



S.K.S. SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE (LONDON) – BAL YUVAK MANDAL

Westfield Lane, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex, HA3 9EA Est. 1966 Charity Reg. No. 271034

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Shikshapatri Bhashya

Shlok 63

All My followers shall go to the Temple of Lord Shree Krishna in the evening and shall loudly sing songs in the praise of Him and His qualities.

Does this mean we don't have to go in the mornings?

This slokh explains that one should go Temple in the evening to sing in the name of the Lord. This does not mean that Temple should not be visited in the morning. The evil forces are stronger during the morning and evening; hence one must go to the temple and pray to the lord for his protection even in the morning.

The Shlok has given importance to evening as throughout the day we are in this materialistic world thinking of all sorts of things and having all sorts of conversations with all sorts of people. During the day we are constantly distracted from Swaminarayan Bhagwan by whatever activities we are doing be it working or learning. During the day we may have had a moment of anger, ego, jealousy, lust, desire or greed and to wash away all these bad thoughts that we've had we then come to the mandir in the evening and by singing in praise of Lord Swaminarayan our mind will be cleansed and put to peace.

Importance of going to the Temple

Doing darshan does not mean just simply look at the Murti of Maharaj as this is not enough. One should go to the Temple to listen to the scriptures, sing kirtans and think of Maharaj.

Many people ask why is it necessary to go Mandir, when we can just as easily practise devotion at home? Doing Mala, the Pooja and reading Scriptures can be done in the peace and tranquillity of the home. However, the Temple is different than the house. The air, atmosphere and of the Temple is special, it is pure and holy, as no evil can enter the temple. One Mala done at mandir equals to 100 if done at home. Also Maharaj has said that he resides mostly in four places; Temples, the Shastras, the Acharyas and the Sadhus that have been initiated by the Acharyas.



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Why sing kirtans and hymns of the Lord?

To please Maharaj and have peace of mind, one should sing kirtans in the praise of the Lord in the Temple. By singing songs, the mind is given a rest and it becomes calm and relaxed. In the Shreemad Bhagwat it states that Kaliyug will be the hardest to attain the Lord however there will be 1 Huge way to attain and please him and that is through Chanting his name and singing his Kirtans in his praise. In Satyug Meditation was the best way to please God, In Treta Yug it was by performing Yagnas, In Dwapar it was by offering your service to God and in Kaliyug there is no better way than chanting his name and singing his kirtan.

Are you embarrassed to sing? Why?

Most of the time people are embarrassed in singing because there may be nobody else singing. This should NOT matter. One should forget about others and focus on Maharaj only, as pleasing him should be ones only concern. Many people are embarrassed because they cannot sing. This does not matter, as Maharaj only wants people to sing with love and passion, so they should go Mandir in the evening to sing in the praise of the Lord, as loudly as they can.

Alternatives for exceptional Circumstances

Some of us may not get the chance to come mandir everyday due to work, education or living far from the mandir. But 1 thing we can do is Online daily darshan be it Kenton, Bhuj or any other mandir which has had Murti Pratishta done by an acharya.