



# Shree Shree Anandamayee Sangha

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## ANNUAL FUNCTIONS AT KANKHAL ASHRAM

### JANUARY TO DECEMBER (2014)

**Makar Sankranti on January 14<sup>th</sup>:** Shri Padmanabh Puja was celebrated with much enthusiasm in spite of heavy rain and extreme cold weather. Shri Padmanabhji was brought from His Room No.5 (Office building) to the Shankaracharya Hall amidst blowing of conch shells and ringing bells and placed on His beautifully decorated 'Chowki'. Ma's picture was placed on another 'Chowki' which was also well decorated. Br. Pradeep performed the *Shodashopachar* puja amidst the chanting of Vedic Mantras by Pandit Santosh Upadhyayji (Gold Medalist) and the chanting of Vishnu Sahashranam, bhajans and kirtan by the brahmacharinis of the ashram. Brni. Chandandi, Vice President (Ascetic) and her team made an excellent arrangement for the puja in spite of severe cold.

A special puja was also held at Gayatri Yognashala on 14<sup>th</sup> January. On this auspicious day the Akhand Jyoti brought from Varanasi was placed in the Kund. A *Shodashopachar* puja and special havan was performed by a group of senior Sanskrit Vidyarthis and Pujaris of the ashram under the supervision of Sw. Achyutanandaji Maharaj. Amongst the chanting of Vedic Mantras havan was performed. Kirtan and bhajans were sung by the brahmacharinis during Gayatri Mahayagna and 'Hare Nam' Kirtan was performed while doing Parikrama of the Yagnashala.

A special bhog was offered to the deities and a Bhandara was held in which more than 100 persons partook of the Prasad.

**Republic day on 26<sup>th</sup> January:** The Vidyapeeth students, who had returned a couple of days ago, invited the ascetic members of the ashram to a small function held in the Vidyapeeth. The flag was unfurled by Sw. Vimalanandaji and after the National Anthem, the function was held in the Vidyapeeth. Shree Shree Ma's

photograph was garlanded by Brni. Chandandi, Sw. Vimalanandaji and Sw. Shivanandaji. After the children sang some bhajans, the ascetics spoke on the Republic day and the Constitution of India. Sw. Shivanandaji talked on physical, mental, intellectual, emotional and spiritual development of the students which was very essential for complete development of the personality and character of an individual.

**Saraswati Puja on 4<sup>th</sup> February:** Saraswati puja was held in the Shankaracharya hall. Sri Jagabandhu Bhattacharya (Balaida) performed the puja on the very beautiful and attractive Murti of Ma Saraswati. This year the decoration of Ma's Chowki was also unique. There were quite a few local as well as foreign visitors.

**Shivaratri Puja on 27<sup>th</sup> February:** Shivaratri puja will be performed in the Shiv Mandir. Devotees willing to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> Prahar puja or, whole night puja may kindly inform Kankhal ashram at the earliest so that arrangements can be made accordingly. The function will be held in front of the Shiv Mandir.

**Dol Purnima on 16<sup>th</sup> March:** It will be celebrated in the compound of Swami Muktananda Giriji's temple. A special puja will be performed on the Narayan Shila with Kirtan and offering of *abir* to the deity by all devotees.

**Tulsi Ramayan Shri Ram Charit Mansas from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April:** Ramayan path will be held from the morning of 8<sup>th</sup> April (**Ram Navami**) till the 10<sup>th</sup> April by late Malati Bhargava's party, now led by Sri Yogesh Bhassein and Sri Yogesh Sharma in association with the Agra, Rae Bareilly, Morena and Kanpur party. Tulsi Ramayan will be sung continuously day and night.

**Swami Muktananda Giriji's 75<sup>th</sup> Sannyas Utsav on 14<sup>th</sup> April:** A special programme is being organized this year with usha kirtan followed by Laghu Rudra Abhishek and *Shodashopachar* puja of Giriji. There will be a special Bhandara of 51 Sadhus. In the evening there will be a Satsang where talks on the incidents and life of Sw. Muktananda Giriji will be held. All devotees, particularly the disciples of Sw. Muktanandaji, are cordially invited to attend the function. To narrate any incident relating to the life and message of Giriji will be most welcome.

**Akshay Tritiya on 2<sup>nd</sup> May:** Most of the temples have been inaugurated on this Tithi; hence special pujas will be held in Ananda Jyoti Peetham (A.J.P), Shankaracharya temple and Didima's temple. The devotees, who wish to perform 'Ghat' daan, are also requested to attend the function

**Shree Shree Ma's Abirbhav Mahotsav from 3<sup>rd</sup> May to 17/18<sup>th</sup> May:** Janmotsav commence with Sat Chandi Path, Akhand Jap and Kirtan till the tithi

puja. One week before the tithi puja, discourses by Sadhus and Mandaleswar will begin. Raslila and the recitation of various paths like Ramayan, Akhand Geeta Path, Vishnu Sashranaam, Shiva Mahimna Stotra and Kumari puja etc will be held.

In the morning, after the tithi puja, all the devotees will be allowed to enter the 'Garbh-mandir' to offer their garlands and pranams followed by havan and Sadhu Bhandara. After the Manch Puja and Adhiwas Kirtan, the Akhand Naam Yagna will commence till the next day evening.

**(The tentative date of the Tithi puja is on 17/18<sup>th</sup> May to be confirmed after the arrival of the new panchang).**

**Shreemad Bhagavat Saptah from 21<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May:** It is being organized by Sri Gopal Banerjee in honour of Kumari Chhabi Banerjee and the speaker is Pandit Chandra Sekharji. Gyan Yagna will be followed by Kumari bhojan and Naam Yagna.

**Ganga Dusserah:** A special puja of the river Ganga will be held on the ashram Ghat.

**Gurupurnima Utsav on 12<sup>th</sup> July:** Special puja of Sri Padmanabhji, Sri Vyasji, Sri Shankaracharyaji and Didima will be held in the Shankaracharya hall and Giriji's temple respectively. In the Anand Jyoti Peetham, a special puja will be held in the morning and all devotees will be allowed to enter the 'Garbh-mandir' to offer their pranams.

**Second Bhagavat Saptah from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> July:** It is being organized by Sri Raghav and Smt. Vineeta Madhav. The speaker is the renowned Kathakar Sri Shyamsundar Parashar Shastriji of Vrindavan. Any devotee wishing to participate in the Bhagavat Saptah may join with them.

**Jhulan Purnima & Krishna Janmastami Utsav :** These will be celebrated in the month of Shravan and Bhadra. A Special midnight dhyana will be held on Jhulan Purnima.

**Third Bhagavat Saptah from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. to 9<sup>th</sup> Sept:** It will be held in honour of Smt. Kamla Pandya, Sw. Tanmayanandaji, Sw. Shivanadaji and Br. Yoganandaji. The speaker will be Br. Pranavanandaji Maharaj. Any devotee wishing to participate in the Bhagavat Saptah is requested to contact Brni. Maitreyeedi.

**Durgatsav:** It is being sponsored by Smt. Nupur & Sri Anindya Bose (nephew of late Ranu Ghosh). Those devotees willing to attend Durga puja are requested to inform Kankhal ashram. On Vijaya Dashmi, devotees will be allowed to enter the

‘Garbh-mandir’ of the AJP to offer their Vijaya pranams to Ma. Durga puja is followed by **Lakshmi Puja and Kali Puja on 8<sup>th</sup> October and 24<sup>th</sup> October respectively.**

**64<sup>th</sup> Sanyam Saptah Mahabrata from 31<sup>st</sup> Oct. to 7<sup>th</sup> November:** It will commence on the Gopastami day till the Purnima. On the concluding day, devotees including the Bratees will be allowed to enter the ‘Garbh- mandir’ to offer their pranams to Ma.

**Geeta Jayanti Utsab:** The activities of the year come to a close with the Geeta Jayanti - an utsav commence from Shukla Ashtami to Shukla Ekadasi in the month of December. The collective path of six chapters of the Bhagvat Geeta in a particular tune is carried out for the first 3 days, and on Shukla Ekadashi day the collective path of the entire Gita is held. Puja is performed for every chapter of the Geeta during samuhik path. For four days, eminent Sadhus from Kailash ashram, Rishikesh deliver discourses on the Geeta and with that the functions of the year come to a close.

**Jai Ma!**

**Brni. Bishuddha**