

January, February and  
March 2012

# Following the Footsteps...

Prabhu Premi Sangh Newsletter



Volume 5, Issue 1

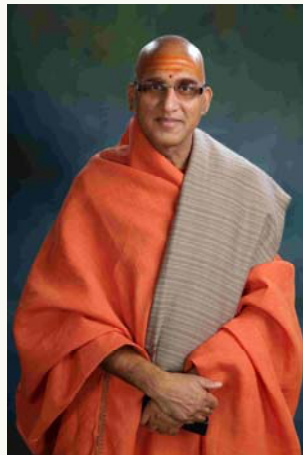
## Recent events:

Shri Ram Katha,  
Gwalior: March 23  
to April 1, 2012

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## Reflections from Pujya Swamiji's Diary...



*Inspiring pearls of wisdom from the diary of Pujya Acharya Sri...*

*Dear Prabhu Premi,*

*Prabhu bless you.*

*The entire world is filled with the existence of God. All creatures of this creation are nothing but an eternal part of God.*

*That which man considers to be his own power, is in essence a small fraction of the power of the Lord. God is the ruler of our senses and mind. He is the Creator, Controller and the Supreme Authority. He is also the essence and basis of all that exists.*

*To know God as He is, to become established in His form, and to fill life with His divine splendor, is 'yog'.*

*With best wishes,  
Swami Avdhesanand Giri*

## News in a Nutshell

Hari Om!

The holy Chaitra month marks the onset of the spring season, and is a time for spiritual practice, prayer, and worship. The changing seasons inspire us to awaken seeds of change within us, which if sowed in our hearts with

care, could gradually sprout to bring forth a whole new personality.

During the months of January, February and March 2012, H.H. Swamiji conducted kathas, discourses and lectures in various parts of the country. Shri Ram Katha

was held at the holy Salasar Dham, Rajasthan from January 28 to February 3, 2012 and at Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh from March 23 to April 1, 2012.

In the forthcoming month, discourses will be held in different cities of India.

## Following the Footsteps

## Every Form of the Mother is Divine

'Motherhood' is eternal and everlasting. Without it, there can be no creation. All living or nonliving things that are visible to us, have definitely taken birth from some Element. A child cannot be born without a mother. To give birth or to create – is one aspect of motherhood. The other aspect of it is– upbringing of the child.

It is the mother who nurtures and brings up a child. Without her, a child cannot get associated with the rest of the creation. This task of upbringing is not just physical. It does not include mere feeding or bathing the infant. It encompasses all the invisible affection and goodwill which she constantly showers upon the child. That is why a mother can become old, but her love never ages. A mother may not live forever,

but her love never dies. As long as the order of this Creation will continue to exist, motherhood is eternal.

The wrinkles on the face of an old woman, her faint vision, the innumerable fine lines of her smile, and the grayness of her hair speak volumes about the ups and downs of her own life. Today she may no longer be a beautiful or attractive woman like before. She may not be the energetic young girl who could take us in her lap and play with us. She is an old mother. She may or may not even be able to prepare food for us. But it is only she who can still give us unmitigated, unconditional and boundless love even today. It is the mother who grants the primary stepping stone for us when we enter this creation. Whenever any



creature takes birth on this earth, the credit of bringing it into this world goes to the mother.

A woman is both a wife and beloved. But she occupies the highest place in the form of the mother. A man cannot even imagine the amount of pain a woman undergoes during childbirth. Bearing this pain, she brings forth a life from herself onto the earth. She creates a whole new being by offering a part of her own self.

It is this motherhood which makes a woman Divine. It is she who forms a protective shield around her child and is beyond any attachment or malice towards her child.

The height of motherly love

and sensitivity that exists in a woman is such that she fears even touching her infant lest he feels troubled. Apart from a mother, no other creature in the world can possess this level of sensitivity.

The experience of motherhood alone completes a woman, and her own personal search renders completion. That is why, in the Indian culture, all the goddesses who are worshipped are known as 'Mother'. The prefix 'Ma' is attached before their Names such as – Ma Durga, Ma Saraswati, and Ma Lakshmi.

Every form of the mother is divine. It is the mother who conceives, creates and nurtures. Motherhood is indeed no less than divinity.

*(Excerpt from H.H. Swami Avdheshanand Giri Ji's 'Gyaan Sutra')*

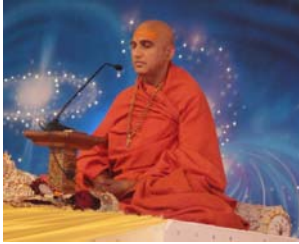
## Mahashivratri Celebrations at Haridwar

*Mahashivratri celebrations were conducted in the divine presence of H.H. Swamiji on February 20, 2012 at Harihar Ashram, Haridwar. Devotees from around the world visited the Ashram on this sacred day to invoke the blessings of Lord Shiva.*

*On this occasion, the ceremonial 'Char Pahar Ki Pooja' and all-night worship of the world-renowned Parad Shivling (Mercury Shivling) and Mahamrityunjay Shivling were conducted from 9 pm onwards, which lasted until the next morning. Vedic chanting was performed by scholars and holy saints. Devotional songs in praise of Lord Shiva were also sung by the group of devotional singers. Devotees prayed, meditated and performed worship through the night. The celebrations concluded the next day with the distribution of 'prashad' in the early hours of the morning.*

### Shri Ram Katha held at Salasar Dham

The divine katha of Lord Shri Ram was conducted by H.H. Swami Avdheshanand Giriji Maharaj at the holy Salasar Dham, Rajasthan from January 28 to February 3, 2012.



The katha was attended by more than two thousand devotees, many of whom had come from different parts of the country and abroad. The katha commenced on the sacred occasion of Basant Panchami (January 28).

His Holiness Swamiji began the katha by explaining the order or cycle of life, saying

that at first, there is a beginning, followed by progress, then there is decline, and finally an end. However, to make the end culminate into the Infinite (*Anant*) is the true purpose of human existence. That who has no end, and is everlasting is – God. Knowledgeable beings, sages and saints have repeatedly said that God is 'One which has no end'. He is omnipresent and infinite.

During the katha, H.H. Swamiji also said that "Light is the natural requirement of man. When a child is born, he becomes surprised on coming face to face with light for the first time. He gradually opens his eyes which were closed for many months.

In the presence of this light,

he begins to see and slowly recognize the objects in the world." H.H. further said that although the external eyes open at birth, this light does not give us lasting happiness.



The light which gives true joy and illumines the meaning of human life is obtained from saints and scriptures. Explaining the meaning of spirituality, H.H. Swamiji said, "To return to our basic nature is spirituality". H.H. Swamiji also said that 'The birth of Lord Ram should take place within our hearts i.e. divinity

should be borne inside us.

H.H. Swamiji enumerated several incidents of the life of Lord Ram including his childhood, his departing for the forest, his life of renunciation and his meeting with various noble characters such as Ahilya, Sugreev, and Shabri. He also described the significant role played by the fearless, great and ardent devotee Shri Hanumanji in the life of Lord Ram, in achieving the divine objective of acquiring victory of the evil.

In addition to Ram Katha, various other events were organized like Sundarkand Paath, Question & Answer Session, Rajasthani folk dance, and Bhajan Sandhya.

### Holi Festivities

Holi is a colorful and enthusiastic festival that marks the victory of devotion over evil. It is an occasion which brings people together, thereby spreading joy, mutual affection and unity.

This vibrant festival of colors was celebrated on March 8, 2012, in the divine presence of H.H. Swamiji at Prabhu Prem Ashram, Ambala. The festivities began at around 10:30 am



and continued until 2 pm.

Devotional songs were sung and folk dance was performed by devotees. Some devotees also recited poems. On this occasion, many saints and scholars

were also present.

Conveying Holi wishes, His Holiness Swamiji said, "The closer one is to God, the happier one is bound to be.

Conversely, the more attached one is to the material world, the unhappier he or she will be." He further said, "God alone is the source of real joy and everlasting bliss."

Following the function, lunch was served to all.

#### THOUGHT OF THE MONTH



*"All divine qualities that are present in the Lord are also present within us."*

## Looking Beyond



God exists within each creature. No matter which fraternity a person belongs to, once born, has the same vital element of the Divine Lord present within him or her. It doesn't matter which religion or country he or she belongs to. One who has learnt the art of looking at all creatures with an equal eye, for him the meaning of humanity changes. But some people can never look further than the physical body.

Once upon a time a child called Ashtavakra arrived in the courtroom of King Janak. 'Ashtavakra' means 'one who was deformed from eight places'. All the learned men who were sitting in King Janak's courtroom began laughing looking at the child with eight deformed limbs. But the bold child did not despair and said to Raja Janak with unshakeable confidence, "I had heard that only learned men and scholars are invited and offered place in your court, but I am noticing that only dealers of flesh and body are seated here."

King Janak was surprised. He asked, "You can't see any scholar here?" Ashtavakra said, "No." King Janak said, "Why?" Ashtavakra said, "Those who are laughing at my disfigured body, how they will possibly see the Lord residing within me? How will they recognize my inner knowledge? Such people can be neither learned, nor knowledgeable."

King Janak immediately asked for forgiveness from Ashtavakra and offered him due respect and honor.

In life, one should always remember that what is always visible is not necessarily everything. To look beyond what is externally seen and at the appropriate time, to be able to see that which Unseen is, paves the path to success.

## Prabhu Premi Sangh

## H.H. Swamiji's Upcoming schedule

- March 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup> : Shri Ram Katha (Gwalior)
- April 2<sup>nd</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup> : Different Places

## CONTACT INFORMATION

(1)



Harihar Ashram  
Kankhal,  
Haridwar - 249 408  
(Uttarakhand), India.



(2)

Prabhu Prem Ashram  
Jagadhari Road,  
Ambala Cantt -133 006  
Hararyana, India.



Mobile: +91-8006008682, +91-8006008683,



Email: prabhuprem@hotmail.com OR pps.ambala@gmail.com

*About the Organization...*

'Prabhu Premi Sangh' is founded, directed and led by His Holiness Param Pujya Acharya Swami Avdheshanand Giriji Maharaj. H.H. Swamiji is the spiritual head of the JunaAkhada, the biggest and the oldest order of the Sanatan Vedic Hindu Dharma, which has millions of saints. Revered Swamiji is the Trustee of Hindu Dharma Acharya Sabha, the apex body of the Hindu dharma. H.H. Acharya Sri is playing a vital role as a board member of the 'World Council of Religious Leaders', a council of great religious leaders devoted to the noble purpose of promoting world peace and communal harmony. His divine vision for the spiritual and social welfare of mankind and his devoted efforts in this direction, led to the formation of 'Prabhu Premi Sangh'. It has beautiful ashrams established in a divine, peaceful setting in the cities of Ambala and Haridwar, as well as numerous branches throughout India and abroad. Prabhu Premi Sangh is constantly engaged in various spiritual pursuits and programs with the mission to promote amongst society a spirit of selfless service, and impart spiritual knowledge via the study of scriptures, yoga camps, discourses and spiritual gatherings (satsang).



Please visit us online at: [www.prabhupremisangh.org](http://www.prabhupremisangh.org).



## Feedback

Prabhu Premi Sangh's e-newsletter welcomes your suggestions, comments and queries. We invite you to share with us your viewpoints concerning spirituality, prayer and meditation. Please email us at [prabhupremisanghnews@gmail.com](mailto:prabhupremisanghnews@gmail.com).

"Small acts of the daily routine done with consciousness paves the way to greatness."