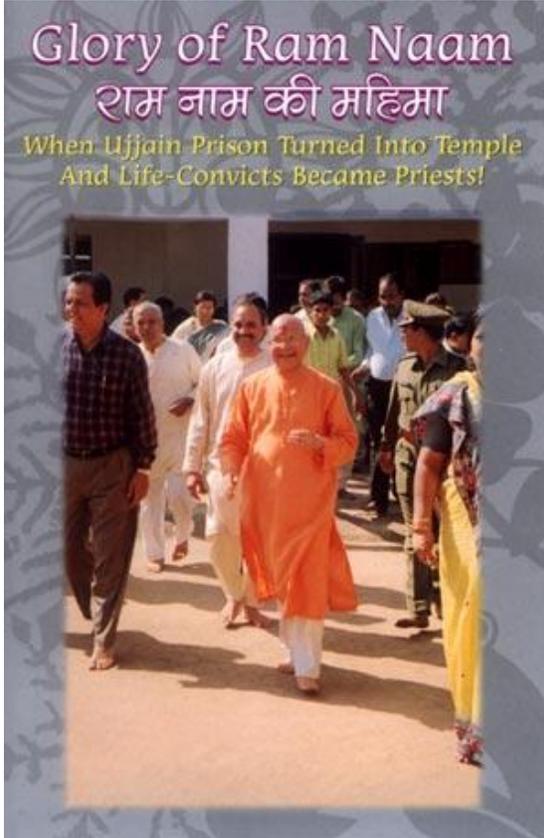


Glory of Ram Naam

When Ujjain Prison Turned into Temple and Life-Convicts Became Priests!



Book Contain

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Letters Written by Prisoner Sadhaks

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Prologue

Glory of *Ram Naam* is like the divine nectar taste of which remains on enigma or mystery. It is for the devout to experience and internalize its essence. But that is possible when a devout completely surrenders oneself to the altar of this cosmic name. Our arguing mind. Logical mind-sets create the hindrances that prompt the doubt in our mind about the almighty. Limited exposure and relativity of known truth make us the so-called slave of the rationality, yet we pretend to be scientific! Yes, life is a matter of experiencing and scientific fervour is of primal importance. Science teaches us to have sincere craving and quest to know the unknown. So please do have the scientific temperament to know beyond the given logic system and knowledge. Science teaches us to believe in the basic given parameters and then proceed with experimentations. Science may reject ideas but it never negates one! And for divine rationality we have to culture it in terms of experiencing the super-logics.

Similarly, the sacred word *Ram Naam* is purely scientific in nature and logical in practice. It works with acoustic vibrations which harmonize the mind, body and soul then it moves beyond the silence where it would lead to the eternal light and that remains a matter of experiencing. Swamiji Maharaj had taught us the *Ram Naam Jaap* which stores all the answers a mind can ask. This *Jaap* has all the remedies for all the mortal ailments.

Naam jaap provides us the path for the eternal salvation from life and death. But this *jaap* cannot be a superficial exercise and nothing could be achieved if one does not have a complete *shraddha* towards this *naam jaap*. Miracles, which are being experienced by the convicts of Ujjain Central Jail are the resultant of their complete surrender to the almighty. This book revolves around this theme where all have seen how generous and kindest mantra - *Ram Naam* can not only change the minds of the convicts but also their destiny!

Today, being Guru Purnima, I with all of you do our *pranam* to *Param Guru* who gave swamiji Maharaj the celestial *diksha* with *Ram Naam*. The *akashvani*, still rent the hearts of all the family members of Swamiji Maharaj. To perfectly remember this day, we have to shed jealousy, conflict towards *Guru-mukh*.

So-called convicts have shown us the path about how to surrender oneself completely and also to reap the fruit. For them, doing *Jaap*, with pure mind, was not very easy affair as they live an imprisoned life where the basic minimum requirement is a distant dream. The overcrowded jails, the unfriendly smell, vicious atmosphere all around could not stop them from achieving the rare spiritual achievements. They have shown how sheer *jaap* can alter their destiny. Such is the glory of *Ram Naam*.

On the auspicious day let us all dedicate our every breath to *Ram Naam* and see how our mortal journey becomes smooth and reach out to the supreme immortal - *Param*

Guru. Having complete faith and utmost *shraddha* for *Param Guru* - Ram will facilitate the salvation for sure and that will be the real celebration for *Guru Purnima*. We can celebrate this day every day and see the miracle happening all around. At Ujjain Jail, the prayer was heard and people got solace and even they are inching towards freedom! So pray and wish for others to reduce the pain of fellow beings that would definitely make you closer to *Paramatman*!

The reformation at Ujjain Central Jail was possible due to the immense efforts of Jail official who had facilitated those convicts a breathing ground for spiritual practices. In this regard Shri S.K.Dave and his team deserves special praise for augmenting path breaking administrative measures. Gautam confided to me that Shri Dave sees those convicts as his own children and Smt. Dave echoed this sentiment too!

Dr. Gautam Chatterjee, as a researcher and writer has dedicated his life and time to understand the mystique Ram Naam as he first wrote on Sadhna Satsang --- A Pilgrimage. Then his 101 *Ram Naam Themes & Thought*. which explained the revealing dimension of *Ram Naam* and then he critically examined the episode of Indore Central Jail when he wrote '*Reformation Through Ram Naam* - case studies of Jhabua Bhils and Convicts of Indore Central Jail. Now, in this book he gives an eyewitness account of the flowering glory of Ram Naam.

Journey to Ujjain Jail - The Mission

It was my second journey back to the land of black soil better known as *Malwa* region. In this ancient land, Kalidasa scripted his immortal plays. But my journey was to look beyond the scripted heritage. Again my travel to Ujjain was also not to script the celebration of Death with the freshly burnt ashes on the pedestal of *Jyotirlinga* where the mortal departure is celebrated everyday. My mission to Ujjain was to witness a solemn ceremony of divine nature which history may forget to record by for 2500 people who were present on this occasion at Ujjain Central Jail may never be able to efface their memory when tears rained involuntarily while listening to Swami Dr. Vishwa Mitterji Maharaj espousing the cause of the convict. Yet, it was much needed monsoon where river Shipra had shrunk its banks with the germinating heat of *Rudra Bhava* and all those present there experienced the magnanimity of *Prem Bhava* flowing anew within the forsaken and forbidden walls of Ujjain Central Jail. On 14th March, 2005 at Ujjain a rare event took place in the history of the Jail and also in the history of Shree Ram Sharnam. Around 2100 convicts awaited to listen to Maharajji, as they lovingly call him '*Guruji Maharaj*'.

I may recall here that I was an eye witness to the Indore Central Jail's divine episode few years back and as a result of which thousands of convicts-*sadhaks* not only got reformed socially but spiritually as well. Later on in order to find out the truth I visited their hamlets and was astonished to find the 'released prisoners' were not only living a healthy life *but* chanting *Ram Naam* and also preaching its glory to the people in the best tradition of *Naam Vistar* as encoded by in *Shree Amritvani* of Swamiji Satyanandji Maharaj.

However, some time later, Swami Dr. Vishwa Mitterji Maharaj, confided in me that he was no more willing to visit Jails and wanted to shun publicity in the much 'politicized' Jails. Yet, he could not snap his emotional bondage with those forsaken souls especially those who were shifted from Indore Jail to Ujjain Jail as they constantly kept him informed about their personal spiritual developments and sought his solace and guidance.

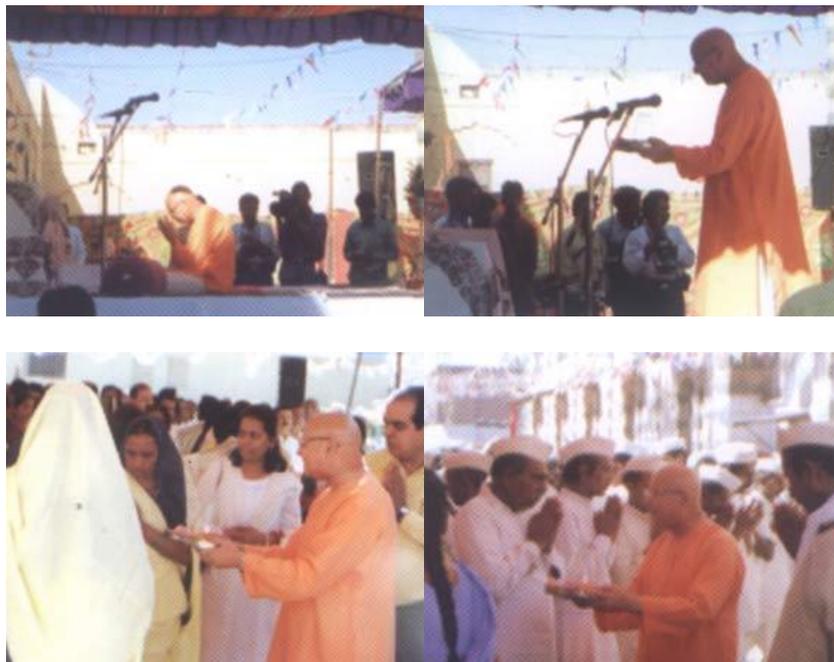
Thus the selfless love and reverence of the convict-*sadhaks* for their *guru* and their endless letters had forced Maharajji to visit Ujjain Central Jail in February 2004 and on that occasion several hundred convicts got *diksha* from him.

Since then not a single day passed without a *dak* meant for Maharajji from the Ujjain Central Jail. Convicts-*sadhaks* never complained to him about their physical ailments or social problems they face unlike most 'free' *sadhaks* do and disturb Maharajji with their trifling personal problems. Those convicts only sought his spiritual guidance and confided in him their spiritual 'experiences' and often looked for remedies for their spiritual aspirations. Seldom have they requested Maharajji to bless their families who are reeling through pain and agony as they could not physically reach out to their near

and dear ones! Their poised gravity flair for writing (though most of them are semi-literates), and begotton contentment with the touch of spiritual excellence created an unfathomable bond with Maharajji which any other so-called free *sadhak* would envy.

Stepping in...

Against this backdrop Swami Dr. Vishwa Mitterji Maharaj had decided to spend some hours with the convicts at the Ujjain Central Jail on 14th March, 2005, a day preceding his own birthday. I was fortunate to be present there on this historic day. Yes, I call it historic for the simple reason that here for the first time Maharajji held an *aarti* beyond the much celebrated concept of *Sadhna Satsang* where the *gyotiof aarti* not only enables one to witness the divine spectacle of *Ram Avataram* enlightening everybody present there with the simple worded prayer uttered by Maharajji on behalf every devout attending the *Sadhna Satsang*. This unearthly spectacle is witnessed and experienced only by those fortunate *sadhaks* whose name are included in the list meant for attending *Sadhna Satsang*. But this rare incident was to happen for the first time within the Jail premises before a crowd of convict *sadhaks* whose numbers swelled beyond 2000.

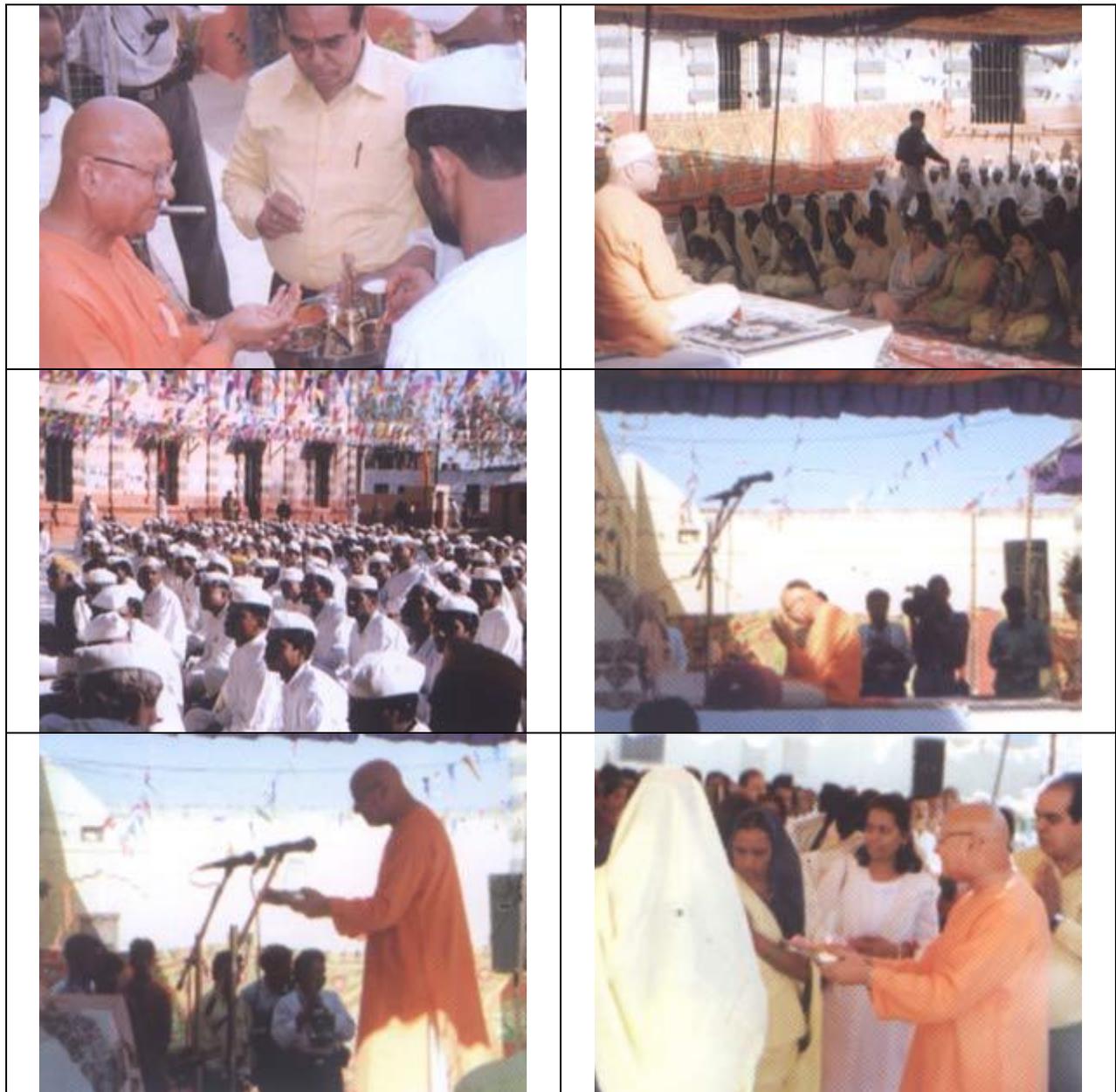


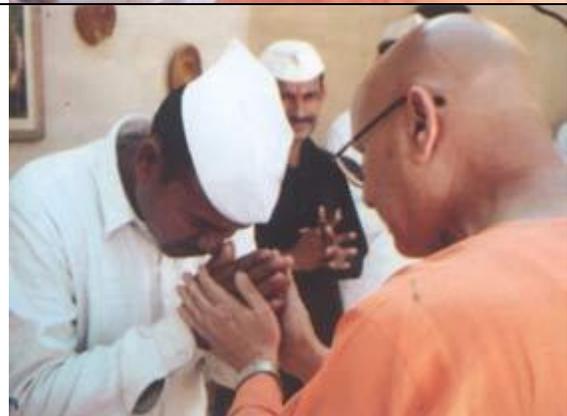
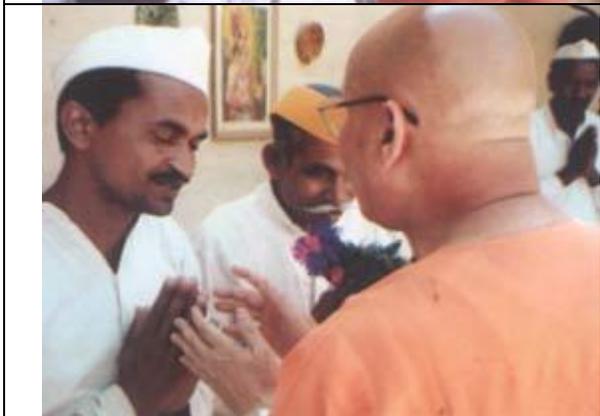
This act of Maharaj ji firstly acknowledged the high level of *sadhna* those convicts were doing and secondly he wanted to empower those 'imprisoned' souls who were not able to attend *Sadhna Satsang* outside the Jail. Thus was the importance and significance of *Sadhnaat* the *Bandi-griha* where convicts were transforming themselves into higher spiritual being. This was a unique demonstration of *Guru-*

shishya relation where sadhaks could reach out to their Guru and their Guru could reach out to them!

Convicts, who generally create chaos, were seen silently sitting in manifold rows in *padmassan* posture as if in meditation! The White Gandhi Topi on their heads created an enchanted vision and in the atmosphere of solemn silence one could hear the chirping of fluttering birds who often distanced themselves from the vicinity of the Jail compound! There were also many with yellow caps on their heads denoting that they were 'senior citizen convicts'.....

Photographs from the Book





Breaking News

Flash from Ujjain Central Jail

Sardar Singh who was transferred to Ujjain Jail was serving life imprisonment for alleged murder. He met Babulal a convict sadhak at Ujjain Jail, thereafter he started "Amritvani" path on his own. Formally Sardar Singh got Diksha in Jail on 14th March 2005 from Swami Dr. Vishwa Mitterji and incidentally his wife got diksha on the same day outside the Jail from Maharajji. Then happened the miracle! Within seven days his appeal was upheld in the hon'ble Court and his sentence was reduced to five years from fifteen years. He has already spent four years in Jail, now he has only one more year to complete his imprisonment. After this he will be a free Sadhak. For the balanced period of imprisonment he has been transferred to Jail which is very close to his native place enabling him to meet his old mother frequently. "Does glory of Ram Naam need any more explanation?"

Letters from Prisoner Sadhaks

" श्रीराम "

म-4/10 महानन्दानगर 30002
दिनांक 1 मार्च 74

प्रान्त-स्मरणीय गुरुदेव

आपके पत्रों में शत्रुघ्न को भी बखाना ।
परम पुण्य स्वामीजी महाराज के पत्रों में कटन करते हुए विनम्र श्रद्धापूर्वक
उंक्ति 22 फरवरी को अखबार में करण्य कर्मजनों के कारण जेल का अत्याग का
दिनांक 20 फरवरी को आता है । 12 नवम्बर की गुरुधरों में समर्पित होकर सम्पन्न हुआ ।
स्वामीजी महाराज की पत्रों में पुनः कटन करते हुए श्रद्धापूर्वक
कि करिब 100 दिवस साधक हस्त में उपस्थित थे । (सि-नाबुजाल श्री न अन्ना नैरु
साधकजनों के सम्पन्न के अनुपस्थित रूप में हस्त में निरात्रकान्ते रंकर स्वामीजी महाराज
के भी पत्रों में भी प्रकृत-वाणी का पाठ के भाव गान में सम्पन्न हुआ । अन्ना-विलेन
तथा स्वामीजी महाराज द्वारा विहित साधकजनों को उपासक का आध्यात्मिक जीवन-अपान
लघुग्रन्थ ~~...~~ छोड़ें से मैं पत्रों कर सभी में निरात्र की ।
स्वामीजी महाराज आरिक्काण साधक भाई अन्ना अन्ना गुरुजनों में
दरमन और स्वामीजी महाराज के अग्रत मानी वाली में आन्तरिक और शुभक मन हैं, दुखों में
पत्रों की अग्रत नाम साधक बहुत अन्ना का 11 तथा अन्ना में गति मीला अन्ना अन्ना अन्ना
आध्यात्मिक को लक्षा श्री गुरु धरों में अपना समर्पण शिक्षण प्राप्त किया ।

स्वामीजी महाराज कृपाकर लघुग्रन्थ/श्रद्धा
दिनांक अन्ना में पुण्य गुरु देव अन्ना
(13 मार्च) को अन्ना में 14 मार्च अन्ना को अन्ना
में अन्ना अन्ना के साथ श्री गुरु लक्ष्मी महाराज
का अन्ना लक्ष्मी अन्ना कर गये ।

परम पुण्य नवल श्री में सत्कर
रूप में रहकर अन्ना मार्ग अन्ना अन्ना
अन्ना खला हैं ।

श्री गुरुदेव को रामनाम अन्ना
लघुग्रन्थ नामक पुण्य गुरु श्री अन्ना लक्ष्मी देव
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श्रीराम चरणाम्

श्री-रिग रोड लाजपत नगर-4
नई दिल्ली

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॥ श्री राम ॥

20. 02. 2004
के.डी.य. मेल - 32004

परम पूज्य सद्गुरुदेव के पावन श्री चरण कमलों में,

बाबूलाल का सादर दंडित प्रणाम ।

मैं आपका एक अत्यन्त दीन हीन शिष्य हूँ । स्वयं की ही अज्ञानताओं से जीवनपथ पर भटक गया था, जिसके फल स्वरूप मैं यहाँ सजा भूगत रहा हूँ ।

परमपिता परमात्मा की कृपा से 6 फरतरी को इस स्थान पर आपके दर्शन करने का, आपके श्री गुरुत्व से अमृत तुल्य वचनों को श्रवण करने, सौभाग्य प्राप्त हुआ ।

दीक्षान्त समारोह में गुरुमंत्र पाकर मुझ दुःख जीव का जीवन धन्य हो गया ।

हे प्रभु! आप बहुत ही दयालु हैं, आपने मुझ अपराधी को अपनी कृपा से सद्मार्ग दिखवाया परमपिता परमात्मा की भाँके की ओर उचित किया। आपसे प्राप्त गुरुमंत्र का मैं सदैव निराम से सुमीरण करता हूँ। मैं अशिक्षित हूँ अतः पत्र लिखने में असमर्थ हूँ। यह पत्र मैं एक बंदी भाई महातीर उपाध्याय से लिखवा रहा हूँ।

(आपका)

बाबूलाल पिता सुशान्त - म. जे.

To.

श्री राम शरणम्

8-ए रिंग रोड

लाजपत नगर-4 नई दिल्ली

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