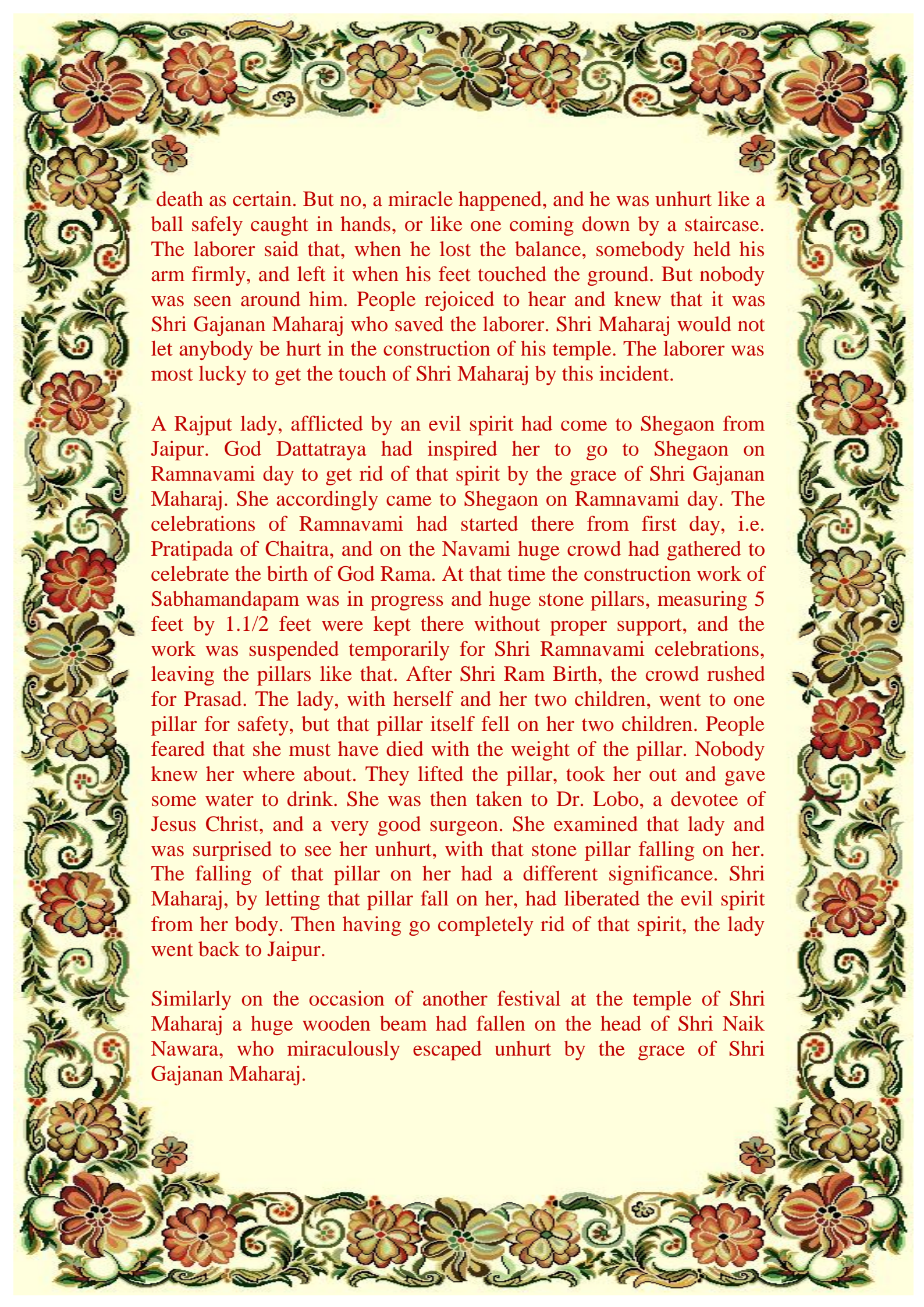


## \* CHAPTER TWENTY ONE \*



Shri Ganeshay Namaha ! O Anantvesha Jai to you. O Avinasha Jai to you. Brahmandadhisha I bow before you. O God ! remember that you always call yourself as 'Patit-Pavan' i. e. saviour of the fallen. You really have more affection for the sinners, and O graceful one, it is they who have brought importance to you. So, kindly don't look at my sins. Dirty clothes come to water for getting clean. O God, so don't ignore the fallen. Has the earth ever discarded the thorny plant ? You are the Savior of both, the sinners and the righteous, and still away from their touch. The sun needs no efforts to destroy the darkness. Sun's only arrival vanishes the darkness. The conceptions sin and righteousness are your creations, and you create sinners also to maintain your greatness. Whatever it may be. I have to request you to free me from all worries by your blessings. O Panduranga, you are all powerful, and I have nobody else to support me other than you.

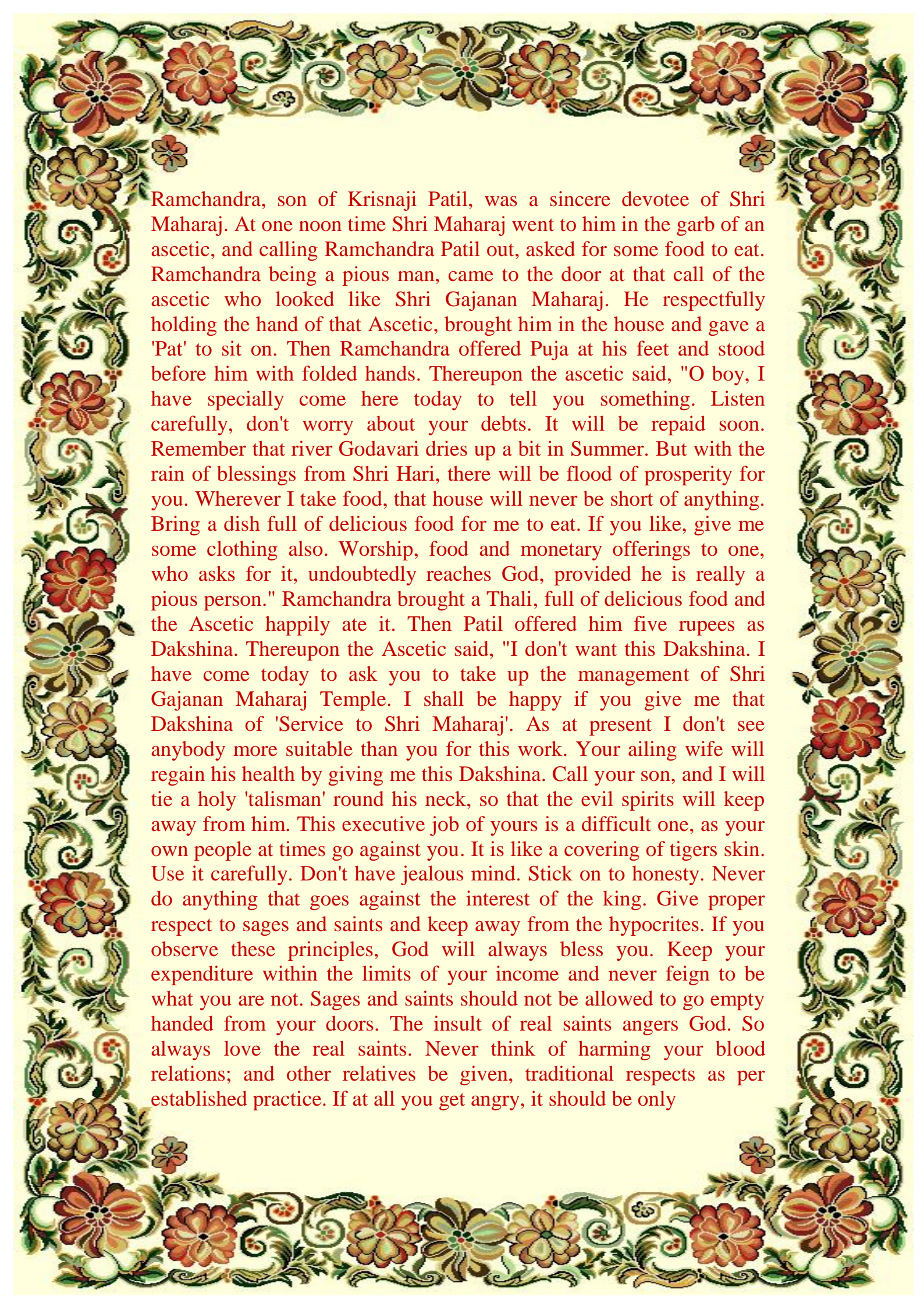
O devotees, now listen to this climax chapter. You are really most fortunate to hear this biography of a great saint. Those who have full faith in Shri Gajanan Maharaj, are saved from all the pain and miseries of life. While building the temple, there was one laborer working at the top with the mason. As he was passing stones to the mason, he lost the balance and fell down from the height of 30 feet down on a heap of stones. People saw him falling and presumed his




death as certain. But no, a miracle happened, and he was unhurt like a ball safely caught in hands, or like one coming down by a staircase. The laborer said that, when he lost the balance, somebody held his arm firmly, and left it when his feet touched the ground. But nobody was seen around him. People rejoiced to hear and knew that it was Shri Gajanan Maharaj who saved the laborer. Shri Maharaj would not let anybody be hurt in the construction of his temple. The laborer was most lucky to get the touch of Shri Maharaj by this incident.

A Rajput lady, afflicted by an evil spirit had come to Shegaon from Jaipur. God Dattatraya had inspired her to go to Shegaon on Ramnavami day to get rid of that spirit by the grace of Shri Gajanan Maharaj. She accordingly came to Shegaon on Ramnavami day. The celebrations of Ramnavami had started there from first day, i.e. Pratipada of Chaitra, and on the Navami huge crowd had gathered to celebrate the birth of God Rama. At that time the construction work of Sabhamandapam was in progress and huge stone pillars, measuring 5 feet by 1.1/2 feet were kept there without proper support, and the work was suspended temporarily for Shri Ramnavami celebrations, leaving the pillars like that. After Shri Ram Birth, the crowd rushed for Prasad. The lady, with herself and her two children, went to one pillar for safety, but that pillar itself fell on her two children. People feared that she must have died with the weight of the pillar. Nobody knew her where about. They lifted the pillar, took her out and gave some water to drink. She was then taken to Dr. Lobo, a devotee of Jesus Christ, and a very good surgeon. She examined that lady and was surprised to see her unhurt, with that stone pillar falling on her. The falling of that pillar on her had a different significance. Shri Maharaj, by letting that pillar fall on her, had liberated the evil spirit from her body. Then having go completely rid of that spirit, the lady went back to Jaipur.

Similarly on the occasion of another festival at the temple of Shri Maharaj a huge wooden beam had fallen on the head of Shri Naik Nawara, who miraculously escaped unhurt by the grace of Shri Gajanan Maharaj.



Ramchandra, son of Krisnaji Patil, was a sincere devotee of Shri Maharaj. At one noon time Shri Maharaj went to him in the garb of an ascetic, and calling Ramchandra Patil out, asked for some food to eat. Ramchandra being a pious man, came to the door at that call of the ascetic who looked like Shri Gajanan Maharaj. He respectfully holding the hand of that Ascetic, brought him in the house and gave a 'Pat' to sit on. Then Ramchandra offered Puja at his feet and stood before him with folded hands. Thereupon the ascetic said, "O boy, I have specially come here today to tell you something. Listen carefully, don't worry about your debts. It will be repaid soon. Remember that river Godavari dries up a bit in Summer. But with the rain of blessings from Shri Hari, there will be flood of prosperity for you. Wherever I take food, that house will never be short of anything. Bring a dish full of delicious food for me to eat. If you like, give me some clothing also. Worship, food and monetary offerings to one, who asks for it, undoubtedly reaches God, provided he is really a pious person." Ramchandra brought a Thali, full of delicious food and the Ascetic happily ate it. Then Patil offered him five rupees as Dakshina. Thereupon the Ascetic said, "I don't want this Dakshina. I have come today to ask you to take up the management of Shri Gajanan Maharaj Temple. I shall be happy if you give me that Dakshina of 'Service to Shri Maharaj'. As at present I don't see anybody more suitable than you for this work. Your ailing wife will regain his health by giving me this Dakshina. Call your son, and I will tie a holy 'talisman' round his neck, so that the evil spirits will keep away from him. This executive job of yours is a difficult one, as your own people at times go against you. It is like a covering of tigers skin. Use it carefully. Don't have jealous mind. Stick on to honesty. Never do anything that goes against the interest of the king. Give proper respect to sages and saints and keep away from the hypocrites. If you observe these principles, God will always bless you. Keep your expenditure within the limits of your income and never feign to be what you are not. Sages and saints should not be allowed to go empty handed from your doors. The insult of real saints angers God. So always love the real saints. Never think of harming your blood relations; and other relatives be given, traditional respects as per established practice. If at all you get angry, it should be only



superficial, with full love inside like a jack fruit. Remember, that I am always with you." After tying the talisman round his neck, the ascetic went out and suddenly disappeared.

Patil thought over the happening whole day and came to conclusion that the ascetic was none other than Shri Gajanan Maharaj himself, who had come in the garb of an ascetic to advise him. Same night Shri Maharaj appeared in his dream and removed all the doubts. Shri Gajanan Maharaj has great attachment for his devotees.

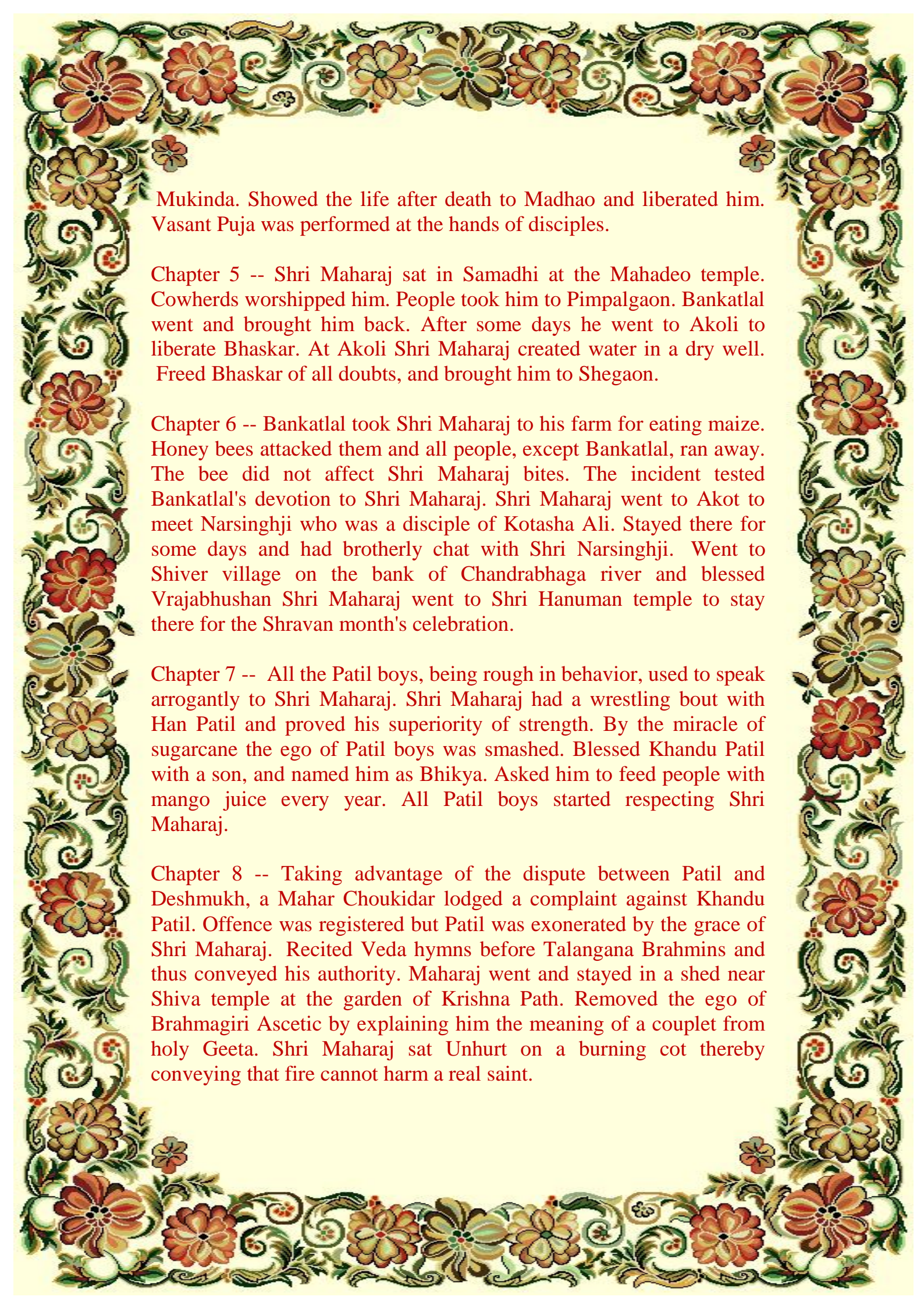
The biography of Shri Maharaj is most pious and a savior for the humanity. But it requires unshakable faith to experience it. Now, without wasting anytime, I give below brief summary of all the chapters of this holy book. Be attentive to it.

Chapter 1 -- Starts with obeisance to Lord Ganesh, then to Gods and Guru; and narrates the life style of Shri Gajanan. He first appeared and was seen on Magh Vadya Saptami day near the house of Devidas. Bankatlal and Damodar, the two wise persons, recognized the greatness in Him.

Chapter 2 -- Shri Maharaj went to the Kirtan of Govindbhua showed miracle to Pitambar Shimpi and at last went to the house of Bankatlal.

Chapter 3 -- An ascetic made a vow to offer "Ganja" to Shri Maharaj. His desire was fulfilled and since then Shri Maharaj started smoking Ganja at Shegaon. Holy water touched by the feel of Shri Maharaj saved the life of Janrao Deshmukh. Explained the classification - types of deaths. Gave a beating to Vithoba for his hypocrisy.

Chapter 4 -- Jankiram did not give the burning coal required for the pipe of Shri Maharaj. As a result, the curry prepared at his place for feeding people got infected with insects and therefore, all the food was wasted. Jankiram, with folded hands, surrendered and begged for pardon. Shri Maharaj pardoned him and the insects in the curry disappeared. Since then Jankiram became a sincere devotee of Shri Maharaj. Shri Maharaj asked for two stale 'Kanholes' from Chandu



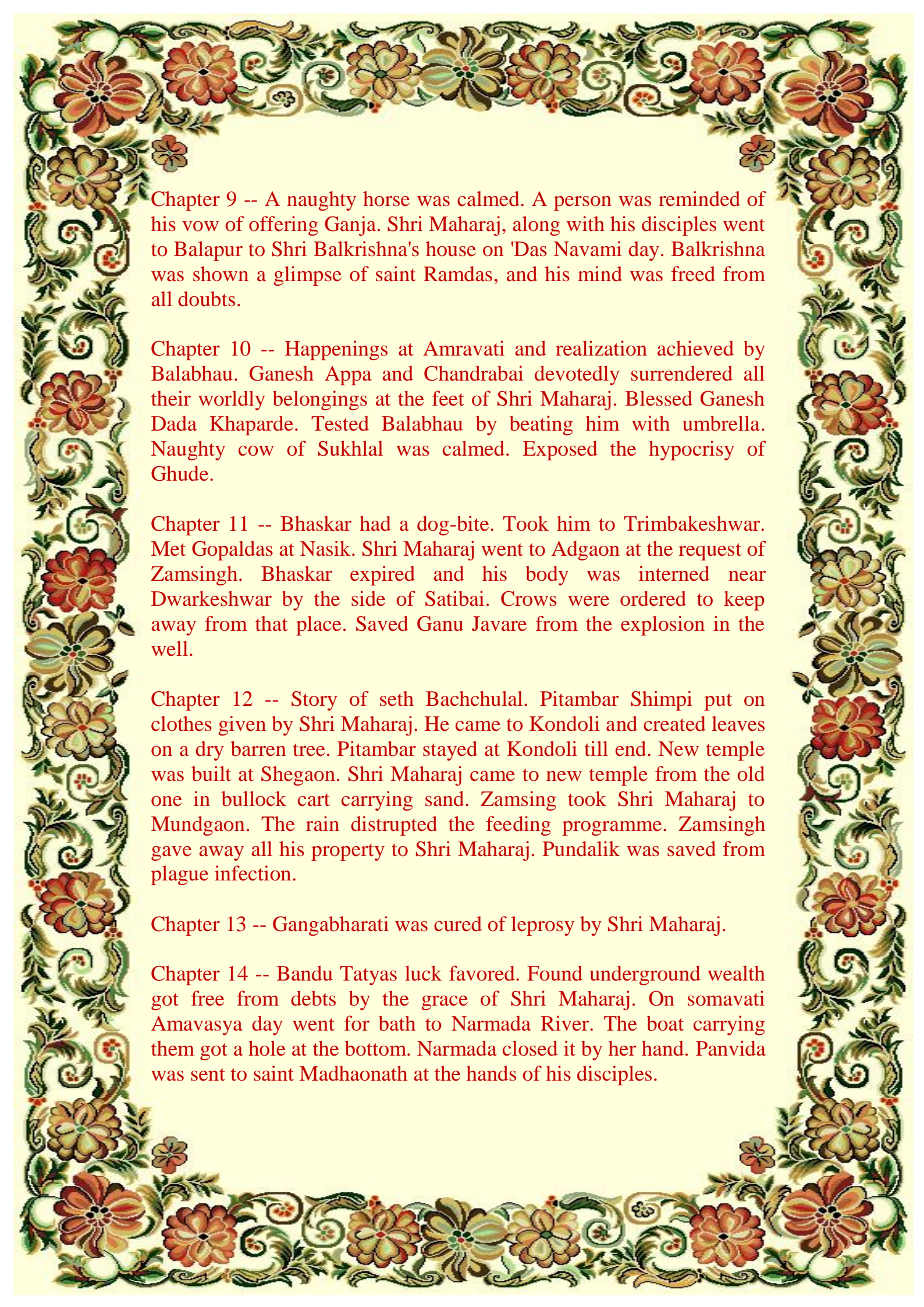
Mukinda. Showed the life after death to Madhao and liberated him. Vasant Puja was performed at the hands of disciples.

Chapter 5 -- Shri Maharaj sat in Samadhi at the Mahadeo temple. Cowherds worshipped him. People took him to Pimpalgaon. Bankatlal went and brought him back. After some days he went to Akoli to liberate Bhaskar. At Akoli Shri Maharaj created water in a dry well. Freed Bhaskar of all doubts, and brought him to Shegaon.

Chapter 6 -- Bankatlal took Shri Maharaj to his farm for eating maize. Honey bees attacked them and all people, except Bankatlal, ran away. The bee did not affect Shri Maharaj bites. The incident tested Bankatlal's devotion to Shri Maharaj. Shri Maharaj went to Akot to meet Narsinghji who was a disciple of Kotasha Ali. Stayed there for some days and had brotherly chat with Shri Narsinghji. Went to Shiver village on the bank of Chandrabhaga river and blessed Vrajabhushan Shri Maharaj went to Shri Hanuman temple to stay there for the Shravan month's celebration.

Chapter 7 -- All the Patil boys, being rough in behavior, used to speak arrogantly to Shri Maharaj. Shri Maharaj had a wrestling bout with Han Patil and proved his superiority of strength. By the miracle of sugarcane the ego of Patil boys was smashed. Blessed Khandu Patil with a son, and named him as Bhikya. Asked him to feed people with mango juice every year. All Patil boys started respecting Shri Maharaj.

Chapter 8 -- Taking advantage of the dispute between Patil and Deshmukh, a Mahar Choukidar lodged a complaint against Khandu Patil. Offence was registered but Patil was exonerated by the grace of Shri Maharaj. Recited Veda hymns before Talangana Brahmins and thus conveyed his authority. Maharaj went and stayed in a shed near Shiva temple at the garden of Krishna Path. Removed the ego of Brahmagiri Ascetic by explaining him the meaning of a couplet from holy Geeta. Shri Maharaj sat Unhurt on a burning cot thereby conveying that fire cannot harm a real saint.



Chapter 9 -- A naughty horse was calmed. A person was reminded of his vow of offering Ganja. Shri Maharaj, along with his disciples went to Balapur to Shri Balkrishna's house on 'Das Navami day. Balkrishna was shown a glimpse of saint Ramdas, and his mind was freed from all doubts.

Chapter 10 -- Happenings at Amravati and realization achieved by Balabhau. Ganesh Appa and Chandrabai devotedly surrendered all their worldly belongings at the feet of Shri Maharaj. Blessed Ganesh Dada Khaparde. Tested Balabhau by beating him with umbrella. Naughty cow of Sukhlal was calmed. Exposed the hypocrisy of Ghude.

Chapter 11 -- Bhaskar had a dog-bite. Took him to Trimbakeshwar. Met Gopaldas at Nasik. Shri Maharaj went to Adgaon at the request of Zamsingh. Bhaskar expired and his body was interned near Dwarkeshwar by the side of Satibai. Crows were ordered to keep away from that place. Saved Ganu Javare from the explosion in the well.

Chapter 12 -- Story of seth Bachchulal. Pitambar Shimpi put on clothes given by Shri Maharaj. He came to Kondoli and created leaves on a dry barren tree. Pitambar stayed at Kondoli till end. New temple was built at Shegaon. Shri Maharaj came to new temple from the old one in bullock cart carrying sand. Zamsing took Shri Maharaj to Mundgaon. The rain disrupted the feeding programme. Zamsingh gave away all his property to Shri Maharaj. Pundalik was saved from plague infection.

Chapter 13 -- Gangabharati was cured of leprosy by Shri Maharaj.

Chapter 14 -- Bandu Tatyas luck favored. Found underground wealth got free from debts by the grace of Shri Maharaj. On somavati Amavasya day went for bath to Narmada River. The boat carrying them got a hole at the bottom. Narmada closed it by her hand. Panvida was sent to saint Madhaonath at the hands of his disciples.



Chapter 15 -- Tilak came to Akola for Shiva Jayanti. Bhakari, as prasad, was sent to Tilak. Shridar Kale was not allowed to go abroad.

Chapter 16 -- Pundalik was restrained from going Anjangaon. Sent Padukas to Pundaik with Zamsingh. Enjoyed the food - 'Bhaji-Bhakar' brought by Kavar. Tukaram was relieved of a small Gun Shot which had accidentally entered his head.

Chapter 17 -- Shri Maharaj went to railway station for going to Vishnusa at Malkapur. Police prosecuted him for remaining nude. Shri Mehetabshah was sent to Punjab. Advised him to creating better understanding between Hindus and Muslims. Effects of evil spirit removed from Bapurao's wife. Ganga, Bhagirathi river water was brought in the well at Akot.

Chapter 18 -- Story of Baija. Dr. Kavar's Boil cured. Shri Maharaj, with disciples goes to Pandharpur. Bapuna kale was given Darshan of God Vithoba. A devotee from Kavathe Bahadue suffers from Cholera. Shri Maharaj cured him in minutes. A dead dog was brought to life, thereby removed the ego of an orthodox Brahmin.

Chapter 19 -- Blessings to Kashinathpant. Gopal Buty takes Shri Maharaj to his house at Nagpur. Hari Patil brought Shri Maharaj to Shegaon. Meeting with Shri Wasudevanand Saraswati. Balabhau had his doubts about that meeting. Shri Maharaj removed those doubts. Protected heap of grains from donkeys. Narayan dies for beating Shri Maharaj at Balapur. Jakhadya gets married with the blessing of Shri Maharaj. Gave darshan to Nimonkar at kapildhara. Tukaram presented his son Narayan for service to Shri Maharaj.

Shri Maharaj went to Pandharpur. Took permission from God Vithoba and returned to Shegaon. On the holy day of Rushipanchami, in the month to Bhadrapad this great sage of the modern era took Samadhi.

Chapter 20 -- Miracles that happened after the Samadhi of Shri Mahara are narrated. All those who have faith, still get Darshan of



Shri Maharaj and also get the fulfillment of their desires.


Chapter 21 -- The twenty first chapter is the climax of the whole biography and also its summery. The listeners are the essence of this biography.

In fact, several incidents occur to remember Shri Maharaj, that is why this Chapter is called only the essence of his biography.

Collecting donations did the construction work of the temple. It is a majestic structure, unparalleled anywhere in the world. Resting places, to the devotees, are built all around the main temple. Many people extended help for building this temple. The full list of the donors will be too long, so I give below the important names from amongst them. Hari Kukaji Patil, Bana of Sangwi, Ganaji of Umari, Mesaji of Batvadi, Gangaram of Ladegaon, Bhagu, Gangu, Gujabai Banabai of Akola. Mother of Sukhdeo Patil. All of them donated in thousands. Other donors are Ramchandra Krishnaji Patil, Dattu Bhikaji, Sukhdeoji of Palaskhed, Martand Ganapati of Shegaon. Ratanlal, Balchand, Dattulal and Bisanlal of Panchgavan, Ambarsingh of Takali, Kisan Belmandalekar, Vithoba Patil Chavarekar, Gangaram of Hansanapur. They donated big amounts and helped construction of the monument of Shri Gajanan Maharaj. All around the Samadhi are beautifully built sitting halls, office rooms and kitchens. All the money, collected from donors, was spent on construction work and still some items remained incomplete for want of funds. So a novel idea was floated for collecting money. The land owners were asked to pay a sort of religious Cess of one Anna on every Rupee they pay towards land revenue similarly, every bullock cart, coming to Shegaon for sale of cotton of grain was asked to pay half Anna per cart. People very happily paid this Cess as they had great faith and respect for Shri Maharaj.

Shatchandi at the hands of Brahmins. This Yagnya is rather difficult to perform as Jagadamba Kalika won't tolerate any irregularity in the rituals. A small mistake immediately invites punishment, while faultless performance of the rituals brings her blessings. So this

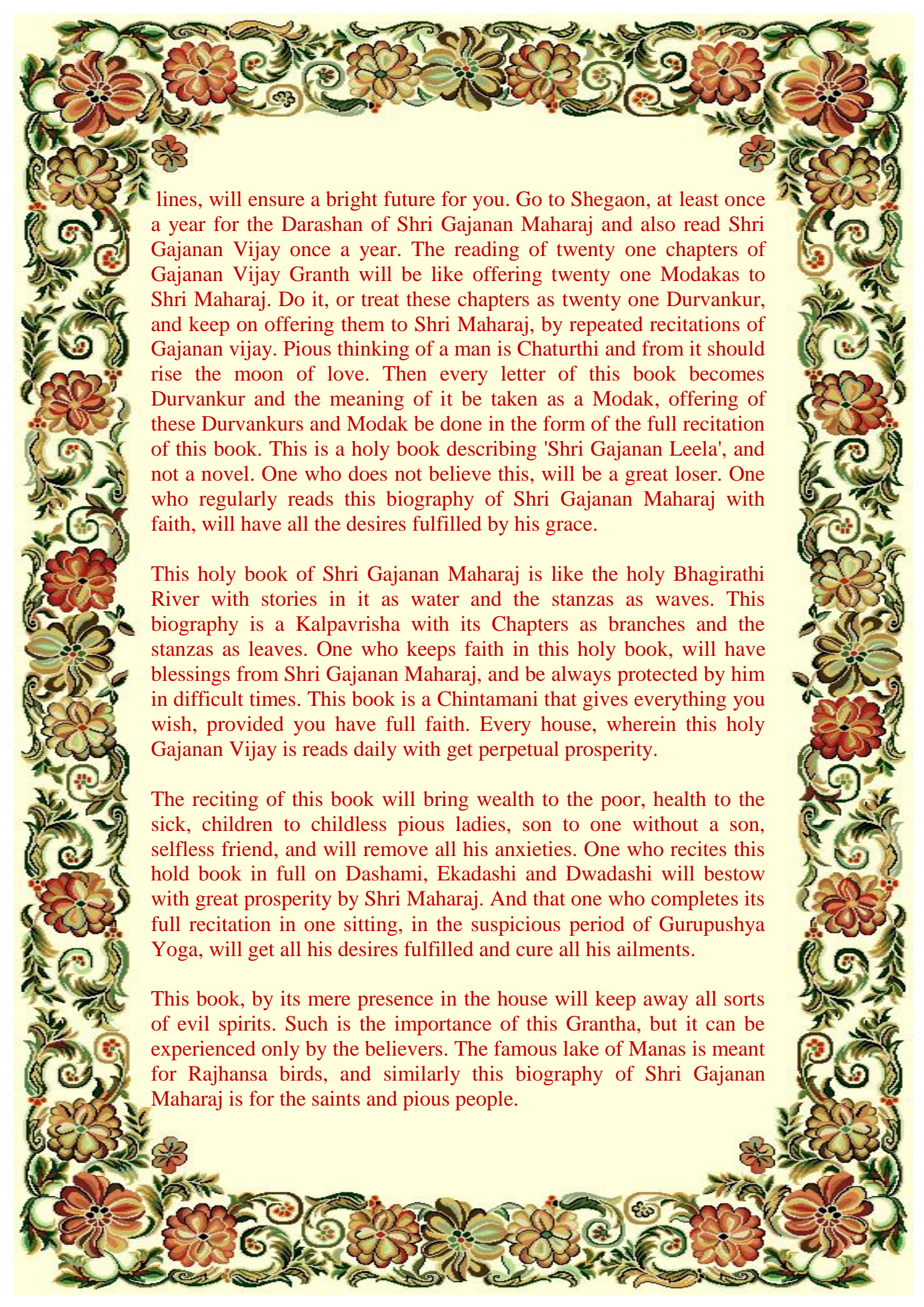




Yagnya is always performed under great tension. Bankatlal, the father of Kisanlal was a devotee of Shri Maharaj. On the final day of the Yagnya this Bankatlal got such an ailment, that he was on the point of death. All got very much upset, and wondered as to why such thing should happen at all, when the Shatchandi Yagnya was in progress. Bankatlal said to his son - "My son, don't be anxious. My Savior is sitting here in the Samadhi and He will set the matters right. So go ahead with performance of the Yagnya as per rituals, My Swami, Shri Gajanan, is sitting here only for the protection of the devotees and as such will remove all the obstacles."

It proved true and Bankatlal was soon well. During this Yagnya one lady was relieved of the effects of evil spirit on her. Banaji Tidke Sangwikar, Gujabai of Kasura and Waman of Chapadgaon also performed Yagnas before Samadhi. Thus many religious functions were held before Shri Maharaj.

He is really a great saint. So long as people were pious, this Berar was very happy. With decrease in faith, the downfall of Berar started, and the output from the land also diminished. Shri Maharaj could not bear to see the misery of Berar, and probably for that reason, got himself enclosed under water. In fact the foundation of the Samadhi Shrine was built in mortar right from the depth of thirty feet and as such there was no reason for any water seepage. Therefore it was felt that Shri Maharaj got angry at the attitude of the Berar People and so created water around him. If the people of Berar wish to regain their lost glory they should start worshipping Shri Gajanan Maharaj with full faith, otherwise they would be required to face more miseries. Whatever is sowed in this land of Gajanan, will come back in multiples. Remember that grains sowed on rocks are totally wasted. So whenever the service to saints is neglected, the result is famine in that area. Faith in religion is like a tiger, and if it leaves the cave of mind, the jackals of evil thinking enter it. Bhakti (devotion) is like a clean pious lady and Abhakti (non-devotion) is like a concubine and any association with her brings disgrace. Don't deviate from the righteous path and don't leave the religious faith. Don't be enemies of each other, as then only, your strength will increase. Behavior on these



lines, will ensure a bright future for you. Go to Shegaon, at least once a year for the Darashan of Shri Gajanan Maharaj and also read Shri Gajanan Vijay once a year. The reading of twenty one chapters of Gajanan Vijay Granth will be like offering twenty one Modakas to Shri Maharaj. Do it, or treat these chapters as twenty one Durvankur, and keep on offering them to Shri Maharaj, by repeated recitations of Gajanan vijay. Pious thinking of a man is Chaturthi and from it should rise the moon of love. Then every letter of this book becomes Durvankur and the meaning of it be taken as a Modak, offering of these Durvankurs and Modak be done in the form of the full recitation of this book. This is a holy book describing 'Shri Gajanan Leela', and not a novel. One who does not believe this, will be a great loser. One who regularly reads this biography of Shri Gajanan Maharaj with faith, will have all the desires fulfilled by his grace.

This holy book of Shri Gajanan Maharaj is like the holy Bhagirathi River with stories in it as water and the stanzas as waves. This biography is a Kalpavrisha with its Chapters as branches and the stanzas as leaves. One who keeps faith in this holy book, will have blessings from Shri Gajanan Maharaj, and be always protected by him in difficult times. This book is a Chintamani that gives everything you wish, provided you have full faith. Every house, wherein this holy Gajanan Vijay is reads daily with get perpetual prosperity.

The reciting of this book will bring wealth to the poor, health to the sick, children to childless pious ladies, son to one without a son, selfless friend, and will remove all his anxieties. One who recites this hold book in full on Dashami, Ekadashi and Dwadashi will bestow with great prosperity by Shri Maharaj. And that one who completes its full recitation in one sitting, in the suspicious period of Gurupushya Yoga, will get all his desires fulfilled and cure all his ailments.

This book, by its mere presence in the house will keep away all sorts of evil spirits. Such is the importance of this Grantha, but it can be experienced only by the believers. The famous lake of Manas is meant for Rajhansa birds, and similarly this biography of Shri Gajanan Maharaj is for the saints and pious people.

As the great saints of past like Dnyaneshwar, Mira, Mehta, Kabir, Nama, Savata, Chokha Mahar, Gora, Bodhala, Damaji, Ainath at Umarched, Sakharam at Amalner, Deo Mamaledar, Yashwant or Manik Prabhu at Humbanabad, so is Shri Gajanan Maharaj at Shegaon. There is no difference among them. Now my only request to all the devotees is that you should pour all your love at the feet of Shri Gajanan Maharaj to enable you to liberate yourself from the cycle of birth and death.

Now, I request Shri Gajanan Maharaj to free this Dasganu from all the miseries. I have become your spokesman. Show me the right path. I hate everything that is evil. Let me keep up the ritual of visiting your shrine regularly still my death. Let my love for saints be maintained, and give me the pleasure of permanent stay on the bank of Godavari River. Let there be no occasion for me to beg for anything from others. O Maharaj, kindly see that you will always be proud of me. I am the dust at the feet of all saints, and beg for protection from you. O Swamy Gajanan, Whatever I have said here, is entirely as per your inspiration. While writing this book, Ratansa showed me some papers from the Math at Shegaon, and that has been the base of my writings here. No scope was given for imaginations, and so I am not responsible for omissions or commissions in it. And even then, if there is any mistake, I beg Shri Gajanan Maharaj to pardon me.

Let this "Gajanan Vijay Granth" be a savior to devotees in this material world. Obeisance to Pundalika, Hari Vithal. Sitaram, Parvati, and Mahadeo.

"Shubham Bhavatu"  
"Shri Hari Hararpanamastu"

Here is the End of Chapter Twenty One.



Compiled by : Shravan Pande, Shegaon, India.

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