

**Miracles of**  
**Satguru Ravidass Ji**



**Nishan Sahib of  
Ravidassia Dharam**

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**Publisher :**  
**Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Sthan**  
**Mandir**  
**Seer Goverdhanpur Banaras (U.P.)**

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**Writer : Chain Ram Suman**

**Price :**

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**Nishan Sahib of  
Ravidassia Dharam**

**Some Important facts of life Jagat  
Guru Ravidass Majharaj Ji**

- **Date of Birth :**  
Year 1377 AD (Bikrami Samvat-Magh Sudi 15,  
1433)
- **Birth Place :**  
Seer Goverdhanpur, Banaras (U.P.)
- **Name of Mother & Father :**  
Father, Respected Sh. Santokh Dass Ji  
Mother, Respected Smt. Kalsi Devi Ji
- **Name of the Grandmother and Grandfather :**  
Grandfather, Respected Sh. Kalu Ram Ji  
Name of Grandmother, Respected Smt.  
Lakhpati Ji,
- **Name of wife & son :**  
Wief Respected Respected Smt. Lona Ji  
Son Respected Sh. Vijay Dass Ji
- **Brahamlin :**  
Harh Di Sangrand 1584 Bikrami Samvat (1528)  
at Banaras

# BLESSINGS

Throughout his life Shri Guru Ravidass Ji preached for equality, liberty and truthfulness. He exhorted human beings to shun rituals and superstitions. He showed right path of worship of one God. This Dera has made all out efforts to disseminate the teachings of Guru Ji in India and foreign countries through publishing of books, gutkas, pamphlets, weekly Begumpura, documentary films, CDs, and TV programme and sammelans. This valuable book written by Shri Chain Ram Suman is another effort to enlighten the reader about greatness of Guru Ji and history of this Dera. It is hoped that the reader will be immensely benefited with this humble attempt. I feel immense pleasure in presenting this valuable book to the readers with all blessings.

*Sant Niranjan Dass,*

Gaddi-Nasheen,

Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji,

Sach Khand Ballan, Vill & P.O. Bal,

District Jalandhar. (PUNJAB, INDIA)

# FOREWORD

Satguru Ravidass Ji was born on Magh Purnima of Samvat 1433 at Seer Govardhanpur, Benaras. He lived for 151 years. He was one of the leading saints of Bhakti movement. Satguru Kabir Ji has writes in his praise –

Saadhan mein Ravidass Sant hain supach rishi  
so mania

Hindu turk duii din bane hain kachh(i) nahi  
pehchania

Guru Arjan Dev Ji writes in his glory as –

**Uuch te Uuch Namdeo samdarsi**

**Ravidass thakur ban(i) Aaiee**

Guru Ji preached equality, liberty, fraternity and universal brotherhood and worship of one God. He has given us a unique concept of ‘Begumpura’. He has stressed the need of establishment of Begumpura type of governance in the world. In such a state there will be no discrimination on the ground of caste, colour, sex, faith, country. All will be equal and there will be no worry at all. Every citizen will enjoy human rights-social, political, cultural, spiritual.

He laid the foundation of Socialistic Democratic Republic.

The United Nations has adopted the concept of 'Begumpura' of Satguru Ravidass Ji and incorporated in the preamble of its Charter.

The stupendous task of Guru Ravidass Mission was probably left to a great saint Sant Sarwan Dass Ji – the pioneer of Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Sach Khand Bal, Village & P.O. Bal, district Jalandhar (Panjab) to be undertaken. A splendid 'Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir and gamut of other monuments have been constructed at Benaras by the saints of Dera Bal. As a result of their strenuous efforts Guru Ravidass Mission has been spread in India and abroad. And Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji sacrificed his life on 25-5-2010 while preaching teachings of Guru Ravidass Ji at Vienna.

More than 10 lakhs devotees had assembled on 636th Birth Anniversary of Guru Ravidass Ji at Varanasi. Ravidassia Dharam was announced in their presence by Sant Samaj in consultation with His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji Gaddin Nasheen. The tenets of new religion were read over by me with the

ashirwaad of His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji.

For sometime past there has been persistent demand from foreign countries for a book on miracles and life-sketch of Satguru Ravidass Ji including history of Dera and its projects, in English language. This task was entrusted to Shri Chain Ram Suman who has completed it with all humility. He had been blessed by naam-daan by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and is attached with this Dera since then. After his retirement as G.M from Pb. SCFC Chandigarh, he is in the sewa of His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji Gaddi-Nasheen of this Dera. With the ashirwaad of Maharaj Ji he has written this valuable book in simple English.

It is hoped that the reader of this book will get immense knowledge on philosophy and miracles of Guru Ravidass Ji. He will also get glimpse of Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and vast areas of its coverage for Guru Ravidass Mission and human welfare activities.

**Sant Surinder Dass Bawa,  
Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji,  
Sach Khand, Bal. Jalandhar**

# Gratitude

All the miracles of Satguru Ravidass Ji are not found compiled in one volume. There has been persistent demand from foreign countries for sometime past that a book containing all the miracles of Satguru Ravidass Ji and history of Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Bal should be made available in simple English for the readers. His Holiness Satguru Niranjn Dass Ji and Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji were kind enough to entrust this task to me. The subject was beyond my comprehension. However, with their blessings humble attempt has been made in this regard and this small book is in your hands. I humbly express my gratitude to the holy saints Baba Pipal Dass Ji, Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji, Satguru Hari Dass Ji, Satguru Garib Dass Ji, Satguru Niranjn Dass Ji Gaddi-Nasheen, Qaumi Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji and Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji for showering their mercy on me to enable me to write this book.

**Chain Ram Suman,  
155, New Lajpat Nagar,  
Noorwala Road, Ludhiana.**

# **Emergence of Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Sach Khand Bal & A great spiritual saint- Sant Pipal Dass Ji**

Satguru Ravidass Ji has said that there is no difference between saints and Almighty. Saints bless the astrayed people with NAM-simran. Among such saints, there was one highly spiritually enlightened saint named Shri 108 Sant Pipal Dass Ji Maharaj. He was born in village Gill Patti in Bathinda district. His grandfather had decided to settle permanently at Gill Patti after shifting from Kuttiwala and Joganand villages. Sant Pipal Dass Ji's earlier name was Shri Harnam Dass Ji. The parents of Sant Pipal Dass Ji were religious minded and Shri Pipal Dass Ji used to chant NAM of God under peepal tree sitting in solitude. The villagers had deep regard for him. He took up farming of his land. He received education in Gurmukhi. He was a very good scholar of Punjabi and Amrit Bani. He used to read the books which contained apathetic and

renunciatory themes. He was very fond of tree planting. The beri tree planted by him still exists in the village Gill Patti. He was married to Bibi Shobhawanti who was a religious minded lady. He was blessed with NAM by Sant Mohan Dass Ji.

They had two sons. The eldest son was ri Sewa Dass Ji and younger was Sarwan Dass Ji. Sarwan Dass was five year old when his mother Bibi Shobhawanti died. Sant Pipal Dass Ji was very sad. After some time he left Gill Patti village assigning the duty of farming to his eldest son Sewa Dass Ji. By travelling though various towns and villages, Sant Pipal Dass Ji ultimately, reached village Bal. However, he decided to settle at village Ballan in Jalandhar district. The scenic beauty and natural surroundings and *dake* trees of village Bal tempted Sant Pipal Dass Ji. He decided to settle there. Moreover, the residents of the village showed utmost regard to Sant Ji. After some days Sant Pipal Dass Ji left for Singriwal village along with Sarwan Dass Ji to bless NAM to the sangat there and to meet Shri Kaloo Ram Ji. But Sant Sarwan Dass

Ji asked his father that he had been feeling sad and depressed, so please take him back to village Ballan. Both came back and the residents showed them great respect and offered a mud house for their permanent stay there. Here Pipal Dass Ji continued worshipping Almighty and read out teachings and amritbani of Satguru Ravidass Ji to the sangat every morning and evening. There was one peepal tree in the village which was totally dried up. The sangat of the village requested Sant Pipal Dass Ji to make it green again so that the people might sit under its shade in the summer. However, Sant Pipal Dass Ji watered the tree and it became green in course of time. This incident changed the name from Shri Harnam Dass Ji to Sant Pipal Dass Ji. Mark juergens Meyer in his religious book “Religious rebels in Punjab” had beautifully described as under.

“Sant Pipal Dass established the Dera at that location, near village Ballan, around the turn of century while wandering in search of truth. When he encountered the place, he found a peepal tree which appeared to be dead, but after

he watered it, it sprang back to life. Pipal Dass understood this as a clear indication that truth was to be obtained on that spot, so he solicited nearby villagers to donate the land and began constructing his Dera. It soon became the centre of pilgrimage for lower castes and other villagers from all over central Punjab and from its inception it was a center for the veneration of Guru Ravidass.”

It was a worshipping place for the devotees of Ravidass Ji Maharaj, Sant Pipal Dass Ji used to meditate in the west of the village Ballan along with Sarwan Dass Ji during the day in solitude SachKhand Ballan has come up at this place. A school was also started at Ballan Dera where Punjabi and Amrit Bani was taught to children. They were taught the life and mission of Satguru Ravidass Ji. The sangat brought food for him. Sant Ji preached to abstain from intoxicants, not to believe in rituals and superstitions and to respect parents.. When a great social reformer Babu Mangoo Ram Moogowalia was struggling for the establishment of Ad-Dharam and collecting the historical data of

Maharishi Balmik Ji, Satguru Namdev Ji, Satguru Ravidass Ji and Satguru Kabir Ji, he came to meet Baba Pipal Dass Ji collecting literature on teachings and writings of Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj.

The word spoken by a Sadhu is always truthful. Whatever Sant Pipal Dass Ji uttered proved to be true. Once Sant Pipal Dass Ji visited the house of Baba Shami Ram Ji. He took pity on their poor financial condition. He told him that they get out the required grain from the kothi and it will remain full. He also asked them not to check up that the kothi is still full or not. They took out grain from the kothi for 13 months to see whether it is still full. To their amazement the kothi was still full of grain. But thereafter the kothi became empty as the grain was taken out from it.

Sant Pipal Dass Ji visited Arjanwal village to the house of Shri Waryama Ram. His wife requested Sant Ji that she had no child and her mother-in-law always taunted her and threatened her to compel her to leave the house. Baba Pipal Dass solaced her and told her that she would be

blessed with five sons and truly, five sons were born to her including Giani Joginder Singh Ji.

One day when Sant Pipal Dass was going to the village Bal to have some offerings from residents. He was in his own spiritual mood. He stopped in front of the house of Namberdar Piara Singh for alms. Smt. Mohan Kaur w/o Namberdar Piara Singh offered the offering to Sant Ji and politely requested that you were pride of the lowly, shelter for the poor and hope for the hopeless. There was no dearth of anything in my house but I have no child kindly bless me with this gift. Sant Pipal Dass Ji was moved by the request of Mohan Kaur and told her that in due course of time Almighty would bless her with five sons and advised her and her husband to worship NAM daily. Baba Ji came back to Dera. Truly after gap of some years five sons and a daughter were born to her and all the children were very nice having good manners. The entire family always praised all the saints of Dera Sach Khand Ballan. Shri Wattan Singh and Bibi Kesari Devi were living in Muradpur village and

after some time shifted to Alawalpur in Jalandhar district. Whenever Baba Pipal Dass Ji visited their residence, he always asked them to prepare saltish chapaties. When once Baba Ji went to their Muradpur house both Bibi Kesari and Wattan Singh humbly requested Baba Ji that they had no child and politely submitted that he should bless the couple with the gift of a son. At this Baba Ji asked the couple to solve five sweet patasas in water and then knead the flour with that water and prepare the food. They did so and prepared the sweet food for Sant Pipal Dass Ji which he took gladly and thereafter told the couple that Almighty will bless them with the gift of four children. Truly four sons were born to the couple. And doing such kind and munificent acts to the needy and poor, the great saint Baba Pipal Dass Ji left for his heavenly abode on Thursday, first Navrata, in 1928, to be one with the Almighty. The poet Tota Ram had rightly written-

*Jeewan ke udharne ko paapian de taarne ko  
Moorakh sudharne ko aaye sansar si  
Bachan raseele tap tej de hatheele*

*Vishe paanch jin keele shiv shankar murar si  
Unni sau pachasi bikrami si maheena assu  
Chhabbi din gaye chhad ditti gulzar si  
Veerwar din pherr time vi swer wala  
Poorva nachhattara mein pujje mokh dwar si.*

Baba Pipal Dass Ji was cremated towards east of village Ballan where the Smadh Angitha was erected. In the Dera Sach Khand Ballan, a room having minaret on its top is dedicated to the memory of the great spiritually enlightened saint. He left very rich legacy to his saintly son Sarwan Dass Ji who later established the Dera. The Dera is symbolic of spiritual highness and noble values. His Barsi is celebrated on first Naurtatra by holding Bhandara, satsang and hoisting of Dera Nishaan Sahib.

## **Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Ji**

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji was born on 15th February 1895 in the family of Baba Pipal Dass Ji and Mata Sobha wanti Ji at Gill Patti Bhatinda. After the joti jot smaye of Baba Pipal Dass Ji, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji took over the Dera. He held the sangat in high esteem. He himself was a highly disciplined saint. Since the days of Baba Pipal

Dass Ji, he used to come out of the village to a distant quiet place and meditated there for longer hours. He attained divine enlightenment. He had *padam* (flower type of symbol) in his right foot. It signified his predetermined divinity. He built a Kutia of mud and sarkanda on one kanal land donated by one Shri Hazara Singh of village Bal. At this place an elegant mandir stands erected . He moulded his life to three norms SEWA-SATSANG-SIMRAN. He became famous and an example for others for noble values. He treated patients with free Ayurvedic medicines and divine blessings. Also he used to teach children. He strongly preached education among children in including girls. He liberally donated funds for schools, technical schools, colleges.

There was one raised platform in front of the kutia on which Maharaj Ji always meditated and held satsang. In course of time, Sant Hari Dass Ji joined the Dera. Later Sant Garib Dass Ji and Sant Niranjan Dass Ji dedicated themselves to the Dera and joined Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. They all joined for Sewa of the Sangat under the guid

ance of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji.

The writer has been fortunate enough to be close to Sant Sarwan Dass. He spent his night at his place at in village Bal. He always got up at 3.00 am. After bath he would sit in Samadhi. At the dawn of the day, he would go out for a long walk. Then he would come to Dera and give ayurvedic medicines to the patients, redressed individual problems of the devotees. Discussion on divinity were held with the saints and scholars. As soon on he was free from these engagements, he would start satsang. Then he would ask one or the other saint or any devotee from those present to recite amrit bani. This continued up to lunch. After lunch all devotees were requested to go to their homes. Maharaj Ji took rest for some time.

He would again start religious discourses in the after-noon. A little after sun set, Maharaj Ji daily went to spend his night at village place. There again used to be satsang. Many devotees from the Village Bal used to attend night satsang. After ardas at about 10 pm, Maharaj Ji would allow them to go to their homes. This was the

daily routine. Many devotees and saints used to recite sacred bani exhorting us to worship God and to do noble deeds. Many sang soul touching songs in melodious tunes conveying the message of Bhakti. There used to be calm and serene atmosphere. Indeed, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji became successful in creating a cult among the devotees to do good, to learn, to work hard, to spread love and affection, to make life meaningful, to do noble deeds, to be pious, to be an ideal and worthy person and above all to always remember God. He vehemently preached against rituals and superstitions. Following the foot prints of Guru Ravidass Ji, he laid stress on equality, fraternity, dignity, brotherhood. He was very practical. He asked his followers to discard traditional customs and beliefs which are inimical to the growth of human beings. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji was highly distressed when he ever heard of oppression of the weak. He shouldered the cause of the poor and the down-trodden and dedicated his life to the welfare of humanity. He wanted their unity and that inspired them to struggle for regaining their

human rights and dignity.

In those days there were stray incidents of oppression and insulting the poor on the pretext of the religion, religious books, religious place, bani, Bhagat, Guru and the like. He was a great visionary saint. As if he had a premonition of future course of incidents, he held the opinion that Ravidassias should have their own supreme place of worship- the Ultimate Place of Pilgrimage. He shared his views with other leading contemporary saints, scholars, intelligentsia, dignitaries. All supported his opinion. But they extended moral support only. The onus to build a temple on the birth place of Guru Ravidass Ji fell on Sant Sarwan Dass Ji alone. He traced the birth place of Satguru Ravidass Ji at Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi. The construction of 7-storey grand temple was completed during his life-time itself. His dream was fulfilled. Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi is the supreme gift he has given to the humanity. Today pilgrims from the world over visit this holy temple and seek blessings of Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji.

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji fell ill. In the last

satsang he held on 11th June 1972, he asked to recite

Juggan de jug beet jaange  
Tainu milni na manas dehi  
Juggan de jug beet jaange

After the satsang he was taken to American Hospital at Ludhiana where he left for his heavenly abode on 11th June 1972 at about 12 p.m. Huge number of followers from far and near attended his cremation on 13-6-1972 in the premises of the Dera. His body was placed in pyre. It was lit by Sant Hari Dass Ji and Sant Garib Dass Ji. After a short while when the flames engulfed the pyre, a sudden three four feet high gush of stream of blood flowed from his body out of the pyre. It was an unprecedented phenomenon. Probably, he conveyed a message for us all for sacrifice for the poor people.

## **Shri 108 Sant Hari Dass Ji**

Ravidass bhanai jo jaanai so jaan(u)  
Sant anant(i) antar nahi

Satguru Ravidass Ji says that there is no difference between an saint and the God. The saints enlighten human beings through worship

of God. They get them rid of rituals and superstitions. Sant Hari Dass Ji was peace-loving, social reformer, visionary and divinely enlightened saint. He was born in 1885 in the family of revered father Hukam Chand Ji and mother Taabi Ji at village Garha near Jalandhar. His parents were religious minded. He was still a child when his parents expired. He took up occupation of shoe-making and painting. Since beginning he had leaning of hearing kirtan, singining kirtan and the company of Holy persons. He became free from worldly responsibilities after the marriage of his sister Bibi Punna Devi at village Chaheru. He cherished to find an enlightened guru.

Param paras gur bhetyay purab likhit lilat

He heard fame of Baba Pipal Dass Ji. He visited village Bal. In those days Satguru Pipal Dass Ji was staying in a small kutia. One day when Sant Hari Dass Ji visited Dera, Baba Pipal Dass Ji was not there. Sewadars told him that Baba Pipal Dass Ji had gone to village Haripur. Sant Hari Dass Ji followed and reached Haripur. At that time Baba Pipal Dass Ji was speaking in a satsang. When he looked at Baba Pipal Dass

Ji he felt blissful. He felt that he had found an enlightened guru. Sant Hari Dass Ji prayed for naam-daan. Sant Pipal Dass ji told that he would come to his village a day after and that he would be initiated. Baba Pipal Dass Ji visited village Garha a day after and blessed Hari Dass Ji with naam-daan. For most of the time Sant Hari Dass Ji remained absorbed in meditation. He used to visit Dera frequently and stayed there for days together. He also developed affection and regard for Sant Sarwan Dass Ji.

Baba Pipal Dass Ji left for his heavenly abode on 26 Assu Thursday Bikrami Samvat 1985. Sant Hari Dass Ji was very sad. Baba Pipal Dass Ji had told Sant Sarwan Dass Ji that he had blessed Hari Dass Ji with the Naam Daan and that BHEKH be also blessed later. He would also come to Dera permanently. He also prophesied that Hari Dass Ji will be an enlightened saint and that he will enlighten many others. After some time he organised a Sant Sammelan at village GARHA which was attended by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Muslim Faqir Sayyad Ghulam Jalani and many other saints participated. Sant

Sarwan Dass Ji exhorted the human beings to chant Name of God to enlighten our souls to avoid pains of Birth and Death. Faqir Sayyad Ghulam Gilani said in his speech that Sant Sarwan Dass has the Noor of Allah on his face. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji blessed BHAGWA DRESS to Sant Hari Dass Ji. Since then Sant Hari Dass Ji freed himself from worldly entanglements and belongings. He learnt Gurmukhi from Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. He studied amritbani.

Sant Hari Dass Ji was fond of planting trees in the Dera. The mango trees planted and watered by him increase beauty of the Dera even today. He used to teach the children in the Pathshala in the Dera. He often used to say that if 'Mata shatruo pita vairi jo na balo pathita'. The parents who do not impart education to their children are their enemies. Sant Hari Dass Ji was plain speaking. He spoke the language the children understood. He loved children very much. Sant Hari Dass Ji preached satsangat, Bhajan Simran, ekta, smaanta, Bhaichara.

On the direction of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, he laid foundation stone of Shri Guru Ravidass

Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Benaras on 14 June 1965. This is a 7-storey temple today. Devotees from all corners of India and abroad throng to this sacred place. Sant Hari Dass Ji stayed at Benaras for some days after laying the foundation stone. Imli tree under which Guru Ravidass Ji used to hold satsang was dry. Sant Hari Dass Ji watered this sacred tree so long as he remained there. The imli tree has grown up to a big green tree. Pilgrims bow before this imli tree also.

After Joti Jot samai of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji on 11 June 1972 Sant Hari Dass Ji became third Gaddi Nasheen of the Dera. He started construction of temple in the sweet memory of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji on 10th August 1972. It was completed in short span of period. It was inaugurated on 11th June 1974. Idol of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji was installed in the temple on that day. He used to say that if Sant Sarwan Dass Ji had survived for 10 more years, he would also have become a saint. He built a 5-storey temple in a sweet memory of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji at Dera Bal. Satsang Hall was also constructed

in the Dera. He always preached for naam-simran and abstaining from intoxicants.

He used to read out to the sangat  
Sangat kariye saadh ki bandion kare khuda  
Loha kanchan hot hai dekho paras laa.  
Dekho paras laa su mat kar mano haasaa  
Sabh ban chandan hot hai jahan bawan ka vaasaa.  
Keh(i) girdhar kavi gai nadi sansei ki tariye  
Wadde bhaag jab hoi Santan di sangat kariye.

Sant Hari Dass Ji often said that this world is musafirkhana and mithya.

Jinde meriay ni tera koi nahi, aiwen koor  
havelian mallian ni () chhad dena ih des ih  
maapian da phir aan na dekhengi galiyan ni ()  
charkha tand na pavna mile tainu, jadon kant ne  
chithian ghalliyan ni () Tuun vi ronw di jaawengi  
aiss shehron jiw en agliyan rondian challian ni ()

Shri Gurnam Chand Judge had 3 daughters. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji blessed. He got 2 sons also. He visited Dera in 1973. His 3 daughters and one son Bobby went to the nearby flowing canal. In the course of washing hands in the running water in the canal, his son Bobby fell into

the canal and drowned. After hearing this news Smt. Gurbachan Kaur fell unconscious. Sant Hari Dass Ji went to the canal with the devotees to find out the boy. After search for one hour, the boy was seen floating at a distance of 1km. in the canal. The boy was dead. The body was brought to the temple and placed before the idol of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. The parents of the boy prayed to Sant Hari Dass Ji to have mercy. Sant Hari Dass Ji humbly prayed to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji to help and infuse breath in the boy. The boy was then sent to Dr. Shingara Singh at Jalandhar. The doctor examined the boy. The doctor told the boy that the boy was alright. The entire episode was told to the doctor. The doctor told them that it was the mercy and blessings of the saints that the boy is alive even though he drowned and floated in the canal for one hour. In the meantime, the boy came to senses. The doctor asked the boy as to what had happened. The boy told that sant khoondi de naal mainu bechaunde si, tun ithe ki karan aya si. In response to the prayer of Sant Hari Dass Ji, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji saved the boy.

Sant Hari Dass Ji left for his heavenly abode on 6th February, 1982 at 11.00 am. His Barsi is celebrated on 6th February each year with all devotion.

## **Shri 108 Sant Garib Dass Ji**

Sant Garib Dass Ji became fourth Gaddi-Nasheen of the Dera. He inherited a rich legacy of spirituality as well as social service to humanity from his predecessor saints of the Dera. He was born in the family of revered father Nanak Chand Ji and revered mother Har Kaur Ji at village JALBHEY near Adampur in district Jalandhar in 1925. Sant Niranjana Dass Ji was appointed as his assistant. He continued the activities of the Dera, started by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, with greater fervour and devotion. He was a qualified vaid. He treated patients. Even those patients who were suffering from serious diseases were cured.

He talked very little and always served the sangat. He used to say that speaking too much is not necessary in SEWA and SIMRAN. He first visited England in 1985 along with Sant Rama Nand Ji. The foundation stone of famous

Guru Ravidass temple at Birmingham (U.K) was laid by him. It was also inaugurated by him. Foundation stone of many other Guru Ghars in India and abroad were laid by him. He blessed large number of foreign devotees with *naam daan*. He involved younger generation with Guru Ravidass Mission. He visited U.K. six times, America thrice and Canada once only.

His greatest contribution to human welfare was setting up of Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Hospital, at Koopur-Dhaypur (Kathar) in district Jalandhar dedicated to the memory of his Guru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. Throughout his life he served patients. By establishing the hospital on 22nd October, 1982, he ensured care of the poor patients even after his death. Starting 'Begumpura Shehar' weekly was equally a great step in the direction of spreading Guru Ravidass Mission to the masses.

He laid foundation stone of Sant Sarwan Dass Memorial Teaching Block at Guru Ravidass ITI College, Phagwara. He built a model Sarai for stay of the pilgrims in the Dera. A grand 'Sant Sarwan Dass Memorial Gate' was built jointly

by Sangat of village BAL and the Dera by him on Jalandhar-Pathankot Road, Bal. He got it inaugurated from Sant Ishar Dass Ji, Gopal Nagar, Jalandhar, on 11th June 1994.

On 11th June 1994 (the Barsi Smagam day of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji) he told the sangat that a big smagam will be held at Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Varanasi in the end of June 1994, and that all should accompany him. This journey was undertaken by rail from 16th June to 23rd June 1994 in which many of his followers from foreign countries also participated. It was very hot and humid in Varanasi. When the sangat asked Maharaj Ji why he chose such a weather to undertake this pilgrimage, he replied that "I wanted to show you conditions under which we worked to construct this temple." A hugely attended Dharmik Smagam was held on this occasion. Those people who were part of this trip will never forget this pilgrimage.

Only one month after returning from Varanasi, he fell ill. He was admitted in a Jalandhar Hospital. He left for his heavenly

abode on 23rd July 1994 at 2.55 PM. His body was kept for “Antim Darshan” in Sant Hari Dass Satsang Hall from 23rd to 25th July 1994 when he was cremated. Thousands of people bade him tearful farewell.

## **Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji**

Sant Niranjana Dass Ji became gaddinasheen of the Dera on 25-7-1994. He is a visionary, a thinker, steadfast in his convictions, divinely emancipated, perfect in simplicity, suave, accessible and truly a saint of the common man. His heart beats and soul vibrates with the sangat. He is dynamic in approach. He embodies the rich legacy of Baba Pipal Dass Ji, Swami Sarwan Dass Ji, Sant Hari Dass Ji, Sant Garib Dass Ji and his former Wazir Qaum de Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji. Whosoever bows at his feet with purity of mind, he feels himself exalted.

He was born in the family of revered father Sadhu Ram Ji and mother Rukmani Ji on 6th January 1942 at Ramdasspur (near Alawalpur) in district Jalandhar. His parents were devotees of Baba Pipal Dass Ji and Swami Sarwan Dass

Ji. They often visited this Dera and attended satsang. Child Niranjan Dass also used to come with his parents to the Dera. Swami Sarwan Dass Ji was very happy to talk with child Niranjan Dass.

Sant Niranjan Dass Ji started staying with Sant Sarwan Dass Ji at the age of 8 years. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji once asked Shri Sadhu Ram the name of this boy. He told that his name is Niranjan Dass but he is very lazy in doing work. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji said that he has named him as HAWAII GIR. This boy is not lazy but he will be even faster than wind. Shri Sadu Ram thanked Satguru Ji. Since then when Maharaj Ji called Hawaii Gir, he would come running at once.

Years gone by. Hawaii Gir had grown young. He had become more responsible now. He was very prompt in doing work. He was looking after the arrangements in the Dera himself.

Sant Niranjan Dass Ji has visited UK, USA, Canada, Spain, Holland, Italy, France, Germany, Dubai, Greece and a host of other countries along with Sant Rama Nand Ji. He laid foundation stones of Guru Ghars in all these coun

tries.

As a Gaddi Nasheen, with the assistance of Sant Rama Nand Ji, he took keen interest in developmental work at the Dera, Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Hospital, Kathar, Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Varanasi, Begumpura Shehar weekly paper, Sant Sarwan Dass Model School Phagwara, Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Eye Hospital, Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan, Guru Ravidass Mandir at Sirsagarh (Haryana), Guru Ravidass Mandir at Puna, Baba Pipal Dass Ji Sadhna Sthal, Gill Patti Bhatinda and other social activities. 31 Kalshes were installed at Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Varanasi. Four storey building was constructed for stay and additional land was purchased at Varanasi for the convenience of the pilgrims. Europeans devotees offered a Golden Palki for Kashi Mandir. Gold Plating of central dome of the Kashi temple was completed and inaugurated on 30th January, 2010, the auspicious occasion of 633th Jayanti of Guru Ravidass Ji.

A special train is run from Jalandhar to

Varanasi and back every year on Jyanti Purb for the convenience of the pilgrims since 2000. The Special Train Yatra is every body's wish. It is very interesting journey.

During all these years, Qaumi Shaheed Brahmleen Sant Rama Nand Ji played key role in running the affairs of the Dera and completion of the projects under the patronage of Sant Niranjana Dass Ji. Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji has also been a big help in managing routine day to day affairs. After the assassination of Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji, Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji extended whole-hearted support with fervour to Sant Niranjana Dass Ji. Virtually he occupied the place in the hierarchy of the Dera which was earlier held by Sant Rama Nand Ji. It was the farsightedness and vision of Sant Niranjana Dass Ji that in the changed scenario he boldly supported announcement of Ravidassia religion by the Sant Samaj and installed 'Amrit Bani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji' at supreme Ravidassia pilgrimage – Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi immediately. The declaration of new

Ravidassia religious has been received by the Ravidassia community, wherever they are, with open arms. This step has created instantly self-respect, liberty and dignity in a Ravidassia. Now he is no longer dependent on others for *puja path*. His own fearless God whom the poor are so dear is all pervading and all powerful.

Neechai uooch karai meraa gobind

Kahoo te na darai.

He is as strong as rock in going ahead for Shri Guru Ravidass Mission. Entire Ravidassia community is with him.

## **Qaum de Amar Shaheed**

### **Shri 108 Sant Rama Nand Ji**

Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji was a unique person of Ravidassia community. His thoughts were unique, his actions were unique and his shahadat was unique. So far there is none in the history who has spread Guru Ravidass Mission to the extent he has done. He was crusader in taking Guru Ravidass Mission to new heights. He traveled extensively in all major countries of the world with Sant Garib Dass Ji and Sant Niranjan Dass Ji. He recited hoarse the bani and teachings of Guru Ravidass Ji. As if he had magic powers, when he took his seat on the stage, there was pin-drop silence among the audience and no one would leave the pandaal till the end. His explanations of inner meanings of amrit bani were immensely appealing. Great was the task of spreading Guru Ravidass Mission in

the world and greater still was his zeal to do it. He was poet, a writer, singer, engineer, agriculturist, teacher, vaid, administrator, speaker, builder and above all a spiritually enlightened saint. He worked tirelessly for uniting masses in the spirit of

satsangat mil raheeye maadho  
jaise madhup makheera.

He valued the writers, orators, singers, and others who made significant contribution in field of Guru Ravidass Mission and Dr. Ambedkar Mission. He honoured more than 51 such distinguished persons with gold medals.

Sant Rama Nand Ji was born in the family of his revered father Mehanga Ram and mother Jeet Kaur Ji on 2nd February, 1952 at Ramdasspur near Alawalpur in district Jalandhar. He was a *tyaag murti* since boyhood. He graduated himself from Doaba college Jalandhar in 1972. He liked company of the holy persons. Members of his family did not like it. For most of his time he remained busy in SIMRAN. However, after some time, Sant Hari Dass Ji initiated him. He was blessed with Bhekh by Sant Garib

Dass Ji. Whenever Brahmleen Sant Garib Dass Ji and Gaddi Nasheen Sant Niranjan Dass Ji visited a foreign country, Sant Rama Nand Ji always accompanied them. He was instrumental in inspiring foreign Sangat to Naam Simran. The audience were, indeed, spell bound while listening his satsang.

He was an able administrator. He was the chief executive of the Dera. Under the guidance of Sant Niranjan Dass Ji, he ran the dera management most efficiently. He himself monitored the performance of each project.

Sant Rama Nand Ji will be ever remembered for his unparalleled contribution is dissemination of teachings and Bani of Guru Ravidass Ji throughout the world. He was a tireless preacher. He could handle the stage of lacs of audience. He was soft spoken but strict in his principles.

He was editor of 'Begumpura Shehar' weekly and an award was conferred on him by Bhartiya Dalit Sahitya Academy for his contribution to Dalit Sahitya. He was first in history to read out his speech on Guru Ravidass Ji in Brit

ish Parliament on 28th May, 2007. He was a scholar of Bani.

The immediate impact of *Shihadat* of Sant Rama Nand Ji was that the entire *Ravidassia qaum* in India was united at one platform. When we make indepth critical study of past history of Ravidassia community, we find that these people have since beginning been making efforts to regain their lost glory. They had carried out strong movements as detailed below for their liberty:

<u>State</u>	<u>Name of movement</u>
Panjab	Ad-Dharam Movement
Uttar Pradesh	Jatav Movement
Madhya Pradesh	Ahirwal Movement
Chhattisgarh	Satnami Movement
Andhra & Karnatka	Madiga Movement

All these movements were started for separate identity of Ravidassia Qaum. In foreign countries the Ravidassias have already got registered their community as Ravidassia and they have already got their *Har(i) da nishan* registered with the authorities concerned. There were massive protests and demonstrations in all

countries of the world against the assassination of Sant Rama Nand Ji. Entire world now recognizes that there is Ravidassia Qaum.

In this background there was introspection, contemplation and deliberations by the Ravidassia community all over the world. The result of all this exercise was that Ravidassia Religion and ‘Amritbani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji’ as religious book were announced on 30th January, 2010 by the Sant Samaj in the presence of more than 10 lakhs of Ravidassia followers at Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, on the auspicious occasion of 633rd Jyanti of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji. It was vociferously welcomed by all the followers present at the function. They shouted loud slogans “Jo bole so nirbhai, Satguru Ravidass Maharaj ki Jai”. Utmost happiness prevailed among Ravidassias in the world. ‘Amritbani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji’ was installed immediately at Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi. All people could have *darshan* of Guru

Ravidass Ji in the full moon on that night. This phenomenon was never witnessed before. It is a good omen for announcement of Ravidassia Religion.

## **Sangeet Academy**

As Amar Shaheed Brahmleen Sant Rama Nand Ji was expert in Sangeet, he established Guru Ravidass Sangeet Academy in the Dera. It was inaugurated on 14-12-2008 at 1.00 pm by His Holiness Sant Niranjana Dass Ji in the presence of Sant Rama Nand Ji. Large number of children and *sangeet premis* were present. First song sang at the academy was a classical song. It was sung at the instance of Sant Rama Nand Ji. Regular classes are running in the academy under the principalship of a highly experienced music teacher. It may be mentioned that children were taught sangeet in the darbar of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji during his times. Now the sangeet teaching has been regularized by setting up Guru Ravidass Sangeet Academy. He identified missionary singers and writers. They were conferred Gold Medals for their contribution to Guru Ravidass Mission 'Amrit Bani Shri Guru

Ravidass Ji' and 'Begumpura Sehar ko naon' programmes prepared in his voice are telecast weekly from Jalandhar Doordarshan. This Sangeet Academy will go a long way in spreading of message of Amritbani.

He closely supervised and monitored construction of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Hospital Kathar, Shri Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan Bal, Guru Ravidass Mandir and Sant Sarwan Dass Model School Hadiabad, Phagwara, Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Eye Hospital Bal, Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir Sirsagarh (Haryana), Karam Sthali Baba Pipal Dass Ji and Janam Sthali of Swami Sarwan Dass Ji, Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir Katraj, Pune. At times he himself would start labour work. He used to say, "I should do maximum seva of Guru Ji. Who knows I may or may not get time afterwards."

*"Jihra sama maharaj ji di seva wich lag jawe ohi changa hai, ki pata phir sama mile na mile".*

Sant Niranjana Dass Ji and Sant Rama

Nand Ji proceeded from Dera Sachkhand Bal on 17-4-2009 on tour to European countries as a further step for dissemination of Guru Ravidass Mission. They traveled as below:

Italy	17-4-2009	to	29-4-2009
Germany	30-4-2009	to	1-5-2009
Greece	2-5-2009	to	7-5-2009
France	8-5-2009	to	9-5-2009
Spain	9-5-2009	to	12-5-2009
Portugal	13-5-2009	to	6-5-2009
Germany	17-5-2009	to	22-5-2009
Austria	23-5-2009	to	2-6-2009

They spread teachings of Guru Ravidass Ji and held religious discourses in Italy, Germany, Greece, France, Spain, Portugal. Finally reached Austria on 23-5-2009. They stayed for the night with a devotee Shri Kishan Pal. In the morning on the unfortunate day on 24-5-2009, they took tea and departed. They took break-fast with some other family. At about noon they reached Shri Guru Ravidass Temple, Vienna where the smagam was to be held. Shri Guru Granth Sahib was placed on a raised platform at a high place. Sant Niranjana Dass Ji and Sant Rama Nand Ji

sat on the floor. The function had hardly started when Sikh militants shot at Sant Rama Nand Ji and Sant Niranjan Dass Ji. Both the saints were wounded seriously. Streams of blood was flowing from their bodies. Sant Rama Nand was slowly chanting Guru Ravidass Naam as if he wanted still more time to propagate the teachings of Guru Ravidass Ji. He became silent. He left for his heavenly abode on 25-5-2009 at about 00.15 a.m. The voice of a great saint who had spread Guru Ravidass Mission in the entire world had been silenced. Sant Niranjan Dass Ji survived.

Sant Niranjan Dass Ji along with body of Sant Rama Nand Ji flew from Vienna on 3-6-2009 by a special chartered plane and reached New Delhi at 5.00 AM on 4-6-2009. They reached Dera Bal in helicopter on 4-6-2009 at 8.00 AM. His body was placed near main gate of Shri Guru Ravidass satsang Bhawan for *antim darshan* by the public. Lacs of persons from entire Punjab, HP, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, UP and foreign countries traveled to Ballan to have *antim darshan* of their beloved saint and

who was so dear to them. They were sobbing, shrieking, and weeping in pain of death of Sant Rama Nand Ji. Large number of dignitaries had also arrived. The body was cremated at 4.00 PM. His Angitha Sahib has been erected adjacent to that of Brahmleen Sant Garib Dass Ji near Shri Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan.

He has sacrificed his life for Guru Ravidass Mission. He has left a message for us all-

‘sat sangat mil raheeye maadho Jaise madhup makheera.’

Sant Rama Nand Ji has become brahmleen in Vienna attack. The place of his martyrdom - the place where he shed his blood for Guru Ravidass Mission – the place where he was just to remind the devotees the teachings of Guru Ravidass Ji- has been raised to a platform. A life size portrait of Qaum de Amar Shaheed has been placed at that platform. The pilgrims pay their homage to great saint at this holy place. The marks of bullets in the walls have been preserved to remind the visitors the heinous action of assassins. Physically he is not with us. But

his thought and teachings will continue to guide and inspire us to take the caravan to the destination before we sleep.

## **Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji**

Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji is simple, truthful, accessible and visionary. He has assimilated traditions and legacy of the dera saints. Even in his young age, he displays maturity in his dealings. After Sant Rama Nand Ji, Bawa Ji, as he is lovingly called, is the Chief Executive of the Dera. He oversees all the projects run by the Dera.

Bawa Ji was born in the family of his revered father Gurdas Ram Ji and mother Bibi Gurbachan Kaur Ji on 14th March 1973 at village Suchi Pind in district Jalandhar. His parents are ideal disciples of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji.

Once his mother Bibi Gurbachan Kaur fell seriously ill and was admitted in hospital. There was no hope of her survival. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji visited Bibi Gurbachan Kaur in the hospital. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji blessed and told his

mother “tera jo bacha hai eh mar javega. Tu tandrust ho javengi. Baad vich do hor larke paida honge.” Bibi Ji replied, “Satguru Ji bada larka tuhada hovega.”

Thereafter, Bawa Ji was born. He was offered to the dera. When he was 5 years old Sant Hari Dass Ji visited their house at Suchi Pind. *Uhna Bawa Ji nu bhagven kapre pehna ditte.* As a student he often visited Dera. Sant Hari Dass Ji, Sant Garib Dass Ji, Sant Niranjn Dass Ji and Sant Rama Nand Ji all blessed and loved him very much.

He graduated himself from Doaba college Jalandhar in 1995-96. After his study he joined Dera. He learnt jaap, indepth meanings of Amritbani, satsang, writing books from Sant Rama Nand Ji. When Sant Niranjn Dass Ji and Sant Rama Nand Ji went on tour to foreign countries for months together for dissemination of Guru Ravidass Mission, he managed Dera affairs to their satisfaction.

After the Martyrdom of Sant Rama Nand Ji, he successfully filled the void. He is always in the seva of Shri 108 Sant Niranjn Dass Ji and

the sangat.

## **Ravidassia Dharam**

After the martyrdom of Sant Rama Nand Ji entire Ravidassia community was agitated. They felt leaderless. For many years there was urge of Ravidassia community for a separate identity. Sant Rama Nand Ji had already pointed out in his speech delivered in the House of Commons, U.K on 28-03-2007 as below;

“Now worldwide there is strong urge among Guru Ji’s followers of establishing a separate identity of their own. But the pre-requisites for any people to establish a separate identity are-(i) Common Name, (ii) Common Guru, (ii) Common Place of Pilgrimage, (iv) Common Religious Book, (v) Common Religious Symbol and a (vi) Common method of Salutation. It is for the intellectuals, thinkers and various religious institutions to debate over these issues and take a well considered decision. The earlier it is done, better it will be for the community.”

Now the slogan of separate identity was on everybody’s tongue. All had focused their eyes on Dera Sach Khand Bal. All the Sant Samaj

was contacted by the Dera. Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji played a leading role in introducing separate religion and separate religious book. The Sant Samaj decided to launch Ravidassia Dharam and instal ‘Amrit Bani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji’ as religious book. Accordingly, Ravidassia Dharam, ‘Amrit Bani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji’ and Qaumi Nishaan HAR(i) were announced on 30th January 2010 in the presence of more than ten lakhs of devotees, from India and abroad, on the auspicious occasion of 633rd Guru Ravidass Jyanti Day at Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi.

The entire Ravidassia community in India and abroad have welcomed the announcement of Ravidassia Religion and ‘Amrit Bani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji’. All are thankful to the Sant Samaj for taking this historic decision. Liberty and dignity of Ravidassia *qaum* lies in Ravidassia Religion. Let us all follow our own religion in its true spirit.

**Amritbani Satguru Ravidass Ji**

## Maharaj

This is the religious book of Ravidass Religion. It has been formed by the Sant Samaj of Ravidassia *qaum* after thorough research of Guru Ravidass Bani available at present. It was announced by the Sant Samaj to the followers of Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj throughout the world on the auspicious occasion of 633rd Birth Anniversary of Guru Ravidass Ji at Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi. It may be clarified this religious book contains bani of Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj Ji only. On the title page symbol Har(i) adorns the holy book. It has one photo of Guru Ravidass Ji and second photo of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi. Then there is a list of Principles of Ravidassia Religions. Thereafter, there is mention of main particulars of Guru Ravidass Ji. It contains 140 shabads, 40 *pade*, *painti akhri*, *bani haftawar*, *bani pandran tithi*, *baran maas updesh*, *dohra*, *saand bani*, *anmol vachan (milni de samen)*, *laawaan*, *suhag ustat*, *manglachar*, 230 *salok*. There are 177

pages in all of the book. It has been installed in majority of the States in India and in major countries of the world. This holy book has been widely accepted and owned. Let us all worship it.

## **Main Smagams of Dera Sachkhand Bal**

Maghi	14th January
Barsi of Sant Hari Dass Ji	6th February
Shahidi Day of Sant Rama Nand Ji	25th May
Barsi of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji	11th June
Barsi of Sant Garib Dass Ji	23th July
Flag hoisting ceremony	Pehla naurata

In addition to above functions, Baisakhi and Barsi of Baba Pipal Dass Ji are also celebrated. Special satsang congregations are held on each Sunday and each Sankranti. Maharaj Niranjan Dass Ji blesses the devotees with Naam Daan (Initiation) every Wednesday. On these days, large member of devotees pay visit to the Dera and seek blessings of His Holiness Sant

Niranjan Dass Ji.

**Shri Guru Ravidass Janam  
Asthan Mandir  
Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi  
(U.P.)**

Shri Guru Ravidass Ji was born in Varanasi then ‘Kashi’ in the year 1377 AD (Bikrami Samvat-Magh Sudi 15, 1433). But even after six centuries of Guru’s Ji’s lifetime, his followers did not have any central place connected with his name till second half of twentieth century. One of the probable reasons could be that after the lifetime of Guru Ji, no one made any effort to preserve his legacy.

There is detailed account of the kind of beautiful palaces in which Shri Guru Ravidass Ji used to live in the book “Anant Dass ki Parchayan” when Rani Jhalanbai came to meet Guru Ji. Anant Dass was the grandson of Sant

Pipa Ji- a contemporary saint of Guru Ravidass Ji. Therefore, his account can be believed to be most authentic. But it is also true that after the lifetime of Guru Ji no trace of any place accredited to the memory of Guru Ji was found in Benaras where he is believed to have lived for about 151 years. This remains a mystery of history.

The sacred task of perpetuating the memory of Guru Ji at Benaras and giving a befitting memorial in his name was undertaken by the spiritual, visionary and revolutionary saint Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Ji of Dera Sach Khand Ballan. He made strenuous efforts to make Bani of Guru Ravidass Ji popular among the socially backward and downtrodden people. He thought his job incomplete until the place where Guru Ravidass Ji gave the sermon of Begupura was traced out and a suitable monument built there. Swami Sarwan Dass Ji assigned this task to a selected group of people. The group went to Varanasi and surveyed the area near the Benaras Hindu University. The Imlee tree and other indicators confirmed a location in a village Seer

Goverdhanpur, in the outskirts of Varanasi near BHU, as the birthplace of Guru Ravidass Ji, the plot of land was purchased and no time was lost to start construction of an impressive temple. The foundation stone of this Mandir was laid on Monday the 14th June 1965 on Ashad Sankranti day by Sant Hari Dass Ji, along with a large number of devotees of Dera Bal, specially deputed by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji for the purpose.

Once the foundation stone was laid, there was no looking back. A large number of Sewadars of the Dera were sent to Varanasi under the stewardship of Sant Garib Dass Ji to undertake and complete the construction. The place was undeveloped, without an approach passage and it was a Herculean task to manually carry construction material to the site from a considerable distance. Notwithstanding, the devotion to the Guru, dedication, the cause and aspiration of the Sewadars surmounted all this. In this endeavour, help came from public at large from within as well as from outside the country. The Guru's devotees residing in U.K. and other foreign countries were also keen to see the project com

pleted and contributed according to their respective individual capacities. The first phase of the temple was completed in the year 1972. Many saints from various Deras of Punjab and also some prominent figures of the community accompanied Sant Garib Dass Ji to Benaras for the inauguration ceremony on 22nd February 1974. A Murti of Guru Rvidass Ji was installed in the Mandir on this occasion.

Simultaneously, a Murti of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji was installed as a token of recognition of his contribution in giving followers of Guru Ji an elegant Mandir at the birthplace of Guru Ji.

It has become a mission for the saints of Dera Sachkhand Ballan to develop in every possible way this Janam Sthan Mandir so that it acquires the status and magnificence which a Mandir at the birthplace of Guru Ravidass Ji deserves. The Trust undertook additional construction work at the Mandir in the year 1993 and the completion of second phase of Mandir culminated in the installation of a golden Kalsh, atop the Mandir dome on 7.4.1994 by Babu Kanshi Ram Ji, in the presence of Sant Garib Dass Ji, other saints and a large number of devo

tees.

Shri Guru Ravidass Birth Anniversary is celebrated every year on Magh Purnima at Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi with great pomp and show. Lacs of devotees from within and outside the country visit this sacred Mandir to pay their obeisance. For the convenience of the pilgrims a special train is arranged from Jalandhar City to Varanasi every year from 2000 A.D. onwards.

The followers of Guru Ravidass wish to see the birth place temple of their Guru to be a magnificent temple. For this purpose they make generous donations. As a result of this the façade of the Mandir was covered with white marble in the first phase.

Guru Ji's followers living in all parts of the world are sentimentally attached with this Mandir now. In the year 2007, the followers from Europe expressed a desire to Maharaj Ji that they wished to donate a Swarn Palki (golden palanquin) as a token of their love and devotion for their Guru. Maharaj Ji readily agreed to their

request. Thus a Swarn Palki was taken in a Shobha Yatra (religious procession) which started from Dera Sachkhand Ballan and culminated at Kashi Mandir, receiving overwhelming response from Guru Ji's followers in all the towns through which it passed in the states of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and U.P.

Then came the historic moment for our community when Shri 108 sant Niranjana Dass Ji and Sant Rama Nand Ji thought of gold plating the whole Mandir. Earlier 31 small and big domes had been decorated with gold Klashes on 625th Birth Anniversary of Guru Ji.

The inaugural ceremony for gold plating the Mandir had taken place in the year 2008 on the occasion of Jyanti of Guru Ji. Fulfilling the dream of Sant Rama Nand Ji the top dome of the Mandir was bedecked with gold and inaugurated on the Jyanti celebrations in the year 2009.

The affairs of the Mandir are managed by Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir Public Charitable Trust, which makes continuous endeavours to enhance the facilities at the Mandir for the convenience of the pilgrims. As a result

of these efforts, a big Langar Hall and a Yatri Niwas have been constructed.

Today Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir Varanasi is known worldwide among followers of Guru Ji. It is Mecca for them, a symbol of Dalit Identity and Dalit awakening.

## **Swaran Palki**

The sangat of Birmingham had decorated Shri Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan, at Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Sachkhand Bal with a Golden Palki. It was brought from Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir, Phagwara to Dera Sachkhand Bal in a well attended procession on 14-2-2007. The sangat from U.K. had also attended this procession. Followers of Guru Ji living in the areas adjoining to the route of the procession welcomed the sacred Palki devotionally at many places. The sacred Golden Palki was garlanded profusely by them. The participants in the procession were served tea, snacks, fruits, namkeen and sweets. The sangat has its darshan daily at Dera Bal.

Like other followers, the devotees of Europe were also very enthusiastic for decoration

of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi. They cherished to adorn Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, with a golden palki. A fascinating big golden palki was prepared. Sant Rama Nand Ji knew that the sangat has to be motivated to donate gold for the Swarn Palki. He himself composed an inspiring song addressed to the sadhsangat as below:

**Chalo benaras sadhsangat ji,  
ik itihis rachauna haai  
Guru Ravidass de mandir nuu  
sone de vich marhauna hai**

**Pak pavittar dharti jithe,  
Guru Ravidass Ji aaye ne  
Qaum laii satgur ne jithe  
lakhn kasht uthaii ne  
Waang tarian us dharti da,  
har chirag chamkauna aye**

**Kasam assan nuu guru Ravidass de  
sachian sewadaran di  
Kasam assan nuu swami Sarwan Dass de**

par upkaraan di  
Jinna chir kam sire nahin charhda,  
chain nal nahin sauna aye  
Katra katra mil ke jiddan,  
ik samunder ban jaanda  
Patti patti jor ke ik,  
sone da mandir ban jaanda  
Jo bhi banda sarda sabh ne,  
apna hissa pauna aye  
Dunian de har kone wichon  
chal paye sewak piare ne  
Goonj rahe aj chauhin passin,  
satgur de jaikare ne  
Janam dihara satgur da,  
garh kaanshi vikhe manauna aye

Jis satgur de duare chalke,  
khud parmehar aye si  
Jis satgur ne maya tyagi,  
paras vi thukraye si  
Us satgur da jhanda saari,  
duniya vich lehrauna aye

Swami sarwan dass ji ballan,  
walian di agwarii aye  
Saari duniya de wich phaili,

satgur di wadyaii aye  
Azad Banaras di dharti nuu,  
aapan swarg banauna aye.

ਚਲੋ ਬਨਾਰਸ ਸਾਧ ਸੰਗਤ ਜੀ, ਇਕ ਇਤਿਹਾਸ ਰਚਾਉਣਾ ਏ  
ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਦੇ ਮੰਦਰ ਨੂੰ ਸੋਨੇ ਦੇ ਵਿਚ ਮੜਾਉਣਾ ਏ

ਪਾਕ ਪਵਿੱਤਰ ਧਰਤੀ ਜਿਥੇ, ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਜੀ ਆਏ ਨੇ  
ਕੌਮ ਲਈ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਨੇ ਜਿਥੇ, ਲੱਖਾਂ ਕਸ਼ਟ ਉਠਾਏ ਨੇ  
ਵਾਂਗ ਤਾਰਿਆਂ ਉਸ ਧਰਤੀ ਦਾ, ਹਰ ਚਰਾਗ ਚਮਕਾਉਣਾ ਏ

ਕਸਮ ਅਸਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਦੇ ਸੌਂਚਿਆ ਸੇਵਾਦਾਰਾਂ ਦੀ  
ਕਸਮ ਅਸਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਸਵਾਮੀ ਸਰਵਣ ਦਾਸ ਦੇ ਪਰਉਪਕਾਰਾਂ ਦੀ  
ਜਿੰਨਾ ਚਿਰ ਕੌਮ ਸਿਰੇ ਨੀ ਚੜ੍ਹਦਾ, ਚੈਨ ਨਾਲ ਨੀ ਸੌਣਾ ਏ

ਕਤਰਾ ਕਤਰਾ ਮਿਲ ਕੇ ਜਿੱਦਾਂ ਇਕ ਸਮੁੰਦਰ ਬਣ ਜਾਂਦਾ  
ਪੱਤੀ ਪੱਤੀ ਜੋੜ ਕੇ ਇਕ, ਸੋਨੇ ਦਾ ਮੰਦਰ ਬਣ ਜਾਂਦਾ  
ਜੋ ਵੀ ਬਣਦਾ ਸਰਦਾ ਸਭ ਨੇ, ਆਪਣਾ ਹਿੱਸਾ ਪਾਉਣਾ ਏ  
ਦੁਨੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਹਰ ਕੋਨੇ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਚੱਲ ਪਏ ਸੇਵਕ ਪਿਆਰੇ ਨੇ  
ਗੁੰਜ ਰਹੇ ਅੱਜ ਚੋਹੀਂ ਪਾਸੀਂ, ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਦੇ ਜੈਕਾਰੇ ਨੇ  
ਜਨਮ ਦਿਹਾੜਾ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਦਾ, ਗੜ੍ਹ ਕਾਂਸੀ ਵਿਚ ਮਨਾਉਣਾ ਏ

ਜਿਸ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਦੇ ਦੁਆਰੇ ਚੱਲਕੇ, ਖੁਦ ਪਰਮੇਸ਼ਰ ਆਏ ਸੀ  
ਜਿਸ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਦੇ ਮਾਇਆ ਤਿਆਗੀ, ਪਾਰਸ ਵੀ ਠੁਕਰਾਏ ਸੀ  
ਉਸ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਦਾ ਝੰਡਾ ਸਾਰੀ, ਦੁਨੀਆ ਵਿਚ ਲਹਿਰਾਉਣਾ ਏ

ਸਵਾਮੀ ਸਰਵਣ ਦਾਸ ਜੀ ਬੱਲਾਂ, ਵਾਲਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਅਗਵਾਈ ਏ  
ਸਾਰੀ ਦੁਨੀਆ ਦੇ ਵਿਚ ਫੈਲੀ, ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਦੀ ਵਡਿਆਈ ਏ

## ਆਜ਼ਾਦ ਬਨਾਰਸ ਦੀ ਧਰਤੀ ਨੂੰ, ਆਪਾਂ ਸਵਰਗ ਬਣਾਉਣਾ ਏ

The meeting of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Public Charitable Trust was held on 15-1-2008 under the Chairmanship of His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji in the Committee Room of Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Sachkhand Bal. The manner of transporting sacred Golden Palki from Dera Bal to Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi was discussed in detail. Various options were considered. It was felt that maximum number of followers of Satguru Ravidass Ji should be afforded an opportunity to have darshan of sacred Golden Palki. It was, therefore, resolved that the Palki would be taken in a well planned procession from Dera Bal to Varanasi. Since it was unique opportunity, a new unique bus fitted with transparent glasses be got prepared. Accordingly, a new bus fitted with transparent glasses and suiting to the dimension of the golden Palki was prepared. On 15-2-2008, the bus was parked in the open premises near Water Tank in Dera Bal. Qaumi Shaheed Bramleen Sant Rama

Nand Ji himself took keen interest in the decoration of the bus. He took chair and sat there. It was decorated under his supervision. The entire bus, including the tyres was washed and cleansed. The bus was tastefully decorated with flowers, banners, posters, photos. In the evening Sant Rama Nand Ji called His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji and a few sewadars as the sacred Golden Palki was to be installed in the bus. Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji was also present. At the instance of His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji, Sant Rama Nand Ji said ardas. At the end of the ardas and shouting jaikaras “ Jo bole so nirbhai, Guru Ravidass Maharaj ki jai” the sacred Golden Palki was installed in the bus. The entire bus was covered with new cloth. On 15-2-2008, the devotees of European countries and other foreign countries who were to accompany the Shobha Yatra had reached the Dera. Large number of other yatri who were to go with the procession and still others who were to witness the ceremony had also arrived. All were in colourful clothes and gay mood. There was bahut chehal

pehal in the Dera.

On 16-2-2008 at 8.00 in the morning, the decorated bus was brought to the main gate wherefrom the yatra was to commence. In the presence of His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji, Qaumi Shaheed Bramleen Sant Rama Nand Ji said ardas before commencing the procession. As the ardas came to close the devotees shouted “Jo bole so nirbhai, Guru Ravidass Maharaj ki jai” repeatedly. At this moment the conch-shells and naads sounded, the bells rang and nigara was beaten continuously. Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji and all those present bowed to the pious Golden Palki in reverence. The driver started the bus. It moved slowly and majestically. The impressive procession started under the lead of His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji. Sant Rama Nand Ji too accompanied. All other vehicles followed.

Sant Rama Nand Ji composed and recorded the undermentioned song for playing on Sound System throughout the route of Swarn Palki procession from Dera Bal to Benaras:

## **Son palki**

Son palki ji son palki  
Kinni sohni sangtan sajai palki

Guru Ravidass kiti kirpa apar ji  
Premian de dilan ch vasaya kina pyar ji  
Ahnian nuu kardi sujakhe palki

Sangtan nuu jur behna guran samjhaya hai  
Aisi soojh sadke nazara ajj paya hai  
Sabhna nuu vanddi khumari palki

Dhan han europe niwasi guru sangtan  
Charhaian ne qaum nuu majithi jihna rangtan  
Iho jihi dekhi nahi kade vi palki

Sone dian churian te gal vale har ji  
Waalien te kante keete Bheta nal pyar ji  
Sach hai gariban di ji jaan palki

Uch koti karigaran laiyyan rijhan poorian  
Door kare dilan vichon dilan dian doorian  
Kanshi nuu rawaana hoi yatra son palki

Sach da sroop satgur Niranjan Dass Ji

Bandgi khazana ditta guru Ravidass Ji  
Karde agwaii Shobha yatra palki

Rame aiwen gallan kar kar na sunaii ja  
Shubh Kaman ivch toon vi hissa kujh paii ja  
Dilan diyan bhukhan aj lahiyan palki.

ਸੋਨ ਪਾਲਕੀ ਜੀ ਸੋਨ ਪਾਲਕੀ  
ਕਿੰਨੀ ਸੋਹਣੀ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਸਜਾਈ ਪਾਲਕੀ

ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਕੀਤੀ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਅਪਾਰ ਜੀ  
ਪ੍ਰੇਮੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਦਿਲਾਂ ਚ ਵਸਾਇਆ ਕਿੰਨਾ ਪਿਆਰ ਜੀ  
ਅੰਨਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਕਰਦੀ ਸੁਜਾਖੇ ਪਾਲਕੀ

ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਜੁੜ ਬਹਿਣਾ ਗੁਰੂ ਸਮਝਾਇਆ ਹੈ  
ਐਸੀ ਸੂਝ ਸਦਕੇ ਨਜ਼ਾਰਾ ਅੰਜ ਪਾਇਆ ਹੈ  
ਸਭਨਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਵੰਡਦੀ ਖੁਮਾਰੀ ਪਾਲਕੀ

ਧੰਨ ਹਨ ਯੋਰਪ ਨਿਵਾਸੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ  
ਚਾੜੀਆਂ ਨੇ ਕੌਮ ਨੂੰ ਮਜੀਠੀ ਜਿੰਨਾ ਰੰਗਤਾਂ  
ਇਹੋ ਜਿਹੀ ਦੇਖੀ ਨੀ ਕਦੇ ਵੀ ਪਾਲਕੀ

ਸੋਨੇ ਦੀਆਂ ਚੁੜੀਆਂ ਤੇ ਗਲ ਵਾਲੇ ਹਾਰ ਜੀ

ਵਾਲੀਆਂ ਤੇ ਕਾਟੇ ਕੀਤੇ ਭੇਟਾ ਨਾਲ ਪਿਆਰ ਜੀ  
ਸੱਚ ਹੈ ਗਰੀਬਾਂ ਦੀ ਜੀ ਜਾਨ ਪਾਲਕੀ

ਉਚ ਕੋਟੀ ਕਾਰੀਗਰਾਂ ਲਾਈਆਂ ਰੀੜਾਂ ਪੂਰੀਆਂ  
ਦੂਰ ਕਰੇ ਦਿਲਾਂ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਦਿਲਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਦੂਰੀਆਂ  
ਕਾਂਸ਼ੀ ਨੂੰ ਰਵਾਨਾ ਹੋਈ ਯਾਤਰਾ ਸੋਨ ਪਾਲਕੀ

ਸੱਚ ਦਾ ਸਰੂਪ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਨਿਰੰਜਨ ਦਾਸ ਜੀ  
ਬੰਦਗੀ ਖਜ਼ਾਨਾ ਦਿਤਾ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਜੀ  
ਕਰਦੇ ਅਗਵਾਈ ਸ਼ੋਭਾ ਯਾਤਰਾ ਪਾਲਕੀ

ਰਾਮੇ ਐਵੇਂ ਗੱਲਾਂ ਕਰ ਕਰ ਨਾ ਸੁਣਾਈ ਜਾ  
ਸ਼ੁੱਭ ਕੰਮਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਤੂੰ ਵੀ ਹਿੱਸਾ ਕੁਝ ਪਾਈ ਜਾ  
ਦਿਲਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਭੁੱਖਾਂ ਅੱਜ ਲਾਹੀਆਂ ਪਾਲਕੀ

The procession passed through Panjab, Haryana, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh and reached Varanasi 20-2-2008. The procession stayed for night on 16-2-2008 at Ambala, on 17-2-2008 at New Delhi, on 18-2-2008 at Agra, on 19-2-2008 at Kanpur and reached Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi on 20-2-2008. The pious Palki attracted overwhelming homage from the vibrant sangat throughout the route. It was so fascinating a journey that only those who participated in it could

best describe in a befitting manner. The devotees of the places enroute bowed to the specially prepared glass fitted fortunate bus carrying the sacred Golden Palki for Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji. They washed it. They cleansed it with their new clothes. They sprayed incensed liquid and perfume on the bus. The devotees were showering flowers and flowers on the fortunate bus. Even the road on which the procession passed was fully covered with flowers. Suitable words do not strike me to describe the enthusiasm and devotion of the sangat, piety and beauty of the occasion. Holy was the occasion, holier still was the dedication of the devotees. There was tears of joy in their eyes. They were so much absorbed in the pious Palki that they forgot their own self. Probably they will never see such a sacred journey of Guru Ji's golden Palki passing through their own areas. It was a memorable event in the history of Shri Guru Ravidass Mission. The Golden Palki was inaugurated by Ms Mayawati Ji, Hon,ble Chief Minister Uttar Pradesh on the auspicious occasion of Guru Ravidass Jyanti Day on 21-2-2008. The press and electronic

media vied each other for coverage of the historic event.

It was the dream of Sant Rama Nand Ji to gold-plate Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi. First phase of the project was completed when entire central dome of the temple was gold-plated and opening ceremony was performed by His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji on 30th January, 2010 in the presence of more than ten lacs of saints and devotees from India and abroad. With this ceremony dream of Qaumi Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji has been fulfilled.

## **Shri Guru Ravidass Memorial Gate, Lanka Chauraha, Varanasi**

Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Trust (Regd.) U.K. expressed the desire of having a monumental Gate in the memory of Guru Ravidass Ji in Varanasi City at some prominent road leading to the Mandir so as to perpetuate the memory of Guru Ji.

This project was again undertaken by Mandir

Trust under the chairmanship of Sant Niranjana Dass Ji. The foundation stone of the gate was laid on 25-05-1997 by Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram Ji BSP Supremo in the presence of prominent residents of Varanasi, distinguished persons and senior bureaucrats. Ms. Mayawati was Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh at that time.

The workers worked day and night. Specially skilled stone layers were engaged from Rajasthan for this project. A huge Gate at Lanka Crossing was built in a very short period. It is a matter of great pride for our community that the gate was inaugurated by the then His Excellency, the President of India, Shri K.R. Narayanan on 16-7-1998. Shri Suraj Bhan Hon'ble Governor and Shri Kalyan Singh Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Babu Kanshi Ram were also present.

At the time of inauguration of the gate, the President looked gay and happy. Disregarding the security barriers, he came out to the barricades and shook hands with aam aadmi and saints. It was so rare and happy moment. The visitors raised and waved their hand in his

honour, applause and gratitude. Large number of Guru Ji's devotees and saints from Punjab and other states were present on the occasion along with Sant Niranjan dass Ji and Sant Rama Nand Ji. The writer was also fortunate to attend the inauguration ceremony of the gate.

After the inauguration of the gate, His Excellency the President visited Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi. At the instance of Chief Guest, Qaumi Shahid Sant Rama Nand Ji narrated the entire story of research of this site and construction of the temple and the problems faced in this regard. The President took tea and snacks with the Hazoor Maharaj Niranjan Dass Ji, Qaumi Shahid Sant Rama Nand Ji, members of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Public Charitable Trust and other VVIPs. It is an unforgettable day in the history of Guru Ravidass Mission.

The names of the trustees of Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Trust (UK), who contributed for the construction of the gate, have been carved at the gate thereby immortalising

their gesture of perpetuating the memory of Satguru Ravidass Ji in the city of his assertion.

## **Yatri Niwas and Langer Hall**

Keeping in view the convenience of pilgrims to the Mandir, the Trust has acquired an Ashram for their stay. Now a new four-storey building has been constructed in this complex—each storey having 11 rooms with attached bathrooms. The Trust has also built a huge Langar hall, for serving food to visitors to the Mandir. It was inaugurated by Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji, Chairman Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Public Charitable Trust (Regd.) on 18th February, 2000 at 11.30 on the auspicious occasion of Jyanti Purb of Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. The opening ceremony of Second storey of the Langer hall was performed on 26-2-2002.

## **Shri Guru Ravidass Park & Smark, Shri Guru Ravidass Ghat & Shri Guru Ravidass Setu**

It was due to the inspiration drawn from the activities of and the work carried out by the Mandir Trust that the U.P Government also thought of raising suitable memorials of Guru Ravidass Ji in the city of Benaras. It has built a beautiful Shri Guru Ravidass park and smark at Nagwa, a prominent place at the river “Ganga”. A spacious Guru Ravidass Ghat has also been built at the place. The new bridge over Ganga near the Mandir has been named Shri Guru Ravidass Setu (bridge).

The Janam Sthan Mandir of Guru Ji at Seer Goverdhanpur, Varanasi has now acquired the status of “Begumpura” for Guru Ji’s followers who have started paying obeisance at this Place of Pilgrimage in large numbers, which is growing day by day. All the followers of Guru Ravidass Ji throughout the world will remain indebted to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and his successor Saints of Dera Sachkhand Ballan for giving them this “Ultimate Place of Pilgrimage”.

## **Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable**

## **Hospital, Adda Kathar**

As is well known to the followers of Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, innumerable people have been cured of their physical and mental ailments by the Dwa as well as Dua i.e. through medicine and spirituality bestowed upon them by the Saints of the Dera. This tradition has been continuing in the Dera since the life-time of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. The successor Saints also followed this practice.

To perpetuate the memory of his Guru, Sant Garib Dass Ji thought of starting a hospital. He held consultations with Sh. Beli Ram and Sh. Raj Mal for this purpose who offered to donate land for this purpose. Later Bibi Puro and Bibi Bhajno also donated their share of land. Panchayat of village Koopur also donated land for this noble cause. The foundation stone of this hospital was laid by him at Adda Kathar, Distt. Jalandhar on 20-10-1982. A humble beginning was made by starting a dispensary on 1-1-1984. With the blessings of all Gaddi-Nashin Saints of Dera Sach Khand Ballan this hospital has now assumed gigantic proportions running six specialilties and having 150 indoor beds.

The hospital provides patient care by a highly qualified team of doctors in the department of General Surgery, Medicine, Eye, ENT, Pediatrics and Gynaecology. Nearly 200 patients are attended in the OPD daily.

The OPD services are supported by modern diagnostic aids. For this purpose the hospital is equipped with state of the art hospital grade ultra-sound machine, a modern laboratory having auto-analysers for blood and urine tests, an X-ray machine and a computerized ECG machine etc.

The hospital is known for the general surgery being performed here. Appx 200 surgical operations are performed every month. The hospital has three operation theatres, which are equipped with state of the art machines such as Laparoscope, C-Arm, Boyle's apparatus, fully remote controlled OT tables and pulse oxymeters etc. All the sterilization needs of the OT's and wards are met by the central horizontal autoclave.

Very nominal fee is charged for the hospital services to partially meet the hospital expenditure which is approximately 1.5 crores per

year. The poor patients are not charges even the nominal fee and their expenditure is met by Maharaj Ji.

The management of the hospital is run through a Trust. Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji is the Chairman of the Trust and he is assisted by a dedicated team of Trustees who always think of new ways for the improvement of hospital services & introduction of new infrastructure in the hospital.

## **Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Eye Hospital, Dera Bal**

In order to serve the elderly people, an exclusive eye hospital has been established by the Dera adjoining the Dera itself under the aegis of Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Hospital Trust. Shri Swarn Dass Bangar, Bibi Resham Kaur of Village Bal (U.K.) and their family became the motivating force behind the construction of this hospital. Since mid sixties they had been holding an annual eye camp at the Dera, but due to some restrictions imposed by the Government it became difficult to hold these camps. Therefore they mooted the idea of an exclusive eye

hospital at the Dera and took the initiative by donating the major chunk of the expenditure incurred on establishing this hospital. A donation of rupees one crore one thousand one hundred eleven was given by them for this project. The foundation stone was laid on 10-11-2004 by Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji. The construction of the hospital was completed in record time. The hospital was inaugurated on 15th February, 2007 by Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji on the auspicious occasion of Birth anniversary of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji.

Modern machines such as Yag Laser, Phaco Emulsification machine, Carl-Zeiss Microscope, Carl-Zeiss Slit lamp and A Scan etc. have been installed in the hospital.

People from far and wide areas of Punjab avail the facilities of this hospital. Nearly 200 eye operations are performed every month.

## **Sant Sarwan Dass Model School Hadiabad, Phagwara**

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji was a spiritual leader of acknowledged acclaim besides being a great

visionary and a social reformer. As a social reformer he was cast in the mould of all previous social reformers devoted to Dalit cause. Shri Guru Ravidass Ji, Mahatma Jotirao Phooley, Smt. Savitri Bai Phooley, Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj, Periyar E.V. Ramaswamy Naiker and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar worked tirelessly in their own way for the upliftment of the down-trodden. They laid particular stress on education among Dalits, because they believed that no progress in society was possible without education. Swami Sarwan Dass Ji was fully conscious about the necessity of education among Dalits. Therefore, he used to collect students of poor people in the Dera and gave them all facilities for acquiring higher education. Ultimately, the present Gaddi Nasheen Sant Niranjana Dass Ji in consultation with Sant Rama Nand Ji decided to have a school dedicated to the memory of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and he laid the foundation stone of Sant Sarwan Dass Model School at Hadiabad, Phagwara on 16-4-2002.

The opening ceremony of the School was performed on 19-2-2004 by Shri 108 Sant

Niranjan Dass Ji. Regular studies in the school started on 5-4-2004.

The school is up to Senior Secondary level. The stress is to impart quality education to the students who are mostly from poorer sections of society. It is an English Medium school affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi up to +2 level. Besides humanities, medical and non-medical subjects are taught at the senior secondary level. The Trust is making efforts to include vocational courses also in the coming sessions.

The school is housed in a plot of 2.5 acres of land donated by Shri Brij Lal and his wife Bibi Gurdev Kaur, Phagwara (U.K.). It has got 33 spacious class rooms, 6 well equipped laboratories, 2 general purpose halls, one well equipped library, one auditorium and an office block.

The school has nine buses for carrying the students to the school. The school has a separate 62.5 KVA diesel generator.

Tuition fee is charged from the students

is very low as compared to other private schools. Poor students are given further fee concession, criterion for which is the poverty of their parents. Scholarships to very poor students are given every year to impart them the education absolutely free. Some of these scholarships are sponsored by individual donors and the rest are given by the Trust.

The school is run under the management of Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Hospital Trust Adda Kathar, Distt. Jalandhar. It has got a School Management Committee under the Chairmanship of Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji

## **Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir Hadiabad Phagwara**

When a residential colony was being established in Hadiabad, Phagwara by Sh. Brij Lal and Sh. Des Raj of Phagwara, they came up with an idea to build a Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir in the colony. They not only donated land for this purpose, but also bore the entire expenditure of appx. Rs. 1.5 crores on the con

struction of the temple. The Mandir houses a Satsang Hall, a Langer Hall and eleven rooms in the temple.

The mandir was inaugurated on 19th February 2004 by Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji when it was formally donated to the Dera. As a symbol of handing over the Mandir keys, a pure gold key weighing one kilogram brought specifically from UK by Shri Brij Lal was handed over to Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji. Shri Brij Lal also donated one Tata Safari car to the Dera.

The temple is now under the management of the Dera.

## **Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir Sirsgarh (Haryana)**

Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji is famous for spreading the philosophy and teachings of Guru Ravidass both in India as well as abroad. With this end in view the Dera has established several religious places for spreading the mission of Guru Ravidass Ji.

Knowing this pursuit of the Dera a follower of the Dera Shri Gurbaksh Singh I.F.S. &

his wife Bibi Raj Rani belonging to Sirsagarh, District Ambala (Haryana) requested Maharaj Ji to build a Guru Ravidass Mandir in their village, to which Maharaj Ji agreed. For this purpose they donated a piece of land measuring 4 acres 17 marlas Maharaj Ji for. The foundation stone of the temple was laid on 31-7-2004 by Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji.

Major portion of the construction is complete. A big Satsang hall is under construction. The inaugural day function is held every year on 31st July in which devotees from Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Chandigarh participate in large numbers. This temple serves as a source of inspiration for the people of Haryana.

Free boarding and lodging facilities are available for all the pilgrims and especially those paying pilgrimage to Hardwar from the states of Punjab & Delhi etc.

The temple is now under the management of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Public Charitable Trust (Regd.) Varanasi.

## **Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir**

## **Katraj, Pune**

Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir Katraj, Pune is another link in the series of expanding Guru Ravidass Mission the world over. One Shri Sukhdeo Rangnath Waghmare from Pune had an intuitional urge for building a suitable monument befitting the stature of Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. As if it was preordained, Shri Waghmare happened to visit Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir, Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi. He was wonder struck to see the gamut of monuments dedicated to the memory of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj there. There from, his conviction became strengthened and real. He visited Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Sachkhand Bal. With all humility he opened his mind to Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji and Sant Rama Nand Ji. After two three meetings a lay-out of plan was unfolded.

A two acre plot was donated by Shri S.R. Waghmare and his wife Bibi Radha on Katraj-Kundwa Road, Pune for building Shri Guru Ravidass temple. The foundation stone of the temple was laid on 7th December, 2003 by

Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji. Sant Rama Nand Ji and several trustees and other distinguished persons were also present on the auspicious occasion. 85'X35' double storey temple has since been completed. A gate and a tower are under construction. If and when any of Guru Ji's follower from the world over gets a chance to visit Pune, visit to this sacred temple is essentially a part of his/her itinerary.

The sacred temple is also under the management of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Public Charitable Trust (Regd.) Varanasi.

## **Begumpura Shehar Weekly**

Maharaj Garib Dass Ji was a visionary saint. He also understood the importance of having such a newspaper, as would serve the cause of the community and propagate the teachings and philosophy of Guru Ravidass Ji. With this motive in view he decided to start a religious weekly named 'Begumpura'. In the presence of many saints from Punjab, Sant Garib Dass Ji laid the foundation stone of a building on 23-1-1991 for housing a printing press for giving a voice to the poor people. On 23rd July, 1991

Begumpura paper was inaugurated at Mohalla Sunder Nagar, Jalandhar. Its first publication was published on 15th August; 1991. The weekly is serving our people till date with a new name 'Begumpura Shehar'. The circulation of this paper has increased manifold. It has been successful in conveying to the readers the teachings and message of Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji the world over. In addition, it has been on the forefront in raising the issues of the oppressed and down-trodden communities regarding human rights, equality, liberty, fraternity, co-existence, education, cruelty consciousness, awakening, identity, dignity, brotherhood, adventure. Above all it has been able to educate its readers in imbibing human values.

## **Shri Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan, Dera Bal**

Sat sangat mil raheeye maadho  
Jaise madhup makheera.

It has been the tradition of this Dera to

hold daily, weekly, monthly and annual gatherings for holding religious discourses. Baba Pipl Dass Ji used to hold small gatherings in village Bal and inspired the audience to inculcate noble values in their life and be a valuable member of society and to worship God. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji held Satsang daily in the morning and the evening. Monthly Satsang was held on the Sankranti day in the open place of the Dera under the trees. Sant Hari Dass Ji also continued the tradition of usual religious gatherings. Sant Garib Dass Ji was the first saint of the Dera who visited England for the first time in 1985. Qaumi Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji also accompanied him. Thereafter, he visited United State of America and Canada several times. Qaumi Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji always accompanied Sant Garib Dass Ji to the foreign countries. In this process the number of followers of this Dera swelled manifold. The number of devotees in the daily, weekly and monthly Satsangs increased considerably. Need of a Satsang Hall was felt during the period of Sant Hari Dass Ji.

A spacious Satsang Hall named Sant Hari Dass Satsang Hall was built in the Dera premises in the year 1977. The religious meetings and Kirtan were held in this building even up to the year 2000. As a result of extensive touring by Sant Garib Dass Ji and later by Sant Niranjana Dass Ji along with Qaumi Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji both in India and abroad for spreading Guru Ravidass Mission, the number of followers of the Dera increased to a huge number. It was not possible to accommodate the gathering in Sant Hari Dass Satsang Hall. An unexpected whirlwind, hailstorm and rain disturbed many functions. In the interest of smooth celebration of the functions necessity of a very big Satsang Bhawan was felt. At the instance of Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Trust U.K. and many devotees of foreign countries the decision to build Satsang Bhawan was finalized. In this process many devotees promised liberal donations for the purpose. Whenever, there was meeting of the Trust and foreign devotees this issue was again discussed at length. Shri Swaran Dass Bangar of village Bal (Chatham kent, U.K.)

also attended many such meetings.

In the concluding years of the twentieth century, someone proposed the land situated near the Dera and owned by Shri Swaran Dass Bangar as the suitable site for the Satsang Bhawan. After consultation of members of his family, Shri Swaran Dass Bangar offered to donate his 2.5 acres of land and Rs. one lakh for the proposed Satsang Bhawan. Everybody lauded the offer and expressed thanks to the family of Shri Swaran Dass Bangar.

The lay-out of the Satsang Bhawan was prepared and it was finally approved in its present shape. The name of the Satsang Bhawan was approved as Shri Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan. The foundation of Shri Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan was laid on 12th March, 2000 in the presence of thousands of devotees. Once the foundation stone was laid, there was no looking back. There was exuberant enthusiasm amongst the followers of Guru Ravidass Ji for construction of the Bhawan named after Shri Guru Ravidass Ji. Thousands of devotees thronged to the site for taking part in the construction process. Everyone thought that they

will be lucky who make manual contribution, whatever little it is, in digging the foundation of the sacred building. Qaumi Shaheed Brahmleen Sant Rama Nand Ji led the crowd in this task. He folded his dhoti. He was seen digging the foundation. Soon he was seen lifting the soil. It was enough for the devotees. Every body vied with each other for carrying tokris full of soil to become fortunate enough. Some were seen digging the soil. Others were carrying the soil. It was, indeed, a memorable scene. It was surprising to note that the foundation of the entire building was dug up in a few days only.

The workforce consisting of engineers, technicians, bar-binders, moulders, shuttering workers, machine operators, mistries, skilled and unskilled labour, office staff- all worked tirelessly. Foremen and Project Manager were always on their toe. There were no scheduled working hours. All were working upto late at night. The management had struck the deal with production factories for supply of the quality material; that too at the heavy discount rates. It was indeed a continuing process. Qaumi Shaheed

Brahmleen Sant Rama Nand Ji was the Chief architect and executive of the project. It was his dream project. The entire network and material was scanned and monitored by him regularly. He was so busy in the projects that any Dera affair could be discussed with him after midnight only. The process continued. As a result the gigantic building warranting long span of time for its completion was completed in short period.

Its dimension is 220' X 180'. It is a model of its own kind. There are 4 domes of 16' height on all the four corners. The dome at the main gate of the Bhawan is 20' high. The roof consists of 5 arc-curved divisions. Only 12 pillars in all carry the load of the roof. 6 pillars are in one line and 6 pillars are in other corresponding line. The distance of each line of pillars is 80'. There is 80' long and 30' wide concrete stage in the Satsang Bhawan. There is long 30' wide and 134' long jora-ghar in the basement of main gate. Golden kalshes have been installed on all the four domes in four corners of the Bhawan. In all seven golden kalshes have been installed on 7

domes. The spot will kindle the light and will go a long way in spreading the message of Guru Ji and shaping the abode of his dreams.

Shri Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan- which was the dream project of Qaumi Shaheed Brahmleen Sant Rama Nand Ji – was inaugurated by His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjan Dass Ji on 15th February, 2007. Incidentally, the occasion coincided with auspicious Birth Anniversary of Swami Sarwan Dass Ji- the pioneer of the Dera. Large number of devotees from Birmingham and other parts of U.K. were also present as this project was virtually sponsored by them. Today this Bhavan outshines all other constructions at the Dera and poses as a wonder structure of Ravidassia community in the world.

## **Studio**

There is 80'X30' air-conditioned studio in the basement underneath the stage. It was the brain child of Amar Shaheed Brahmleen Sant Rama Nand Ji. In addition to other qualities of his head and heart, he was renowned musician.

He labored hard for setting up studio in the Dera. Usually he recorded the programme at the calm and serene atmosphere at night. Fitting of AC, artificial ceiling, decorative tiles, stage infrastructure, furniture – all were of his choice. Permanent staff was recruited for carrying on the production. All this resulted in expeditious output of CDs, VCDs, documentary films, TV programme to be telecast weekly on Doordarshan. The cumulative effect of all these activities resulted in fast spread of Guru Ravidass Mission. All this process started by Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji is now being overseen by Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji.

## **Tap Asthan Baba Pipal Dass Ji and Birth Place of Swami Sarwan Dass Ji**

Baba Pipal Dass Ji lived in village Gill Patti (Bhatinda - Faridkot- Ferozepur Road) in district Bathinda. He chanted God's Name here and attained divine enlightenment. His occupation was farming of land. About 1.5 acres of his land is still there. He had planted a Beri tree in this

land. It is situated 1.5 kms away from village Gill Pathi on Nayyanwala Road adjoining the canal. Shri Charan Singh Ji and his wife Bibi Dharam Kaur, heirs of Baba Pipal Dass Ji have donated this land to Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. This Beri tree is still there. Its Bers are sweet. Swami Sarwan Dass Ji was born here on 15th February, 1895. His Holiness Shri 108 Sant Niranjana Dass Ji has constructed one 30'\*30' room, kitchen, bathrooms, 100ft shed for the convenience of the pilgrims.

An idol of Baba Pipal Dass Ji has been installed in the temple. The devotees visit and pay their homage at this sacred place.

## **Telecast of Television programme 'Amrit bani Shri Guru Ravidass Ji'**

Now is the era of media. From all quarters from within and outside the country there was buoyant demand that the program of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji, his teachings and bani should be displayed on television. Accordingly, this unique weekly TV programme named 'Amrit Bani Shri Guru Ravidass Ji' was prepared by

Amar Shaheed Brahmleen Shri 108 Sant Rama Nand Ji in his own melodious voice in consonance with the norms prescribed by Doordarshan department. First episode of programme ‘Amrit Bani Shri Guru Ravidass Ji’ was telecast 13-9-2003 from DD Punjabi. This was the first ever programme solely on the teachings and bani of Guru Ravidass Ji telecast on TV. The force of behind this project was Sant Rama Nand Ji. It was a new chapter in the history of Guru Ravidass Mission. Since 13-9-2003 the programme is continuing uninterruptedly. Later, it was extended to be telecast on DD (Regional) also.

‘Neechai ooch kare mera gobind, kahoo ten a darai’ – these are opening and concluding words recorded for TV programme in the unique voice of Shri Gurdev Ji, sewadar in the Dera. The moment the viewer listens these words, he is captivated. He feels buoyed and embolded. The meaning and message of these words is very easy to understand. A very large number of viewers view this weekly programme regularly.

The project received overwhelming response from the masses. With the construction of Shri Guru Ravidass Satsang Bhawan, Dera's own studio of latest device has been built. The programme is continuing even today. It is now telecast at 4.30 pm to 5.00 pm on every Tuesday on DD-I (Regional) and at 6.30 am to 7.00 am on every Wednesday on DD-Punjabi from Jalandhar Doordarshan.

## **GURU RAVIDASS JI A SYMBOL OF LIBERTY**

**ਚੌਦਾਂਹ ਸੈ ਤੇਤੀਸ ਕੀ, ਮਾਘ ਸੁਦੀ ਪੰਦਰਾਸ |  
ਦੁਖੀਉਂ ਖੇ ਕਲਿਆਣ ਹਿਤ ਪ੍ਰਗਟੇ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ | |**

**CHAUDAN SAAI TETTES KI MAGH  
SUDI PANDRAS,  
DUKHION KE KALYAN HIT PARGTE  
SRI RAVIDAS.**

As per this couplet Guru Ravidass Ji appeared on this earth on 15th Magh Sudi full-

moon day of Bikram Samvat 1433 which coincides with, 1377 A.D. at Seer Govardhanpur a sub-urban area of Benaras. His revered father Santokh Dass Ji and mother Kalsi Devi Ji were happy to receive in their family the smiling sun-like face of Ravidass with eyes full of godly love. This divine gift was meant not only for family of Santokh Dass alone but it was a life-light for mankind as a whole. The brilliance on his face fore-shadowed his future deeds.

Since the advent of Vedic Age, caste system and untouchability have been prevalent in India. In passage of time, the socio-religious inhibitions became more strict and cruel. The untouchables were given an ignoble place. They were debarred from acquiring knowledge, own property and worship of God. They were considered untouchable in the sense that not only physical contact with them but even their shadow would pollute the body of high-caste people. These conditions prevailed in India for more than 3000 years. Social system had been crippled. Apathy meted out to the Shudras culminated in

13th and 14th century A.D. Worship synchronised with observance of rituals only and became hand-tool of priesthood. In such degenerated environment Guru Ravidass Ji emerged in Benaras (Kanshi-Uttar Pradesh, India) as a formidable adversary of socio-religious infirmities and stood for truthfulness. He defined worship afresh. He was protagonist of equality, oneness of God, human rights and universal brotherhood. Guru Ji was a multi-faceted personality. He was a suave socio-religious reformer, a thinker, a theosophist, a humanist, a poet, a traveller, a pacifist and above all a towering spiritual figure before whom even head-priests of Benaras lay prostrate to pay homage. He was pioneer of socialistic thought and strengthened noble values.

The caste in which he was born is called CHAMAR ) also KUTBANDHLA- a sub-caste of scheduled castes in Uttar Pradesh). They were oppressed and badly treated by the society. Practising in leather and tanning is the profession of this community.

On attaining adulthood Guru Ravidass Ji faced the brunt of social handicaps. However,

he started blowing conch-shell, ringing bells and applying tilak on his fore-head and worshipping God. This was taken seriously by the priests. They tried to restrict him from following such practices. But he did not deter. They lodged complaints with the Kashi Naresh against Guru Ravidass Ji for copying them and disregarding Hindu religious tenets. The king interfered. Acid tests were put by the king for ascertaining truthfulness. Guru Ravidass Ji floated PATHRI (stone) in river Ganga, took out JANJUS of 4 YUGS from his chest and showed to the king, at Chittorgarh he became as many Ravidass as the Pandits, he gave his appearance to one BHALLA NATH and Bhalla Nath was killed in place of Ravidass. On all these occasions he was victorious and priests had to eat a humble pie. He proved to be the saviour of down-trodden community groping in darkness of unjust socio-religious environment for survival in tight grip of hate, despair and serfdom.

Guru Ravidass Ji composed hymns profusely in praise of God. Other hymns are scattered and are available in piecemeal at different

places at Sant Dadu Dyal Sanskrit Mahavidyala, Jaipur, Nagri Pracharni Sabha Library, Varanasi and various libraries in Bikaner, Jodhpur, Naraina, Chittor etc. He preached his thought and philosophy through his hymns.

The hymns of Guru Ravidass Ji had become popular. Dr. Darshan Singh, the learned author, writes in his book “A Study of Bhakta Ravidass” (Page 6, Punjabi University, Patiala Publication Second Edition 1996)- “It is maintained in the Janam-Sakhi by Sodhi Meharvan (1581-1640) that Mardana the rebeck player and life long companion of Guru Nanak used to sing the hymns of Bhakta Ravidass and other Bhaktas.” He has made this assertion with reference to Sodhi Meharban’s Janamsakhi Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Vol. I (Amritsar Khalsa College) Page 73 wherein it is depicted as below :

**MARDANA DOOM (U) KALALAN KA  
TALWANDI RAI**

**BHOAI KI REHDA, RABAB (U)  
WAJAIDA, NAAM KAMBIR, TILOCHAN,  
RAVIDAS, DHANNE BENI DE PADE  
GAWTA. GURU BABE NANAK KAI**

## AAGE PADE GAWTA

In the hymn “Begumpura” Guru Ravidass Ji postulates the world of his dreams. There will be no distress, no tax, no restriction from going and coming, no fear in the world. It will be an ideal place to live in. The preamble of the Charter of the United Nations has been prepared in conformity with theme of this hymn.

He was famous for his spiritual perfection. A large number of kings and queens became his disciples. Prominent among them were Raja Pipa, Raja Nagar Mal, Rani Jhalan Bai, Meera Bai. The kings had built many temples dedicated to Guru Ji but these were later either demolished or converted into worship places of other faiths.

Satguru Ji spoke high of his Chamar caste. He addressed the ‘*nagar janan*’ – the residents of Benaras in particular and masses in general that ‘*meri jaat(i) bikhiaat chamaarn*’. He told the then king that Chamar caste is well-known. Since he had taken shelter in the Naam of the Lord, even the leading and distinguished Brahmans bowed down flat before him in reverence.

As per “Shri Guru Ravidass-Life and Writ

ings” Edition 1993 of learned author Dr. Lekh Raj Parwana, Mata Loona, wife of Guru Ravidass Ji, was humble and she extended her full co-operation for success in the mission of her husband. By virtue of her blissful behaviour she was taken as goddess by the devotees.

As recorded by learned author Dr. Lekh Raj Parwana at Page 116-117 in his book “Shri Guru Ravidass-Life and writings” first edition 1993, Guru Ravidass Ji visited Northern India twice. Firstly, he was accompanied by Kabir Ji, Tarlochan Ji, Sain Ji and Dhanna Ji and met Guru Nanak Dev Ji at Chuharkana, now known as Nankana Sahib where Guru Nanak Dev served them food with Rs.20/- which had been given to him by his revered father Mehta Kalu Ji for some profitable business. At his second visit to Punjab, Guru Ravidass Ji met Guru Nanak Dev Ji at Sant Ghat of Kali Bein in Sultanpur Lodhi. At third time he met Guru Nanak Dev Ji at Guru Ka Bagh, Benaras and exchanged their views on several topics pertaining to religion, social system and liberty of human beings. Guru Ravidass Ji gave gift of his VANI of 40 hymns and one couplet

to Guru Nanak Dev Ji as desired by him.

Guru Ravidass Ji is said to have visited Mathura, Prayag, Haridwar, Kurukshetra, Godavari, Sultanpur, Panghat, Ranipur, Bhagalpur, Naraingarh, Nagpur, Bija, Bhopal, Jhansi, Bundi, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Bombay, Hyderabad Kathiawar, Karachi, Bahawalpur, Kala Bhag, Kohat, Khaibar Pass, Jalalabad, Srinagar, Dalhousie, Gorakpur, and widely preached his philosophy. As such, wherever he went large number of people came under his influence and became his devotees. It is due to his itinerary that he is known in entire India.

Guru Ravidass Ji held discussions with Guru Nanak Dev Ji, Satguru Kabir Ji and Sant Ramanand Ji against prevalent social, religious, economic and political persecution. Topics of casteless and classless society, oneness of God, equality and human rights were discussed. He was one of the pioneers of Bhakti Movement. It was reformatory wave against ritualistic worship and other evils with which society was gripped. Worship was given a fresh simple definition. Predominantly, all saints of ideal thought joined

Bhakti Movement. Since the mode of worship preached by them was free from rituals, people of different faiths became their devotees. It was a period of religious renaissance.

He lived for about 151 years. He was able to bring about a sea change in socio-religious environment of our society. His sermons are relevant even today as in the 15th century A.D. All human beings may derive inspiration from his teachings and hymns and enlighten their lives.

## **Birth of Shri Guru Ravidass Maharaj Ji**

It is a historical truth that even God is shaken when the people commit sinful activities at a large scale. When the situation becomes acute, God sends his emissary to put the stray humanity on the right path. In the medieval period of Indian history Satguru Namdev Ji, Satguru Kabir Ji, Satguru Sain Ji, Satguru Ravidass Ji, Satguru Nanak Dev Ji and many others preached equality, fraternity, truth and secularism. They exhorted human beings to shun discrimination on any ground.

It the 13th and 14th century, people in In

dian territory were plundered by foreign invaders. They were subjected to inhuman treatment. Hinduism and Islam were two main religions in India. The society was divided into hundreds of castes and sub-castes. Mul-Niwasis- the original inhabitants of India were deprived of human rights. They were not allowed to get education, wear neat and clean clothes. Even their shadow was understood to pollute the high caste persons. There were cruelties and misery all around. In such a pathetic and awesome scenario, Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji took birth in the family of father Santokh Dass Ji and mother Kalsi Devi Ji on 15th Magh Sudi full-moon day of Bikram Samvat 1433 which coincides with 1377 A.D. at Seer Govardhanpur a sub-urban of Benaras. His grandfather was revered Kalu Ram Jassal and grandmother Lakhpati Saroy. There was dazzling light in the Universe at the time of his birth. Even the saints, sages, rishis and munis bowed before him in reverence and predicted him to do something miraculous. They predicted that Ravidass Ji will annul caste system, equality will prevail and human rights will be wrested to the

betterment of the common man.

The eyesight of the midwife of birth of Guru Ji was weak. As the birth of Guru Ji took place, the old lady had a glance at the new born baby. Her eye sight improved immediately. She was very happy. She told the parents of Guru Ji, that a large number of babies have taken birth through her. The parts of body of this infant are peculiar. She has never seen such a baby. She predicted that as a result of his deeds, the family will become famous.

### **Temple at birthplace**

After a lapse of 600 years Sant Sarwan Dass Ji of Dera Sach Khand Ballan, district Jalandhar (Punjab, India) traced the birthplace of Guru Ravidass Ji at Seer Govardhanpur, Benaras. As a result of strenuous efforts of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Sant Hari Dass Ji and Sant Garib Dass Ji, a 7-storey grand temple has been constructed at the birthplace. It has now become Ultimate Place of Pilgrimage for the devotees in India and abroad.

There is an *imli* tree quite adjacent to the mandir site. When the foundation stone of the

temple was laid it was a dry trunk of the tree. Sant Hari Dass Ji watered the tree daily so long as he stayed there. The tree became live again. To-day it is big tree. The pilgrims pay their obeisance at this place also.

## **Childhood**

Once revered father's sister of Guru Ravidass Ji visited his house. She brought a leather hare toy for child. Leather hare toy was given to child Ravidass Ji. He felt very happy to have the fascinating toy. While playing with the toy, he pushed the toy with his feet thrice. When it was pushed third time the leather hare toy became live hare. It was running and playing with Guru Ravidass Ji. Guru Ji was happy with it. Guru Ji's father's sister's husband came in. He was told all about the leather hare toy. He was astonished to hear all about miracle. They all touched the soft feet of Guru Ji.

Guru Ravidass Ji was of 5 years' age when his revered mother expired.

There was one Karmawati who was of 60-65 years age. She was blind. She was residing at Seer Govardhanpur (Benaras). She was friend

of Mata Lakhpati Ji- the grandmother of Guru Ravidass Ji. Whenever Lakhpati Ji visited Karmawati, she took Ravidass Ji along. Although Karmawati was blind, she used to prepare yarn on *charkha*. One day Ravidass Ji took the BOHIA (a small sarkanda vessel for keeping *poonian and galota*) away from the *charkha*. Karamwati tried to locate it but it was not there. Then Guru Ji kept BOHIA at the same place. Karamwati again tried to locate the BOHIA. It was there. She was astonished at this. She thought that earlier also she tried to locate the BOHIA at the same place but it was not there then. She felt as if somebody is there near her. However, she started preparing yarn on the *charkha*. Then Guru Ji tried to snatch the *charkha* from Karamwati. She resisted. She stretched her arms around and caught hold of Guru Ji and uttered as to who you were? Guru Ji pulled his hands from her hold and put both his hands on her eyes and said, “Mother you see who am I”. Guru Ji took off his hands from her eyes. She opened her eyes. Her eye-sight was normal. She had the glance of beautiful face of Guru Ji. She touched

his feet in reverence. "Fortunate are your parents in whose family you have taken birth", she complimented to Guru Ji. Guru Ji came back to his house.

Karmawati wanted to have still more *darshan* of Guru Ji. She came to house of parents of Guru Ji. She narrated the entire story. She congratulated his parents for having such a godly son.

## **FAMILY LIFE**

As Guru Ji attained boyhood, he remained absorbed in spiritual activities for most of his time. His father wanted him to take up ancestral occupation. Although he did help his father in his profession but he did not take keen interest in it. He was mostly in detached mood. His parents were worried about of his future. By and by he started religious discourses, Casteist people used to laugh at him that being of low caste, he is talking of spirituality. But he continued his discourses. His parents planned his marriage that he could engross himself in his family life and stop spiritual leanings. He was married

to a religious minded girl name Lona Devi of Mirzapur. She handled all domestic work at her in-laws. She was a noble lady. She cooperated her husband in spiritual discourses. Guru Ji had one son Vijay Dass. In book 'The Chamars' G.W. BRIGGS writes 'Name of his wife was Lona that of his son Vijay Dass'.

## **Guru Ravidass Ji coined Gurmukhi Alphabet**

The community in which Guru Ji was born was in the shackles of discrimination, untouchability, poverty and ignorance. He cherished to change the entire scenario of the community. He wanted first to take up educational aspect. He preached –

**Madho abidiaa hit keen**

**Bibek deep maleen**

The untouchables were strictly prohibited from reading Devnagri script. Even a glance of the devnagri letters by them could mean damage of eyes and as such blindness. It was all hor

rible. To save the ignorant people Guru Ji invented his own Gurmukhi alphabet consisting of 34 letters.

**Nana Khiaan puraan bed bidh(i)  
Chautees akhar manhi**

Education was spread by Guru Ji. The people of his community started learning.

Giani Gurcharan Singh has written a book ‘Gurmukhi Akhar Bhagat Ravidass ne banaai’. The author says that originally there are only 34 letters of the alphabet. With a view to make education difficult the selfish people have increased the letters to 52. It proves that 34 letters of Gurmukhi alphabet have been coined by Guru Ravidass Ji. He has also mentioned in the book that untouchables were not allowed access to Devnagri script. He felt necessity of Gurmukhi script so that the untouchables could be educated.

Before partition of India and Pakistan, a Lahore court had adjudicated that the gurmukhi alphabet was coined by Guru Ravidass Ji. He

was not only religious leader but a literary luminary also.

Dr. Krishna Kalsia, author 'Guru Ravidass Kav Kala' has mentioned in the book that there is sole influence of Punjabi in Guru Ravidass bani. This also shows that Guru Ji has coined gurmukhi alphabet.

## **GURU RAVIDAS JI AS A PROMISING STUDENT**

Pt. Sharda Nand ran his Pathshala in his house. Guru Ravidass Ji was put to his Pathshala (School) by his revered parents. Many other casteist people tried to restrain Pt. Sharda Nand from admitting in his Pathshala and teaching Ravidass Ji-a low caste boy. He was a wise man and he realised from his face that the boy Ravidass Ji appeared to be a godly boy. In utter disregard of the pressure of casteist people, Pt. Sharda Nand admitted Guru Ravidass Ji and started teaching him. He was a sober and promising student. When he taught him the letters of alphabet, Guru Ravidass Ji expanded and spoke

poetic lines, originating from the particular letter, signifying Glory of God.

*Man re ! chal(i) chatsar parhaoon*

*Chit(u) kagad kar(i) mas(i) nainan ri,*

*Barakhri sikhaoon.(pause)*

*A-agyan chhanr(i) man moorikh,*

*Aa-aasan achal lagaon.*

*I-ila pingla khol kivrya,*

*Soon(i) samadh rahaon.*

*U-ur mainh ram h(i) rakhoon,*

*Nainan mainh basaon.*

*M-mer(i) taj(i) raam naam mil(i),*

*Param tat kau paon.*

*R-ran raam moh(i) guru deenhau,*

*Nanh(i) ih(u) mantar visraon.*

*Kahai Ravidass rrankaar japthin(i)*

*Bhau sagar(u) tar(i) jaaon.*

All this had great influence on Pt. Sharda Nand, his teacher. He realised that boy Ravidass Ji was spiritually enlightened since beginning. Although Guru Ravidass Ji was still a boy, yet Pt. Sharda Nand had developed deep regard for student Ravidass Ji.

## **DEAD SON OF PT. SHARDA NAND'S SON BECAME ALIVE**

In his childhood when Guru Ravidass Ji was studying in the Pathshala of Pt. Sharda Nand, he developed friendship with his son. They used to play together.

One day in the game of hide-and-seek, Guru Ravidass Ji won and his friend lost the game. As a result, his friend was to seek hidden Ravidass Ji in his next turn. By this time night had fallen. It was mutually agreed that the friend (son of Pt. Sharda Nand) would play his turn of seeking Guru Ravidass Ji tomorrow in the morning.

In the next morning, Guru Ravidass Ji, along with other play-mates, waited for his friend for a long time but he did not turn up. At last Guru Ravidass Ji himself went to his residence with other play-mates.

The parents and other members of family of friend of Guru Ravidass Ji were weeping. The

neighbourers and others were also sitting in remorse. Guru Ravidass Ji enquired as to what had happened. He was apprised that his friend (son of Pt. Sharda Nand) had died during night. Guru Ji wondered as to why he had died without playing his turn of seeking Guru Ji in the game of hide-and-seek. He wanted to see his friend. Pt. Sharda Nand took Guru Ravidass Ji along to the place where dead body of his son was lying. In a friendly tone, Guru Ravidass Ji, asked his friend that it was not the time to sleep and he should get up and play his turn of seeking him in the game of hide-and-seek. By virtue of spiritual powers of Guru Ravidass Ji, His friend became alive. He got up and was willing to play. His parents and others were astonished. They were happy again.

The parents and relatives of the friend of Guru Ji and others bowed at sacred feet of Guru Ji and thanked him.

## **A Brahman Boy Rescued**

A Brahman boy named Ram Lal was a close friend of Guru Ravidass Ji. For most of the time they remained together and played to

gether. The Brahman boy did not observe untouchability also. He loved Guru Ji very much. The Brahmans were jealous and could not tolerate that a Brahman boy should play with an untouchable boy. They emphatically impressed upon his parents to detract their son from moving and playing with a boy of low-caste. But Ram Lal obeyed none.

The Brahmans, being jealous of Guru Ravidass Ji, complained to the king about the friendship of Ram Lal (a Brahman) and Guru Ravidass Ji (an untouchable). The king called Ram Lal to the court. He was decided to be killed by throwing before a hungry lion. As such, he was thrown before a hungry lion. The lion thundered. Ram Lal cried at his high pitch and fainted. When the lion came near the boy it became calm. It looked around. Instead of killing the boy it looked frightened. It saw Guru Ravidass Ji sitting near and protecting Ram Lal. The lion bowed before Ram Lal and receded. Ram Lal came to senses. He got up and came straight to his friend Guru Ravidass Ji and thanked him for his protection from the lion.

The King and Brahmans felt ashamed. The King realised that Ram Lal has been protected by some spiritual power. The king freed him.

## **Non-acceptance of Philosopher's Stone**

Guru Ravidass Ji was a great saint of medieval Age who remained contented with his minimum belongings and resources of livelihood. He preferred to lead a poor man's life. Many kings and queens and other rich people were his disciples but he never expected and accepted any wealthy offers. God deemed it proper to give him a philosopher's stone. One day God, in the guise of a saint, visited Guru Ji's hut and offered him a philosopher's stone with whose touch iron would be converted into gold. The saint asked him to construct a palatial building with money earned with converted gold. Suitable boarding and lodging arrangements could also be made for visiting Sadhus. Guru Ji listened all this. After a pause he politely refused the offer with the plea that he prefers to be poor and that he would serve the visiting Sadhus with

his available resources. Even the repeated offers of the philosopher's stone by the Godly saint were not accepted by Guru Ji.

At last the saint thought that he should leave the philosopher's stone in his hut and he could use it later. He requested Guru Ji to keep it with him and he would collect it from him on return. Guru Ji told him to keep it in a particular place in the hut. The saint kept that stone there.

The saint came back after 13 months. He asked for philosopher's stone. Guru Ravidass Ji asked him to collect it from the place where he had kept. He had not used it. The saint wondered on his tenacity of non-involvement in worldly wealth. The saint was very happy and took away the philosopher's stone, went out and disappeared.

Guru Ji has taught us a lesson that one should not be greedy. One should work hard for earning livelihood.

## **Guru Ravidass Ji Escaped Attempt on Life**

Ever since his childhood, Guru Ravidass Ji

had religious bent of mind. His talks were not conventional. Even his family members were astonished at his strange actions. He was an undaunted boy. When he became adult, he started worshipping God like the Brahmans. He blew conch-shell, applied Tilak (mark) on forehead wore Janju (sacred thread) and tied Dhoti (cloth sheet used instead of trousers) like the Brahmans. He vehemently condemned caste system and untouchability. He preached equality, secularism, truthfulness, oneness of God and human rights. Since his message was of universal brotherhood, people of all shades irrespective of caste, sex or creed came to listen his sermons. His following was fast increasing. At this, the Brahmans and Piran Ditta Mirasi planned a strategy to kill Guru Ravidass Ji. A meeting of several young-men was to be arranged in desolate and lonely place away from the village where Guru Ravidass Ji would also be invited. In the course of discussion, Guru Ravidass Ji would be manhandled and killed. Guru Ji knew it before hand due to his spiritual power.

The meeting started at the venue. In course

of discussion a group of persons caught hold of him and tried to kill him. At this juncture, by virtue of his spiritual powers, Guru Ravidass Ji cast his appearance on one Bhalla Nath. As a result, Bhalla Nath, their companion, looked to others as Ravidass. They killed him. After a short while, Guru Ji blew conch-shell at his hut. The killers were astonished to hear the sound of the conch-shell. They went back to the spot of the scuffle and found that Bhalla Nath had been killed instead of Guru Ravidass Ji. They repented and prayed Guru Ravidass Ji for forgiveness.

## **Floating of Pathri (Stone)**

According to Hindu scriptures worship of God was the sole right of Brahmins only. On the contrary, Shri Guru Ravidass Ji, who belonged to Chamar caste, also started worship of God. He started blowing conch-shell and ringing the bell. He was enlightened and had realised God. He simplified mode of worship and discarded rituals. His religious discourses were most convincing and truthful. As a result, cutting across caste barriers, large number of people

became his followers. All this irked the Brahmans. It was a challenge not only to their priestly supremacy but an adverse impact on their source of livelihood also. Brahmans forbade him from worshipping God. But he did not relent and took worship as his birth-right.

At last Brahmans approached the then Kashi Naresh Hardev Singh and complained against Guru Ravidass Ji for practising worship of God. Guru Ravidass Ji was summoned to appear in the court of the king. Guru Ji explained in the court that worship is everybody's right and that he is the truthful worshipper of God. The Pandit priests and Guru Ravidass Ji were asked to bring their Thakur (Idol) whom they worshipped, to the river Ganga on the appointed day. Only that party will be adjudged as the true worshipper whose Thakur floats in the river.

Brahman priests and Guru Ravidass Ji arrived at Rajghat of the river Ganga as directed by the king. The Pandits had brought small Thakur stones wrapped in the cotton. But Guru Ravidass Ji was stoutly carrying a 40 kg. heavy-weight square stone on his shoulders with

unshakeable confidence. A huge crowd of residents of Benaras gathered on Rajghat of river Ganga to witness the fateful and decisive event. The king and the courtiers also reached the spot. The Brahman priests who were the aggrieved party were given first turn to float their Thakur stones in the river. All the tall fleshy, head shaven, Janju (thick thread) wearing and Tilak applied Brahman priests blew conch-shells and fumbled Vedic Mantras and gently placed their Thakur stones in the river one by one. To their great dismay, all their Thakur stones gently sank down deep into the water. All of them bowed down their heads. The on-lookers were stunned to see the sinking Thakurs of Brahmans.

Then was the turn of Guru Ravidass Ji. He lifted his heavy-weight stone on his shoulders. There was thaw. All eyes were focussed on Guru Ji and the stone he carried. Curiosity prevailed. It was a decisive moment. In case his stone also sinks, there will be further gloom for the lowly. Guru ji closed his eyes and stood erect. His face blushed and with all humility he prayed to God.

*Meri sangat poch soch din raati  
Mera karam kutilta janam kubhati.  
Raam gosaeaa jeea ke jeewnaa  
Mohi naa bisaarho main jan tera. (Rahaao)  
Meri haro vipt jan karo subhaaiee  
Charn naa chhadoo sareer kall jaaiee.  
Kaho Ravidass pario teri saabha.  
Beig milho jan karu naa bilanbaa.*

At this moment there was dazzling light in the sky. All the on-lookers expected something miraculous. Guru Ji moved ahead to the water and gently placed the stone in light-blue transparent water of the river. To great astonishment of the on-lookers the stone (Pathri) floated majestically. Guru Ji gently smiled and thanked God for coming to his rescue. There was spontaneous applause from the viewers.

The Pandits had failed in the test. They had been proved false worshippers. The on-lookers made a mockery of the Pandits. The king announced victory to Guru Ravidass Ji as the truthful worshipper. All respectfully fell at his feet. Guru Ravidass Ji was seated in a golden palanquin and moved in a procession in the city.

The mindset of the masses was changed and they developed regard for him and the lowly. They were blissful after having glimpses of Guru Ji.

A gala-function was organised after some-time in the honour of Guru Ravidas Ji to celebrate his victory. He was seated at a raised cushioned and beautiful seat decorated with jewels. All the courtiers, diwans, intelligentsia, chieftains and selected people formed the gathering. All spoke high of Guru Ravidass Ji. The king and members of his family intantly became followers of Guru Ji. At the end of the function sweets were distributed. The people touched sacred feet of Guru Ji and went back home singing his praise. This event was recorded in the annals of court in calligraphic golden letters.

It was an unprecedented and eventful day for the untouchables. New glorious history was created for them on that fateful day. Truth had come out victorious against falsehood. False beliefs had been belied !

## **Disgrace of Guru Ravidass Ji Be- got Leprosy**

Saintly persons belong to entire mankind. They do not represent any single caste or creed. They cherish universal well-being; and persuade humanity to follow the path of Truth and Equality. Guru Ravidass Ji was a reputed enlightened saint of medieval Age. Influenced by the truthfulness of his sacred sermons of worship of God, devotees from all castes became his disciples. After having learnt of his fame as an Emancipated saint, a wealthy Seth visited his place to hear his religious discourses. On that day Guru Ji threw light on importance of human birth. It was elucidated that rare phenomenon of our birth is a result of our benevolent deeds in our previous life.

Dulabh janam pun phal payo

The Almighty should, therefore, be worshipped to enlighten our this life. Other than His Name all show of rituals is false.

At the end of Satsang (religious discourses) Guru Ji distributed nectar from shallow earthen pot lying near his seat. On observing it as dirty

water, he threw nectar behind his head and back instead of drinking. It fell partially on his clothes and partially on the floor.

The gathering dispersed. The Seth came back home. Thinking that his clothes had been spoiled and polluted by dirty water given by Guru Ravidass Ji, he took off the clothes and donated to a poor man who was suffering from leprosy.

The poor man wore the clothes donated by the Seth. The clothes bore blots of nectar given by Guru Ravidass Ji to the Seth. The poor man felt soothing effect on his body as soon as he put on the clothes. The wounds of leprosy started healing up. He started having sound sleep at night. In a short period, the poor man became completely healthy as if he had never suffered from the disease. On the other hand leprosy developed on the body of the Seth. He got lot of treatment from highly qualified and experienced Vaid and Hakims but the disease continued becoming serious. The wounds of leprosy became wet. Continuous intense pricking pain upset the psyche of the Seth and plunged him in gloom.

He sat alone and pondered as to whether the disease was due to disgrace of the saint. He went to Guru Ravidass Ji and apologized for throwing nectar on his earlier visit. Guru Ji forgave him. He got relief from the disease automatically within a few days. Thereafter, the entire family of the Seth became Guru Ji's disciples.

## **Display of Janjus of 4 Ages**

The Hindu religious books have put a bar on the so-called Shudras from worshipping God. The Shudras were not allowed to wear the Janju (sacred thick thread), put mark (Tilak) on forehead and observe other religious practices. Guru Ravidass was born to face the brunt. He started wearing Janju, put Tilak (religious mark) on forehead and wearing Dhoti like that of Pandits. He also observed other practices which were peculiar to the Brahmans only. All this was taken very ill by the Pandits. In the beginning they tried to impress upon Guru Ravidass Ji not to resort to the practices followed by them. But Guru Ji would not agree. He told them that they were wearing false Janju.

Aggrieved by the intransigent attitude of Guru Ravidass Ji, the Brahmans brought to the notice of the king, the religious practices followed by Ravidass Ji which are peculiar to the Brahmans only. The king was furious on the issue. He sent for Guru Ravidass Ji for clarifying his position. Guru Ravidass Ji appeared in the court of the king. The Brahmans too had come in large numbers. The issue of wearing Janju (sacred thick thread) was discussed.

Brahmans said that as per Hindu scriptures, Janju is to be worn by the Brahmans only. Ravidass being untouchable should stop wearing it. Guru Ravidass Ji told the king that it has falsely been written in the scriptures that non-Brahmans will not wear Janju. It is injustice with others. However, he will stop wearing Janju on one condition. The Pandits would show him what he was just going to show to the king. Guru Ji took out a Rambi (knife) and struck it into his chest making four-inch long cut. Blood blew profusely. There was a pool of blood on the floor. He pulled out four Janjus from his chest— one of gold, second of silver, third of copper

and fourth of thread-signifying his wearing these Janjus in Satyuga, Treta, Duaaper and Kalyuga. This also demonstrated that the untouchables are pure, truthful and innocent. The Brahmans cut a story figure. Their faces turned pale. Understanding the reality, the king fell on the feet of Guru Ji and begged apology for the harassment caused to him. A broad-minded Guru Ji forgave him.

At the end of the event, Guru Ji told the king and the gathering that in fact Janju has no significance in attainment of God. He wore it only to demonstrate its futility and to show the right path to the Brahmans. Guru Ji took off his Janju and gave it to the king. Thereafter, he never wore any Janju as such.

The pains taken by Guru Ravidass Ji to wrest human rights should not be allowed to go unfelt and unsung. It should further kindle the spirit to continue the pace. Blood flowed from his chest may energise blood of the generations to tread his foot-prints and thrill the era.

## **Meera Bai Saved**

Meera Bai was the only child of her par

ents. Her mother died when Meera Bai was still in her infancy. She was brought up under the custody of Duda Ji, her grandfather who was a worshipper of God. He had met Guru Ravidass Ji several times. He was under his influence. Meera Bai was also influenced by the devotional bent of mind of her grandfather. It is said that at the time of marriage of Meera Bai, Guru Ravidass Ji blessed the couple.

After her marriage, she adopted Guru Ravidass Ji as her Guru, with the consent of her husband and other elderly members of her family. Religious discourses were held daily at the open compound of 1800 ft. high Kumbh Shyam Mandir near Vijay Sitambh, Chittorgarh. These discourses had deep impact on innocent conscience of Meera Bai. In this compound, Meera used to dance in ecstasy of deep Divine devotion. She used to sing the praise of her Guru.

*Guru milya Ravidass Ji dini gyan ki gutki  
Chot lagi nijnam hari ki mharey hivrey khatki.*

By this time, Meera Bai had become a truthful devotee of Guru Ravidass Ji. She had unshakeable faith in Guru Ji. She was absorbed

in meditation and company of saints all the time. After the death of her father-in-law, her troubles started. Bikramjit the younger brother of her deceased husband, was apprehensive and did not like her remaining aloof in meditation and company of saints. But Meera Bai did not relent.

Bikramjit got her thrown in Gambhiri river at mid-night. She glimpsed Guru Ravidass Ji in the turmoil of waves. The waves comfortably sprang her out to the bank of river. This incident confirmed purity of Meera and she felt blissful.

On another day in her intuitional devotional state of meditation, Meera Bai was talking and laughing with Guru Ravidass Ji in her room. Bikramjit apprehended that she was talking and laughing with some outsider in her room. Out of wrath he unsheathed his sword to kill her. He knocked at the door and asked her angrily to open the door. Without waiting he forcefully pushed the door open. There was no man. Room was filled with dazzling light. Meera was absorbed in meditation. This shook him. His conscience cursed him. He fainted. After some time he gained consciousness. Feeling helpless he came out.

Meera Bai faced yet another crucial test. A cushioned bed was prepared. Piercing sharp nails were studded on it. Meera Bai was asked to sit on it as it was purported to be manufactured for her comfortable sleep. She did as directed. By virtue of protection by Guru Ravidass Ji the piercing nails became flowers. She had sound sleep on the bed.

Bikramjit was still haunted by the phobia of killing Meera Bai. He chalked out a strategy to kill Meera Bai in consultation with his ministers. She was to be offered milk mixed with poison by posing it as nectar sent to her by Guru Ravidass Ji. Uda Bai, sister of Bikramjit, secretly told Meera Bai that poison in the milk is going to be offered to her posing as nectar sent to her by Guru Ravidass Ji; that she should not drink it. Meera Bai replied that if it is said to have been sent by Guru Ravidass Ji, she would drink it as nectar. Milk mixed with poison was offered to Meera Bai through Pandit Daya Ram stating that it is nectar sent by Guru Ravidass Ji and she should drink it. In meditation Guru Ravidass Ji told her that although it is poison-mixed-milk yet

she should unhesitatingly drink it as nectar. Meera Bai repeated Name of Guru Ravidass Ji devotionally and carried the pot containing poisonous milk. It became nectar. She drank it and became blissful. She sang in ecstasy :

*Vish ko pyala Rana Ji melio dyo*

*Mertani ne paye*

*Kar charanamrit pee gayee re,*

*gunGobind ra gaye.*

Bikramjit still thought of killing Meera Bai. He thought out another plan. A poisonous snake was to be sent to Meera Bai posing as garland sent by Guru Ravidass Ji for her. The snake would sting her when the pot is opened. Pot carrying poisonous cobra snake was taken to Meera Bai and she was told that it is a garland sent by Guru Ravidass Ji for her. She should wear it. She meditated Guru Ji. By spiritual power of Guru Ravidass Ji the snake became a beautiful garland. She removed disc of the pot. It was a beautiful garland. She picked it up and wore it. She was moved and sang spontaneously :

*Saanp pitaro Rana Ji bhejyo, dyo mertani*

*gal Daar*

*Hans hans Meera kanth lagayo yo to mhan  
Re nausar haar.*

*Meera Bai thanked Guru Ravidass Ji. She  
was saved.*

Bikramjit was now helpless. He yielded to Meera Bai and begged apology for past attempts to kill her. She forgave him. Bikramjit and members of his family developed deep regard for Guru Ravidass Ji.

Guru Ravidass Ji was a great saint. Meera Bai was his equally great disciple. Her heart beat with Guru Ji; her soul vibrated with Guru Ji. She wrote and sang profuse devotional poetry in praise of Guru Ravidass Ji. Sweet and melodious tunes of hymns of Meera Bai can be heard even today in air in the serene vicinity of Chittor. Radio and Television too sing her devotional songs as the day dawns.

## **The Episode of Damri (small coin)**

Kumbh festival was held at Haridwar on the bank of the river Ganga. Pandit Ganga Ram set out to attend this festival. On the way he visited Guru Ravidass Ji at Benaras and paid

homage to him. On being asked by Guru Ji he apprised him that he was going to attend Kumbh festival at Haridwar. Guru Ravidass Ji gave one Damri (small coin) to Pandit Ganga Ram with the direction that he should offer this Damri to Ganga Mata only if she accepts it by taking her hand out of water. He was amazed at the unprecedented condition. However, he took the Damri and went away to Haridwar. He thought in his mind that since time immemorial innumerable devotees have offered money, gold and silver ornaments and other precious jewels but Ganga Mata has never accepted these offers by taking out her hand. This was something impossible and unheard of. He took it very lightly.

At Har Ki Pauri, Haridwar, after taking his bath, Pandit Ganga Ram said his prayers and started his journey back home. The Pandit had forgotten to offer Damri of Guru Ravidass Ji to Ganga Mata. Soon his way back home the Pandit felt giddy and fainted and sat down. He fell asleep. He realised that he had forgotten to offer Damri to Ganga Mata. As he woke up, he immediately went back to the holy river.

Pandit Ganga Ram spoke loudly towards the river not believing that he would get any response. He uttered that Ravidass Ji has sent a Damri to her. But it is to be given only if it is accepted by taking out your hand. At this, Ganga Mata lifted her right hand out of water and accepted Damri sent by Guru Ravidass Ji, leaving the Pandit in the shock. In return, Ganga Mata gave a golden Kangan (bangle) to Pandit Ganga Ram and asked him to give it to Guru Ravidass Ji as her gift. Pandit Ganga Ram came back home and gave the Kangan to his wife instead of giving it to Guru Ravidass Ji.

After a few days, at the instance of his wife, he went to the market to sell the precious Kangan as he was in great need of money. Jeweller was astonished to see the precious Kangan. He had never seen such a bangle before. He apprehended the mischief and passed on the bangle to the king that Pandit Ganga Ram had stolen it from somewhere. He king showed the beautiful bangle to his queen. She liked it very much and insisted for one more matching Kangan of same type. The Pandit was helpless. The king directed

him to arrange one matching bangle, failing which he would be punished. Pandit Ganga Ram broke down and narrated the whole episode as to how he got this bangle. He requested the king and queen to accompany him to Guru Ravidass Ji for the purpose. When they reached there, Guru Ji extended a hearty welcome to them. Pandit Ganga Ram narrated the whole tale of bangle to Guru Ji and repented for the perfidious act and humbly sought forgiveness. He also implored that a matching bangle is needed by the king and the queen.

*Mun changa to kathauti mein Ganga*

(If mind is pure, the Ganga flows in the small earthen shallow pot). Broad-minded Guru Ji asked them to see in the earthen shallow pot. To their amazement, river Ganga was flowing and there were innumerable bangles floating in it. Guru Ji asked them to identify the matching bangle. All this shook their spirit. They were fascinated and highly impressed by the spiritual power of Guru Ji that they became his followers. They listened evening religious discourses and went back home singing the praise of Guru Ravidass Ji.

At some place this episode has been described differently. Once the king and queen along with courtiers and other dignitaries visited the place of Guru Ravidass Ji. The queen possessed the kangan (bracelet) which had been sent by Ganga Ji to Guru Ji. It was so dear to her. The queen requested Guru Ji for second matching kangan. Kind hearted Guru Ji lifted the stone on which he used to process leather and said-

*Man Changa to kathauti mein Ganga.*

Ganga was flowing. So many kangans like the one with the queen were floating in the Ganga. The king and queen were amazed to see all that. They sought forgiveness. They became disciples of Guru Ravidass Ji.

The above episode has been described at some pages with still a minor difference. The queen demanded a matching kangan, the king went to the shore of the Ganges. He worshipped Ganga Ji, in many manners but got no response. Then taking pandit ji along reached the kutia of Guru Ravidass Ji. He humbly requested Guru Ji for second matching kangan of the one in his possession. Guru Ji said that he could get as many kangans as he liked. He lifted the pathri

(stone) on which he used to process leather and asked Ganga Ji to bless a kangan to the king.

All were astonished to see the flow of Ganga beneath the pathri. Ganga Ji was throwing out with waves many kangans matching with the one the king was having. All were amazed to see all this miracle. The king begged apology and bowed on the sacred feet of Guru Ji in reverence. He became disciple of Guru Ji. Holy sages are king of the kings.

## **Dinner of Guru Ravidass Ji at Chittorgarh**

Once Rani Jhalan Bai of Chittorgarh visited Benaras on pilgrimage. She paid homage at many temples. There she heard of perfection in enlightenment of Guru Ravidass Ji. She went to the place of Guru Ji at Govardhanpur, Benaras and listened his religious discourses. She was highly convinced and influenced by Guru Ji. She was so much impressed that she prayed Guru Ji to make her his disciple. Guru Ji told her to adopt some high-caste saint as Guru as she belonged to Rajput caste. But she implored and insisted to become his disciple. Seeing her truthfulness

and perseverance in conviction, Guru Ji initiated her and made her his disciple. The Pandits could not bear that a Rajput queen should become disciple of a low caste saint. They complained to Raja Sangram Singh that his queen had adopted Ravidass Ji as her Guru. At this the king was annoyed with the queen. However, she talked high of Guru Ji and his enlightenment and charismatic powers that he had. After hearing this, the king also developed regard for Guru Ji and cherished to see him.

The king and queen arranged a Satsang (religious congregation for discourses) at Chittorgarh. Guru Ravidass Ji was prayed to attend the Satsang as the Chief Guest. After spiritual deliberations community dinner was arranged in honour of Guru Ravidass Ji. Guru Ravidass Ji knew spiritually that Pandits would not take meals if he sits in line with them. Therefore, he preferred to sit alone in a separate room. However, when service of food was ready the Brahmans stood away and refused to sit with Guru Ravidass Ji, because they said, he belonged to low caste. When Guru Ji came to know all about it he agreed to sit alone in another room. Then

the Pandits agreed to take meals. The food was served. When the Pandits began to eat food they were astonished to see that Guru Ravidass Ji was sitting on both sides of each of the Pandits. On right side, he was there and on left side he was again there. The Pandits felt ashamed and repented for their unruly behaviour with Guru Ravidass Ji. They prayed Guru Ji to forgive them. They were forgiven. All of them became Guru Ji's disciples.

## **Freeing a She-deer from a Hunter**

Long ago the area of present LEHARTARA in Benaras was a jungle. Deers and other species of animals inhabited it. Guru Ravidass Ji also used to visit this forest and meditate there in lonely place. Once a hunter laid net to catch a deer. A she-deer was entrapped; it was caught by the hunter and was to kill it. The she-deer implored the hunter that its small children are hungry and are waiting for her for feed. It will come back after feeding them. The hunter would not let it go. However, he agreed to free it against a surety. Guru Ravidass Ji incidentally

listened all this. He offered to stand surety for the she-deer. In case it did not come back Guru Ji was willing to pay the price.

The she-deer was allowed to go to see its children. It fed its children and told them the tale of having been caught by the hunter and freed for a short-while on the surety of Guru Ravidass Ji. The children said, “We do not want to survive without you. We also accompany you to be killed with you.” Within the agreed time the she-deer and its children came back to Guru Ji where the hunter was also waiting.

The hunter was astonished to see the truthfulness of she-deer and thought that Guru Ji knew the episode before hand.

The hunter repented for past killings and took a vow not to kill animals in future. The she-deer and its children were freed. The hunter fell on the feet of Guru Ji and became his follower. The she-deer and its children bowed at the sacred feet of Guru Ji and expressed their gratefulness. Thereafter, the she-deer and its children would bow to Guru Ji whenever he visited the forest.

## **King Pipa lost Nectar**

Guru Ravidass Ji was famous for his enlightened Realisation. He had written many hymns in the praise of God. His sermons discussed in religious discourses were most convincing. His message was of universal appeal. As a result, large number of people attended his religious congregations.

King Pipa had a religious bent of mind. One day he attended Satsang (religious discourses) of Guru Ravidass Ji. He was highly impressed with truthful sermons. At the end of Satsang, Guru Ravidass Ji distributed nectar to the visitors. King Pipa thought of low caste of Guru Ji and hated water being posed as nectar. Guru Ji poured nectar on his hands to be drunk. Thinking it as polluted water he threw it down through the gap in both the hands together. As a result, nectar fell on the clothes of king Pipa. It left indelible blots on the clothes.

After reaching his home, king Pipa sent the clothes to washerman for washing. The in

delible blots could not be removed. Daughter of the washerman sucked the blots for their removal. The moment she sucked the blots, she was enlightened. She could tell as to what was happening in the distant places. All this came to the notice of king Pipa. He enquired from the girl as to how she got this spiritual power. She told him that the moment she sucked blots on his clothes, she was enlightened. King Pipa repented. He realised that he had wasted nectar taking it as water of low caste saint.

He went to Guru Ravidass Ji and begged apology for throwing nectar. He prayed Guru Ji to give him the same nectar again. Guru Ji told him that he had missed the opportunity, as the nectar was not available now. However, on his insistence, Guru Ji initiated him and made him his disciple. King Pipa worshipped God as guided by Guru Ravidass Ji. As a result of Divine devotion he became emancipated. Other members of his family and many visitors also became followers of Guru Ji.

## **King Sikandar Lodhi freed Guru**

## **Ravidass Ji from jail**

Sikandar Lodhi was a ruler of Delhi. He was very cruel towards Hindus and their traditions. He even converted large number of Hindus to Islam.

The Pandits saw Guru Ravidass Ji dressed like a Hindu (Brahman) and reported it to the king. The king ordered his soldiers to put Ravidass Ji in prison and had him locked up. As usual Guru Ji was in meditational mood. It so happened that locks of the jail broke away automatically. Soldiers were amazed to see all this. Guru Ji was seen moving freely outside the jail inspite of strict supervision by the soldiers. All this was brought to the notice of king. The king realised his high-handedness and set Guru Ji free from prison. He begged apology from him.

At an other time Sikander Lodhi sent Guru Ravidass Ji to a dark prison-cell at the instance of the maulvis. Then all the devotees and staff members felt as if Guru Ji is seated on the throne. The jail authorities brought to the notice of the king. They pleaded that Guru Ravidass Ji is spiritually enlightened having charismatic powers.

The king realised his blunder. Guru Ji was freed. The king begged apology from Guru Ji. The maulvis were reprimanded.

Once the Pandits and Muslims complained to the king Sikander Lodhi about the activities of Guru Ravidass Ji. Guru Ji was imprisoned. Sikander Lodhi was upset. He slept at night. During night he saw himself in a tragic situation, Guru Ravidass Ji was seen rescuing him. The king was highly impressed with Guru Ji's spiritual powers. Next day in the morning, Guru Ji was freed. King humbly requested Guru Ji for forgiveness.

The Brahmans were jealousy of the increasing fame of Guru Ravidass Ji. On one pretext or the other they lodged a complaint with the king Sikander Lodhi against Guru Ji. The king ruled that Guru Ravidass Ji be thrown before a drunken elephant. Next day Guru Ji was thrown before a drunken elephant. To their great astonishment the elephant bowed before Guru Ji in reverence and went back. The king begged apology and Guru Ji forgave them all.

Thereafter, the king never interfered in the affairs of Guru Ravidass Ji.

## **Reverse Flow of Ganga River**

Benaras is a sacred city inhabited on the bank of river Ganga. In Benaras it is a custom to perform last rites of the dead bodies on bank of pious river Ganga. Even from the distant places surrounding Benaras, dead bodies are brought here.

Revered father of Guru Ravidass Ji grew very old. He fell ill and died. Guru Ravidass Ji called his neighbourers for performing last rites.

Guru Ravidass Ji along with his companions carried the dead body to the bank of the river where last rites of dead bodies are performed. The Brahmans forbade on the plea that water of river Ganga flows from the spot towards the main city where Brahmans take bath and they would be polluted. Guru Ji felt very much harassed. They again carried the dead boy to a distant place named Nagwa on bank of the river where Brahmans were not likely to be defiled by untouchability. The last rites were performed on dead body of revered father of Guru Ravidass Ji at that spot. They prayed for peace

of the departed soul. At this time due to spiritual power of Guru Ji there was thunder. Water of river Ganga flowed reverse and a strong wave sprang up towards the dead body and washed away and immersed all the mortal remains. From that moment, at this spot reverse flow of Ganga water continued. Reverse flow of river water took place due to spiritual power of Guru Ravidass Ji.

At this pious place Nagwa, a fascinating ‘Guru Ravidass Smark and Park’ and have been set up. Spacious and beautiful Guru Ravidass Ghat has also been built by Ms Mayawati regime on the bank of the river quite adjacent to the Smark and Park.

## **Jealousy of Piran Ditta Mirasi**

Guru Ravidass Ji was well wisher of human beings. He never discriminated between anybody on any ground. He preached sat marg in his religious discourses. He became famous amongst the people. People of all varnas and castes became disciples of Guru Ravidass Ji. Piran Ditta Mirasi did not like increasing fame of

Guru Ji.

One day Piran Ditta Mirasi called a meeting of his favourites. They planned to kill Guru Ravidass Ji. On some pretext Guru Ji was called to the Sabha. When Guru Ji arrived, some started hot talk with him. Guru Ji argued with them as to why they were talking rough with him without any reason. Some of them suddenly jumped over Guru Ji to kill him. At this Guru Ji remembered God and recited shabad:

*Ram gusaaeee jee ke jeewnaa  
Moh na bisaar(u) mai jan tera (Rahaao)  
Meri har(u) bipit jan krhu subhaaiee  
Charan na chhaadao sareer kaljaaiee  
Kaho Ravidass parao teri sabha.  
Beig milhu jan karu na bilanma*

As soon as Guru Ji humbly and devotionally recited above shabad there was dazzling light in the sky. All members of the Sabha started seeing appearance of Guru Ji on all sides. They all were confused and scared. At the same time Guru Ji was seen blowing conch-shell at his house. Guru Ji was rescued by God. They failed in their plan. The Sabha members repented

on their action and begged apology from Guru Ji.

The sacred place of occurrence of this incident is located towards Ganga near Lotu Baba Pir at Seer Govardhanpur Varanasi.

## **Blessings of Gold coins**

Guru Ravidass Ji had not accepted the God's offer of Philosopher's stone earlier.

Once again God visited the place of Guru Ji. He told Guru Ji that large number of devotees visit him daily. There is dire need of running of free community kitchen and a good sarai accommodation for the pilgrims. It is said that a large number of devotees, kings, courtiers used to visit the place of Guru Ji. You need money for all these facilities for the followers. You will, therefore, be getting 5 gold coins daily. Thereafter, 5 gold coins were found daily at Guru's place.

A splendid Satsang Bhawan, residential accommodsation and Dharamshala were constructed. Community kitchen was also run.

*Mandir Mehal kya bahutera*

*Jahan tahan bhagtan ka dera.*

Satsang is as necessary now as it was in

olden times. All of us should attend satsang and adopt sacred teachings of Guru Ravidass Ji.

## **A Sheikh begged for mercy**

Shri Guru Ravidass Ji held religion discourses everyday. He inspired the audience to shun discrimination on any ground. Equality and fraternity, worship of the Almighty with devotion and detachment from material belongings were the essence of his discourses. He cherished universal well-being. It was appealing to all the Hindus and Muslims alike. His fame spread all around.

One Sheikh of Varanasi also heard the fame of Guru Ji. He came to the place of Guru Ravidass Ji and heard his satsang. He observed that many kings, queens and others prominent figures were also there raptly listening the satsang. He was very much impressed with Guru Ji truthful sermons having universal appeal. His many misconceptions were clarified and removed.

At the end of satsang, Guru Ji distributed nectar (amrit) from his dauri (shallow earthen pot which he used for soaking leather). Its colour

was brown. It was served to all those present including Sheikh. Thinking it as polluted water, he hated and threw it aside. In this process, some drops of the nectar fell on his clothes. After reaching home he took off the clothes and handed over to the maid servant for washing.

The maid servant tried to wash off the blots on the clothes but these could not be removed. She put the clothes bearing blots in mouth and sucked so that the blot was removed. When she sucked the blots, she was divinely enlightened. She started talking God and heavenly bodies. Sheikh also came to know the spiritual powers of the maid servant. He enquired from her as to how she has attained all these powers. She told him that when she sucked the blots on the clothes, she became spiritually emancipated. The Sheikh repented that he had wasted and disregarded the nectar offered to him by Guru Ravidass Ji. He felt himself sinful and disgraced. He came to Guru a few days later and begged apology for throwing nectar thinking it polluted water. All the truthful saints are kind hearted. Guru Ji forgave and told him that you have missed the

opportunity. However, he was initiated and asked to chant God's Name Har(i) Har(i) Har(i). Even now those who want to be spiritually elevated should chant God's Name Har(i) Har(i) Har(i).

## **Karma Bai – the disciple of Satguru Ravidass Ji**

Karma Bai was divinely enlightened lady. Karma Bai's fame spread all around. Saints visited her place from far and near. One day a saint said, 'Karma ! how is it that God takes meals at your home daily.' She told while preparing meals chapattis, khichri for the God, I chant the sacred Name of God. When the meals are ready, all the items are kept in proper manner and are covered with a clean cloth. The saint told her that this is not the proper manner. She should wash wood needed as fuel, mud plaster the kitchen, bathe and then prepare meals. From next day she started the new process. One day while observing the new process, the meals were prepared late. God had to wait. God was still busy in eating khichri, Sant Rama Nand also prayed him to take meals with him. God had to

go to Sant Rama Nand Ji immediately. He could not even cleanse khichri from his face and hands. Sant Rana Nand Ji enquired all about from the God. God told that he daily took Khichri at the house of Karma Bai. Today she was late in preparing Khichri. 'I was still taking Khichri that you called me'. Hearing all this, Sant Rama Nand Ji was astonished to know that God takes meals at the house of Karma Bai! The priest went to Karma Bai and enquired on to how God comes to her house daily. She told him that while preparing meals she did simran of naam on blessings of Satguru Ravidass Ji that God takes meals at my house every day. Sant Rama Nand requested Karma Bai to pray to God to show me His appearance. Next day she requested God to let Sant Rama Nand have His darshan. God told that Sant Rama Nand is not clean at heart; he nurtures duality. She again requested that kindly do have mercy on him and bless him with your darshan. At the instance of Karma Bai God blessed Sant Rama Nand Ji with His darshan.

## **Ganga Ji as a girl**

Guru Ravidass Ji arranged a Bhandara. Ganga Ji also appeared in the shape of an unmarried girl to take part in Bhandara. Seeing her unique beauty, the king sent a message to Guru Ji that the girl be married to him. Guru Ji told all to Ganga Ji. Ganga Ji told Guru Ji that king will harass him. So let the king come for marriage. On the appointed day, the marriage procession arrived at the place of Guru Ravidass Ji. Fully adorned Ganga appeared. When she saw the king, she disappeared in the shallow earthen pot showing flowing Ganga. At this such a strong stream of water out-flowed from the pot that the entire marriage procession was drowned. Every body realised that it was Ganga Ji in the shape of girl who had come to seek blessings from Guru Ravidass Ji.

## **Udasis of Guru Ravidass Maharaj Ji**

Guru Ravidass Ji was an institution in himself. He wanted to make amends in the social and religious system. He set out for spreading his teachings to far off places. Guru Ji travelled

to distant places to spread his message. Due to discrimination the spots built in his memory have been destroyed. Today there is no remnant showing his visit to any distant place. He not only wrote amritbani but also travelled all corners of the countries, as below, to make common man understand his philosophy of removing caste system, discrimination, ignorance, illiteracy, poverty, illusion.

## **Udasi – 1**

1. Ranipur, Malpi, Maadhampur, Bhagalpur, Naraingarh, Kalpi and Nagpur.
2. Barhanpur, Bijapur and Bhopal.
3. Chandehi, Jhansi, Toad, Bundi, Udaipur.
4. Jodhpur, Ajmer, Bombay.
5. Amarkot, Hyderabad, Kathiawar, Bombay.
6. Bombay to Karachi, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bahawalpur.
7. Kalabagh, Kohat, Darra Khaibar, Jalalabad.
8. Jalalabad to Kafirstan, Srinagar.
9. Dalhousi to Gorakhpur, Gorakhpur to Kashi

## **Udasi – 2**

Kashipur to Gorakhpur, Partapgarh, Shahjahanpur. Then he proceeded up to Himachal mountains. All the devotees accompanying him were asked to go back to their places. He directed that henceforth his son would initiate the disciples and that he would come back after a long time.

Guru Ji was instrumental in bringing about many revolutionary reforms in society. The age old unhealthy rituals and traditions were abandoned. Large number of sinful bodies were blessed who started their fresh pious lives. When they were shown the right path even the religious hard core fanatics repented and begged apology. Many patients struggling for life and death were cured. Whosoever came to his shelter, all were emancipated and they became pious.

### **Udasi – 3**

Satguru Ravidass Ji travelled to Arabs countries also. He held dialogues with chiefs of various religions and innumerable persons were blessed with the powers he had. We find mention of various places in Guru Ji's bani. In shabad 'Begumpura sehar ko naon' there is mention of

Abadaan . As per mahan kosh of Bhai Kahan Singh it is a famous place in Iran. It indicates that Guru Ji visited Arab country also. He visited Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arab, Madina and Mecca and Afghanistan. In his journey to all these places large number of muslims became his disciples.

Some monuments might have been erected in Guru Ji's memory by his followers in these countries. But these could not have been maintained.

## **Travel to Himachal and Sirdhar Parbat**

There is mention in Guru Nanak Dev Janam Sakhi that Guru Nanak Dev Ji along with Bhai Bala and Mardana visited Himachal and Sirdhar Parbat. Bhai Bala and Mardana asked Guru Nanak Dev Ji if any body else has also visited this place before them. Guru Nanak Dev Ji told them that Guru Kabir Ji and Guru Ravidass Ji have visited his place. As such Guru Ravidass Ji, visited Himachal and Sirdhar parbat also. Virtually Guru Ravidass Ji travelled entire India and

Arabian countries. There is, however, utmost need of research work in travels of Guru Ji.

## **Gold cows became alive**

One day king Nagar Mal called Guru Ji to his palace. Many Pandits were also there.

The Pandits were mumbling vedic mantras. When the ceremony came to close, the king donated gold cows to the Pandits. Guru Ji intervened. He told that he does not believe in caste system. However, as per vedic provisions, the pandits can entertain donation of live cows only. Gold cows are not alive. These are dead. Carrying dead animals is the right of the Chamars. There was thaw. Guru Ji was right in his interpretation. But the greedy pandits were also not ready to leave gold cows, which were so costly. Ultimately, it was decided that the pandits may instill life in the cows, only then they can take the cows home. Otherwise, Guru Ji will get the gold cows. The pandits recited so many mantras but the cows could not move. Then they said that let Guru Ravidass Ji put life in the gold

cows. Guru Ji prayed to God. The gold cows became alive. They moved to lap of Guru Ji. The pandits were defeated. All bowed at the sacred feet of Guru Ji.

## **Dialogue of Satguru Ravidass Ji with Alawadi King**

Shri Jasbir Singh Sabar, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar has mentioned on Page 71 of his book “Bhakt Ravidass” that the dialogue being narrated is written at Page 463, 466, 487 of manuscript Sikh Reference Library Amritsar written in Samvat 1786.

Alwadi was king at Benaras. The qazis were jealous of increasing popularity of Satguru Ravidass Ji. They complained to the king that a chamar is preaching religious tenets. Many persons have become his disciples. On their instigation king Alawadi called Guru Ji to his court. Guru Ji was seated beside the seat of the king. Beside several persons of Guru Ravidass’s community carrying leather on their heads also accompanied Guru Ravidass Ji. The king felt foul smell of leather. The persons carrying leather were beaten and expelled from the court yard.

The king asked Guru Ravidass Ji that you were initiating others as your disciples, show some miracle. Guru Ji said that miracle has already been shown. He told that “I was worshipping God by chanting His Naam, you have seated me by your side although I am also Chamar whereas you have expelled others of my community from your darbar.”

Naagar Janan meri jaat(i) bikhiaat Chamaarun  
Ride raam govind gun saaran.

Guru Ji told, “O! residents of Benaras I am Chamar by caste. I am seated near the seat of the king in darbar because I am worshipping God whereas my companions carrying leather had been shunted out.”

Sursari salal krit baaruni re  
Sant jan karat nahi paann  
Suraa apviter nat awar jal re  
Sursari milat nahi hoie aann.

If alcohol is prepared out of Ganga water, it is disliked. When alcohol is prepared with well water and thrown in Ganga it mixes with Ganga water. It is worshiped.

Tar tar(i) apviter kar(i) maaneeaaai re

Jaise kaagaraa karat bichaarn  
Bhagat(i) bhaguot likheeaai tih(i) uopre  
Poojeeai kar(i) namaskarn

Leaves of TAR tree are considered impure. But when paper is prepared out of Tar leaves and God's praise is written on this paper, every body bows before it.

Meri jaat(i) kut bandhla dhor dhouwanta  
Nith(i) baanaarasi aas paasaa  
Ab bipar pardhan tih(i) karih dhanduout(i)  
Tere naam sarnaaie Ravidass daasaa.

I am cobbler by caste. People of my caste still carry away dead bodies around Benaras every day. Since I worship God, I am divinely emancipated. Even the distinguished pandits lay flat before me in reverence.

After hearing all this, the king was highly impressed and gave gold chowki and large sums of money to Guru Ji. The qazis again complained to the king that Ravidass Ji has disregarded the offerings given to him. He had distributed entire money to the destitutes and threw gold chowki in the Ganga. The king felt angry. He again called for Guru Ravidass Ji and asked all about the

gold chowki. The king insisted to return him the same gold chowki. Guru Ji took the king to the Ganga. He spoke to Ganga that his gold chowki may be given back to him. Ganga threw seven gold chowkis out in a strong wave. The king said that his is only one chowki, how it is that these are seven chowkis. Guru Ji told the king that in a single day one gold chowki has multiplied to seven chowkis. Had it remained there for more days it would have multiplied manifold. All these would have been for your comfort. Since the original gold chowki has been taken back from the Ganga, nothing will increase now.

The king realised his blunder and begged apology from Guru Ravidass Ji. He bowed to the sacred feet of Guru Ravidass Ji in reverence and scolded the Qazis.

## **Dialogue of Guru Ravidass Ji with Guru Kabir Ji and Guru Nanak Dev Ji**

Satguru Ravidass Ji used to hold religious

discoursed daily at Seer Govardhanpur, Benaras. Satguru Kabir Ji also held satsang daily at Kabir Chaura, Benaras. Both of them often met each other and held mutual discussions on religion, Naam, satsang, ritualism, enlightenment, saadhsangat, Hari(i), discrimination, high and low, caste system, secularism, equality, fraternity, truth, human beings and host of other topics.

Shri Lekh Raj Parwana writes in his book “Sri Guru Ravidass Jeewan ate Kirtaan” that Guru Nanak Dev Ji held three counts of dialogues with Guru Ravidass Ji. Their first meeting and goshti was held at Chuharkana (Nankana Sahib) when Guru Nanak Dev Ji was still in boyhood. Five saints Kabir Ji, Ravidass Ji, Sain Ji, Peepa Ji and Dhanna Ji had travelled to Punjab for preaching religiosity. Guru Nanak Dev Ji had been given twenty rupees from his revered father Mehta Kalu Ji for a profitable deal. He spent the amount of twenty rupees in the service of the above saints and got their blessings. He deemed it as Sacha Sauda. Guru Nanak Dev Ji spiritually knew everything. He might have judged

their divinity as a regard of which he served them.

Father Mehta Kalu Ji scolded Guru Nanak when he learnt that the five saints belonged to low caste. Feeling it a social stigma, he slapped Guru Nanak Dev Ji and said that Guru Ravidass Ji and Guru Kabir Ji belonged to low-caste and that why had he developed his relations with them. At this Guru Nanak Dev Ji blatantly condemned jaat-paat and stoutly reacted.

Neechan andir neech jaat neecha huu at(i) neech  
Nanak tin ke sang saath waddyen so kya rees.

Second goshti of Guru Ravidass Ji with Guru Nanak Dev Ji took place when Guru Ravidass Ji, along with sant-mandli, visited Punjab 125 years later. They reached Sultanpur after meeting their friends, devotees, saints and disciples. The sant smagam was fixed to be held at the spot where gurdwara Sant Ghat stands today. In this sant smagam it appears the concepts of God, formless, omniscient, omnipresent, Sach Khand (abode of God), pervading everywhere in the Universe, - were discussed. The discussion held here formed the basis of the concepts of Udasian of Guru Nanak Dev Ji which are

stated to have commenced from the Sant Ghat site.

Third goshti of Guru Nanak Dev Ji was held with Guru Ravidass Ji and Guru Kabir Ji at Gopaldass di bagichi at Kashi where Gurdwara Guru Ka Bagh stands today. At this meeting final shape was given to entire fabric of Bhakti Andolan in the interest of human beings. A strategy was also chalked out for smooth management of the movement. In the same visit to Benaras Guru Nanak Dev Ji discussed various divine concepts with Sant Rama Nand Ji and Swami Shankracharya Ji. Thereafter, again there was general meeting of the saints. Guru Ravidass Ji was the champion on religious and spiritual reforms in the meeting. The road map of religious, social and political reforms was prepared in this sant smagam. Millions and millions of human beings engrossed in superstitions and rituals were to be freed from its quagmire and the concept of ik om (one God) was to be taken down to the masses. The ideal of Guru Ravidass Ji was to liberate millions of human beings including scholars, saints, Sidhs, brahmans from

superstitions, rituals and false and misplaced beliefs and practices and to motivate them to believe in one God. It was decided in this goshti that non-violent movement should be started for amelioration of shudras and raising their social status to equality, liberation of womanhood, removal of injustice and to raise voice against the atrocities perpetrated by the kings on their subjects.

## **Raja Chander Partap**

Raja Chander Partap of Ghazipur had heard the fame of Guru Ravidass Ji. He attended the mass feeding function (Yagg) organized by Maharana Sangha at Udaipur where Guru Ravidass Ji was also invited. At the end of the function, Raja Chander Partap humbly prayed to Satguru Ji to pay his pious visit to his palace at Ghazipur to grace the occasion of mass feeding function. Rana Sangha assured that in case Satguru Ji wished, he would escort him to Ghazipur. Satguru Ji blessed and accepted the invitation. Meera Bai and Karma Bai would also accompany Guru Ji.

On the scheduled day Guru Ji reached the

palace of Raja Chander Partap. He was received honourably by the king, his queens, courtiers and other dignitaries. He was garlanded profusely. Guru Ji was seated in the specially decorated room in the palace. A big mass feeding function (yagg) was organized in which Guru Ji participated. All neighboring kings and relatives also attended the ceremony. Next day Guru Ji came back to his place.

## **Bibi Bhanmati becomes disciple of Guru Ravidass Ji**

Bibi Bhanmati of Multan (now in Pakistan) was a pious lady who remained busy in thakur pooja for major time of the day. However, she did not have any enlightenment. Her mind remained upset. Somehow, she heard of fame of Guru Ravidass Ji of being divinely enlightened saint. She was told that if she aspires for supreme spiritual bliss, she should go to Guru Ravidass Maharaj Ji and seek his blessings.

Bibi Bhanmati along with her husband reached Guru Ji's place at Benaras. They bowed at the sacred feet of Guru Ji. Incidentally, Gorakh

Nath had also come to Guru Ji for goshti. Gorakh Nath tried to take away stealthily spiritual powers of Guru Ravidass Ji but he failed to shake Guru Ji.

Guru Ji spared time for Bibi Bhanmati. She told Guru Ji her spiritual and mental position. Guru Ji recited following shabad:

Har(i) har(i) har(i) har(i) har(i) har(i) hare  
Har(i) simrat jan gaye nistar(i) tare (Rahao)  
Har(i) ke naam kabir ujjagar.  
Janam janam ke kate kagar.  
Nimat naamdeo doodh peeia.  
Tuo jag janam sankat nahi aaya.  
Jan Ravidass ram rang raataa  
Eiou gur prasad narak nahi jataa.

When Bibi Bhanmati understood the meaning of the shabad, she was highly impressed with divine enlightenment of Guru Ji. She was moved.

She humbly prayed to Guru Ji for initiation. Guru Ji blessed her and asked her to chant the Name of God as Har(i) har(i) har(i) har(i) for attainment of supreme bliss and to avoid the pains of transmigration. She became disciple of

Satguru Ravidass Ji.

## **Acrobat's Play**

Sometime back the idols of the mandir had come to the lap of Guru Ravidass Ji and went back to the mandir as directed by him. This was known to every body in Benaras. The Brahmans did acknowledge the divine enlightenment of Guru Ji. Even the king had become his disciple. But the Brahmans nurtured jealousy against Guru Ravidass Ji. They always talked ill of him on one pretext or the other.

King Nagar Mal invited Guru Ji for lunch. Other dignitaries were also called. The Brahmans who were jealous of Guru Ji, struck a hoax with the acrobats for which heavy payment was promised. They wanted to denigrate Guru Ji in the eyes of the king and others. The acrobat was not likely to be paid liberally by the guests; and the acrobat was to talk ill of Guru Ji holding his presence responsible for their poor earnings.

The acrobat started his tricks after the lunch. First of all Guru Ravidass Ji placed 10 gold mohars in their thaal. Guru Ji's disciples and well wishers gave liberal amount to the ac

robot. As a result he earned more amount than that was to be paid by the Brahmans. Instead of condemning Guru Ji the acrobat highly praised him. Wherever they went they eulogized Guru Ji. The Brahmans could not succeed in their insidious designs against the saint.

## **Dialogue with Gorakh Nath**

Gorakh Nath heard popularity of Guru Ravidass Ji. One day Gorakh Nath visited Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi and enquired about the place of Guru Ravidass Ji. He came to the place where Guru Ji lived. Guru Ji welcomed Gorakh Nath and offered him the seat. He thanked Gorakh Nath for having visited him. Gorakh Nath told Guru Ji that he has heard his fame. As such, he had come to see him.

Gorakh Nath gave his shoe to Guru Ji to be mended. Gorakh Nath said that mending shoes is a mean occupation. You should not carry it on. I give you a precious herb. Warm it and touch any metal; it will turn the metal into gold. Construct a good house in place of the hut. Guru Ji replied that he had appeared on this earth for joining the souls which are departed from the

Almighty. He cut a piece of leather. Put it at a proper place on the shoe of Gorakh Nath. He put the yarn in his mouth for readying it for sewing the shoe. As the cotton thread passed through Guru Ji's mouth, it turned into gold. Gorakh Nath was astonished to see all this. He came to know that Guru Ravidass Ji possessed supreme spiritual powers. Ignorant people misunderstand him as lowly. He wished Guru Ravidass Ji to become his disciple. Gorakh Nath asked Guru Ji to look into his toombi. Guru Ji saw that in toombi there were jewels, diamonds, and golden Sumer Parbat. Guru Ji said that you are great. I praise you. He then asked Gorakh Nath to look into his dauri ( shallow earthen pot containing water in which leather is soaked for repair of shoes). Gorakh Nath saw viraat swaroop , jarh, chetan, Asthawar, Jangam, life, 5 elements- sky, air, fire, water, earth, Kuber, Inder, other devtas, moon, sun, stars, Vishnu, Brahma, Shiv and the Universe. Gorakh Nath became numb to see all this. His pride was shaken. He prayed to Guru Ji to be apologized. He fell on Guru Ji's feet. Guru Ji told him that ridhian sidhian are nothing before God's Name. God's Name is source of

all comforts. Guru Ji preached that he who mingles with God, all the godly powers appear in his palm.

## **Meeting of Guru Ravidass Ji with Sadhna Ji & Guru Ravidass Ji released from jail by Sikandar Lodhi**

Sadhna Pir used to kill birds and sell their meat in the market. On the other hand Guru Ravidass Ji preached non-killing of animals. Sadhna Ji did not like his preachings. One day he came to the place of Guru Ravidass Ji and asked him to be converted to Islam as it did not observe caste system. It is a sacred religion. Guru Ravidass Ji told Sadhna Ji to shun his pride and chant God's Name. Sadhna Ji was highly impressed with the arguments of Guru Ji and became his disciple.

At some other time Sadhna Ji visited King Sikandar Lodhi and spoke high of Guru Ravidass Ji and that he had become his disciple. Sikandar Lodhi was annoyed. He called Guru Ravidass Ji

through Sadhna Ji. Sikandar Lodhi was a cruel king. As Guru Ravidass Ji appeared in the court he was asked to be converted to Islam but Guru Ji refused to oblige the king. At this Guru Ravidass Ji was sent to jail. He sat in Samadhi and worshipped God. God took pity on Guru Ji. He appeared before him and talked with him. When Sikandar Lodhi visited jail in the evening, he overheard voice of God. “You have troubled my worshipper. Your dynasty will be annihilated.” The king was stunned and trembled to hear all this. He went to Guru Ravidass Ji, repented and begged his apology. He was released immediately. King Sikandar Lodhi gave a word to Guru Ji that in future he will not harass any body. Sikandar Lodhi had a precious diamond. He offered it to Guru Ravidass Ji. Guru Ji refused the offer. Guru Ji told the king that he was worshipper of Diamond- the God.

Har(i) so heera chhadh(i) kai karih aan kee aas,  
Te nar dojak jaahige sat bhaakhai Ravidass.

## **Sachkhand gaman of Guru**

## **Ravidass Ji**

Satguru Kabir Ji, Satguru Namdev Ji, Satguru Tirlochan Ji and Satguru Dhanna Ji were asked by God to visit Satguru Ravidass Ji and convey him that he has attained supreme emancipation and that he will be called to sachkhand after 21 days. All these saints came to Guru Ji. He humbly welcomed and offered them seats. Guru Ji served them well. They told Guru Ji that God has ordained him 21 days more in this world, and they went away.

Guru Ji was at Benaras. Members of his family relatives and devotees were told all about the message of God. On the 21st day Guru Ji had a bath early in the morning and meditated. He mystically chanted the pious Name of God and mingled with Him on Asarh Sakranti of Bikrami Samvat 1584 (1528 A.D.). His followers remember him devotionally and get inspiration from his teachings. He was successful in bringing about sea change in the social and religious thought. His teachings and amritbani are as truthful and valid today as these were during his era and will continue to guide humanity in

future.

## **Impact of teachings of Guru Ravidass Ji on Babur**

As a result of his victory in Battle of Panipat in 1526 Babur was the first Mughal King who occupied throne in Delhi. He had brutally massacred lakhs of innocent bodies. However, whatever he did, he did in the name of God. During the course of advance in Indian Territory he came across pirs, saints, rishis also. He also heard of spiritual powers of Guru Ravidass Ji. Once he took his son Humayun along and went to see Guru Ravidass Ji. At that time Guru Ji was sitting at his place. Babur bowed at the feet of Guru Ji in reverence. Guru Ji scolded Babur for murdering innocent bodies. He asked him to shun pride.

Kyon Babur hua babra, man mein adhik ghumaan  
Kroron prani maar kar, tu ne kiya paap mahaan.

Therefore, Babur developed regard for Guru Ji. His teachings stunned Babur. In remorse he distributed money of his treasures at Delhi and Agra to the poor and destitute. Now the subjects developed respect for Babur and called him QALANDAR or FAQIR.

## ਡੇਰਾ ਸੱਚਖੰਡ ਬੱਲਾਂ ਵਲੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਿਤ ਪੁਸਤਕਾਂ

1. ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਬਾਣੀ (ਗੁਟਕਾ) ਪੰਜਾਬੀ
2. ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤਕਾਠੀ ( ਗੁਟਕਾ )
3. ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਬਾਣੀ (ਗੁਟਕਾ) (ਨਿਤਨੇਮ)
4. ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤਕਾਠੀ ( ਗੁਟਕਾ ) ( ਨਿਤਨੇਮ )
5. ਸੁਖਸਾਗਰ ( ਪੰਜਾਬੀ )
6. ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਕਾਠੀ —ਸੰਤ ਰਾਮਾ ਨੰਦ ਜੀ
7. ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਦਰਸ਼ਨ ਏਕੰ ਮੀਰਾ ਪਦਾਕਲੀ —ਸੰਤ ਰਾਮਾ ਨੰਦ ਜੀ
8. ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਬਾਣੀ (ਸਟੀਕ ਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਜੀਵਨ) -ਸੰਤ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਦਾਸ ਬਾਵਾ ਜੀ
9. ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਕਾਠੀ ( ਸਟੀਕ ਏਕੰ ਸੰਖਿਸ਼ਤ ਜੀਵਨ ) ਹਿੰਦੀ -ਸੰਤ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਦਾਸ ਕਾਕਾ ਜੀ
10. ਨਿਤਨੇਮਅਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਕਾਠੀ ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਜੀ ( ਸਟੀਕ )ਹਿੰਦੀ —ਸੰਤ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਦਾਸ ਕਾਕਾ ਜੀ
11. ਨਿਤਨੇਮ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਬਾਣੀ ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਜੀ (ਸਟੀਕ) ਪੰਜਾਬੀ  
—ਸੰਤ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਦਾਸ ਬਾਵਾ ਜੀ
12. ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਮਹਾਰਾਜ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਪਾਕਨ ਜੀਵਨ ਕਥਾਏਂ-ਸੰਤ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਦਾਸ ਕਾਕਾ ਜੀ
13. ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਮਹਾਰਾਜ ਜੀ ਦਾ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਜੀਵਨ) -ਸੰਤ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਦਾਸ ਬਾਵਾ ਜੀ
14. ਗੁਰੂ ਉਪਦੇਸ਼ — ਕਵੀ ਤੋਤਾ ਰਾਮ ਪੰਡੀ (ਮੁਕੇਰੀਆਂ)
15. ਜਨਮ ਸਾਖੀ 'ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਜੀ' ਅਰਥਾਤ ਤਵਾਰੀਖ ,,
16. ਸੰਤ ਉਸਤਤ — ਕਵੀ ਕਰਮ ਚੰਦ ਪ੍ਰੇਮੀ (ਆਬਾਦੀ)
17. ਮਹਿਮਾ ਦਰਬਾਰ ਸੱਚਖੰਡ ਬੱਲਾਂ
18. ਡੇਰਾ ਸੱਚਖੰਡ ਬੱਲਾਂ — ਗਿਆਨੀ ਬਿਸ਼ਨਾ ਰਾਮ ਵਿਰਦੀ
19. ਡੇਰਾ ਸੱਚਖੰਡ ਬੱਲਾਂ ਦੀ ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਗਾਥਾ — ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਕਾਂਸ਼ੀ ਰਾਮ ਕਲੇਰ (ਜੰਡੂ ਸਿੰਘ)
20. ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਚਮਤਕਾਰ —ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਚਰਨ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਫ਼ਰੀ
21. ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਸਰੋਤ ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਬਾਣੀ —ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਅਮਰ ਨਾਥ ਕੌਸਤਵ
22. ਪਾਵਨ ਗਾਥਾ ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਜੀ —ਡਾ. ਜਸਬੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਾਬਰ
23. ਸਗਲ ਭਵਨ ਕੇ ਨਾਇਕਾ ਡਾ. ਕ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਨਾ ਕਲਸੀਆ
24. ਅਮਰ ਜੋਤਾਂ ਕਵੀ ਭਗਤ ਰਾਮ ਦੀਵਾਨਾ
25. ਵਿਦੇਸ਼ ਯਾਤਰਾ (ਭਾਗ-1) —ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਅਜੀਤ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਕੰਵਲ (ਯੂ. ਕੇ.)
26. ਵਿਦੇਸ਼ ਯਾਤਰਾ (ਭਾਗ-2) —ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਅਜੀਤ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਕੰਵਲ (ਯੂ. ਕੇ.)
27. The Holy Hymns and Miracles of Guru Ravidass Ji  
-Mr. Satpal Jassi & Mr. Chain Ram Suman
28. ਇਹੁ ਜਨਮ ਤੁਮ੍ਹਾਰੇ ਲੇਖੇ —ਡਾ. ਕੁਲਵੰਤ ਕੌਰ
29. ਸਤਿ ਭਾਖੇ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ — ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰਦੇਵ ਸਿੰਘ
30. ਸਟੀਕ-ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਜੀ - ਸੰਤ ਕੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਹਿਤਕਾਰੀ, ਸੰਤ ਸੁੰਦਰ ਦਾਸ ਝਾਲਸਰੀ
31. ਜਗਤਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਸੰਪ੍ਰਦਾਇ ਸੰਤ ਤੇ ਸਾਧਨਾ ਸਥੱਲ —ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਸੋਮਨਾਥ ਭਾਰਤੀ