



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

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SARVE SAKHI JEEVAN JOVA

LEELA:

Rupjibhai lived in Vadhvan; he was a sincere and devoted man. He was also a great poet and composed many kirtans which were full of bhakti (devotion). However his verses always carried a tinge of loneliness.

Why?

For many years Rupjibhai had secretly wished to meet God, but that wish had not yet been fulfilled. Once one of his friends, Dhanabhai, said "**Rupji, everyone knows of your devotion and your kirtans, but you know it's all worthless until you find God.**"

Dhanabhai knew of Rupjibhai's secret desire and he wanted to tease him a little. "**Don't misunderstand me Rupji but you are wasting your time singing in front of that picture! Why don't you go and see God Himself?**"

"**Have you gone mad? Why do you say such things?**" replied Rupjibhai. "**Well it's true, if you want to see God then you have to go and meet Him.**"

"**Oh you make it sound so simple, as if God is in the next village!**" "**Very well, don't listen to me. I just thought that you may be interested in going to Gadhada, you may find him there.**" Rupjibhai came to Gadhada. Making his way through the crowd, Rupjibhai tried to find his way to Dada Khachar's Darbar. Alone and tired, he wondered if God was really going to be here. Just then he saw a figure on a horse, the figure was of Shreeji Maharaj. Rupjibhai later wrote the following kirtan describing this;

**Sarve Sakhi Jivan Jovane Chaalo Re, Sheradiyu-Ma Aave Latakantoh Laalo Re... Sarve
Eni Shobha Mukhe Varnavi Na Jaay Re, Jene Nigam Neti Neti Kari Gaay Re... Sarve**

**Rojhe Ghode Raajeshvar Biraaje Re, Chhabi Joi Kotik Kandarp Laaje Re... Sarve
Malya Aave Maha Muni-Na Vrunda Re, Tema Shobhe Taare Vintyon Jem Chand Re... Sarve**

**Shuk-Sanakaadik Utam Yash Gaave Re, Nrutya Kari Naarad Vina Bajaave Re... Sarve
Nij Sakha Chamar Kare Lai Haath Re, Aa Jo Aavya Bhumaanand-Na Naath Re... Sarve**

Rupjibhai followed the procession to Laxmi Vadi, where Maharaj called him and said, "**Rupjibhai, how much longer will you hide in your small corner? Come out and let people know your greatness.**"

Thus Rupjibhai went onto become Sadguru Bhumanand Swami. The mere sight of the Lord in Gadhada inspired Bhumanand Swami to write the above verse. **From this incident we can only imagine how great the beautiful darshan of Shreeji Maharaj must have been.**