંબીજનો.



## શ્રદ્ધાંજલી

સ્વ.શ્રી કરશનજી નાનજીભાઈ પટેલ.  
જન્મ ૨૦/૦૪/૧૯૨૫ (લીરા.યુગાન્ડા)  
નિધન: ૨૫/૦૧/૨૦૦૯ (નવસારી)

સ્વ.શ્રીમતી. લક્ષ્મીબેન કરશનજી પટેલ.  
જન્મ ૦૫/૦૯/૧૯૨૬ (કરાડી)  
નિધન: ૦૩/૦૬/૧૯૯૨ (વોલસોલ)

**હર પળે હર કાર્ય માં ને હરસ્થળે આવે સ્મરણમાં. કાળ પણ ભૂસી ન શકે આપના મધુરા સ્મરણમાં.**

અમારા પરમ પૂજ્ય પિતાજી સ્વ.શ્રી કરશનજી નાનજીભાઈ પટેલની ચિરવિદાય ના આઠ વર્ષ વિતી ગયા તથા અમારા પરમ પૂજ્ય માતૃશ્રી સ્વ. શ્રીમતી. લક્ષ્મીબેન કરશનજી પટેલની ચિરવિદાય ને ૨૫ વર્ષ વિતી ગયા.

એ બધા વર્ષોની એકપણ પળ એવી નથી વિતી જ્યારે અમે સૌએ તમે અમારા સાથેજ છો એવી અનુભૂતીનો અનુભવ ન કર્યો હોય? દૂધમાં સાકર ભળી જાય તેમ જીવનમાં ધર્મને તેમજ સામાજિક કાર્યોને ભેળવીને જીવન વિતાવી ગયા.

એ બધા વર્ષોની એકપણ પળ એવી નથી વિતી જ્યારે અમે સૌએ તમે અમારા સાથેજ છો એવી અનુભૂતીનો અનુભવ ન કર્યો હોય? દૂધમાં સાકર ભળી જાય તેમ જીવનમાં ધર્મને તેમજ સામાજિક કાર્યોને ભેળવીને જીવન વિતાવી ગયા.

શ્રી માંઘાતા સમાજ વોલસોલની સ્થાપનાથી માંડીને સમાજ સવાંગી વિકાસમાં તન મન અને ધનથી સહકાર આપ્યો હતો. તે માટે સમાજ એમનો ખુબજ આભારી છે.

આપ બંનેનો પ્રેમાળ સ્વભાવ, કુટુંબ પત્યે અસીમ વાત્સલ્ય પવિત્ર અને ધાર્મિક જીવન, સગાસંબંધીઓ અને સ્નેહી મિત્રો પ્રત્યેની સદભાવના અમને સૌને પ્રેરણાદાયી માર્ગદર્શન આપતા રહેશે. તમારી છત્રછાયાનો વારસો કદીય ભુલાય નહીં.

પરમ કૃપાળુ પરમાત્મા આપના પવિત્ર અને અમર આત્માને શાશ્વત શાંતિ અર્પે એવી પ્રાર્થના.

**ઓહમ, શાંતિ, શાંતિ, શાંતિ.**

પુત્રો.

પુત્રવધુઓ.

પુત્રીઓ.

શ્રી પ્રવિણભાઈ કરશનજી પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી પુષ્પાબેન પ્રવિણભાઈ પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી ભાનુબેન મોરારભાઈ પટેલ.

શ્રી જયંતિભાઈ કરશનજી પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી મીનાબેન જયંતિભાઈ પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી શુભદ્રાબેન નટુભાઈ પટેલ.

શ્રી મહેન્દ્રભાઈ (મહેશ) કરશનજી પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી દક્ષાબેન મહેન્દ્રભાઈ પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી શાંતાબેન અરવિંદભાઈ પટેલ.

શ્રી રશ્મીકાંત (રમેશ) કરશનજી પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી આશાબેન રશ્મીકાંત પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી પુષ્પાબેન રાજેન્દ્રભાઈ કરાડીયા

શ્રી દિનેશભાઈ કરશનજી પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી નયનાબેન દિનેશભાઈ પટેલ.

શ્રીમતી મંજુબેન અમૃતભાઈ પટેલ.

શુસિલાબેન પટેલ. તથા સર્વ કુટુંબીજનો.

# શ્રદ્ધાંજલી

રામજીભાઈ પટેલ  
નિધન: ૨૧/૧૦/૧૯૯૬



જમુનાબેન પટેલ.  
નિધન: ૧૧/૧૨/૨૦૦૨

## જય સિયારામ

પિતાશ્રી રામજીભાઈ ભાણાભાઈ તેમજ માતૃશ્રી જમુનાબેન મુળ ગામ દાંડી. સમય જતા નાની પેથાણ માં આવી જીવન વિતાવ્યું. અમારા પિતાશ્રી સ્વતંત્રા સેનાની હતા. ૧૯૩૦ માં ધાણાસણ માં મીઠુ નો કાયદો તોડવા દાંડી થી ધાણાસણ ગયા હતા અને પોલીસ નો સખત લાઠી માર ખાધો હતો. તેનો પીઠ ઉપર છેલ્લે સુધી નિશાન રહયા હતા જે બ્રિટિશ રાજની જુલમ નો સાક્ષી રૂપે રહી ગયા હતા. એઓ ગાંધીવાદી હતા અને નવસારી મફતલાલ મિલ માં કામ કરતા હતા.

આજે એમનો પરિવાર ન્યૂઝલેન્ડ, ઓસ્ટ્રેલિયા, ઇન્ડિયા, આરબ કન્ટ્રી, લંડન, કેનેડા તેમજ અમેરિકા માં વસે છે.

એમના પરિવાર નો સૂર્ય કદી આથમતો નથી. ભગવાન એઓનો આત્માને ચિર શાન્તી આપે

## ૐ શાન્તી, શાન્તી, શાન્તી,

લિ. એમના પરિવાર ના સૌ સભ્યો. તેમજ યુકે માં :- મગનભાઈ, તેમજ રમણભાઈ ની ફેમેલી ના સૌને જય સિયારામ



## Shanti



*Late Shree  
Amratbhai  
Somabhai Patel*

*1<sup>st</sup> October 1940  
- 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017*



*The family would like to express sad  
loss Amratbhai Somabhai Patel  
of Darlaston Road, Walsall and  
Onjal, India.*

*Amratbhai was born in Matvad.*

*Love from,  
Savitaben Amratbhai Patel  
Vinod, Simone, Nayana and  
Kishan.  
Aruna, Vinod, Miles, Preeti, and  
Preena.  
Anita, Girish, Roshan, and Jenna.*

*Om Shanti, Om Shanti, Om Shanti...*

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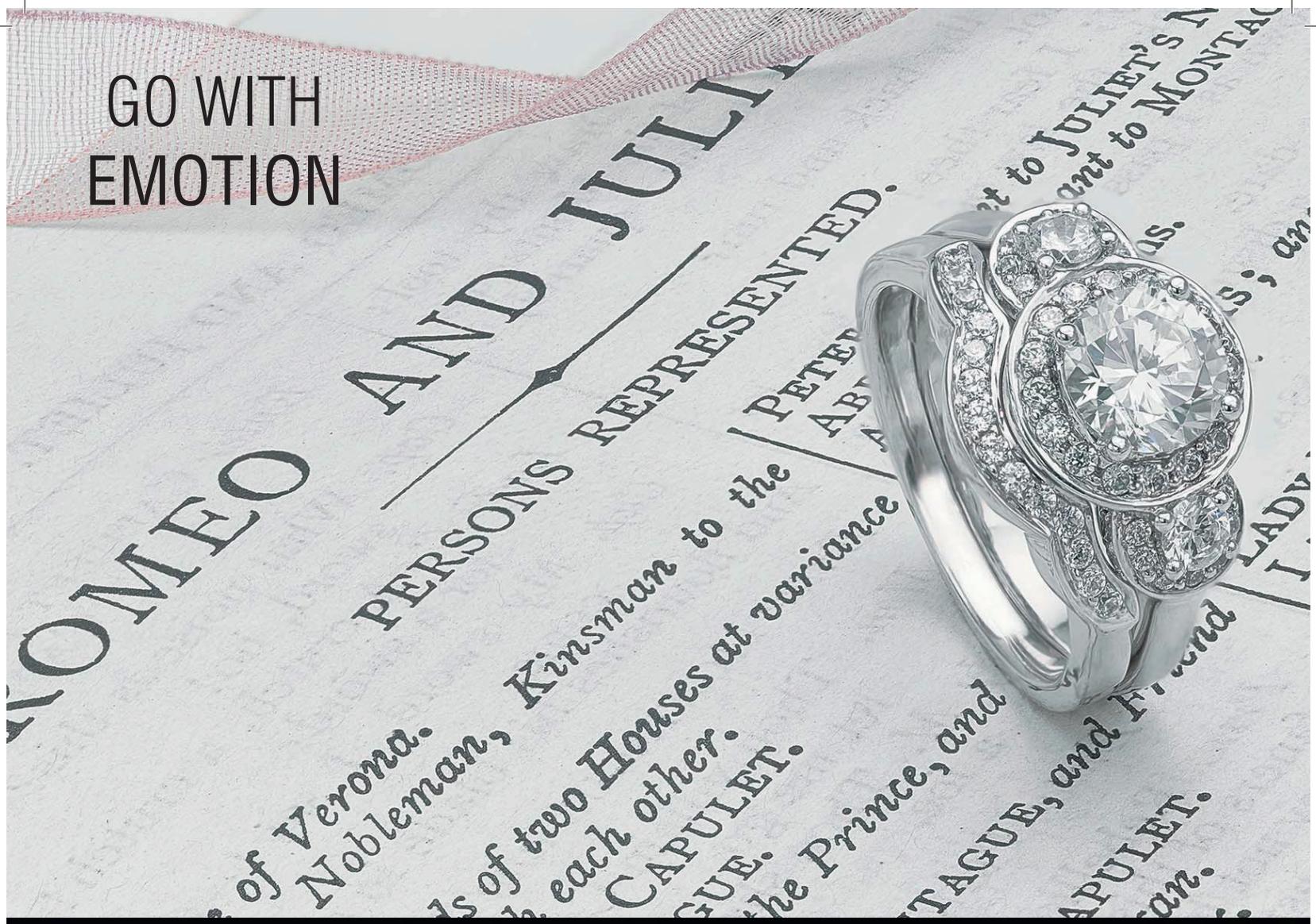
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