

|| Jai Gurudev ||

Shri Pitambara Shakti Peeth

- Write up by Shri Ramji Saraswati Maharaj (Vindhyachal)

There is Bhagwati Pitambara Shaktipeeth at Datiya town of Datiya Dist. Madhya Pradesh. It was founded by Rashtra Guru Param Pujya Shri 1008 Shri Swamiji Maharaj Vanakhandeshwar Pujyapaad. Shri Vanakhandeshwar Maharaj was expert of original Indian classical music. Many famous musicians, vocalists and singers used to visit his ashram frequently. He used to educate them on nuances of Indian classical music as an art form.

Ustad Aadil Khan became disciple of Shri Maharaj-ji and he could recover his lost voice due to Guruji's blessings. Pundit Gudain Maharaj, Siyaram Tiwari, Rajan & Sajan Mishra, Dagar Brothers, Nikhil Benerjee, Salil Shankar, Bahadur Khan, Pawar Brothers, Khan Brothers and Kumar Gandharva were amongst many experts that used to visit Shri Vanakhandeshwar Maharaj for his guidance. Shri Acharya Brihaspati was also his ardent disciple.

Maharaj-ji established the worship of Bhagwati Pitambara Mata since then the ashram became known as Pitambara Peeth. He directed many disciples to worship and adulation of Shri Maa Bagalamukhi. Maharaj-ji published "Shri Bagalamukhi Rahasyam" that contained every detail about Shri Maa Bagalamukhi; this publication is one of its kind. Every Sadhak as well as scholars of scriptures regards this as a valuable tome.

Maharaj-ji founded a method of tantrik veneration of Shri Maa Bagalamukhi; which continues till date. As Shri Maharaj-ji uttered that if the veneration shall continue like this then Maa Pitambara shall reside here making her permanent abode and she will keep blessing her followers.

Shri Yantra Established

Shri Maharaj-ji founded a Shri Chakra in one of the rooms at Ashram in presence of selected disciples. Here too as per ancient classical dogmatic method of worship was to be offered regularly. The Shri chakra was available for a glimpse till the time Shri Maharaj-ji was there. He also founded a doctrine of Shri Chakra Puja Vidhan and published the same.

Bhagwan Shri Parashurama

Bhagwan Shri Parashurama is Acharya of Shakta (Devi worshippers) and he is foremost of Pitambara worshippers. He is a creator writer of Parashuram Kalpasutram. One of the few temples dedicated to Shri Parashuram was erected to show respect. Renuka Tantram contains most authentic details about Bhagwan Shri Parashurama.

Maha Kaalbhairava

The Controller of element of sound; Shri Maha Kaalbhairava is hardly witnessed. Maharaj-ji established an idol of Maha Kaalbhairava at the Peeth. Every Sunday evenings there is a music and recital to venerate the Kaalbhairava as he is also god of music.

Mata Dhumavati Idol Established

There are very few temples of Bhagvati Dhumavati amongst Dasa Mahavidhya. At the time of Indo China war, a Rashtra Raksha Anushtan yagya was started. The process was complete and successful. Maharaj-ji wished to establish Bhagvati Dhumavati's temple and he did. He also composed some literature about Bhagvati Dhumavati.

Shadamnaya Shiva Established

Those familiar with Tantra are well aware of Amnaya. Shadamnaya Shiva idol are not there anywhere. Maharaj-ji Vanakhandeshwar Old Temple was a site for Shadamnaya Shiva idols. Sadjyota, Vamadeva, Tatpurusha, Aghora, Eeshana and Neelkantha Shiva idols were established.

Tara Peeth Established

There is a very ancient, chaste and siddha location named "Pancham Kavi Ki Toria" near Datiya, Madhya Pradesh. Ancient Bhirava and Shankara temple are situated here. This is where Tara Peeth was established with inspiration by Maharaj-ji; this secluded chaste locale is important for sadhakas.

Rashtra Raksha Anushthanam Yagya

Maharaj-ji was very patriotic. He held highest regards to patriotism amongst one's duties. While Chinese invasion of Indian soil he used to be very upset and restless. He planned a mega Anushthanam yagya to foil the Chinese bid. He needed 100 very learned and powerful Tantra experts. He could source only 80 that met his standards. He decided to make do with that much and launched the mega event. The *anushthanam* went on for one month; on the last day of the process - China retreated. This was a very successful event with Maharaj-ji at the helm of affairs.

Bramha Yagya Organized

The event lasted for thirty six days; which boasted of all types of Veda's and its streams' recital by very learned and chaste experts. He invited them from entire nation and the event, which had no match since the last time it was held at the time of Mahabharata; was conducted successfully. Each stream of a Veda took nine days. Such events are very rare as time goes by and due to the lack of authentic Veda reciting capability in current generation.

Primary Festivals at the Ashram

Both Navratris, Guru Purnima and Maha Nirvana Din (the death anniversary of Maharaj-ji) are primary days of Festivities at the ashram. As per Shakta system; Navaratri are perfect and auspicious day to start a Sadhana. A community *hawan* is organized on Ninth day of Navaratri. Markings of Lotus feet of Guru are worshipped on day of Guru Purnima. Vasant Panchami is celebrated with much joy. Every morning Saraswati Pujan is performed. Evenings see the Ashram immersed in sounds of India classical music.

Whether it is 1965 or 1971 - whenever enemy descended upon Indian turf, Shri Datiya Peeth has responded with vigor and launched a spiritual attack by Tantrik Anushthanam for thwarting the enemy efforts. On completion of an *anushthanam* enemy forces always retreated. Recently a successful anushthanam was held for Pakistani invasion on Kargil front. Pitambara Shakti Peeth Datiya is where motherland is worship is valued and respected the most.

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Note: The original write-up is by respected Shri Ramji Saraswati Maharaj (Vindhyachal) if any mistake of factual or spiritual nature is noted, it is committed by the translator.