



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

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

Tel: [020 8909 9899](tel:02089099899) Fax: [020 8909 9897](tel:02089099897) Email: balmandal@sksst.org

Ghanshyam Maharaj's Daily Ritual

1. The Pujari wakes up at 2am.
2. After taking a bath & doing his personal pooja, the pujari wears clean clothes & comes into the mandir at 3:30am.
3. Mansi Pooja of Ghanshyam Maharaj together with danvat pranam is completed.
4. The day's vagha, jewellery, haar etc. of Ghanshyam Maharaj are gathered, at 3:45am.
5. Ghanshyam Maharaj is awoken by the sounding of a bell & holding up a mirror in front of him (The mirror must be shown immediately, as god wakes he has darshan of his own self/form. We should wake up by doing darshan of god too, not of our own self & with open hands we should recite the Swaminarayan Mantra)
6. Maharaj's night clothes are removed and neatly folded and placed in the appropriate location.
7. "Bar Bhomi" dhyan is performed by the pujari i.e. Ghanshyam Maharaj attends the call of nature, brushes his teeth etc.
8. Ghanshyam Maharaj is offered a glass of water (In either a gold, silver, cooper OR steal glass – in that order).
9. Ghanshyam Maharaj is placed on the singhasan (by dhyan), & then his feet then hands are washed.
10. Ghanshyam Maharaj performs achman (sipping of a few drops of clean filtered water three times)
11. Ghanshyam Maharaj's body is then bathed in Panchamrut (mixture of milk, yogurt, ghee, sugar & honey)
12. Ghanshyam Maharaj's body is bathed using clean water "Sudadakshan".
13. Ghanshyam Maharaj's body is bathed in the water of holy Indian Rivers, i.e. Ganga snan...
14. Ghanshyam Maharaj's body is bathed in Milk, Saffron (Kesar), Water & Sandalwood (Chandan) water – in that order ("ABHISHEK")
15. Ghanshyam Maharaj's body is bathed using clean water "Sudadakshan".
16. Ghanshyam Maharaj's body is dried with a clean towel.
17. Ghanshyam Maharaj body is dressed with the clothes, jewellery, haar, mugat etc. that was gathered earlier. The clothes chosen should be appropriate for the season, i.e. winter vs summer clothes. (Maharaj currently has over 200 vagha's, almost all being donated by devotees)

18. With the appropriate pooja mantras, the pujari applies tilak chandlo, rice. He then offers a flower, tulsi leaf, holy grass (chabar), natural flower oil (non-alcoholic deodorant) & then a chandlo of gulal, sindhur etc. are applied.
19. A divo is lit.
20. Bar Bhog (breakfast) is offered containing Milk, Ladu, Chevdo, Gantia & Water at 5:30am.
21. Ghanshyam Maharaj's curtains are opened to allow darshan from the devotees.
22. The pujari offers Stuthi prathna.
23. At 6:30am the Mandir doors are opened.
24. The pujari updates the Mandir website with "Daily Darshan" photos to allow devotees to have darshan of Ghanshyam Maharaj over the internet.
25. The pujari makes the thaal (meal) and takes it down to the mandir at 9:00am.
26. At 9:30am the aarti is performed.
27. At 9:45am the Thaal is recited and the food that was prepared offered to Maharaj which contains Dal, Rice, Shaak, Rotli/Puri, Doodhpak, Siro, Ladu, Salad, Dahi (Yogurt), Athanu (Pickle) & Water. (Again the food is prepared according to the season we are in e.g in winter Aradhia Ladu is prepared. As Maharaj does not need to observe Ekadashi Oopvas (meant for devotees), Ekadashi food nonetheless is prepared on Ekadashi days such that devotees can partake in Maharaj's prashad.
28. From 11:30am Ghanshyam Maharaj rests until 2:30pm.
29. At 2:30pm Ghanshyam Maharaj is awoken & fruit/water is offered until 3:00pm, whilst this time the pujari performs stuthi prathna.
30. At 3:00pm Ghanshyam Maharaj's curtains are opened to allow darshan from devotees.
31. At 3:30pm the Mandir doors are opened.
32. The pujari makes Thaal (meal) and takes it down to the Mandir at 5:00pm.
33. At 5:15pm the aarti is performed.
34. At 5:30pm the Thaal is recited and the food prepared is offered to Maharaj, containing Khichadi, Milk, Shaak, Rotli & Water.
35. AT 6:30pm Ghanshyam Maharaj's day clothes, jewellery etc. are removed and his night dress is adorned (Saal, Dhoti, Blanket, Topi etc.)
36. Ghanshyam Maharaj is offered Water prior to being put to rest at 7:00pm.
37. The pujari's are responsible also for controlling the temperature e.g. regulating the heating/turning on the A/C for Maharaj, Mandir's overnight security (responding to alarms), reciting mantras in Kathas, giving discourses during daily sabhas etc.