



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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Dhanbai Fai

Dhanbai lived in Rampur of Kutch and was interested in kirtans/bhajans from a very young age. She got married into a family in Baladia. Her husband died soon after marriage. Dhanbai diverted her mind to God. Dhanbai soon came into contact with Surajbai.

Surajbai

A Brahmin woman named Surajbai lived in Bhuj. She had a great faith in Shreeji Maharaj. She used to recite and worship the name by devotional song of Shreeji Maharaj. Surajbai went to Gadhada to have Maharaj's darshan. She was very happy to have received Maharaj's Darshan. She began to serve Maharaj with great passion; she used to prepare the food herself for Maharaj and serve it to Him.

She once had a thought; "While I was in Bhuj, I used to throw corn to birds, but that is not possible here." She made her up her mind, but the mind was already occupied by Maharaj, he understood her heart's need. He got up to throw corns to birds; everyone was surprised to see this and thought why did Maharaj himself get up to scatter corns to birds?

Maharaj said, "If you want the answer ask Surajbai, it's her mind's determination to throw corns to birds." Everyone said "Extraordinary! Surajbai is so lucky" Maharaj said "Surajbai has accompanied me to this earth from Akshardham. A lot of good is going to be done by her hands" And it so happened.

Surajbai and Dhanbai meet

Dhanbai of Rampur diverted her mind from worldly affairs to devote herself to God soon after her husband died. Dhanbai came into contact with Surajbai. Surajbai had a great desire to perform a yagna in Kutch and to perform a big gathering (Jagan) and invite thousands of devotees to lunch. But there was a problem, Surajbai was a Brahmin. Devotees felt that they should give to a Brahmin but should never accept from a Brahmin. So she was confused at what to do.

Once she told Dhanbai her problem, she asked Dhanbai if she can perform many yagnas in Kutch and invite devotees on lunch. Dhanbai said "This will require a lot of money. Have we got it?" Surajbai laughed and said, "Your name itself is Dhanbai. Why should you worry about money?" said Surajbai. Surajbai took out five **Koris** (Silver and Gold coins). This is equivalent to less than a rupee and a half.

Surajbai placed these five **Koris** in Dhanbai's hand and said, "Take this and perform yagnas and samaiyas and build temples. You are free to do anything in the name of Maharaj. This wealth will exhaust when the importance of Maharaj dies down." Dhanbai accepted the five **Koris** in her khoru and went home. She recited Maharaj's



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name and put the **Koris** in a purse.

Dhanbai's service-camp started. One after another parayana started. Plenty of wealth was spent for these parayanas, Samaiyas, Yagnas etc. Celebrations went on for fifteen days. Thousands of devotees and sadhus lunched. Haribhaktos from all over the place were present. They all praised Dhanbai for organising a big Yagna on the passing away of Sadguru Aksharjivandasji Swami. She sprinkled holy water.

Where did this unlimited wealth come from? Did it come from that purse which contained the five **Koris**? She had no other source of money except the purse. Also the **Koris** were meant for satsangi's. Her food consisted of porridge made from Bajari, without salt. Taste had no place in her life. Only service, renouncement and devotion had place in her life. She was a very rare woman to be found in the Swaminarayan Sampradaya. She freely left her body after the achievement of the duties entrusted to her. Even today her Samadhi (Meditation) stands as a place of pilgrim on the bank of the river in the village Rampur.

She spent approximately 505851 koris in her lifetime. Even today 5 koris still remain in Rampur's ladies temple.