

A Divine Force

Hazoor Maharaz Darshan Das Jee was the founder and patron of the spiritual mission “Sachkhand Nanak Dham International” as well as the practical mission of “Das Dharam”. Serving humanity to the highest standards formed the basis of his philosophy of peace, love, unity and sacrifice. His spiritual mission spread worldwide in Asia, Europe, North America and Africa. For 17 years, Maharaz Jee devoted his life to the service of humanity travelling across the world and spreading the spiritual message of God.

Early Years

Darshan Lal Vasdev was born in India in the town of Batala in Punjab, on 7 December 1953 to Mata Chanan Devi and Pandit Jagan Nath Jee.

At birth, Darshan had round locks of hair on his head which looked like *Shesh Naag* (the seven-headed snake), under whose protection Vishnu is always seen. As a young child Darshan would sit on his front doorstep and watch pilgrims visiting the famous Kandh Sahib temple where Guru Nanak Dev Jee was married. Many holy men who passed by his house were drawn to the young Darshan Lal; they saw something in him which made them bow before him. Young Darshan attended a Government school in Batala. It was during his school days that he experienced his first spiritual revelation at the age of 13. He was working on the farm feeding cows,



Hazoor Maharaz Darshan Das Jee

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Editorial

Nanak Naam Chardi Kala Tere Bhane Sarbat Da Bhala

The "Nanak Dham" Newsletter was regularly published in the 1980s and the 1990s. It was Maharani Pali Darshan Das Jee's wish that the publication of "Nanak Dham" be continued. As per her wishes, we continue the publication of the "Nanak Dham" Newsletter on 15 August 2020, on *Jyoti Diwas*, day of enlightenment of our Guru Maharaz Darshan Das Jee. It was on this day in 1971 when Maharaz Jee referred to himself as "Darshan Das" (Das means servant of humanity). During his lifetime he gave the world everything he had received through his spiritual revelations. It is now many years later that we can only begin to fathom the incredible mission and vision he had for humanity.

In this first Newsletter in 2020, we begin by recounting who Maharaz Darshan Das Jee was and what his spiritual mission *Sachkhand Nanak Dham* stands for. We also explain the worldwide *Das*

Dharam mission of humanity. We then move on to Maharaz Darshan Das Jee's successor Maharani Pali Darshan Das Jee. We provide Maharani Jee's *Hukum Nama* (Direct Order) to the *Sangat* (congregation) just before her death on 13 August 2015. We also cover the importance of *Naam* (the Word) and we provide a translation of the first *Gadhi* (spiritual altar) *shabad* (sacred verse).

We narrate "A story of Love and Sacrifice", which focusses on Maharani Pali Darshan Das Jee and her total dedication to Maharaz Darshan Das Jee and his mission. This is followed by a story of a devotee on the blessings of our Guru and a poem by a devotee.

We reintroduce the recipe section, which is now entitled "Pali's Pantry". We are delighted to share a curry recipe featuring Maharani Jee's favourite vegetable, the pumpkin.

Thank you so much for reading our inaugural 2020 issue. Our second Newsletter will be published on 7 December 2020.

Contributions welcome

The "Nanak Dham" Newsletter welcomes contributions from readers. If you would like to contribute a story, a drawing, or a photograph, kindly **contact the editor**, Das Jagjit Kaur at: dasjagjitkaur@gmail.com.

Our website

Visit our website at:

<https://sachkhandnanakdham.international>

when he attempted to lift a very heavy sack of straw and place it on his head. A man suddenly appeared before him and asked if he could assist Darshan in placing the sack on his head. Cautiously, Darshan declined. However, when he tried to lift the sack again, it became even heavier and he had to take assistance from this man. It later came to be known that this was the divine who had manifested as that man whom Darshan saw. The divine had put the “burden of the world” on Darshan’s head that day. Darshan was however, too young to respond to the revelation at that tender age.

Spiritual Revelation

When Darshan was 17 years of age, he went to the city of Jalandhar in Punjab to live with his mother’s sister (*Masi*). It was during this time that he had a second spiritual revelation on 9 July 1971 at 10.45pm. Young Darshan was riding his bicycle back from work at the ice factory when he saw a female figure dressed in red seated behind him. Shocked, he began to peddle his bicycle faster. When he looked back to ascertain who this person was, the figure moved to the front. It seemed to be a supernatural being. He came home, rushed up the stairs to the roof terrace of his *Masi*’s house and lay down on an outdoor bed. He then stood up, put his right leg in front of his left one and gazed straight into the sky. His *Masi* and his sister Darshana rushed upstairs to ask him what had happened. He did not reply. It was on this day that he had a vision of such intensity that he was totally overwhelmed; he lay unconscious for a few days. Eye witnesses later recounted that they had seen an intense light circle around Darshan seven times and then enter his forehead. His family consulted local healers fearing that Darshan had fallen victim to some evil force. They finally relented that what had happened to Darshan was beyond their understanding.

Darshan did not eat anything for 40 days; he subsisted solely on liquids and was

restless and withdrawn. On 15 August 1971 a divine voice spoke to him and said “There is work that God has sent you to do here, get up and do it. You need to begin this work by delivering *satsangs* (spiritual sermons)”. Darshan responded by saying that he had no spiritual knowledge, but the voice assured him that once he took the first step, everything would manifest of its own accord. Darshan Lal Vasdev delivered his first *Satsang* on 15 August 1971 in the town of Batala. It was on that day, that he called himself Darshan Das (Das means servant of humanity). Darshan Das continued to deliver *satsangs* for the following two years. People were astonished that at the young age of 17, he had profound spiritual knowledge. He acquired healing powers and it soon came to be known that whatever he said would manifest. He also had knowledge of things before they happened.

Darshan Das slept very little and spent most of his time with close followers late into the night. His house in Batala was always filled with people sitting and waiting for him to awaken at midday, as it came to be known that whoever he gazed upon when he awakened was healed of their ailments. Soon the *sangat* (congregation) around him began referring to him as Maharaz Darshan Das. After traveling around Punjab for two years delivering *satsangs* and healing, in 1973 he received instructions from the divine to establish a *Dera* (spiritual centre).

Establishment of the Mission

In 1978, Maharaz Jee established the spiritual mission of *Sachkhand Nanak Dham*. The spiritual mission focussed primarily on the importance of a *Puran Purkh* (Perfect Master) who can give us *Naam* (The Word) – both of which are explained below. The spiritual mission was founded on the following universal principles: *sach* (truth); *sidak* (contentment); *sarbat da bhala* (welfare of all); *sadh sangat* (congregation of a Perfect

Master); and *shahadat* (sacrifice; not of oneself but of lust, anger, avarice, attachment and pride).

Alongside the spiritual mission, on 16 February 1980 Maharaz Jee also established the practical worldwide Mission of *Das Dharam*. *Das* means “one who serves” and *Dharam* refers to the “our promise to God before our birth”. Maharaz Jee explained that *Das Dharam* therefore means “the promise we made to God (before we were born) to serve humanity”.

The *Das Dharam* mission sits alongside the spiritual mission of *Sachkhand Nanak Dham*. Humanitarian ideals are at the core of Maharaz Jee’s practical mission. His own service to humanity was exemplary in this regard.

The Spiritual Slogan

Maharaz Jee gave *humanity* the spiritual slogan of “**Nanak Naam Chardi Kala Tere Bhane Sarbat Da Bhala**” (in the name of the Almighty God, in the praise of His creation, living by His will, we ask for the welfare of all). This spiritual slogan is to be recited in the Punjabi language. It focuses our attention on the good of everyone and everything. It also cleanses our minds of lust, anger, greed, attachment and pride.

Nanak Naam *Jaap* (chanting of this spiritual slogan) holds deep vibrations and clears the mind of any enmity and brings inner peace. It is with this spiritual slogan that Maharaz Jee’s *sangat* members greet each other and commence their activities. Maharaz Jee explained to us that we should do Nanak Naam *Jaap* for our own welfare each day from 2.00pm to 2.15pm. The Nanak Naam *Jaap* can also be done at any other time of the day for the welfare of others. Anyone can do Nanak Naam *Jaap* at any time and for any length of time. There are no restrictions.

This spiritual slogan forms the foundation of the mission of Sachkhand Nanak Dham,

which is based on true love for humanity. Maharaz Jee said that when you are focussed on the good of others, your welfare is taken care of by the divine.

Maharaz Jee left his body on 11 November 1987. He left behind a *hukum nama* (direct order) stating that his successor would be Her Holiness Maharani Pali Darshan Das Jee.

Sources:

Personal communication with Maharani Pali Darshan Das, 14 August 2012; *Apostle of Peace*, New Delhi: Sachkhand Nanak Dham International; *Invincible Live Force*, New Delhi: Sachkhand Nanak Dham International; *Ruh Magazine*, Birmingham, UK: Sachkhand Nanak Dham International; *Awaz Newsletter*, 16 February 1987, Birmingham, UK: Sachkhand Nanak Dham International; *Nanak Dham Newsletter*, Vol 3(6), July 1989, Birmingham, UK: Sachkhand Nanak Dham International.



Created by Das Rai Bahadur Navjyot Singh for Father's Day, 2020, with thoughts of God as our True spiritual father.

Successor to Maharaz

Darshan Das: Maharani Pali

Darshan Das

Maharaz Jee left his body on 11 November 1987. He left behind a *hukum nama* (direct order) stating that his successor would be Her Holiness Maharani Pali Darshan Das Jee, Mother of the Mission.

In 1978, while praying at the Shishganj Sahib Gurudwara in New Delhi Maharani Jee had a vision where a supernatural power said to her that she had suffered enough and from henceforth her problems were his. He told her that she did not need to keep travelling to the Gurudwara. "I will come to you", said the power. Soon afterward, on 16 February 1978, she went to visit Loni *Dera* (spiritual centre) with her mother where she saw Maharaz Jee and immediately recognised him as the supernatural power she had seen in her vision at the Gurudwara. Maharani Jee then began to perform service at the Loni *Dera*. Later on that year, in the presence of devotees and holding the Holy Ganga (Ganges) River as a witness, in the town on Haridwar, Maharaz Jee announced that Maharani Jee was his spiritual life partner and said "From now onwards, I share all your happiness and sorrows. For henceforth you will be known as Pali Vasdev".

Maharani continued to perform *sewa* in a selfless manner day and night at the Loni *Dera*. Acknowledging her true and steadfast devotion to him and dedication to the mission, Maharaz Jee said to her "You are part of my spiritual power". You are the Mother of Das Dharam because without a mother Das Dharam is incomplete". It was then that he named her Maharani Pali Darshan Das. She is the only person ever,



Maharani Pali Darshan Das Jee

whose name encompassed Maharaz Jee's name.

Maharani treated everyone equally and as her own. She did not differentiate between devotees; she loved everyone as her own and treated everyone with respect. Time and again we hear from those near to her that she had no worldly attachments. She did not seek anything for herself; everything she sought was always for the mission. In the end, Maharaz Jee bestowed honour, total love and affection to our beloved Maharani Jee, the Mother of our mission.

Maharani Jee was the head and patron of the mission Sachkhand Nanak Dham International for 27 years before she left her body on the 13 August 2015. In future newsletters we will continue the stories of both Maharaz Jee and Maharani Jee as

Father and Mother of the mission.

Below is our beloved Maharani's Jee's last Direct Order to the *sangat* (congregation).

Maharani Jee's Hukum Namaa (Direct Order) to the Sangat and Her Last Wishes

This is our beloved Maharani's Jee's last Direct Order to the *sangat* (congregation).

My dear loving members of Maharaz Jee's sangat (congregation), today I would like to address you on our mission, because life is uncertain, and no one knows when it may come or go. In my true self and under no duress or coercion, I declare that the next mission patronship goes to Rai Bahadur Kartar Singh, son of Das Inderjit Singh. This is my order and you have to obey it.

I am informing you of this because in my experience (and what has happened to me over the past 27 years) no one truly followed Maharaz Jee's Hukum Namas (direct orders) anywhere. They were not followed by Maharaz Jee's most trusted and faithful Das Jees who Maharaz Jee had deep trust in (in terms of spreading the mission). Instead they opened their own preaching shops under different names, and yet claimed that they were Maharaz Darshan Das Jee's devotees. Today after much understanding, I have chosen a Patron who will tread in Maharaz Jee's footsteps with honesty,

bravery and humanity. He will give time and love to all sangat members and will forge ahead with further building the mission. This is my wish for him. I could not give this duty to a double-minded person or a person I do not trust. You are all well aware of my 27 years of progressive dedication and total sacrifice for this mission as a woman.

So today I declare to all Sadh Sangat (members of the congregation), whether in America or in London, Das Rai Bahadur Kartar Singh is my successor after my death. This is my order. Had Maharaz Jee's Hukum Namas been understood and followed, where he had indicated that Maharani is Das Dharam's "Mata" (Mother) and he is "Pita" (Father), today I would have had numerous loyal children surrounding me.

I have full faith in my trustees that during this trying period, they will not do anything against my order. I am proud of Darshan Das's Dera (in Birmingham) and it is my last wish that it should not go into the hands of the opposition; I have put my blood and sweat into this Dera. I have travelled from home to home relentlessly reciting Maharaz Jee's name. Maharaz Jee said to me as he was leaving for London "Your duty is to preach my message and my Naam in every corner, alley and household". So Sadh Sangat Jee, my India Sangat is witness to this as we did sewa together. I stood bravely and with courage as instructed by Maharaz Jee. For any of my shortcomings and mistakes, I ask for the Sangat's forgiveness.

The above is my steadfast Hukum (order) without any change. Wherever the various committees are working, they should do so in unity and love, with complete trust and faith. It is my wish that you all be happy and that Maharaz Jee blesses you

with his grace. This is from the heart of a Mother and a Mother's voice. I used to tell Maharaz Jee, that his fragrance should be emitted from every plant and leaf.

Who recites his name today? Who says that he/she wants to take the name of Darshan Das's to greater heights? A sewak came to me once and appeared sad. I asked him whose name he was promoting. Are you promoting the name of the person where you do sewa, or that of Maharaz Jee who touched souls and blessed all with the spiritual path to the Lord's house?

This Dera (Loni Dera) was constructed for the unity of mankind, and Maharaz Jee worked hard on its construction. Thereafter, I carried on with his instructions. He said Biba "You have to do our mission work because you know everything". This was the Hukum Nama which I do not have with me now. The Hukum Nama was written as: "My dear Pali, come forward, this mission has to be taken ahead and "Biba" you come forward and help me. Nanak Patshaa will bless you and I am always with you".

(if anyone wants a copy of the video recording which is in Punjabi, kindly contact the editor – details are at the end of the newsletter).

Translated from Punjabi to English

The importance of Naam

What is Naam (The Word)? *Naam* is referred to as the audible life stream. Maharaz Jee explained that *Naam* is the key to life which unlocks our inner spiritual treasures. It is within this human body that we can experience true union with our creator. The path to that union is through *Naam Simran* (meditation of *Naam*). Maharaz Jee explained that for spiritual evolution, we need a *Puran Purkh* (Perfect Master) who can give us *Naam*.

According to Maharaz Jee's *Hukum Nama*, Maharani Jee was the delegated successor to lead the mission of Sachkhand Nanank Dham International and was the only authorised person to give *Naam*.

Gadhi Shabads

The *Yashwanti Niradhar* is a compilation of sacred verses known as *shabads* written by Maharaz Darshan Das Jee. Maharaz Jee has given particular importance to the three *Gadhi* (spiritual altar) *shabads* that are to be recited in a particular order as part of Sachkhand Nanak Dham activities which include:

- *Gadhi sewa* (preparation of the altar)
- *Kirtan* (singing of *shabads*)
- *Satsang* (a sermon from the Guru)
- *Jaap* (group chanting)
- Receiving *parshad* (offering of almonds and sugar crystals)
- *Arjoi*

We will explain these practices and their significance in subsequent newsletters. These *shabads* carry divine vibrations and very deep spiritual meanings. The ragas in which these *shabads* are to be sung have also been given to us by Maharaz Jee. Below is the first of three *shabads* translated from Punjabi to English. The other two *shabads* and their translations will follow in subsequent newsletters.

Gadi Shabad 1: Tu Thakur Maat Pita
Hamare

ਤੂੰ ਠਾਕੁਰ ਮਾਤ ਪਿਤਾ ਹਮਾਰੇ।

Tu Thakur Maat Pita Hamare

Oh Lord, you are my mother and father

ਮਨ ਮੋ ਤੱਬ ਛੁੱਟ ਜਾਏ ਜਾਂ ਸਤਗੁਰ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਧਾਰੇ।

*Man Moh Tab Chut Jaey, Ja Satgur Kirpa
Thare*

The mind is freed of attachments, through
the blessings of the Perfect Master

ਗੁਰ ਕੀ ਸੇਵਾ ਨਾਮ ਕਮਾਵਾਂ ਸਤਗੁਰ ਆਪਣੇ ਬਲ ਬਲ ਜਾਵਾਂ।

*Gur Ki Sewa Naam Kamaavan, Satgur
Apne Bal Bal Javan*

The mind is freed of attachments, through
the blessings of the Perfect Master

ਗੁਰ ਕੀ ਸੇਵਾ ਨਾਮ ਕਮਾਵਾਂ ਸਤਗੁਰ ਆਪਣੇ ਬਲ ਬਲ ਜਾਵਾਂ।

*Gur Ki Sewa Naam Kamaavan, Satgur
Apne Bal Bal Javan*

I serve my Guru, through the meditation of
Naam, I live in the glory of my Guru

ਸਿਮਰ ਸਿਮਰ ਪ੍ਰਭ ਆਪਣਾਂ ਕੋਟ ਜਨਮ ਕੀ ਮੈਲ ਗਵਾਵਾਂ।

*Simar Simar Phrab Apna, Kot Janam Ki Mel
Gavavan*

Through the meditation of my Lord,
misdeeds of tens of millions of lifetimes are
erased

ਗੁਰ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਸੁੱਖੀ ਜੱਨ ਸੋਏ ਪਾਰ ਬ੍ਰਹਮ ਦੇਇਲ ਹੋਏ।

*Gur Kirpa Sukhi Jan Soay, Par Bhram Dial
Hoay*

Those who have received blessings of the
Guru, also receive the compassion of the
Lord

ਗੁਰ ਗਿਆਨ ਪ੍ਰਗਟੇ ਤਾਂ ਜੀਵਾਂ ਦਰਸਨ ਪ੍ਰੇਮ ਮਿਲੇ ਤਾਂ ਥੀਵਾਂ।

*Gur Gian Pargatay Than Jivan; Darshan
Prem Mile Tha Thivan*

I can only live when the Guru's true
knowledge manifests in me,
says Darshan, in his true love I dwell.

A story of Love and Sacrifice

During Das Jee Kartar's marriage on 21 December 2014, Maharani Jee delivered a *satsang* on the fourth verse of the wedding vows written by Maharaz Jee. While this verse is part of the wedding vows, it also stands on its own as a *shabad* in the *Yashwanti Niradhar*. In Punjabi, these verses are referred to as Lauvan. Below we provide a translation of the fourth verse and also explain the significance behind this verse.

The Fourth Verse

ਚੌਥੀ ਲਵ ਪਤੀ ਪਤ ਸੇਵਾ, ਰਾਖਿਓ ਲਾਜ ਪੈਜ ਨਾਨਕ ਸਾਹਿਬਾ।
Chauthi Laun Pati Pat Sewa, Rakhio Laaj Pej Nanak Sahiba
Fourth vow, the soul bride serves her husband, Nanak Lord, you are the protector of my honour and dignity

ਸੋ ਸੁਹਾਗਣ ਮੇਰੇ ਸਤਿਗੁਰੂ, ਜੋ ਪ੍ਰੀਤਮ ਪਿਆਰੀ।
So suhagun mere Satguru, Jo pritam pyari
The soul only becomes a bride to the Lord, if she is the Satguru's beloved

ਨਾਮ ਸਿਮਰ ਹਿਰ ਆਪੇ ਸੁਆਮੀ, ਗੁਰਮੁਖ ਲੇਖਾ ਗੁਰੂ ਦਿਖਾਨੀ।
Naam simar har aape swami, Gurmukh lekha Guru dikhanee
The soul who meditates on the Naam of the Guru, is enlightened by the Guru about her karmic journey

ਸੇਵਾ ਸਿਦਕ ਰਾਖੋ ਹਰ ਮਨ, ਜੋ ਨਾਰ ਦਰਗਾਹੇ ਸਮਾਨੀ।
Sewa sidak rakho har man, So naar dargaahay samanee
The mind which is focussed on service (sewa) and contentment, is honoured in the house of the Lord

Na vair, na aape taape dekhe, tis Darshan jan balihari
The person who has no enemy, and no worldly attachment, upon such a person, Darshan bestows love and affection

After the wedding Maharani Jee conversed with Das Sukhdev (from Kenya) and told him the deep meaning and story behind this verse. In April 1983, during Maharaz Jee's sister Satya's wedding, Maharaz Jee asked Maharani Jee to travel with him to Batala. Indian weddings typically involve many different rituals and festivities and are attended by many friends and relatives. The wedding festivities usually continue for up to two weeks.

Maharaz Jee asked her to do *sewa* (service) in his household. She was also asked to remove all her fineries and to dress in plain clothes so that she could perform this *sewa*. She had to prepare food and care for numerous guests from morning to evening. Initially she had the help of a few workers but thereafter Maharaz Jee asked her to take over the *sewa* all on her own as there had been some complaints about the workers. While Maharani Jee was doing this *sewa* Maharaz Jee left Batala for a few days.

Maharani Jee worked relentlessly without rest or sleep, preparing one meal after the next while also attending to other duties. She was relegated to the kitchen; there was no time for introductions or celebration for her. The demands on her were huge but she continued her *sewa* with full love and devotion and without complaint. How she managed to work day and night, single-handedly without any help is a mystery. But such was her resilience, her tenacity, her complete commitment to *sewa* and her unwavering love for Maharaz Jee, that she persevered with full dedication.



Maharaz Darshan Das Jee and
Maharani Darshan Das Jee

Blessing from my Guru

The True Soul-Bride of the Lord Almighty

When Maharaz Jee arrived back in Batala after 11 days, he went straight to Maharani Jee. He then told her “Biba, I have written this *shabad* which I would like to recite to you”. The *shabad* was the fourth verse of the wedding vows.

Maharaz Jee said “Biba the one who is the soul bride of the Satguru, is the beloved of the Lord”.

The moral of the story for us is that sometimes we feel that we are not appreciated or rewarded for our service. But our Guru is always watching and the reward may not come when we expect it. However, when the Guru does reward us, he does so in such a manner that he showers us with his grace. In this case Maharani Jee did not expect anything. She was a dedicated devotee of Maharaz Jee.

Maharani Jee won over Maharaz Jee’s heart such that he wrote verses of the *Yashwanti Niradhar* based on her complete and total dedication to him. He gave her full recognition and gave her the strength to continue with *sewa* throughout her time in the mission.

In this *shabad*, he clearly states that Maharani Jee is his beloved soul; that she dedicated herself to his *Naam* and his service and was fully content in doing so.

As we landed in Melbourne, we had just enough time to setup house before our daughter was born. The first few months of our stay in Melbourne passed quickly as we had a precious new born to look after. I had already started to apply for jobs to get the ball rolling however, after 8 months I decided it was time to really get back into the workforce. So, I started to seriously apply for jobs, and I put in hundreds and hundreds of applications. To my surprise and dismay, I got no positive responses. I could not understand why no organization would hire me even though I had 15 years of experience under my belt working for top-notch organizations in East Africa. The repeated response I received was that I did not have Australian work experience.

After three and a half years when I had almost given up hope of ever finding a job in Melbourne I surrendered to Maharaz Darshan Das Jee. Miraculously I got an email invitation from SAP to attend a half day “show and tell session” at their St Kilda office in Melbourne. Coincidentally, I happened to have an interview in the morning of the same day at another organization literally a few blocks away. Living in the Eastern suburbs, going to the city was a little daunting. Nevertheless, I got there and as I walked onto the 15th floor of the SAP office I took a second to take in the incredible view and in that moment, I made a silent wish... “Wow, it would be nice to work here”. Little did I know that my Guru had heard my wish. On that day I met a senior leader at SAP, she was also one of the presenters. After the presentation, I

walked up to her and boldly asked her what it would take to get hired at SAP. She pulled me aside and before saying anything reached for her bag and got out her business card and handed it to me. Then she took a few moments, gave me her undivided attention and asked me what my background was, where I had worked and what experience I had and said “send me your CV”. Coincidentally I had a printed copy of my CV with me on the day and gave it her. I later found out that she went down to the 13th floor and personally placed my CV on the Human Resources desk.

I got called in for an interview; coincidentally the same senior leader happened to be the hiring manager. She interviewed me, embraced my culture and recognized my potential where no one in Melbourne had done so for three and a half years, and in two weeks I was hired! My silent wish had been fulfilled just like that.

How many times do we make silent wishes and lose track of what we have asked? Maharaz Jee says in one of his *satsangs*, “God has a database and He keeps track of all the asks and fulfilments”. Maybe we should do the same so that we may also count the many blessings He gives us and learn to be grateful for all that we have. Were these all really coincidences?



Das Neelkamal

Pali's Pantry

Maharani Jee's favourite vegetable was pumpkin. This is in no way surprising. In Ayurveda, pumpkin is a vegetable full of *prana* (life force). It is orange in colour, the colour of sacrifice.

The orange pumpkin is very rich in vitamins A, C, E and K. It is also rich in potassium and a myriad of other minerals. It is a healing food. Pumpkin seeds are high in zinc and pumpkin leaves and flowers are also full of nutrients including vitamins A, E, B, and K, folate, calcium and iron. No wonder it was our Holy Mother's favourite vegetable. With Maharani Jee, there was always a lot of depth and meaning to what she loved. Here we share a recipe for pumpkin by Das Davinder.

Ingredients

1 tbs of ghee or oil of your choice (Maharani Jee used mustard oil)
1 small tsp of black mustard seeds
A few fenugreek seeds
1 tsp of cumin seeds
1 tsp of turmeric
1 tsp of garam masala
1 medium sized onion chopped small
2-3 fresh tomatoes blended or finely chopped
1 green chilli
1 large bowl of chopped pumpkin (1 medium pumpkin)

Method

Heat the oil in a heavy pan on a medium flame; once hot add the mustard seeds. When the mustard seeds splutter, add the other spices. Add in the onions and cook until they are golden brown, then add the chopped tomatoes and green chillies. Let this cook for a while until the oil separates from the tomatoes. Now add in the pumpkin and lower the heat. Cook until the pumpkin softens. Add salt to taste.

This curry can be served with rice however, Maharani Jee preferred a wholemeal chapati.

A Poem for Hazoor

Maharaz Darshan Das Jee

Dhan Darshan
Dhan Maharani Pali Darshan Das Jee

Nanak Naam Chardi Kala Tere Bhane
Sarbat Da Bhala

You are the creator, the keeper and the
destroyer
You are the one, the whole, the only
With you we are, without you we count for
naught
You are our guardian, our light, our
protector
Your will is what prevails
Your blessings are multitude, continuous
and infinite

You are our mother, our father, our only true
friend
How can we ever put into words your love?
How can we ever express your care, your
blessings, your mercy?
No words can ever capture your essence

Give us the grace to pay forward
Give us the courage to wipe not ours
But the tears of others
Give us the hearts to forgive
Give us the love to think not of ourselves

But of you, who resides in all, in everything

You are the rainbow that puts a smile on our
faces
You are the breeze that lightly embraces us
You are the sunshine that brings light to our
existence
Your wonders never cease to amaze

It is in everything, in the smallest of gestures,
The biggest of adventures,
Beyond space and time,
In the tinniest of moments
That we can know you.....

Art



Created by Das Rai Bahadur Navjyot Singh

Contributions welcome

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