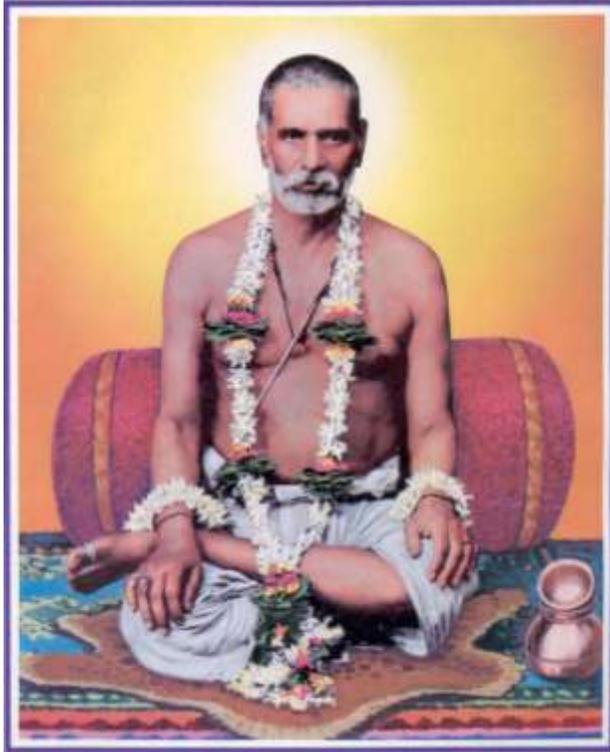


A short biography of

**“Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj Sahasrabuddhe”**

*Alias*

**“Shree Sadguru Vasudevananta Saraswati”**



The incarnation of  
**Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth**

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First Edition

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*Anantaḳṛoti*

*Brahmanda Nayaka*

*Rajadhiraj*

*Yogiraj*

*Shree Sadguru*

*Vasudevananta Saraswati Swami Samarth Maharaj*

*Ki Jai*



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## Preface

The *Swaroop Sampradaya*<sup>1</sup> has the principle by which the Preceptor takes birth to become the disciple of his own disciple in order to continue the tradition of apostles of the Swaroop Sampradaya.

In keeping with this tradition, *Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth Maharaj* (incarnation of Lord Dattatreya) took birth in the form of Shree Baba Maharaj who became the disciple of Shree Beedkar Maharaj and later the apostle of the *Swaroop Sampradaya*<sup>1</sup> Shree Baba Maharaj was also known as **Shree Raosaheb Sahasrabuddhe** alias **Shri Vasudevanant Saraswati Maharaj**

He was born to the most devout and deeply religious couple Shri Narayanrao and Laxmibai of the Sahasrabuddhe family on November 14, 1883 at Hubli in Karnataka State, Southern India and was named *Ramchandra*. He pursued his studies in Engineering (L.C.E.) & completed it in 1904. He joined Public Works Department in 1909. In 1906, Shree Beedkar Maharaj blessed him by placing his hand on his head and said "*Raosaheb I have made you permanent*". With these words, Shree Beedkar Maharaj blessed him by bestowing on him the ultimate self-realization with the help of *Shaktipat*<sup>2</sup>. Since then, Shree Baba Maharaj always remained in a *Videhi*<sup>3</sup> state.

He worked with the Public Works Department (Govt. of India) as Assistant Engineer and was posted at various places like Ratnagiri, Pen, Mahad, Panvel, and Nagothane, all in Maharashtra State (Western India). In 1923, he was appointed as

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<sup>1</sup> Swaroop Sampradaya: A sect, wherein the aspirant concentrates on viewing the 'Atman' – the soul

<sup>2</sup> Shaktipat: Ancient method of awakening and activating the *Kundalini* energy in the shortest possible time. Kundalini energy is the energy dormant at the base of the spine of every human being.

<sup>3</sup> Videhi: Disembodied State.

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P. A. to the Chief Architect of Mumbai. During this period, his knowledge of Engineering Science and his general intelligence was well acknowledged by his British superiors.

Shree Baba Maharaj married when insisted by Shree Beedkar Maharaj but it did not bring any change in his way of life. He was so much engrossed in meditation, that on one payday he dropped his entire pay packet in the hands of a beggar, standing outside his office and returned home penniless. Sometimes his wife could not cook food because she had no money to buy firewood.

Finally in 1928, he took invalid pension and retired. He came to Pune and stayed at Dhumal building in Narayan Peth Area in the vicinity of the *Muth*<sup>4</sup> established by his preceptor Shree Beedkar Maharaj.

He attended the *Muth*<sup>4</sup> thrice during a day for *Darshan* (to pay his respects to his Preceptor). He made himself free even from traces of ego to such an extent that he viewed the **universe as manifestation of his Sadguru**. He prostrated before everybody who even slightly reminded him of his revered Sadguru, may it be a kitten or someone else. His meditation would continue unperturbed in any health condition, even when he had fever as high as 105<sup>0</sup> F. Once he performed the difficult and vigorous *tapasya*<sup>5</sup> of meditating continuously for 21 days by staring at the Sun with naked eyes from sunrise to sunset.

After the death of his wife in 1945, he started getting his food from outside. Some of his devotees sometimes brought food and snacks for him and many a times that food remained untouched for several days. Then one day he would take a little from it for himself and distribute the rest to his devotees. It was a common experience that this stale food tasted like fresh food.

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<sup>4</sup> Muth: Hermitage (Temple Shrine)

<sup>5</sup> Tapasya: Penance

During this period, several people experienced supernatural powers possessed by Shree Baba Maharaj. With his inner vision Shree Baba Maharaj provided valuable spiritual guidance to many of his devotees and thus helped them in their spiritual pursuit.

Shree Baba Maharaj preached his devotees and his disciples to "*Look in the sky. Look at the stars. Meditate for half an hour before having your meals. See whatever appears. See as much as you can and see until the vision lasts*". He always said, "*I want to bring Satya Yuga<sup>6</sup> now*".

Great sages like Shree Shankar Maharaj, Shree Meher Baba, Yogi Aurobinda Babu's Guru Shree Lele Maharaj, and Shree Shivaji Maharaj of Kolhapur, just to name a few, had great respect for Shree Baba Maharaj.

In 1953, Shree Baba Maharaj blessed Shree Vitthalrao Ganesh Joshi who later on came to be known as Shree Sadguru Digambardas Maharaj, with his absolute favour and ordered him to propagate Swaroop Sampradaya.

In 1954, he left his mortal coil and merged with the Nirguna Parabrahma<sup>7</sup>. His last rites were performed on his own plot at Chatushrunji road in Pune, Maharashtra State, Western India. His disciple and apostle of *Swaroop Sampradaya*<sup>1</sup> Shree Sadguru<sup>8</sup> Digambardas Maharaj later built the "**Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj Sahasrabuddhe Samadhi Mandir**"<sup>9</sup> on that land.

Shree Baba Maharaj had promised his disciples and devotees that he would stay in the Samadhi Mandir for 1,000 years for the well being of his disciples and devotees. Even today

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<sup>6</sup> Satya Yuga: The rule based on religion and justice

<sup>7</sup> Nirguna Parabrahma: The Infinite, formless Supreme Lord

<sup>8</sup> Sadguru: Preceptor

<sup>9</sup> Samadhi Mandir: A temple-shrine dedicated to a Saint after he leaves his body

the devotees experience his divine presence in the premises of the *Samadhi Mandir*.

||Swami Samarth||

**Part I**

*The life of an Avatar ...*

*“He once said ‘I will be present in the Samadhi Mandir for a thousand years for the benefit of my devotees’ and to this day Devotees experience his divine presence in the Samadhi Mandir”*

*“Given herein is a gist of events captured from the Great Avatar’s life starting from his childhood until his Mahasamadhi and beyond, keeping in mind that the Sadguru’s life is as vast as the universe and hence impossible to fathom and document”*

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## Childhood and Meeting Sadguru

Satchidanand Shree Sadguru Vasudevanant Saraswati, also known as Shree Raosaheb Baba Maharaj Sahasrabuddhe, popularly called, as Shree Baba Maharaj, was the reincarnation of Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth. Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth reincarnated as Shree Baba Maharaj, to continue the *Swaroop Sampradaya* Sect, of Shree Ramanand Beedkar Maharaj. His real name was Shree Ramchandra Narayanrao Sahasrabuddhe.

The Sahasrabuddhe family had established itself in prosperous condition for a number of generations in the village Kotwade, of Ratnagiri District. The ancestral information of about ten Generations of Shree Baba Maharaj is available. In the first three generations, the Surname was "Ganapule".

But later on the ancestors of Shree Baba Maharaj, earned the hereditary rights of Kotwade village as well as the right for the business of a renter of farms. Further, as a tribute to their superior intellectual abilities, they became known with the surname of '*Sahasrabuddhe*'.

In such a prosperous intelligent and devotional family, *Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth* took rebirth, at an auspicious moment during the noon of 14th November 1883, Kartik Poornima<sup>10</sup>. He was named as '*Ramchandra*'

The first five years of his childhood passed in Hubli, Taluka Place of the then Mysore State, now Karnataka State. During that period, a great Yogi<sup>11</sup>, devoted to Lord Shiva, Shree Siddharud Swami, was residing in Hubli. He put a rosary of

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<sup>10</sup> Kartik Poornima: Also known as, Tripuri Poornima. Full moon day of the Kartik month in the year 1805 as per Hindu Calendar

<sup>11</sup> Yogi: Ascetic

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*rudraksh*<sup>12</sup>, around the neck of Shree Baba Maharaj and predicted, "The person who could see this rosary will be your Sadguru." This rosary was not visible to common people.

Needless to say, Shree Beedkar Maharaj recognized the rosary beads around Shree Baba Maharaj's neck, as had been predicted earlier by Swami Shree Siddharud. Later on in the year 1900, Shree Baba Maharaj was *fully blessed* by Shree Beedkar Maharaj. The blessing from Shree Beedkar Maharaj fully energized the devotion latent in Shree Baba Maharaj. At that time Shree Baba Maharaj was studying in an Engineering College.

### **Orphan at the age of 21**

In the year 1900 his elder brother left this world. Again during the year 1902, his father left this world. Further during the year 1904, when he gave his final examination in L.C.E., he lost his mother too. Thus he became an orphan at the age of 21. But because of the encouragement and support from Shree Beedkar Maharaj, he could pass his L.C.E (B.Engg.) examination.

### **Initiation into Transcendentalism**

He regularly visited Pune every Saturday, without any exception, to seek blessings from Shree Beedkar Maharaj, however distant his employment maybe. After nearly six years of close association, one day Shree Beedkar Maharaj called Shree Baba Maharaj and asked him to sit near him. Then Shree Beedkar Maharaj placed his hand on the head of Shree Baba Maharaj and blessed him fully with all Siddhis<sup>13</sup>. Soon after this, Shree Baba Maharaj lost material consciousness and became

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<sup>12</sup> Rudraksh: A berry of a sacred tree ( tree sacred to Lord Shiva )

<sup>13</sup> Siddhis: Spiritual accomplishments and Divine powers

---

transcendentally situated in the Divine Bliss. He never again became completely at one with this Material world. Though he was bodily present in this world, he became permanently introspective.

### **Marriage**

During the year 1910, Shree Baba Maharaj got married as per the wish of his Sadguru Shree Beedkar Maharaj. At the time of the marriage, he was about 26 years and his wife was only 13 years old. She was named as Sita. The pair Sita-Ramchandra would look simply magnificent. Though he was normally transcendentally situated, he took proper care and treated his wife fairly.

### **The Real Test of Virtue and Honesty in Service**

When Shree Baba Maharaj was posted in Nagothan, a Roha Taluka near Pen, Maharashtra State, as a supervisor in Public Works Department, he was convinced that he was being fully supported by his Sadguru Shree Beedkar Maharaj. At that time, P.W.D. carried out the road repairing works between Nagothan and Pen, for which gravel was being used for re-levelling the road surface. The contractor, with the connivance of a clerk working under Shree Baba Maharaj, managed to dispose off illegally all the gravel that was placed on the roadside.

By coincidence, the executive Engineer who had come for a surprise inspection of that area noticed the disappearance of the gravel. The concerned clerk prepared a note in reply to the query, stating that the gravel disappeared probably due to heavy winds and fraudulently took Shree Baba Maharaj's signature on the reply note. He achieved this by taking undue advantage of Shree Baba Maharaj's disembodied state.

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When the senior officer of the department read this reply note, there was a certain possibility of this event bringing dishonour to Shree Baba Maharaj. The senior officer knew the calibre of Shree Baba Maharaj and was very much surprised with the reply note. He had a feeling something was not right and so he decided to investigate into this matter in order to find the truth.. Miraculously, during the inspection, he found that all the gravel was indeed intact on the road itself and so concluded that there was no fraud. Indeed it was the grace of his Sadguru Shree Beedkar Maharaj whose blessings caused this miracle to take place.

The officer came to know the malice of the clerk who had tried to frame Shree Baba Maharaj. The concerned clerk was likely to be dismissed for giving a false statement. But Shree Baba Maharaj was kind enough to pardon the clerk and thus saved him.

During 1923, Shree Baba Maharaj was posted at Bandra, Mumbai, as a P.A. to the Chief Architect to the Govt, who was a British Officer. Once, a clerk working in the office complained to the senior officer that due to the carelessness in Shree Baba Maharaj's accounting there resulted a shortage of five thousand rupees in the departments account. But when the officer checked that account, immediately on the spot, no shortage of even a single paisa was found. When the officer came to know that it was a false complaint, the service of the concerned clerk was adversely affected. But once again due to the kindness of Shree Baba Maharaj, that clerk was saved and later, the clerk surrendered himself to Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Kind Nature of Shree Baba Maharaj.**

Shree Baba Maharaj's nature was very straightforward and honest. During his service in Govt. Department, he maintained his integrity and gained confidence of his superiors.

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Every month, from his salary, he sent twenty rupees to the temple shrine of Shree Beedkar Maharaj at Pune and rupee one to the temple of Lord Dattatreya, at Nasik in Maharashtra.

He had a tendency of seeing God in every living being. Once when he had gone to a circus with his colleagues, he was saddened with the ill treatment and beating up of the tigers and other animals for getting work done in the circus. His compassion for the circus animals surprised his colleagues.

While returning from office, he always brought sweets for the neighbourhood children and gave alms to a beggar standing at the same place everyday on the street. Once on a payday, while returning home, he saw the same beggar and gave him the complete pay packet. By this act, Shree Aaisaheb (His wife, Smt. Durgatai) was very much disturbed and informed the senior officer through Shri Oak, who also worked in the same office. Then onwards, the officer decided not to give the salary directly to Shree Baba Maharaj. Instead, after taking his signature on the pay sheet, he sent the same to Shree Aaisaheb, through his assistant. This arrangement was in practice until Shree Baba Maharaj was in government service.

### **Punctuality and Duty Consciousness**

A straightforward and great personage like Shree Baba Maharaj, who always remained in transcendence, was also envied by some people. Some of his office staff sent a signed written complaint to a senior officer stating that "*Shree Sahasrabuddhe, comes late in the office, does not pay attention to the office work, acts like a mad person and writes only Ramnaam (the name of Lord Rama) on a piece of paper*". They further requested the senior officer to take necessary action against him. Similar complaints were sent four to five times to the senior officer.

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Further it so happened that one day, due to heavy rain in Mumbai, the local trains stopped operating. Nobody dared to come out of the house that day. In spite of the heavy rain, Shree Baba Maharaj reached the office in time. He was completely wet. He put his wet clothes on the neighbouring chair to dry and started doing his office work. Besides Shree Baba Maharaj and two peon's<sup>14</sup> nobody else reported to the office. Coincidentally the senior officer came for his inspection on the same day.

The entire office looked empty. The officer enquired with the peons, and came to know that only Shree Sahasrabuddhe Saheb<sup>15</sup> was present on duty. When the officer went to Shree Baba Maharaj's office, he first saw the wet clothes put on the chair for drying and later saw the number of papers kept separately after perusal, by Shree Baba Maharaj, since morning. The British officer was very much surprised and asked Shree Baba Maharaj, who was engrossed in his work, "How *did you manage to come to the office in such heavy rain?*" Shree Baba Maharaj answered calmly, "I came to the office on horseback. Hence heavy rain did not affect me. When I receive salary from the Govt., it is my duty to come to the office in time and do the work properly. Even God loves the person who is loyal to one's duties. Duty observance is the real worship of God". The British officer was very much impressed by this reply.

After this incident, the same British officer again personally checked and got confirmation about the punctuality of Shree Baba Maharaj on three to four different occasions.

The officer was fully convinced of the punctuality that Shree Baba Maharaj maintained. So before leaving office, he wrote excellent remarks in respectful words about Shree Baba

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<sup>14</sup> Peon: Administrative assistant

<sup>15</sup> Saheb: Boss – Appended to the name of a respected person, as a mark of respect, in Indian society.

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Maharaj stating, *“Nobody else was more punctual than Shree Sahasrabuddhe in this office. Henceforth no action should be taken for any complaints registered against him”*

Further, the same British Officer, decided to inspect the quality of work carried out by Shree Baba Maharaj. One morning at 10.30 A.M., the officer came to him and said *“You have completed the work of three buildings. Let me inspect those building plans.”* At that time, Shree Baba Maharaj took a plain paper and wrote all the detailed measurements of the first building, including those of windows, doors, etc. When the officer inspected and took the actual measurements of the first building including that of doors, windows etc., he was simply astonished to find these actual measurements matching precisely, with the measurements written on the paper by Shree Baba Maharaj. Then he asked for the measurements of the second and third buildings. Shree Baba Maharaj repeated the same process. He took a plain paper and wrote down the detailed measurements of the buildings directly from his memory. Inspections of the building measurements matched precisely to those written by Shree Baba Maharaj.

The British officer was just marvelled at this incredible memory power and the mysterious working system of Shree Baba Maharaj. Not only that, the British officer called all the staff, who had earlier complained against Shree Baba Maharaj and rebuked them as well as intimidated them, that in future anybody who troubles Shree Baba Maharaj would not be pardoned at all. After this incident, nobody in the office dared to trouble Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Indifference to Worldly Life**

In the year, 1914, Shree Aaisaheb i.e. *Smt. Durgatai* gave birth to a son who did not survive. Again in the year 1926, Shree Aaisaheb gave birth to a daughter, who was named as

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*Shakuntala*. Around this same period, Shree Baba Maharaj became fully absorbed in Divine contemplation. He sat for hours together in one place without uttering a single word. Since the beginning itself he had no interest in worldly life. Now, he completely deserted the same. Everybody thought that he was out of his senses.

He prostrated before everybody. By seeing this behaviour, everybody in his office felt that he had gone completely crazy. Due to this, supposedly, crazy behaviour, his relatives assumed that he had gone mad and went to the extent of forcefully admitting him to the mental Hospital, at Yervada, Pune.

The doctors in the Hospital thoroughly examined him and concluded that he had no mental illness at all, but had instead completely detached himself from the worldly affairs. Hence the doctors arranged for a separate bed away from all other mental patients. The doctors also discussed with him wide ranging topics, which were not at all related to mental illness. These discussions and conversations exposed the brilliance of Shree Baba Maharaj's intelligence, and due to this the doctors developed great reverence towards him.

When Dr. Nirokhekar also a disciple of Shree Beedkar Maharaj came to Pune, he received information about Shree Baba Maharaj being admitted to the mental hospital. Thereafter he somehow with the help of some close associates and fellow students managed to get Shree Baba Maharaj discharged from the Hospital.

Once out of the Mental hospital, Shree Baba Maharaj stopped going to his office regularly since he remained in a disembodied state. Soon after, he forwarded his application for *invalid pension* (voluntary retirement), to his senior officer, in the year 1928. At that time, the senior British officer was about to return to his homeland, after the expiry of his service period in

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India. Even then, the British officer paid his personal attention in this matter and got the invalid pension sanctioned. He himself, personally, prepared all the required documentation and got it signed by the required authority, thus paving the way for retirement of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Reverence to a Person or even a Cat, as the Embodiment of His Sadguru**

After retirement in 1928 Shree Baba Maharaj stayed in Pune for the rest of his life. Whenever desired, he went to the temple shrine of his Sadguru Shree Beedkar Maharaj. On the way to the temple shrine, he prostrated before anyone who came across his way. He prostrated even before a cat from the temple shrine with full reverence, considering that person or cat as an embodiment of his Sadguru Shree Beedkar Maharaj. Such was his *bhakti*<sup>16</sup> towards his Sadguru.

### **Deep Meditation and Singing Of Hymns**

Shree Baba Maharaj remained deeply absorbed in meditation. He sang hymns in the praise of God for hours together with the help of Chiplya<sup>17</sup> or Ektari<sup>18</sup>. He sometimes meditated laying down on his back, while other times he sat for hours together with both eyes locked in the middle of the eyebrows, without moving the eyelids and concentrating on the Supreme Lord. He sat in his room with closed eyes, devoid of air and light; and came out of the room only for bath and meals, that too only after getting a call from Shree Aaisaheb (Smt. Durgatai). He spent hours singing hymns in the temple-shrine of his Sadguru, losing track of time and space and drinking the

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<sup>16</sup> Bhakti: Unflinching Faith or Devotion.

<sup>17</sup> Chiplya: A pair of sticks used by devotees to clap together

<sup>18</sup> Ektari: One stringed musical instrument

---

nectar of divine bliss in the state of Samadhi (*supreme consciousness*). During this period also, he visited the temple of Omkareshwar<sup>19</sup> to seek blessings.

### **Blessed and Initiated Young Vitthal Joshi (Shree Digambardas Maharaj)**

During the year 1929-30, an eighteen-year-old boy, by name Vitthal, son of a virtuous couple Shri Ganeshpant Vishnu Joshi and Smt. Janakibai, hailing from Pomendi Village of Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra, left his home and came to the temple shrine of Shree Beedkar Maharaj, at Pune, in search of his Sadguru. He had left a note, before leaving his home stating no search should be carried out for him. This boy Vitthal later came to be known as Shree Sadguru Digambardas Maharaj (Shree Maharaj).

Shri Damu Anna Bhagwat, a disciple of Shree Beedkar Maharaj and the Head Trustee of the *Muth*, took very good care of Shree Vitthal. He also advised Shree Vitthal to read '*Ramgeeta*<sup>20</sup>'. One day, when he was engrossed in reading "*Ramgeeta*<sup>20</sup>" at the temple, Shree Baba Maharaj came and stood near him. Shree Vitthal was so engrossed in reading that he did not notice the presence of Shree Baba Maharaj near him. Shree Baba Maharaj started the conversation by questioning him - "*Vithoba, have you run away from home without the permission of your parents?*" By hearing these words, Shree Vitthal's attention was diverted towards Shree Baba Maharaj. Then, pointing his finger towards Shree Vitthal, Shree Baba Maharaj spoke to Shri Damu Anna Bhagwat, "*This boy sees me in the form of Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth*" and saying this Shree Baba Maharaj started transforming to the personality of

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<sup>19</sup> Omkareshwar: One of the names of Lord Shiva

<sup>20</sup> Ramgeeta: Book on Lord Rama

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Shree Swami Samarth. Shree Vitthal was simply amazed to see a very luminous personality of Shree Swami Samarth, standing in the place of Shree Baba Maharaj and surrounded by a gigantic blaze of lustre. At this sight, Shree Vitthal went into deep transcendence experiencing divine bliss; with his head resting on the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj. Shree Vitthal was overflowing with divine bliss and had lost all outer consciousness. He was in this super conscious state until Shree Baba Maharaj brought him back to this world. Then, Shree Baba Maharaj asked him to come and visit him at his residence the very next day.

Since then, Shree Maharaj i.e. Vitthal started visiting Shree Baba Maharaj daily for his blessings. They had discussions on various topics. Shree Baba Maharaj treated Shree Maharaj very nicely. Shree Aaisaheb also treated him with great affection. Many people considered Shree Baba Maharaj as crazy and so very few devotees came to him to seek his blessings. This indirectly helped Shree Maharaj to enjoy and get Shree Baba Maharaj's attention to his heart's content.

Thus, Shree Baba Maharaj initiated Shree Vitthal and started handing over the secret *knowledge of self* as well as that of the *Swaroop Sampradaya*<sup>1</sup> to him. One can assume that Shree Baba Maharaj was infact steadily giving shape to and nurturing the *future successor* of the *Swaroop Sampradaya*.

### **His Daughter's Marriage**

The marriage of Chi. Shankuntala, the darling daughter of Shree Baba Maharaj was settled on its own with Shri Neelkanthrao Shridhar Khare, lawyer from Wardha, Maharashtra. Since Shree Baba Maharaj was always in a disembodied state and not in a position to perform the religious rites of the marriage ceremony, his younger brother carried on the marriage ceremony with great pomp on his behalf.

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After the marriage, the son-in-law Shri Neelkanthrao, started receiving letters from Shree Baba Maharaj, containing salutations to all members of the family, including even the cow and calf belonging to the family. The letters further said, "*I have loan of rupees ten thousand. Please help me to pay back the same. Please support me also*". No one ever understood this leela<sup>21</sup> of Shree Baba Maharaj.

When his daughter Sow. Nirmalatai (Shakuntala) came with her newborn son to seek his blessings; Shree Baba Maharaj was so happy that he arranged for a grand reception for his grandson "Narendra"

### **Departure Of Shree Aaisaheb**

On 27<sup>th</sup> July 1945, Friday night at 9.00 pm, Ashadh Vadya Trutiya Shake 1867 as per Hindu Calendar, Shree Aaisaheb, who had the great honour of adorning the place of a dutiful wife, of a divine person descended in a human form, like Shree Baba Maharaj, left this mundane world. After this incident, the family life of Shree Baba Maharaj almost came to an end. In fact it was an extremely difficult vow, for Shree Aaisaheb to lead a normal family life with a person in a disembodied state, like Shree Baba Maharaj.

Shree Baba Maharaj never hurt Shree Aaisaheb even with a single word till the end. Shree Aaisaheb was always prompt and alert with her responsibility towards her husband. Due to the disembodied state of Shree Baba Maharaj, Shree Aaisaheb was always extremely meticulous and affectionate towards his routine chores like bathing, dressing and eating food etc.

After the departure of Shree Aaisaheb from this world, Shree Baba Maharaj felt a great void in his life regarding

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<sup>21</sup>Leela: Divine game plan.

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affection, alertness and devoutness, which were extended to him by Shree Aaisaheb.

### **Divine Vision of Lord Vishveshwara**

Shree Baba Maharaj was on a pilgrimage to Banaras. One day at noon he went to the Kashi-Vishveshwara<sup>22</sup> temple for a glimpse of the Divine vision of Lord Kashi-Vishveshwara.

Since it was noon, only one devotee Shri Mukund Purushottam Oak, accompanied Shree Baba Maharaj to the temple. When both of them reached the temple, the religious preceptor of that temple Shri Aatale Guruji<sup>23</sup>, had left to get some holy water. Exactly at that moment, a tall wheat complexioned gentleman with pleasant personality and wearing a white costume suddenly appeared at the temple door. It seemed as if he had appeared from nowhere. The gentleman firmly embraced Shree Baba Maharaj with great love. Then Shree Baba Maharaj remarked, "*Today Lord Vishnu and Lord Shiva have met*". Shree Baba Maharaj told Shri Oak to pay his obeisance to the gentleman.

After returning to the place of stay in Banaras, Shree Baba Maharaj told all the devotees present there "*None of you came today to the temple. But we both were blessed by a Divine vision of Lord Kashi-Vishveshwar*". Hearing Shree Baba Maharaj's words, Shri Oak realised that the gentleman who embraced Shree Baba Maharaj was none else than '*Lord Kashi-Vishveshwara*<sup>22</sup>'.

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<sup>22</sup> Kashi-Vishveshwara: Another name of Lord Shiva

<sup>23</sup> Guruji: Teacher

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## Posture of Shree Baba Maharaj in Mid Space

Shri Bal Gangadhar Patwardhan, a professor in Govt. College, Dhule, Maharashtra, also had an experience about the divineness of Shree Baba Maharaj.

During 1939-40, while studying in Fergusson College, Pune, in Maharashtra, Shri Patwardhan came to know about Shree Baba Maharaj. So he went to Dhumal Bldg, to seek the blessings of Shree Baba Maharaj. When he climbed the staircase, he saw a notice board hanging on the door. The notice board read, "*I am going on a pilgrimage. Please help me with money.*"

After reading this board, Shri Patwardhan started having doubts about Shree Baba Maharaj's divinity. He started to wonder "*Why should a great saint like Shree Baba Maharaj ask for money from the people?*" and he was very much disturbed by this thought. But since he had come all the way, with determination, to meet Shree Baba Maharaj, he decided to return only after taking blessings from Shree Baba Maharaj. Hence, he stepped into Shree Baba Maharaj's room.

Inside there was dim light. But the room was empty. Not finding anyone in the room, he was about to return, when he heard some voice- "*Whom you are searching for? Handover the money quietly and then go away from here*". Shri Patwardhan started looking around in the room but surprisingly could not find the source of the voice. Then unintentionally, he looked up in the room. He was just astounded to see Shree Baba Maharaj sitting 5 to 6 feet above the ground -*mid space*- in the air, reclining against the wall. Seeing Shree Baba Maharaj in that position all suspicions about the divinity of Shree Baba Maharaj circling in his mind vanished and he was fully convinced that Shree Baba Maharaj was a perfect saint. He took out a rupee from his pocket and placed it before Shree Baba Maharaj asking for forgiveness.

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Then he asked Shree Baba Maharaj, the purpose of putting up the notice board on the door. Shree Baba Maharaj replied, *"My son, sometimes I have to use this trick to keep people away"*

Thus, Shree Baba Maharaj sometimes behaved like an eccentric person to avoid the public.

### **Divine Vision of Lord Hanuman<sup>24</sup>**

Shri Borkar was worried due to the non-profitability of his cloth business. One day his friend took him to Shree Baba Maharaj to seek blessings. Shri Borkar was so impressed that he started visiting Shree Baba Maharaj regularly. But every time he visited, due to one or other reason, Shree Baba Maharaj would send him out of the room immediately. Assuming that Shree Baba Maharaj did not like his presence, Shri Borkar expressed his concern to his friend. His friend firmly told him *"Do not miss out the blessings of Shree Baba Maharaj even if he beats you"*. Convinced, Shri Borkar continued visiting Shree Baba Maharaj regularly. After about a month Shree Baba Maharaj noted down his name, *Gotra<sup>25</sup>*, and address in his book. Then onwards, Shree Baba Maharaj allowed Shri Borkar to sit in the room.

One day, before the birth anniversary festival of Lord Hanuman, Shree Baba Maharaj told Shri Borkar *"Go and sit in the Hanuman temple before the arrival of the kirtankar bua<sup>26</sup>. If Hanuman appears in person on his birthday, you should catch hold of his tail, or maybe a kite bird might fly over you, pay your obeisance to the kite considering the same as Lord Hanuman"*.

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<sup>24</sup> Lord Hanuman: Monkey god: Lord Rama's true devotee. Regarded as a symbol of true devotion and strength.

<sup>25</sup> Gotra: Family lineage

<sup>26</sup> Kirtankar Bua: The narrator of a topic about Hanuman punctuated by Music. Could be narration of any spiritual topic. Bua: Person.

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Next day, early morning, before anyone else arrived, Shri Borkar entered the Hanuman temple. But when the *Kirtankar bua* started the narration about Lord Hanuman, Shri Borkar was so much engrossed in the *Kirtan* that he forgot about the kite bird as predicted by Shree Baba Maharaj.

Exactly at the moment when the *Kirtankar bua* started narrating about the birth of Hanuman, there was a quick flight, with a flirr, of the kite bird over his head. The kite bird disappeared shortly and Shri Borkar remembered the words of Shree Baba Maharaj. Shri Borkar could only see a small spot of that kite bird disappearing in the sky and immediately he bowed his head, with folded hands, towards that small spot to pay his obeisance to Lord Hanuman.

Shri Borkar had one more divine experience. Once at nighttime, Shri Borkar had been to the house of Shree Baba Maharaj. He saw Shree Baba Maharaj sitting on a big wooden box. The oil lamp was burning. There was nobody else in the room. When Shri Borkar entered the room, he was astonished to see *Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth* in person, sitting on that wooden box in place of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Eccentric Nature of Shree Baba Maharaj**

Shree Baba Maharaj sometimes behaved in a way, which can be best termed as *eccentric*. Shri Yeshwantappa Ambekar, a devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj and his friend Shankar Deodhar experienced this very eccentric nature of Shree Baba Maharaj.

Once when the two had been visiting Shree Baba Maharaj for his blessings. Shree Baba Maharaj told them "*Rats have become a serious problem, fill up all rat holes in the house*". But both tried to avoid the task, since they did not want to spoil their freshly washed clothes. Shree Baba Maharaj was aware of this but still ordered them to carry on that task. Hence

without any alternative, both went out, brought loose soil and filled up all the rat-holes properly. Then Shree Baba Maharaj gave them a clip of wood and told them to make small holes in the filled up rat-holes.

Shri Ambekar asked "*If we have to make small holes, why did you tell us to fill up those rat-holes?*" Shree Baba Maharaj became serious by hearing those words and replied, "*Without these small holes, wouldn't these rats die of suffocation? Though punished, does that mean that they should not survive at all?*" Shri Ambekar was utterly confused. It would be a great wonder if this philosophy, so uncommon to this world, does not confuse one?

### **A One Foot Thick Five Hooded White Cobra**

Shri Bhalchandra Nagesh Thatte, a devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj regularly read a religious book "*Navnath*". Somebody had informed Shri Thatte that if he reads this book at nighttime, he would see horrifying & ghastly sights.

Once while reading this book after midnight, suddenly an immense perfume of sandalwood spread in the room. Shri Thatte was slightly distracted. Shortly after, he heard a voice "*Please look back*". Initially he neglected the voice. But, since the voice persisted, he looked back. What he saw then was so dreadful that he instantly froze. He saw a pure white *five-hooded cobra* about a foot in thickness, coiled near his son, who was in deep sleep on the bed.

Shri Thatte, in a high state of panic, started invoking the name of Shree Baba Maharaj and applied the sacred ash from the incense available in front of him to his forehead and without looking back continued to read the book. By the time he completed reading the book, the cobra had disappeared, but a strange *sandalwood perfume* still prevailed in the room.

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Next day, when he went to Shree Baba Maharaj for blessings, Shree Baba Maharaj said "*Wasn't it fun last night? And why were you so afraid? I myself was present there*". Upon hearing these words Shri Thatte prostrated at the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj. The *sandalwood perfume* lasted for three days in the room.

### **Snakes get transformed to spring like plants**

The biography of Shree Baba Maharaj is full of miracles and experiences of the devotees. The life style of Shree Baba Maharaj was very simple like a common man. His attire was also very simple. Most people considered him as mad or crazy due to his disembodied state. But the devotees who had placed implicit faith in him and experienced his virtuousness were always aware of the boundless spiritual wealth of Shree Baba Maharaj.

In Pune, there was a contractor by name Shri Khanderao Raghoba Wagh. His first visit to Shree Baba Maharaj was in 1953 when he went to seek his blessings. After making all enquiries, Shree Baba Maharaj asked him for *dakshina*<sup>27</sup>. Shri Wagh gave one rupee as *dakshina* to him. Shree Baba Maharaj asked Shri Wagh whether he would like to take back his rupee, but Shri Wagh kept quiet.

The same Shri Wagh gave his plot, on a long lease, to Shree Baba Maharaj. This is the same plot where the current temple shrine is located. Shree Baba Maharaj gave one rupee as an annual rent of the plot to Shri Wagh. Later on Shri Wagh gave that plot as a gift to Shree Baba Maharaj through deed of gift. Shree Baba Maharaj said a number of times. "*I would be dwelling in this plot for one thousand years for the sake of my devotees*"

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<sup>27</sup> Dakshina: Money granted to a Brahman for religious service

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There were a number of anthills, with serpents inside, on the plot. Nobody was ready to clear the anthills because of the likelihood of poisonous serpents residing within them. When Shree Baba Maharaj was asked- "*What should we do if serpents are residing in the anthills?*" Shree Baba Maharaj replied, "*What is the problem? Put your hand in the anthills and check for serpents. If you find any serpent then don't destroy that anthill*". After a short pause, he further said, "*Don't be afraid. I have already ordered those serpents to go a thousand feet away from this plot*"

Next day, Shri Wagh and some people went to the plot to clear the anthills. A thought crossed Shri Wagh's mind, "*It would be great if a labourer was available to do this job*". No sooner the thought crossed his mind, a labourer appeared out of nowhere with a hoe<sup>28</sup>! Shri Wagh told this labourer to get rid of all the anthills. The labourer agreed and started breaking all the anthills. He was very watchful while breaking and clearing the anthills. From each of the anthill, he collected a *spring like* (spiral structure) plant and packed the same in his *dhotee*<sup>29</sup>.

When questioned by Shri Wagh regarding these plants, the workman did not reply. This went on for a long time, until all the anthills were cleared. After completing the work the labourer disappeared from the scene, the same way as he had mysteriously appeared near the plot. The surprising thing was that he did not even care to wait for collecting his wages. This was the most unusual occurrence, since usually labourers always collect their wages in exchange for their labour.

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<sup>28</sup> Hoe: A garden tool

<sup>29</sup> Dhotee: The traditional Indian cotton garment of males worn around the waist passing under and tucked behind.

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### **Some Cases of Extra Ordinary Disposition of Shree Baba Maharaj**

The lustrous and dignified personality of Shree Baba Maharaj never put any pressure on the minds of devotees. On the contrary, devotees always experienced an uncommon attraction for the intimate acquaintance and repeated sight of Shree Baba Maharaj. He being addressed respectfully as 'Raosaheb' during his service tenure, added grace to his generous nature.

Shree Baba Maharaj had rented few rooms in Dhumal Building, Narayan Peth, Pune. The owner of the building Shri Dhumal had illuminated the entire building with decorative electric lights on occasion of his sons wedding. He achieved this by tapping the electric meter belonging to Shree Baba Maharaj's room. He did not care to take Shree Baba Maharaj's permission nor did he care to even inform Shree Baba Maharaj either formally or informally. When the electric bill for that month showed an excessive amount, one of the devotees of Shree Baba Maharaj became furious and could not control his anger, and suggested Shree Baba Maharaj to collect this amount from the owner, Shri Dhumal. But due to his magnanimous nature, Shree Baba Maharaj did not agree with him and said, "*Suppose it was my son's wedding, would I not pay this excessive electric bill without any grudge. Now also let us suppose it is like that and pay that bill*". There was absolutely no place for differential treatment for one's own and that given to another, in the conscience of Shree Baba Maharaj.

Shri Bibikar, also a disciple of Shree Beedkar Maharaj, had come to the temple-shrine of Shree Beedkar Maharaj from his native place. He had come with an intention of collecting some monetary contribution from devotees for celebrating the annual festival of Lord Vithoba and Rukminidevi in a temple, which belonged to him and was located at his native place. But,

because of his shy nature he did not approach anybody and hence nobody gave contribution on his or her own accord. He then thought, *“This year the annual celebration can not take place due to lack of funds”*. Thinking thus he got depressed and so he did not go back to his native place for the festival day.

The day of the festival passed by and four days later, Shri Bibikar went to his native place. After reaching home, he kept quiet with a gloomy face. But to his surprise, his wife spoke to him in a joyous mood; she said *“I received a money order from Pune, sent by Raosaheb (Shree Baba Maharaj) about six days in advance of the festival. I celebrated the festival with all pomp”*. Shri Bibikar’s happiness knew no bounds. He wept out of Joy by seeing the love and generosity showered on him by Shree Baba Maharaj.

Shri Bibikar had not mentioned the intent of his visit to anyone, including Shree Baba Maharaj, but the *Omniscient* Shree Baba Maharaj realized his intent and acted accordingly to satisfy his desire.

Every month, from his monthly pension, Shree Baba Maharaj gave ten rupees to his servant for bringing useful items like needle, thread, Cotton for lighting lamps to God, pen, postcards, postal cover etc., including any other minor items as recommended by his servant. He kept these items in his house. In fact these items were more useful to his neighbours than for himself.

### **Mischievous Tricks Of Shree Baba Maharaj On Uninvited Guests**

Sometimes Shree Baba Maharaj displayed his mischievous nature. There were people who tried to take undue advantage of his self-meditative state of being. Because of this nature, an uninvited guest assumed Shree Baba Maharaj to be

crazy and came to stay in his house for a long time in anticipation of getting free food.

Shree Baba Maharaj soon observed that the chances of this guest, leaving his house were nil and hence he planned to play a mischievous trick on the guest. One night at 2.00p.m, Shree Baba Maharaj woke up his guest by violently shaking him. The guest woke up. To his surprise, he saw Shree Baba Maharaj sitting by his side holding a plate containing two laddus<sup>30</sup>. When he asked Shree Baba Maharaj about this he was told, "*You have spent your entire life swallowing money. Now eat these two laddus*". Upon hearing these words, truth dawned on the guest and he felt terribly ashamed. The very next day, he left the house.

In a similar way, another uninvited guest under the pretext of being a devotee came to the house of Shree Baba Maharaj. He laid his hands on sweets, fruits etc., offered to Shree Baba Maharaj by the devotees. He did all this without even asking Shree Baba Maharaj.

If nothing were offered, then he would start looking in the shelves, cupboards, all the corners, and kitchen room etc., for any kind of eatables and consume whatever was available. Shree Baba Maharaj observed this shameless attitude and decided to teach him a lesson.

Shree Baba Maharaj asked one of his devotees, to prepare *Laddus*<sup>30</sup> from soap scrapings. He then kept these soap *laddus* in the cupboard. The *laddus* looked exactly like authentic sweet *laddus*. As usual the guest came, but as he did not get any eatables from Shree Baba Maharaj, he opened the cupboard and was surprised to see the *laddus*. He asked, "*Who kept these laddus here? Will they not get spoiled?*" Saying so he put one *laddu* in his mouth and hurriedly ate it without even tasting it. As

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<sup>30</sup> Laddus: Sweets in the form of a Ball commonly prepared during festivities.

the *laddu* settled he realized it was made of soap, the weird taste of which made him sick and he started vomiting. Shree Baba Maharaj was silently enjoying this scene and thus taught this greedy guest a lesson of his lifetime.

### **Pilgrimage to Akkalkot, Pandharpur**

After the departure of Shree Aaisaheb in the year 1945, there was nobody to take proper care of Shree Baba Maharaj. On the other hand, he was also completely relieved from the restrictions of the worldly affairs. Then onwards, every year he started going on pilgrimage with his devotees to some holy places, after Kartik Poornima<sup>31</sup>.

In the year 1946-47, Shree Baba Maharaj went on a long pilgrimage to holy places like Akkalkot, Pandharpur in Maharashtra, and Ganagapur, in Karnatak. In Akkalkot, when Shree Baba Maharaj was entering the temple-shrine of Shree Swami Samarth, in an *Unmani Avastha*<sup>32</sup>, a person standing there prostrated and laid his head on the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj. Without even looking at that person, Shree Baba Maharaj said "*Go and give a message from Raosaheb Sahasrabuddhe of Pune to your Guru*<sup>33</sup>. *Tell him that he should take care of you*". No sooner that person heard the words of Shree Baba Maharaj, he started dancing and leaping jubilantly. Since his guru had shunted him out unceremoniously, he had come to Akkalkot temple-shrine, to render service at the feet of Shree Swami Samarth to seek his blessings. The blessings of Shree Baba Maharaj had fulfilled his inner desire, to go back and get accepted by his Guru.

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<sup>31</sup> Kartik Poornima: Full moon day of Kartik month i.e. 8th month as per Hindu calendar and November or December as per English calendar

<sup>32</sup> Unmani Avastha: Divine contemplation

<sup>33</sup> Guru: Spiritual Preceptor

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### **Pilgrimage to Rameshwar and Madurai**

In the year 1949, Shree Baba Maharaj along with 20-22 devotees, went on a pilgrimage to Rameshwar and Madurai, in Tamilnadu State. While going to Rameshwar, near Madurai, at midnight, their bus suddenly developed mechanical problems and came to a standstill. Everyone else in the bus thought of taking rest at Madurai and proceeding next day morning. But Shree Baba Maharaj insisted on going ahead the same night.

All were under the impression that they wont get a bus ride at that time of the night. But it was quiet surprising that an empty bus came there, the same night. It was as though somebody had sent this bus only for the sake of these pilgrims. The bus took them to their destination. This incomprehensible leela<sup>21</sup> amazed everyone.

While returning from Rameshwar, all the devotees boarded the train at Madras station. But exactly at the departure time of the train, Shree Baba Maharaj got a sudden urge to smoke a cigarette. So he got down from the train and sent a devotee to get a cigarette. Meanwhile the whistle blew for the train's departure. The devotees sitting inside the train became very anxious. But Shree Baba Maharaj, very calmly, continued to stand on the platform, smoking his cigarette. Having finished smoking the cigarette, he then peacefully went inside the train and sat on his seat. Only then, the train started moving. It was indeed a miracle, that the train delayed its departure for nearly 15 to 20 minutes for apparently no other reason but only for the sake of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Pilgrimage To Gokarn-Mahabaleshwar**

During the pilgrimage to Gokarn-Mahabaleshwar in Karnataka, Shree Baba Maharaj along with the devotees had

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been put up in the house of a family priest Shri Joglekar. This, Vedmurthy<sup>34</sup>, Shri Joglekar was an Agnihotri<sup>35</sup>.

In his house, the fire required for offering an oblation and sacrifice was being kindled by using an instrument called Arani-Mantha<sup>36</sup>. But on that day, even after constantly trying for a long time, the much-needed fire could not be kindled out of the *Arani* instrument. But strangely enough, no sooner Shree Baba Maharaj stepped in to that place; his mere presence kindled the fire from the *Arani* instrument. By seeing this miracle, Vedmurthy Joglekar was so happy that he offered his heartfelt reverence to Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Pilgrimage to Siddhatek**

Similar miracle took place during the pilgrimage to Siddhatek in Maharashtra, during the year 1947-48. When the worship of Lord Ganesh was in progress, Shree Baba Maharaj got up and came out in the open space in front of the temple. Along with him, Smt. and Shri Ambekar also came out. "Do you want to see God?" Shree Baba Maharaj asked, "Yes" was the reply. After about ten minutes Smt and Shri Ambekar saw a lustrous personality dressed in a white outfit climbing the temple steps and coming towards them. Shree Baba Maharaj and the person embraced each other. Smt and Shri Ambekar offered their obeisance to the person as well as to Shree Baba Maharaj.

Later on, the person entered the innermost part of the temple and just disappeared. Shri Ambekar started to look for the gentleman in the innermost part of the temple. Not finding him inside Shri Ambekar was mystified beyond reason. Seeing this, Shree Baba Maharaj asked him to look for the person in

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<sup>34</sup> Vedmurthy: A learned Brahman

<sup>35</sup> Agnihotri: A Brahman who maintains sacred fire

<sup>36</sup> Arani-Mantha: Wooden piece used for kindling fire by rubbing against another instrument Arani

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Lord Ganesh's naval. It was a real miracle that Shri Ambekar found the person sitting in a meditative pose in Lord Ganesh's naval.

After this, during 1950, Shree Baba Maharaj went on a pilgrimage to Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra.

In all these pilgrimages, devotees experienced boundless miracles of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Pilgrimage to Ganagapur & Test of Devotion**

In the year 1952, Shree Baba Maharaj went on a pilgrimage with a group of devotees to holy places like Akkalkot, Tulajapur, Barsi, Pandharpur, Ambejogai, Parli Vaijanath, Aundhya Nagnath, Ghrushneshwar, Paithan in Maharashtra, and Ganagapur, Humnabad in Karnataka. When the group was in Ganagapur, all the devotees went to Shripathi Teerth riverbank steps for bathing. When the devotees were getting down the steps for bathing, Shree Baba Maharaj, who was sitting on a platform of Shripathi Teerth asked, "*Who can bring me some sand from the opposite riverbank?*" All the devotees remained silent since complying with this request meant crossing the river filled up to its brink due to the ongoing rainy season and this was not at all an easy task to undertake by any standards. The silence indirectly meant that no one had the courage to come forward and fulfill the request.

At that same moment, Shri Anna Deshpande, a devotee, was standing before Shree Baba Maharaj for paying his obeisance. Suddenly he exclaimed, "*With your grace I shall go across and get the Sand*". Shri Deshpande had two hurdles to overcome. Firstly, he didn't know swimming and secondly, he suffered from tonsils, which is known to create breathing problems, when he gets into the water. There was also another impediment due to the rain. The river was full of water and there

was lot of loose mud in the river where the feet could get stuck. With all these adverse circumstances, he would risk his life by trying to cross the river. He was caught in a difficult situation. Even his mother tried her best to dissuade him from going into the river.

Ultimately Shri Kale, who knew how to swim, agreed to accompany Shri Deshpande to cross the river. Both offered their obeisance to Shree Baba Maharaj before entering the river. In a short while, the water came up to the neck and their feet also started sinking in the mud. When they had hardly covered one-fourth distance, Shri Deshpande felt that his legs were shaky and he would drown. With this fear, he looked back at Shree Baba Maharaj. He observed that Shree Baba Maharaj was sitting calmly and gazing at them without moving his eyelids. This infused fresh energy and confidence in Shri Deshpande and Shri Kale. Both went ahead in the river, continuously chanting the name of their Sadguru, Shree Baba Maharaj.

It was a great miracle, that, though the river water was much above man's height, it did not rise above their lips. Thus due to the grace of Shree Baba Maharaj, they successfully crossed the river, reached the other bank, collected the sand and returned. All this time Shree Baba Maharaj was still sitting in the same position with his gaze fixed on both.

Shri Deshpande and Shri Kale fell at the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj and offered the sand brought by them. Seeing the sand, Shree Baba Maharaj happily exclaimed "*This sand imparts Jnana Vairagya*<sup>37</sup>".

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<sup>37</sup> Jnana Vairagya : Knowledge of all spiritual and religious kind which teaches man the divine origin, as well as, the nature of his immaterial portion, including the unreality of corporal enjoyments, sufferings. It also sanctifies him during life, from earthly attachments, fleshy affections, and accomplishes for him after death, emancipation from individual existence accompanied by the reunion with universal spirit and finally with the renunciation of all sensuous gratification.

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Further, Shree Baba Maharaj said, “*Apply this sand to my forehead and all of you do the same*”. Tears of joy came rolling from Shri Anna Deshpande’s eyes and he exclaimed, “*I have passed the test with the grace of my Sadguru Shree Baba Maharaj!*” It was indeed a miracle that Shri Anna Deshpande was able to walk through the deep river without drowning and accomplish the task entrusted by his Sadguru.

### Successor Nominated

In the year 1951, one day when Shree Digambardas Maharaj (Vitthalrao Joshi) had come to see Shree Baba Maharaj, Shree Baba Maharaj asked him “*Vithoba, will you be able to take a house in Pune and look after me?*.” This really meant “*Would you be able to carry on my Swaroop Sampradaya by staying permanently in Pune?*”. Shree Digambardas Maharaj replied in affirmative. Shree Baba Maharaj had infact, nominated his Satshishya<sup>38</sup> Shree Digambardas Maharaj as his successor!

One day on July 24th 1953, Shree Digambardas Maharaj had come to see Shree Baba Maharaj. It was the most important day in the life of Shree Digambardas Maharaj, since the greatest of evolution took place and he attained life's highest objective—the Divine Truth.

Shree Baba Maharaj took the right hand of Shree Digambardas Maharaj and held it with the palm facing up in his own right hand. Then Shree Baba Maharaj placed his left hand tightly on the palm of the hand of Shree Digambardas Maharaj and then spoke “***Vithoba, from today onwards I have accepted all your egoism, on my own will. Today onwards you need not do any work on your own. Remember that henceforth, I would be doing all your deeds***”. So, henceforth, Shree Baba Maharaj was to carry out all the responsibilities relating to the *Swaroop*

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<sup>38</sup> Satshishya: True disciple

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*Sampradaya* only through Shree Digambardas Maharaj. That day Shree Digambardas Maharaj was fully satisfied since his life had accomplished the very object of existence.

On 26th July 1953, Full moon day (*Poornima*) of Ashadh<sup>39</sup> month as per Hindu calendar, Shree Digambardas Maharaj performed the *Shodashopchar worship*<sup>40</sup> of Shree Baba Maharaj. This was a remarkable festive ceremony. No sooner this ceremony was over, Shree Baba Maharaj took out his garland of roses with his own hands and put it around Shree Digambardas Maharaj. He also handed over his rosary of beads, as well as his and Shree Aaisaheb's photo to Shree Digambardas Maharaj.

Also for daily worship he gave his wooden sandals to Shree Digambardas Maharaj. Finally Shree Baba Maharaj, with great affection, removed both rings including the 'Sarpamukhi' ring from his finger and put the same in the right hand forefinger of Shree Digambardas Maharaj. Then looking steadily in the eyes of Shree Digambardas Maharaj, Shree Baba Maharaj remarked, "*Both these rings given to me by my Sadguru, have now been duly put back into the finger's of my Sadguru!*". Both these rings were given to Shree Baba Maharaj by his Sadguru Shree Beedkar Maharaj who was reborn as Shree Digambardas Maharaj in this life.

As soon as these rings were put in his finger, Shree Digambardas Maharaj lost his outer consciousness and got the divine perception that Shree Baba Maharaj himself occupied the whole universe.

Then Shree Baba Maharaj embraced Shree Digambardas Maharaj and said "*Henceforth you yourself need not do anything. I will do whatever is to be done, through you. You might go*

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<sup>39</sup> Ashadh month: Month of July as per English calendar

<sup>40</sup> Shodashopchar worship: Sixteen ways of paying homage to a deity

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*anywhere or to any corner of this world, even to America or England. Everywhere, I will be present with you. Henceforth you should only look after the temple-shrine. If you come across any fertile land, in rare cases only, you should sow the seeds in my name". This really meant, "Only if you come across a suitable and capable person, should you initiate him in the Swaroop Sampradaya".*

Above remark was exactly similar to that exclaimed by Shree Swami Samarth to Shree Beedkar Maharaj- "*Unless a man is hungry, do not feed him any food as it will not get digested".* Further Shree Baba Maharaj ordered Shree Digambardas Maharaj "*Henceforth don't come to Pune, without my permission. Until then, remain in Ratnagiri only".* Ratnagiri is a District place in Maharashtra.

After this, Shree Baba Maharaj gave the indication of his departure from this world. This created a very sad atmosphere among his devotees. Shree Digambardas Maharaj felt extremely disheartened. He was not able to bear the separation of his Sadguru. It was only because of the implicit love and stubbornness of Shree Digambardas Maharaj, that Shree Baba Maharaj deferred his departure from this world for a year.

### **The final pilgrimage**

On 29th Nov 1953, Shree Baba Maharaj, along with 24 to 25 devotees went on a final pilgrimage to Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, the birthplace of Lord Rama. On the way to Ayodhya, Shree Baba Maharaj visited the holy places like Machhalipattan, Banaras, Mathura, Vrindavan, Jagannathpuri, Gaya and Prayag.

In fact, Shree Baba Maharaj wanted to free himself from this mundane existence by taking *jalasamadhi*<sup>41</sup> in the *Sharayu* River, in Ayodhya. Shree Baba Maharaj had expressed this wish, before beginning the pilgrimage. A number of devotees had

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refused to accompany him for avoiding the pain of separation. Knowing this plight of the devotees, Shree Baba Maharaj said, *"None of you have understood the real meaning of a Sadguru. As per you, the existence of a Sadguru is only in relation with his body. Probably, if you feel my body as Sadguru, then tie one string to my foot, pull out my dead body from Sharayu River and start taking care of my body! Little have you understood that in fact a Sadguru is beyond birth and death. You have not realised this truth, even after staying with me? Then how would you make progress and attain divine truth, life's highest objective?"*

But it so happened that Shree Baba Maharaj could not find any place in Sharayu River with water level above the anklebone. Shree Baba Maharaj remarked, *"This shows that the Sharayu River refuses to give me any place for taking jalsamadhi<sup>41</sup>. My Sadguru, Shree Beedkar Maharaj has ordered me to take a place (establish a Muth<sup>4</sup>) in Pune"* saying so he took bath instead and came out of the river towards the riverbank. All the devotees were very happy to see him come back without taking the planned *Jalsamadhi*.

From Ayodhya, Shree Baba Maharaj went to Wardha via Mathura-Vrindavan to meet his daughter. From Wardha, via Tryambakeshwar and Nasik he returned to Pune.

### **Mahasamadhi**

After returning from Ayodhya, Shree Baba Maharaj's health started deteriorating. His weakness increased by the day. By the end of August, his health condition had worsened.

Ultimately on 18th Aug 1954 Tuesday, Shravan Vadya Chaturthi, Shake 1876, Manmath Samvatsar, Mangalwar

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<sup>41</sup> Jalsamadhi: Ending bodily existence by drowning in water

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Angarki Chaturthi as per Hindu Calender, Shree Baba Maharaj took Mahasamadhi<sup>42</sup>.

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<sup>42</sup> Mahasamadhi: The Last conscious communion with God

## **Part II**

*Miracles and Devotees Experiences ...*

*“A Sadguru is the supreme energy manifest and from time to time he displays his true nature in the form of his leela’s which are incomprehensible to the normal human beings and hence called miracles. An attempt has been made here to document a subset of these miracles as experienced by the devotees”*

*“Though the bodily existence of Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj ended with his Mahasamadhi, he continues to live in the Samadhi Mandir for the benefit of the devotees as promised”*

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## **Supernatural Powers of Shree Baba Maharaj**

*The existence of a ring of divinity around a saint is felt by those who are in close association of the saint. The devotees also experience miracles from time to time. The occurrence of miracles gives confirmation about the divine nature of a Sadguru to the devotees*

*This was absolutely true in the case of Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj.*

## **Miracles & Experiences**

### **Devotees Protected Even After Mahasamadhi**

Shri Gangadhar Seetharam Patil was a devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj. In 1958, Mr. Patil, working as an overseer in Public Works Department, was given charge of the roadwork between the villages Mohol and Hingangaon in Maharashtra.

Once while riding on his motorbike along with his friend he saw a bullock cart coming from the opposite direction on the right side of the road. In the nick of time, the cart man diverted the cart to the left side of the road. Shri Patil saw a crowbar extending out of the cart from the rear side, posing a serious obstruction to his speeding motorbike. He felt it was impossible to avoid the collision of his speeding motorbike with the crowbar. So without any alternative, he closed his eyes and chanting the name of Shree Baba Maharaj, went ahead.

Shri Patil had death facing him but due to the divine grace of Shree Baba Maharaj he was saved with only minor injuries. But the crowbar seriously injured his friend sitting on the backseat of the motorbike.

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One more interesting incident took place with Shri Patil. Once there was a robbery in his house. But surprisingly the robber did not enter the room containing the picture of Shree Baba Maharaj. All valuable items like gold ornaments, money and other costly things kept in this room were saved by the kind grace of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Cured Blood Dysentery**

One and a half year old son of Shri. Rambhau Joglekar, was suffering from severe blood dysentery. In spite of treating him with home made medicines as well as allopathic medicines, and that too prescribed by a famous M.D. doctor, there was basically no improvement in his state. His condition continued to deteriorate and his body started swelling to such an extent that he looked like a 4-5 year old boy.

The concerned doctor gave up all hope of the boy's survival and told the father of the boy "*All our efforts have failed. Now you should pray for God's help*". Shri Joglekar lost all hope of recovery and approached Shree Baba Maharaj for help.

By the kind grace of Shree Baba Maharaj, the boy started showing some improvement within just three to four days, but at the same time, Shree Baba Maharaj started suffering from dysentery. This was because he had taken over the illness on himself.

Shree Baba Maharaj also promised Shri Joglekar that the boy would be completely cured. Accordingly, the boy fully recovered from the illness and even started to smile and play. The concerned doctor who had lost all the hopes was simply shocked to see this miracle and accepted the greatness of Shree Baba Maharaj.

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### Saved Devotee from Dismissal

One day, Shri Rambhau Joglekar, while working in the Ordinance Factory at Khadki in Pune, unexpectedly saw his senior European Officer in an indecent state with a coquettish young lady who also worked in the same office. This enraged the European Officer and Shri Joglekar received a threat of dismissal from service, without any justification. After listening to the details from Shri Joglekar, Shree Baba Maharaj asked Shri Joglekar to send sweets to the European officer, through the young lady.

And lo! A miracle took place. The European officer got a transfer order to Madagascar, South Africa. Soon after this, one day, Shree Baba Maharaj told Shri Joglekar "*I am hearing the sound of machine gun. Your officer appears to be dead*". Within a few days, Shri Joglekar came to know from his officer that the European officer had passed away!

### Cured Heart disease

Shri Balasaheb Bhide, the cousin brother-in-law of Shri Oak, was a devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj. Shri Oak, himself a devotee, was the son-in-law of Shri Rajabhau Bhide from Kalyan, Maharashtra. Shri Rajabhau Bhide was also a disciple of Shree Beedkar Maharaj..

Shri Balasaheb Bhide often came to Pune to seek blessings from Shree Baba Maharaj. Once as usual, he came to Pune, took blessings and was about to sit down, when Shree Baba Maharaj hurriedly made him stand up. Then Shree Baba Maharaj gave him a coconut and said, "*Your aunt in Kalyan is seriously ill. You should give this coconut to her and ask her to drink its water*".

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Shri Bhide immediately returned to Kalyan and found his aunt seriously ill, suffering from heart trouble. Lo! A miracle took place. As soon as she drank the coconut water, she started feeling better and within a week, she recovered completely.

The heart specialist was simply amazed at the unexplained recovery of his patient.

### **Rescued A Lady From Demonic Possession**

Shri Padmakar Joshi was the son of one of Shree Baba Maharaj's niece. Since 1950, Shri Joshi regularly came to visit Shree Baba Maharaj to seek his blessings.

Once in the presence of Shri Joshi Shree Baba Maharaj rescued a lady from demoniac possession. Before coming to Shree Baba Maharaj, the lady had been taken to various temples, enchanters and even to an exorcist<sup>43</sup> for relief but still the problem was not resolved.

Ultimately, as per someone's suggestion, they came to Shree Baba Maharaj. Shree Baba Maharaj listened to the complete history and then ordered her by saying, "*Play, play*". As soon as he said these words, the lady started shivering and gasping. This was due to demonic possession. The speed of shivering and gasping started to increase and eventually she fell down and rested her head on the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj.

She had lost all her life force and lay motionless at the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj. After a few moments, she was woken up by some people present there, witnessing this uncommon & horrifying scene. As she got up and her relatives noticed that for the first time, after a number of years, she had started behaving in a normal manner. Her relatives informed

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<sup>43</sup> Exorcist: One who expels evil spirit by invocation

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Shree Baba Maharaj that the dead ex-wife of her husband was probably troubling the current wife in the form of an evil spirit.

The relatives had wandered to a number of places for the relief but ultimately she got relief from this evil spirit at the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### Cured Acute Stomach Ache of Shri Gokhale

Shri Laxman Hari Gokhale started visiting Shree Baba Maharaj from the year 1950. Previous to this Shri Gokhale had suffered from acute stomach pain. The doctor often gave him *morphine* injections and put him to sleep for two days at a stretch. The doctor even suggested for a stomach operation. But Shree Baba Maharaj rejected this proposal and advised Shri Gokhale to eat stale bread instead. It was a great miracle that, by the kind grace of Shree Baba Maharaj, Shri Gokhale was permanently cured of his acute stomachache.

### Saved Shri Saptarshi's Son from Fire

It is true that the devotees need not be afraid of any frightful disaster when there is full backing of a Sadguru. Shri Saptarshi personally experienced this fact. Shri Saptarshi, very often went to Shree Baba Maharaj to seek blessings.

Once, he requested Shree Baba Maharaj to accompany him to a farm to eat hurda<sup>44</sup>. Shree Baba Maharaj also agreed. After this programme of eating hurda was over, somebody lighted the kerosene stove to prepare tea. But unfortunately the stove tank exploded. The burning kerosene got sprayed on Saptarshi's young son who was standing nearby and his clothes caught fire.

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<sup>44</sup> Hurda: Parched corn of tender pods

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Everyone noticed the boy, who was engulfed by fire and there was an uproar. Shree Baba Maharaj was standing nearby but facing the opposite side. By hearing the uproar, Shree Baba Maharaj turned his face and merely looked towards the boy who was engulfed by fire.

What a great surprise! The fire extinguished of its own accord and not only was the boy saved from burning injuries but even his clothes remained intact. Is this not a Miracle?

### **Saved 2 year old Boy from Death**

Shri Prabhakar Shankar Panase of Pune also experienced a miracle. Shri Panase was very much depressed over the fact that his Sadguru Shree Narayan Maharaj Kedgaonkar, had taken Mahasamadhi.

One day in an early morning dream, he got a vision of a saintly person wearing white coat, dhotee<sup>29</sup>, white handkerchief wrapped round the head and a garland of white flowers round the neck. Same day morning his friend took him to Shree Baba Maharaj to seek blessings. At that time Shree Baba Maharaj was sitting on a bed in Padmasan<sup>45</sup>. Shri Panase was highly surprised & delighted to see Shree Baba Maharaj, the same saintly person whom he had seen in his dream. When he paid obeisance to Shree Baba Maharaj and sat down, his disturbed mind calmed down to the highest possible degree.

Once, the 2 yr. old son of Shri Panase suddenly became seriously ill. When the boy was treated in a hospital, the doctor lost all hopes of recovery and concluded that none of the medicines would have any effect on the boy. Shri Panase got extremely nervous and immediately went to see Shree Baba Maharaj for help.

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<sup>45</sup> Padmasan: Lotus position

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After listening to all the details, Shree Baba Maharaj asked for the name of the boy. Then Shree Baba Maharaj told him not to lose courage and not to worry. Then he told Shri Panase to take some *angara*<sup>46</sup> from the small steel box kept in the temple-shrine and apply it to the boy and at the same time also continue the medicines, as prescribed by the doctor. The doctor unwillingly continued the injections as well as medicines under the assumption that the boy would not survive for more than few hours.

To the great surprise of everyone, ignoring all the experience, medical knowledge and predictions of the doctor, the very next day, the boy got up from the bed and started playing. Later on, this boy grew up and completed his graduation. Thus the prophecy of the doctor was proved totally wrong by the divine grace of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Saved Shri Govindrao Jogalekar from Undue Insecurity**

In some way or other, if a devotee was to face any calamity, then Shree Baba Maharaj easily liberated the devotee from that anxiety. This was experienced first hand by Shri Govindrao Ramchandra Joglekar as well as several other devotees of Shree Baba Maharaj.

He was a junior commissioned officer in an Army Vehicle Depot at Dehu Road, Pune. Year 1951 onwards he had taken charge as a Security Platoon Commander. One day he came to know that the Director of Security (Brigadier) would be coming from Delhi to inspect the Army wing. This Brigadier was an Irish man and well known as a dreadful ill tempered and a fiery officer in the field of inspection. Without showing any

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<sup>46</sup> Angara: Sacred ashes recovered from the incense burnt before the deity or sadguru

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mercy or forgiveness, even for trivial mistakes, he took severe action by demoting the concerned officer on the spot.

Shri Govindrao was so much seized by worry that he went running to Shree Baba Maharaj for help. After listening to all details, Shree Baba Maharaj told Shri Govindrao to put a red mark on the calendar against that date of inspection. With implicit faith in Shree Baba Maharaj, Shri Govindrao returned home and calmed down.

At 9.00 a.m. sharp, the inspection of Shri Govindrao's platoon was to take place. Five minutes prior to 9.a.m., the Irish Brigadier came for inspection. He looked at the platoon and was about to start the inspection when a soldier came to inform the Brigadier that there was a telephone call of a Major General from Delhi. The Brigadier had to attend the telephone call. After completing the phone conversation, the Brigadier came back to resume the inspection. But before he returned, another soldier came to inform the Brigadier of a trunk call from Calcutta. Mentally uttering abuses, the Brigadier went to the office to attend the trunk call and due to one or the other reason, he could not come out of the office until 1.00 p.m.

Finally the Brigadier cancelled the ground inspection for that day. But he ordered all the officers to be present in their respective guard posts at 2.00 p.m. for inspection. Exactly at 2.00 p.m., he started the inspection of the first guard post, but that inspection took a lot of time. By the time the Brigadier reached the guard post of Shri Govindrao, he gave up the inspection altogether.

Then the Brigadier called all the officers, shook hands and commended on the good work done by them. All the officers were highly surprised as this was contrary to the known reputation of that Brigadier, since he always refrained from giving handshake's to Hindustani (Indian) officers. Finally he

gave good wishes to everybody and with a smiling face, returned to Delhi.

In the evening Shri Govindrao went to meet Shree Baba Maharaj. Shree Baba Maharaj gave him a handshake saying, "*Was this not similar to that handshake given by your Brigadier*"? With these words Shree Baba Maharaj gave an accurate impression of that handshake and further said "*Your Brigadier will not remain in Hindustan for long but would go to a foreign country and never come back here to create any more trouble for you*". These golden words of Shree Baba Maharaj were proved true in a short while.

Shri Govindrao Joglekar was a military officer and he wore full English suit similar to that of a British officer. But once Shree Baba Maharaj remarked about this dress, "*A person should cultivate simple living*". These simple words of Shree Baba Maharaj had such an over bearing effect on Shri Joglekar that he completely lost desire for the Flashiness developed in him over the years. Thereafter, he started wearing simple dress.

Shree Baba Maharaj always advised his devotees "*Look at the sky, look at the stars*". Once Shri Joglekar, out of curiosity asked him the clear purport of these words. Shree Baba Maharaj said, "*Distant vision makes the eyes clear. These are the words from physics. Hence you have to look at the sky. These stars in the sky are the symbol of Divine Lustre*".

At one time, Shree Baba Maharaj wrote to Shri Joglekar the following golden words "*Brahma<sup>47</sup> is real and the sole substance of the material universe. To get a clear and definite apprehension of Brahma, you have to take a number of births. Brahma means the sky. Sky means space. As space is beyond ones perception, one should study the objects like the stars in the sky. But care should be taken not to give any publicity to others*

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<sup>47</sup> Brahma: The Divine substance

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*about this study. For attainment and enjoyment of Divine nature, one should not trouble anybody. One should study the sky and the stars with self-confidence and refrain from asking questions and demanding answers to these questions from the saints or sadguru. One should grasp this knowledge fully with one's mind instead of troubling a saint or Sadguru ".*

### Dr Manohar's Experience

Shree Baba Maharaj had lost interest in the worldly affairs and always remained in a disembodied state. Dr. Manohar Jog stayed in pune, for his education. At the time he was just 15 year old. Once, Manohar went to Shree Baba Maharaj to pay his obeisance. He was very much attracted with the dignified and lustrous form of Shree Baba Maharaj. From that day onwards, he started rendering service to Shree Baba Maharaj with full devotion. Pleased with his devotion, Shree Baba Maharaj often asked Manohar, "*What do you want?* ". Manohar sometimes asked either for a banana or a date fruit. Then Shree Baba Maharaj would slide his hand under the mattress, take some money out and give it to him. This went on a regular basis. Manohar frequently cleaned Shree Baba Maharaj's house and he had never seen any money below the mattress. When he mentioned this, Shree Baba Maharaj would reply "*I took out money from below the mattress and gave it to you*". Manohar still had his doubts and was not completely satisfied with the answer.

Once he cleaned the house and gave special attention at cleaning the bed, the mattress and carpet. He was fully convinced that there was not a single coin under the mattress. When Shree Baba Maharaj came and sat on the bed, Manohar intentionally asked for money to buy a banana. As usual Shree Baba Maharaj put his hand below the mattress, took out a coin

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and gave it to Manohar. Manohar was astonished beyond measure.

### Dr. Vasudeo Narayan Chitale's Experience

When Dr. Chitale was a medical student, he stayed in Pune. Very often he went to Shree Baba Maharaj for blessings. After completing the final year exams, he had been to Shree Baba Maharaj to seek his blessings. Shree Baba Maharaj told him to lift the bed mattress and take out a four-anna coin kept under the bed. Dr. Chitale lifted the mattress and was simply taken aback to find all 100 rupee notes spread under the mattress. But he could not find any four-anna coin. When Dr. Chitale informed this to Shree Baba Maharaj, he was again asked to look for the four-anna coin under the mattress. So Dr. Chitale lifted the mattress again and what a great surprise! *All the 100 rupee notes vanished and only one four-anna coin was glittering there!*

Dr. Chitale had one more experience. Shree Baba Maharaj had ordered him to carry on meditation as well as *Namsmaran*<sup>48</sup> at 3.10 a.m. every morning. It was a strange experience of Dr. Chitale that he always woke up exactly at 3.10 a.m. without exception, even under adverse circumstances.

### Yamaraj obeys Shree Baba Maharaj

Shri Kshirasagar was employed in Kesari Newspaper as a Chief Proof Corrector. One day, he got a visionary insight that his mundane existence would end by a particular date. In the same department he had a subordinate Shri Kale who was a great devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj. When Shri Kale came to know about the visionary insight of Shri Kshirasagar, he informed

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<sup>48</sup> Naamsmaran: Internal repetition/ chanting of God's name

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Shree Baba Maharaj about this. Shree Baba Maharaj asked Shri Kale to put a cross mark against the particular date on the calendar.

Shri Kale informed Shri Kshirasagar that the very action of putting a cross mark on the calendar against that particular date by Shree Baba Maharaj meant that Shri Kshirasagar would escape death. But Shri Kshirasagar did not believe this. Hence as per the premonition, on that particular date, he took up a sitting posture and waited for his death with closed eyes. But instead of death he got a marvellous visionary sight, which totally surprised him.

As per that visionary sight, he saw a dialogue going on between Shree Baba Maharaj and *Yamaraj*<sup>49</sup>. He also observed that Shree Baba Maharaj was requesting *Yamaraj* to spare the life of Shri Kshirasagar. There was some argument on this subject and finally, *Yamaraj* with due honour to the request of Shree Baba Maharaj, spared the life of Shri Kshirasagar and went away.

It was a great miracle. By himself experiencing the uncommon divine power of Shree Baba Maharaj, Shri Kshirasagar was highly impressed and became a devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### **Shri Kale cured of Typhoid Fever**

Once Shri Kale, a close devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj fell sick due to typhoid. Even after month and a half, the fever did not recede. Shri Gokhale a devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj, who had come to seek his blessings, told Shree Baba Maharaj that Shri Kale was seriously suffering from typhoid fever and that he might not survive. By hearing these words, Shree Baba

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<sup>49</sup> Yamaraj: God of Death as per Hindu belief.

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Maharaj, along with four to five devotees went to Shri Kale's house.

Shree Baba Maharaj with his divine sight, beheld Shri Kale closely and attentively, then asked him to rub his entire body with *angara*<sup>46</sup>. Further Shree Baba Maharaj told Shri Kale "*Why were you sleeping like a lazy person? Get up and from tomorrow onwards go for work*". So saying Shree Baba Maharaj left. Shri Kale recovered immediately and completely the same day and resumed work, just as Shree Baba Maharaj had instructed him to. This was a great miracle for Shri Kale who just shortly before was on his deathbed.

Indeed Shri Kale was among the fortunate who experienced Shree Baba Maharaj's divine power.

### **The Treasury Always Remained Full**

Shri Bivalkarbua, President of *Shri Samarth Ramdas Seva Mandal*<sup>50</sup>, was collecting funds for the Mandal .

One day he got a message from Shree Baba Maharaj, which said, "*Send me five rupees from your fund*". Shri Bivalkarbua was rather surprised by this message. Even then, as per the message he sent five rupees. After the receipt of five rupees, Shree Baba Maharaj sent a five paise copper coin in return. Nobody could unravel this mystery as to why this five paise coin was sent.

Shri Bivalkarbua was equally surprised, but after careful consideration, he finally credited that five paise copper coin into the treasury of Lord Rama. By doing this it turned out that from that day onwards, the treasury of Lord Rama always remained full. Thus was the grace of Shree Baba Maharaj.

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<sup>50</sup> Seva Mandal: A society for religious service. Mandal : Society.

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## Two hundred year old Samadhi & Nandi

Shri Chandrakant Shankar Bendre, a gentleman, came to Shree Baba Maharaj since 1947, to seek blessings. He was a devotee of Lord Jyotiba<sup>51</sup>. In his mansion<sup>52</sup> there was a two hundred years old Samadhi<sup>53</sup> of an unknown saint from Nathpanth<sup>54</sup>. There was also a Nandi<sup>55</sup> installed on top of the Samadhi.

Once Shree Baba Maharaj along with his devotee Shri Gokhale came to Shri Bendre's house. There Shree Baba Maharaj went around the entire house and finally to the upper story of the building and sat down. Then he spoke to Shri Bendre, "*Henceforth you should give daily ceremonial ablution to the Nandi, installed in your house. That Nandi is none other than myself*".

Later on when Shri Bendre went to Shree Baba Maharaj to take his blessings, he told Shree Baba Maharaj "*Because of Shri Gokhale, you came to my house and honoured me with your blessings*". Shree Baba Maharaj exclaimed "*It was not Shri Gokhale but your Nandi who brought me to your house!*"

## Of Itself the Fig Tree Came Up

Once a gentleman gave Singapore coconut saplings to Shree Baba Maharaj. Shri Bendre was present there at the time. Shree Baba Maharaj gave these saplings to Shri Bendre for planting them in his garden. Shri Bendre asked, "*Should I plant a fig sapling along with these plants?*". Shree Baba Maharaj

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<sup>51</sup> Jyotiba: Another name of Lord Shiva.

<sup>52</sup> Mansion: Large old house

<sup>53</sup> Samadhi: Tomb

<sup>54</sup> Nathpanth: A certain order of a religious sect

<sup>55</sup> Nandi: Nandi is the bull on which Lord Shiva rides

replied, "*Not required. Just plant these coconut saplings for now and the fig sapling will come up spontaneously*".

As per the words of Shree Baba Maharaj, after about five years, the fig sapling came up spontaneously at the same spot where the coconut saplings were planted and later on it had grown into a big tree.

### Shree Baba Maharaj's Horoscope

Shri Shankar Balwant Sarole, a carpenter, went to seek blessings from Shree Baba Maharaj for the first time in 1948. He was surprised to hear Shree Baba Maharaj saying, "*Come Jyotishibua<sup>56</sup>*". Shri Sarole was very amazed, since astrology was his hobby and Shree Baba Maharaj had recognised this fact even though he had met him for the first time.

Then Shree Baba Maharaj gave his horoscope to Shri Sarole. When Shri Sarole concentrated on that horoscope, everything in front of his eyes vanished and he could see only whitish unclouded sky spread everywhere. This condition continued for nearly eight days. After that his eyesight was restored. Then Shree Baba Maharaj gave him permission to pursue astrology.

Once Shree Baba Maharaj asked Shri Sarole "*What items are to be taken during travelling?*" Then Shree Baba Maharaj himself replied, "*a course woollen blanket, one stick, one double pack sack, having its opening in the middle. In addition, we also require Kamadhenu<sup>57</sup>, Kalpataru<sup>58</sup> and a Chintamani<sup>59</sup> along with us*". Shri Sarole asked Shree Baba Maharaj "*Where am I*

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<sup>56</sup> Jotishibua: Astrology. Jyotish: Astrology. Bua: person.

<sup>57</sup> Kamadhenu: A Cow yielding all desires

<sup>58</sup> Kalpataru: A desire yielding tree

<sup>59</sup> Chintamani: A gem yielding anything desired

going for travelling?" But Shree Baba Maharaj did not reply & just kept quiet.

When Shri Sarole returned home, his friend Khadilkar asked him whether he would like to come for a pilgrimage. Then Shri Sarole immediately remembered the conversion he had earlier with Shree Baba Maharaj and was very much surprised.

By considering his friends proposal for pilgrimage, as a blessing of Shree Baba Maharaj, he immediately agreed for the same. Thus he visited holy places, like Akkalkot, Tulajapur, Shirdi, Pandharpur and Kolhapur Maharashtra, and also Ganagapur, Karnatak, without spending a single paisa. Indeed this was one of Shree Baba Maharaj's Divine *Leela*.

### Shri Nana's Daughter cured of sever Illness

Shri Nana Pol, also known as Vishnu Martand, from Kalyan, the son-in-law of Shri Kulgaonkar Joshi, also a devotee of Shree Baba Maharaj, came to seek blessings from Shree Baba Maharaj since 1948.

The 2<sup>1/2</sup> year old daughter of Shri Pol, fell sick and in spite of long treatment from a doctor, could not get well. Ultimately Shri Pol went to Pune and told Shree Baba Maharaj about the severe sickness of his daughter. Shree Baba Maharaj told Shri Pol, "*The sea is the dwelling place of Lord Vishnu who rests on the coil of Sheshshai*<sup>60</sup>. So on Narali Poornima<sup>61</sup> day you should enter the sea water up to knee-deep and perform pooja of the coconut with religious rites and offer the same to Lord Vishnu".

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<sup>60</sup> Sheshshai: The thousand hooded snake

<sup>61</sup> Narali Poornima: Coconut day- falls on full moon day of Shravan month as per Hindu calendar and August month as per English Calendar

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Shri Pol went to Mumbai for the *Narali Poornima* Day, which was due after two days. On that day, Shri Pol went to Chowpaty<sup>62</sup> to perform pooja. He observed that all the Gujarathi Brahmans were busy in performing Pooja for other people and no one was available for him to perform his pooja. But luckily, all of a sudden one Maharashtrian Brahmin appeared there from somewhere and asked Shri Pol as to whether he would like to perform the Pooja ceremony of the coconut. Thus through that Brahmin, Shri Pol performed the Pooja and then went into the knee deep seawater and offered the coconut to the sea after invoking the name of Lord Vishnu, strictly following the instructions of Shree Baba Maharaj.

When Shri Pol returned home, he was very much surprised to find his daughter recovering from the sever illness and from that day onwards she was completely cured by the kind grace of Shree Baba Maharaj.

### Divine Vision of Lord Krishna

Sadguru Shree Kavatakar Vaidya from Pune was a saint as well as a devotee of Lord Krishna. His disciples sometimes came to Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj to pay their obeisance.

Once these disciples were curious to know the exact stage of divineness of Shree Baba Maharaj. Hence these disciples asked their guru Shree Kavatakar. He replied, "*I would personally like to visit Shree Baba Maharaj. Only then, would I speak about his divineness*".

So one day, Shree Kavatakar went to Dhumal building to pay his obeisance to Shree Baba Maharaj. Shree Baba Maharaj was in a sitting posture. Shree Kavatakar's attention was drawn to the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj, where he saw a

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<sup>62</sup> Chowpati: Seabeach at Charni Road, Mumbai

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strange sight. He saw a *blaze of fire emerging from the great toe of Shree Baba Maharaj and within it was seated Lord Krishna glaring with divine splendour.*

Shree Kavatakar was so much impressed with this marvellous sight that from that day onwards with great earnestness he sent his disciples to Shree Baba Maharaj to seek blessings.

### Bottle Of Cod Liver Oil

Shri Dattatreya Yashwant Athavale alias Appa, was an Inter science student of S.P.Collage, Pune. He always came to Shree Baba Maharaj to pay his obeisance. Before the result of the Inter science was announced, Appa came to Shree Baba Maharaj for guidance.

Appa needed guidance in selecting the branch of science for future studies after completing Inter science. He was confident of scoring first class in the exams. Without replying to his question, Shree Baba Maharaj asked Appa to close all the doors, windows of the room and sweep the room cleanly and collect all the money (*Currency Notes and coins*) available in the room. After cleaning the room as per instructions, Appa gathered together nearly three thousand five hundred rupees and gave them to Shree Baba Maharaj. It took him nearly two hours to clean the room.

Shree Baba Maharaj said, "*You are nearly tired. Take this ten rupee note, go to the chemist shop and bring a cod liver oil bottle*". Accordingly, Appa bought one cod liver oil bottle from the chemist. Shree Baba Maharaj then asked Appa to press his nose and drink the entire bottle of cod liver oil. Since Appa had utmost faith in Shree Baba Maharaj, he drank the entire bottle of cod liver oil in one breath. Then Shree Baba Maharaj asked him to go home and sleep without eating anything. He was

also told not to vomit on his way home. But Appa started feeling uneasy and hence went to his family doctor instead.

Dr. Bendre listened to all the details and became very angry. He took Appa to Shree Baba Maharaj. Shree Baba Maharaj said, "*Appa drank the entire bottle of cod liver oil on his own accord*". During this conversation, a thought of giving him medicine and inducing the vomiting to empty the stomach crossed Dr Bendre's mind. Just then, Shree Baba Maharaj exclaimed, "*Don't give him any medicine for vomiting. Otherwise it would become your sole responsibility*". After hearing these words of Shree Baba Maharaj, the doctor became helpless and without any alternative, he took Appa home. Appa quietly slept without eating anything.

In the morning he became very fresh and vigorous. When Appa told Shree Baba Maharaj about this, Shree Baba Maharaj said, "*Excellent! You understood the effect of medicine. Now you can certainly become a doctor*".

And true to the words of Shree Baba Maharaj, Appa became a doctor in his later life. Indeed it was a marvellous way of giving guidance!

### Experienced Visionary Effulgence

Shri Narayan Raghunath Phadke, a deputy engineer regularly visited Shree Baba Maharaj to pay obeisance.

Once Shri Phadke got a strong desire for experiencing visionary effulgence and he had come to know that once Shree Baba Maharaj had undertaken the spiritual austerity involving staring at the Sun continuously for twenty-one days as part of his *sadhana*<sup>63</sup>. This even included the afternoon sun. Shri Phadke

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<sup>63</sup> Sadhana: Spiritual practice

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also thought of carrying out a similar feat so as to experience the visionary effulgence, as Shree Baba Maharaj had done before.

So next day when he went to Shree Baba Maharaj to seek blessings, Shree Baba Maharaj told him "*By staring at the sun if you lose your eyesight, I would not be responsible*". Shri Phadke took the hint and gave up his idea to stare at the sun.

By the grace of Shree Baba Maharaj, after a few days Shri Phadke could experience a mild visionary effulgent disc floating in front of his eyes. Due to this Shri Phadke was practically unable to do any other work or think anything else. This problem became so intolerable that one day Shri Phadke mentally surrendered to Shree Baba Maharaj and prayed for liberation from the mental discomfort due to this visionary effulgence. That night he cried and then went to sleep. From that day onwards the visionary effulgence, not easily obtainable, but that which Shri Phadke could experience easily disappeared totally.

### Automatic Admonition of The Tailor

A tailor was staying on the ground floor of Dhumal building, where Shree Baba Maharaj stayed.

While going in and out of the building this tailor ridiculed Shree Baba Maharaj calling him *Dherpotya*<sup>64</sup>. Shree Baba Maharaj never paid any attention to this sort of mischief. But one devotee Shri Datar was very much annoyed by this mischievous nature of the tailor and he displayed his anger in front of Shree Baba Maharaj. By seeing the uneasiness of his devotee, Shree Baba Maharaj ultimately decided to teach a lesson to that mischievous tailor.

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<sup>64</sup> Dherpotya: Pot bellied.

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So, one day, Shree Baba Maharaj asked Shri Datar to call the tailor to take his coat measurements. Accordingly the tailor came there, and started taking Shree Baba Maharaj's measurements. He took measurements of his hand, neck, shoulder, and then started measuring Shree Baba Maharaj's chest. Shree Baba Maharaj expanded his chest to such an extent that the measuring tape, five feet in length, fell short. The tailor was simply stunned. Then came the turn of the stomach. The tailor told Shree Baba Maharaj to reduce the size of his stomach slightly to take measurements. Shree Baba Maharaj replied, "*How can I reduce the stomach size, as it comprises the whole Universe?*" and looking at the tailor started laughing loudly.

The mischievous tailor was so terrified with this that he started sweating and immediately fell down at the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj praying for forgiveness of his offence.

From that day onwards, the tailor completely gave up his mischievous nature and developed great reverence for Shree Baba Maharaj.

### Escape From Cobra

Shri Ganesh Shankar Godse, an employee of Telephone Department came to Pune from Mumbai to seek blessings from Shree Baba Maharaj.

Once Shri Godse was deputed to Jabalpur for Departmental training. One night he had gone out for a walk with his friend. On the way they stopped short near a rivulet after hearing the growling of cats. At that time Shri Godse was smoking a cigarette. While moving the hand, holding the cigarette, he saw two glittering eyes in the dim light of the cigarette. Holding his breath, Shi Godse observed that a dreadful cobra was standing right in front of him with its hood spread out and angrily staring at him. Panicked out of their wits, Shri Godse

and his friend wanted to flee but could not lift their feet. Their feet felt heavy. It was then that they realized that unfortunately they were standing on the same cobra until now!

Shri Godse earnestly started chanting the name of his Sadguru Shree Baba Maharaj for help. With the grace of his Sadguru, Shri Godse and his friend could finally lift their feet away from the cobra. The cobra was freed and immediately crawled into the nearby bush. Shri Godse was fully convinced the he was saved from the cobra by the grace of Shree Baba Maharaj.

A month after this incident Shri Godse went to Pune to seek blessings from Shree Baba Maharaj. As soon as he stepped into the room, Shree Baba Maharaj started shouting loudly at Shri Godse *"Have you become so much arrogant so as to step on a serpent and trample the same under the feet? Are you not ashamed of this? Why should the serpent not bite you for trampling it under your feet?"* Shri Godse felt very much ashamed for this act and fell at the feet of Shree Baba Maharaj, for saving his life.

Shri Godse also had one more experience of his Sadguru giving protection even after Mahasamadhi. His daughter fell down the staircase from a height of 25-30' ft while playing. Both her thighbones were broken and her head was also injured. She was admitted to KEM Hospital, Mumbai for treatment. It was a great surprise to Shri Godse that his daughter was completely cured without any long-term injury and defect.

When his daughter came home, she told her parents *"When I was in hospital, an old man came and sat near me everyday. He used to move his hand on my body and legs giving me all the encouragement that I would fully recover from the accident and after that he left."*

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Shri Godse and his family never saw this old man. But he was sure, beyond any doubts, that it was none other than Shree Baba Maharaj.

### Secured the Promotion deemed Impossible

One evening there was a Kirtan<sup>65</sup> in the house of Shri Annasaheb Gupte, the disciple of Shree Beedkar Maharaj. Shri Gupte was also a trustee of Shree Beedkar Maharaj *Muth*<sup>4</sup>.

Shri Mahadeo Shivaram Sonalkar, the nephew of Shri Gupte was also attending the Kirtan. By the time the Kirtan was over it was very late at night. Since Shri Sonalkar had no means of conveyance to reach his residence in the Railway quarters at night Shri Gupte gave him a ride in his car. They first went to the Temple shrine of Shree Beedkar Maharaj and then to Shree Baba Maharaj. They paid obeisance to Shree Baba Maharaj and sat down. Shree Baba Maharaj asked Shri Sonalkar, his name, address and noted it down in his diary. When Shri Gupte informed Shree Baba Maharaj that Shri Sonalkar was his nephew and worked for the Railways as a Permanent Way Inspector, Shree Baba Maharaj asked Shri Sonalkar about the next post of promotion. He replied, "*Since I have already reached the maximum pay scale, there is no possibility of getting a promotion.*" Even then Shree Baba Maharaj forced Shri Sonalkar to tell him about the next level of promotion. Then Shri Sonalkar replied "*It is the Gazetted post of a Resident Engineer*". Shree Baba Maharaj noted this information in his diary in front of the name of Shri Sonalkar.

Five years after this incident, the Railway department prepared a list, unexpectedly, for promotions in the department, considering the criterion of all aspects of fitness. Eleven people were selected for promotion. In this merit list, Shri Sonalkar's

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<sup>65</sup> Kirtan: Narration of topic punctuated by music

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name was the foremost among the eleven. In spite of the hurdles in the medical examination, Shri Sonalkar was selected for promotion by the kind grace of Shree Baba Maharaj.

This was a great surprise for Shri Sonalkar since he had never dreamt about this sudden promotion, deemed impossible.

### House Construction Wish Fulfilled

Shri Babasaheb Thosar, was a congress worker in Pune. He had a plot of land at Karjat, Maharashtra. Shri Thosar wanted to construct his own house on that plot. He became restless due to shortage of funds. When he went to Shree Baba Maharaj for blessings, he expressed about his strong desire for constructing a house on his plot at Karjat. He also told him about his weak financial position. Shree Baba Maharaj listened carefully to all that Shri Thosar had to say and then fully assured him that his wish would get fulfilled.

After this, Shri Thosar went to Karjat. At Karjat he dreamt that he was directed to go to Neral and meet the moneylender Shri Sugavekar. Shri Thosar thought about this dream for two days. On third day after the morning rituals he went to meet Shri Sugavekar at Neral with confidence and courage. Shri Sugavekar welcomed him with great pleasure and said, "*I was waiting for you since two days. I have kept aside twelve thousand rupees for you. Please take this interest free loan and return the same whenever its possible for you*".

Shri Thosar was highly surprised and mentally prayed to Shree Baba Maharaj for this miracle. By the grace of Shree Baba Maharaj, Shri Thosar not only could complete the construction of his house but also managed to return the loan in due time.

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### The Tonga stopped forcibly on the way

Shree Mukundrao Pandurang Moghe, from Indore, Madhya Pradesh, and Shree Baba Maharaj, were co-students of Shree Ramanand Beedkar Maharaj. Shree Moghe was highly advanced spiritually. Once Shree Moghe had come to Pune and was going to the temple shrine of Shree Beedkar Maharaj in a *tonga*<sup>66</sup>. The *tonga* was passing from the front of Dhumal building where Shree Baba Maharaj resided. When the *tonga* approached Dhumal building, the horses stopped short all of a sudden, of their own accord.

The horses were not ready to go ahead in spite of the severe whipping by the *tongawallah*<sup>67</sup> and did not even move an inch forward. When Shree Moghe noticed this, he understood the reason and told the *tongawalla* to wait. He then got down, went up the Dhumal building and entered the room of Shree Baba Maharaj. He saw that Shree Baba Maharaj was sitting on a bed and laughing. Shree Moghe paid his obeisance to him, went down within two minutes and sat in the *tonga*. As soon as he sat in the *tonga*, the horses started moving willingly. Secretly in his mind Shree Moghe expressed surprise and mentally offered his reverence to Shree Baba Maharaj for this miraculous play.

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<sup>66</sup> Tonga: Horse Carraige

<sup>67</sup> Tongawallah : The driver of the horse carriage.



### **Part III**

*Pictures and Illustrations ...*

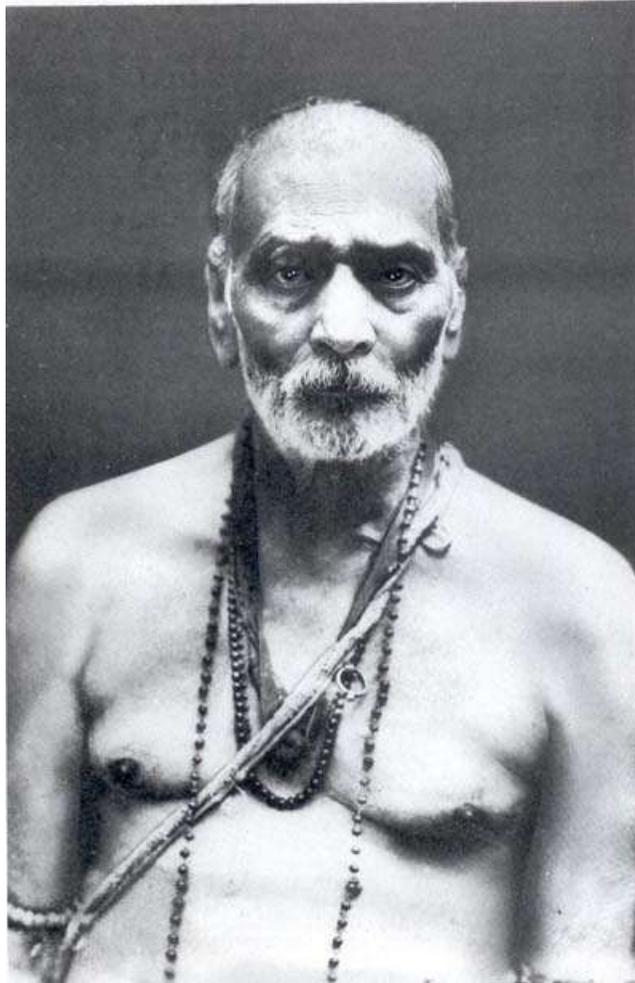
*Pictures of:  
Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj,  
the Swaroop Sampradaya,  
Jayanti Utsav  
& more ...*

**Pictures and illustrations**

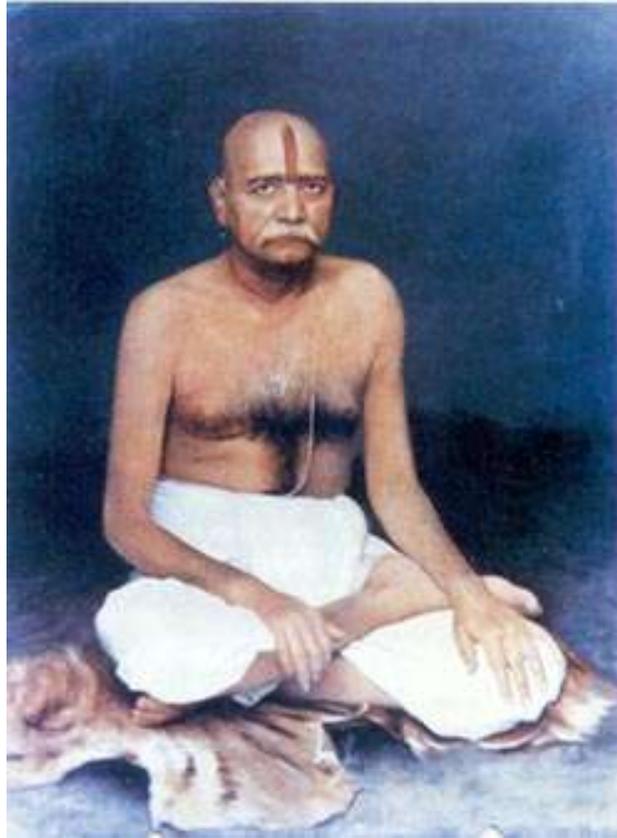


Shree Baba Maharaj with his wife Smt. Durgatai and their daughter sitting with her.

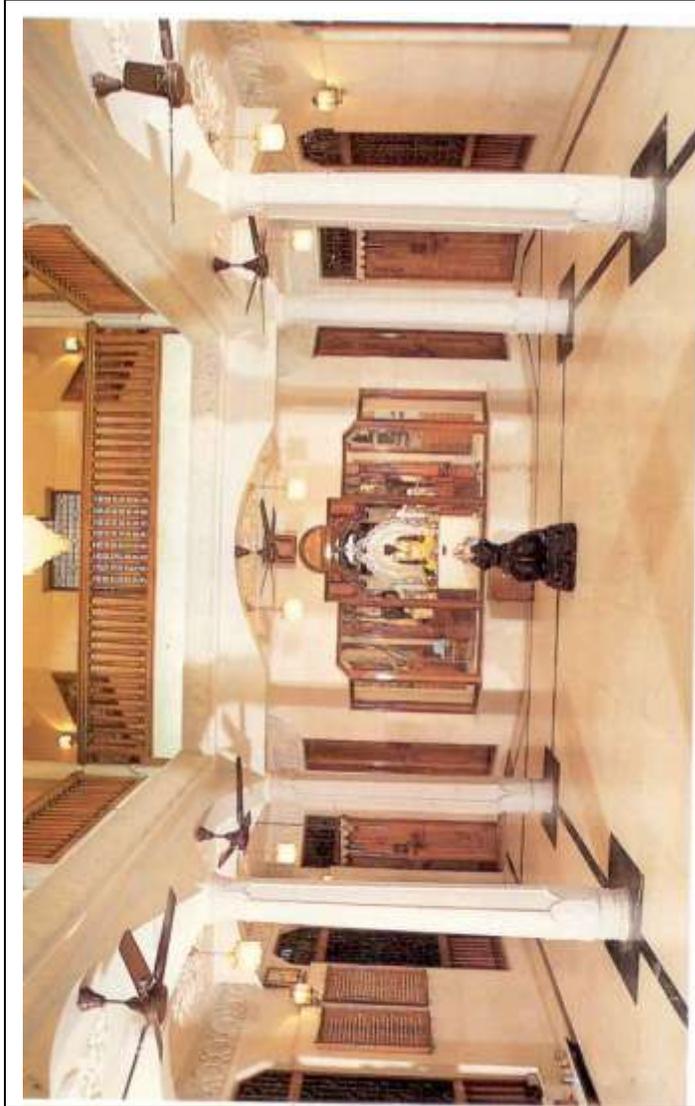




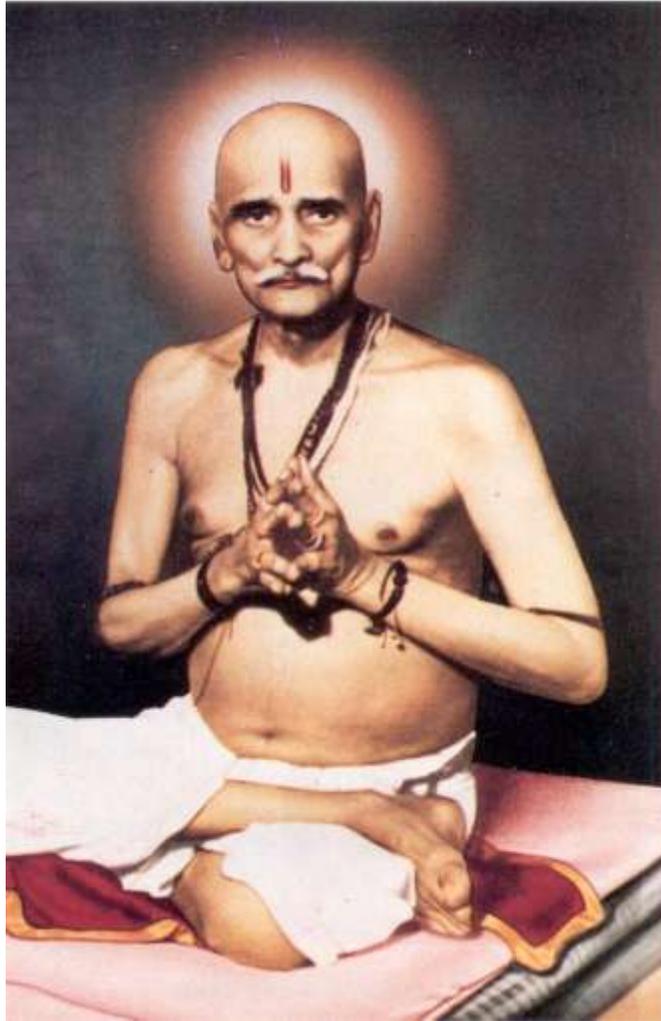
Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj



Shree Sadguru Beedkar Maharaj, the youngest and the most ardent disciple of Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth and the Preceptor of Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj



**Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj Samadhi Mandir, Pune**



Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj



Shree Sadguru Digambardas Maharaj, *Satshishya* of Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj Sahasrabuddhe.



श्रीदिगंबरदास महाराजांनी बांधलेले  
श्रीबाबामहाराजांचे समाधिमंदिर (पुणे)



Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj Sahasrabuddhe Samadhi Mandir, Pune  
Constructed by his Satshishya Shree Sadguru Digambar Das Maharaj



The Palkhi Utsav during Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj Jayanti celebration, at Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj Samadhi Mandir, Pune



## **Swaroop Sampradaya**

Bhagwan Dattatreya



Akkalkot Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth



Shree Ramanand Beedkar Maharaj

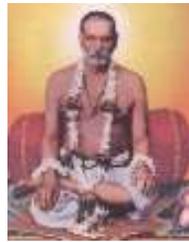


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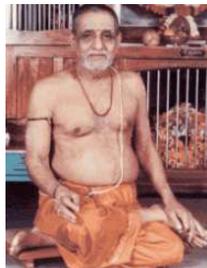
*(Swaroop Sampradaya Continued)*

(Shree Beedkar Maharaj)

Shree Sadguru Raosaheb Sahasrabuddhe



Shree Sadguru Digambardas Maharaj



Shree Sadguru Kaka Maharaj (Shri Ashok Raghunath Joshi)



*(Current Successor)*

## Glossary

|    |                    |  |
|----|--------------------|--|
| 1  | Swaroop Sampradaya | A sect, wherein the aspirant concentrates on viewing the 'Atman' – the soul  |
| 2  | Shaktipat          | Ancient method of awakening and activating the <i>Kundalini</i> energy in the shortest possible time.              |
| 3  | Videhi             | Disembodied State  |
| 4  | Muth               | Hermitage (Temple Shrine)  |
| 5  | Tapasya            | Penance  |
| 6  | Satya Yuga         | The rule based on religion and justice   |
| 7  | Nirguna Parabrahma | The Infinite, formless Supreme Lord  |
| 8  | Sadguru            | Preceptor  |
| 9  | Samadhi Mandir     | A temple-shrine dedicated to a Saint after he leaves his body  |
| 10 | Kartik Poornima    | Also known as, Tripuri Poornima. Full moon day of the Kartik month in the year 1805 as per Hindu Calendar.         |
| 11 | Yogi               | Ascetic  |
| 12 | Rudraksh           | A berry of a sacred tree ( tree sacred to Lord Shiva )   |
| 13 | Siddhis            | Spiritual accomplishments and Divine powers  |
| 14 | Peon               | Administrative assistant   |
| 15 | Saheb              | Boss. Appended to the name of a respected person, as a mark of respect, in Indian society.                         |
| 16 | Bhakti             | Unflinching Faith or Devotion  |
| 17 | Chiplya            | A pair of sticks used by devotees to clap together   |
| 18 | Ektari             | One stringed musical instrument  |
| 19 | Omkareshwar        | One of the names of Lord Shiva   |
| 20 | Remgeeta           | Book on Lord Rama  |
| 21 | Leela              | Divine game plan.  |
| 22 | Kashi-Vishveshwara | Another name of Lord Shiva   |
| 23 | Guruji             | Teacher  |
| 24 | Hanuman            | Monkey god. Lord Rama's true devotee. Regarded as a symbol true devotion.  |
| 25 | Gotra              | Family lineage   |
| 26 | Kirtankar Bua      | The narrator of a topic about Hanuman punctuated by Music. Could be narration of any spiritual topic. Bua = Person |
| 27 | Dakshina           | Money granted to a Brahman for religious service   |
| 28 | Hoe                | A garden tool  |
| 29 | Dhotee             | The traditional Indian cotton garment of males worn around the waist passing under and tucked behind.              |
| 30 | Laddus             | Sweet balls  |
| 31 | Kartik Poornima    | Full moon day of Kartik month i.e. 8th month as per  |

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|    |                       |  |
|----|-----------------------|--|
|    |                       | Hindu calendar and November or December as per English calendar  |
| 32 | Unmani Avastha        | Divine contemplation   |
| 33 | Guru                  | Spiritual Preceptor  |
| 34 | Vedmurthy             | A learned Brahman  |
| 35 | Agnihotri             | A Brahman who maintains sacred fire  |
| 36 | Arani-Mantha          | Wooden piece used for kindling fire by rubbing against another instrument Arani  |
| 37 | Jnana Vairagya        | Knowledge of all spiritual and religious kind which teaches man the divine origin, as well as, the nature of his immaterial portion, including the unreality of corporal enjoyments, sufferings. It also sanctifies him during life, from earthly attachments, fleshy affections, and accomplishes for him after death, emancipation from individual existence accompanied by the reunion with universal spirit and finally with the renunciation of all sensuous gratification. |
| 38 | Satshishya            | True disciple  |
| 39 | Ashadh month          | Month of July as per English calendar  |
| 40 | Shodashopchar worship | Sixteen ways of paying homage to a deity   |
| 41 | Jalasadhi             | Ending bodily existence by drowning in water   |
| 42 | Mahasamadhi           | The Last conscious communion with God  |
| 43 | Exorcist              | One who expels evil spirit by invocation   |
| 44 | Hurda                 | Parched corn of tender pods  |
| 45 | Padmasan              | Lotus position   |
| 46 | Angara                | Sacred ashes recovered from the incense burnt before the deity or Sadguru  |
| 47 | Brahma                | The Divine substance   |
| 48 | Naamsmaran            | Internal repetition/ chanting of God's name  |
| 49 | Yamaraj               | God of Death as per Hindu belief.  |
| 50 | Seva Mandal           | A society for religious service. Mandal = Society.   |
| 51 | Jyotiba               | Another name of Lord Shiva.  |
| 52 | Mansion               | Large old house  |
| 53 | Samadhi               | Tomb   |
| 54 | Nathpant              | A certain order of a religious sect  |
| 55 | Nandi                 | Nandi is the bull on which Lord Shiva rides  |
| 56 | Jotishibua            | Astrologer. Jyotish = Astrology.<br>Bua = person.  |
| 57 | Kamadhenu             | A Cow yielding all desires   |
| 58 | Kalpataru             | A desire yielding tree   |
| 59 | Chintamani            | A gem yielding anything desired  |
| 60 | Sheshshai             | The thousand hooded snake  |
| 61 | Narali Poornima       | Coconut day- falls on full moon day of Shravan month as per Hindu calendar and August month as per English Calendar  |
| 62 | Chowpati              | Sea beach at Charni Road, Mumbai   |

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|    |             |  |
|----|-------------|--|
| 63 | Sadhana     | Spiritual Practice                     |
| 64 | Dherpotya   | Pot bellied.                           |
| 65 | Kirtan      | Narration of topic punctuated by music |
| 66 | Tonga       | Horse Carriage                         |
| 67 | Tongawallah | The driver of the horse carriage.      |

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## **Temple Information**

### **Shree Sadguru Baba Maharaj Sahasrabuddhe Samadhi Mandir & Shree Sadguru Digambardas Maharaj Samadhi Mandir**

937 / D, Chatushrunji Road,  
Near Dnyaneshwar Paduka Chowk, Shivajinagar,  
PUNE  
Pin Code : 411 016.  
Maharashtra State  
INDIA  
Phone : 0202-5655021  
Timings : 06.30 A.M. to 11.00 A.M. and 03.30 P.M. to 06.00  
P.M. (IST)

### **Akkalkot-Niwasi Shree Swami Samarth Mandir**

Shree Swami Samarth Nagar,  
Off Four Bungalows, Andheri (West),  
MUMBAI  
Pin Code : 400 053  
Maharashtra State  
INDIA  
Phone : 022 - 2633 30 30  
Timings : 06.00 A.M. to 11.00 A.M. and 04.00 P.M. to 09.00  
P.M. (IST).

### **Shri Shiv-Samarth Gad and Temple Campus**

Shri Kshetra Dervan, Tal.

Chiplun, Dist. RATNAGIRI

Pin Code : 415 606

Maharashtra State

INDIA

Phone : 02355-634049

Timings :

Gad - 08.00 A.M. to 06.00 P.M. (IST)

Temples - 08.00 A.M. to 12.00 Noon and 02.00 P.M. to 06.00

P.M. (IST) Shri Kshetra Dervan - located on Durgawadi road, 3  
kms. from Savarde.

Savarde - a village on Mumbai - Goa highway, 16 Kms. from  
Chiplun

