

# Chapter Twenty One



Ramchandra, son of Krishnaji Patil  
Was a sincere devotee of Maharaj.  
One noon the saint went to his house  
In an ascetic mendicant's garb.  
He called Ramchandra and asked for food to eat.  
Ramchandra glanced at him he looked like Maharaj.  
He respectfully brought the ascetic in  
And offered him a short plank seat to sit

## Chapter 21

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Shree Ganeshay namah

Jai to thee, O multisplendored,  
Jai to thee the indestructible.  
Jai to Lord of things near and far  
Jai to the king of this cosmos!  
You call yourself the savior of the fallen.  
You forgive sinners with great affection.  
This action brings to you further significance.  
I request you to ignore my sins too without reservation ... 1

Soiled clothes are brought to water to get laundered.  
I have come to you, don't ignore me please.  
Earth doesn't discard a thorny tree.  
You save both, sinners and the blameless  
Without discrimination or attachment.  
Sun needs no extra glow to displace darkness.  
Its rise is enough to devour the gloominess.  
Concepts of sin and virtue are your own process ... 2

You create the sinners to uphold your worth.  
Whatever it is please relieve me  
From this dense danger, with your blessings.  
O Pandurang. You are so powerful  
I have no one else to support me in the mundane muddle.  
Now I turn your attention dear readers  
To this final climax.  
You have been with me all through till here ... 3

It calls for good fortune to read about this saint.  
Those who have faith are saved  
From pain and miseries of these days.  
An incident at the temple is proof ample  
At the construction of the temple  
A laborer was working at the top with a mason.  
He lost his balance and fell ... 4

He slipped while passing a stone to the mason  
And came down from a height of thirty feet.  
He fell on a heap of stones.  
People saw him tumbling down  
And assumed the certainty of his demise.  
But it was otherwise. A miracle swept the scene.  
He was unhurt and came down safe and sound.  
Someone had caught him in the air  
And left him down to stand on his feet ... 5

But no one was seen in the region  
People were happy to hear and know  
That it was the saint who saved the person.  
Maharaj would not let anyone get hurt  
In the process of temple construction.  
The labourer was most lucky  
To feel the touch of the divinity at this juncture ... 6

A Rajput lady afflicted by an evil spirit  
Came to Shegaon from Jaipur district.  
God Dattatraya advised the lady  
To come to Shegaon on Ramnavami  
To enable her to get rid of the trouble  
With the blessings of Gajanan swami.  
She came with her children on the appointed day.  
The festival had started on Pratipada, the first day ... 7

Crowds had gathered to celebrate Ram's incarnation.  
This time there was a hall under construction.  
Stone pillars measuring five feet by eighteen inches  
Were lying around supportless.

Work was suspended for the time being.  
After the celebration people rushed for Prasad.  
The lady went to a pillar for support  
Which fell on her and the children. Alas! ... 8

People were afraid that she had died under the weight.  
No one even knew her name and address.  
They lifted the pillar and pulled her out straight.  
Gave her a glass of water and rushed her for a check  
To Doctor Lobo across the street.  
She was a surgeon and devotee of Christ.  
She examined the Rajput lady with great care  
And was amazed to see that she was unhurt ... 9

The falling of a pillar on her had a different significance.  
With this action the Saint liberated her from a spirit.  
After getting exorcised from the evil  
The lady and her children returned to Jaipur safe and sound.  
Similarly at another festival  
A large beam fell on the head of Naik Navare a worker.  
Who miraculously escaped unhurt  
By the saint's benevolence ... 10

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Was a sincere devotee of Maharaj.  
One noon the saint went to his house  
In an ascetic mendicant's garb.  
He called Ramchandra and asked for food to eat.  
Ramchandra glanced at him he looked like Maharaj.  
He respectfully brought the ascetic in  
And offered him a short plank seat to sit ... 11

He worshipped the guest and stood there still  
There upon the ascetic said to Patil,  
'I have come here today to tell you something.  
Don't be troubled by the debts you have.  
They will be cleared in days shortly.  
River Godavari dries up in summer

But rains fill it in a few hours.  
Prosperity will soon dance at your door ... 12

The house where I eat never suffers defeat.  
Bring me a dishful of delicacies  
And some clothes to dress in.  
Any offerings you make to me  
Will positively reach the Almighty  
Provided the donor is a pious devotee  
Of the all pervading Divinity ... 13

Ramchandra brought him delicious dishes.  
Which the ascetic enjoyed in great happiness.  
When he offered dakshina to the guest  
He returned the Five Rupees and said,  
'I don't want any money, I came here to ask you to take up  
The management of the temple  
In stead of dakshina give me this service ... 14

I don't see any one more proficient  
Than you to take up this pious action.  
Your ailing wife will regain her health.  
I will tie a Talisman around your son's neck  
To keep evil spirits away from him.  
This job I am asking you to take up  
Is a difficult one as your own people  
May at times try to stall your efforts ... 15

The job is like working in a tiger's hide  
Each move is to be monitored with great skill.  
Don't breed any jealousy in your mind.  
Let each move of yours be honest and kind.  
Don't take up a project against the authority.  
Respect saints and sages, discard illogicality.  
If you follow this simple guide  
God will always be on your side ... 16

Let your expenses not be more than your income.  
Never show off beyond your competence.

Don't let sages and saints go empty handed  
When they come to you on their own or invited.  
Adore these saintly personalities.  
God dislikes them who insult such dignitaries.  
Never ever think of harming blood relations  
Respect your relatives with established traditions ...17

If you at all lose your temper  
Let it not be deeper than a superficial cover  
Like a jack fruit coarse outside  
With loving pardon hidden inside.  
And lastly remember I am always with you.  
After tying a talisman around his neck  
The ascetic disappeared in a moment.  
Ramchandra thought over the incident all day ... 18

He arrived at a conclusion that the guest was Maharaj  
Who had come to advise him in an ascetic garb.  
The same night Maharaj appeared in his dream  
To remove lingering doubts from his mind.  
Maharaj has great affection for his devotees.  
His glorious life story is a savior of humanity.  
But it does require a resolute faith  
To experience his magnanimity. 19

Now in this saga of the great sage  
We have come to a stage where we recapitulate  
The glory of his victory.  
The first chapter after obeisance to Deities  
Tells the story of how the saint appeared  
On Magh Vadya Saptami  
Near the house of Devidas a devotee ... 20

Bankatlal and Damodar were the two  
Who recognized the saint true.  
In the second he attended the kirtan  
Of Govindbua and showed a miracle  
To Pitambar Shimpi and then went  
To the house of Bankat Bhavaniram.

Third chapter depicts the offering  
Of heroin to the saint ... 21

This was done by an ascetic  
Against a promise of fulfillment of his dream.  
Maharaj started smoking heroin.  
Water touched by his feet had a salutary effect.  
It saved Janrao Deshmukh from death.  
Maharaj explains the types of death.  
Throws out Vithoba for his deceit.  
The fourth deals with the arrogance of Jankiram ... 22

He doesn't give burning coal for the saint's pipe.  
Because of this his feast is spoilt.  
He begs pardon of the saint  
And the food turns to edible again.  
Janakiram becomes his devotee.  
Maharaj asks Chandu for 'Kanhole' sweets.  
He liberates Madhao after showing life after death.  
Disciples perform Vasant Puja with great mirth ... 23

Chapter five depicts Maharaj  
Sitting in a Yogic posture at Pimpalgaon.  
It was at the Mahadeo temple  
Where the cowherds worshipped him  
They all were at Pimplegaon  
Where Bankatlal went to bring him back.  
Then he went to Akoli to liberate Bhaskar,  
He got water in a dry well. Bhaskar comes under the  
Saint's care ... 24

The sixth chapter describes Bankatlal's farm.  
People had gathered to eat corn on the cob.  
Bees attacked the invitees  
Who ran away except Bankatlal.  
The incident tested his devotional matter.  
Bee sting had no effect on Maharaj.  
He went to Akot to meet Narsinghji  
Who was the disciple of Kotasha Ali ... 25

He stayed there for a few days only  
 He had brotherly relations with Narasinhaji.  
 Then he went to village Shiver  
 On the banks of Chandrabhaga River  
 To meet Vrajabhushan.  
 He then visited the Hanuman temple  
 And stayed there for the Shravan celebrations.  
 The seventh chapter tells some thing queer ... 26

It is about the Patil brothers  
 Who were rough in their behavior.  
 They spoke to Maharaj with arrogance.  
 Hari lost a wrestling bout with the saint.  
 With the miracle of sugarcane their ego shrivelled.  
 He blessed Khandu Patil with a son, Bhikya was his name.  
 Saint asked him to feed people with mango juice every  
 year.  
 Patil brothers started respecting the seer ... 27

Chapter eight talks of a dispute  
 Of Saga of a family feud between Patil and Deshmukh.  
 Mahar Chowkidar lodged a complaint against Patil.  
 An offence was registered against him.  
 But he was exonerated by the Saint's blessings.  
 Maharaj recited Vedas in front of Telangana Brahmins  
 And proved his authority over the scriptures ... 28

He stayed in Krishna's garden at the temple of Shiva.  
 There he explained a few lines of Geeta to Brahmagiri  
 ascetic and crushed his ego.  
 Here he was unhurt by a burning cot  
 Conveying that fire can do a saint no harm.  
 The ninth chapter witnesses a wild horse turned.  
 A person was reminded of his vow to bring heroin.  
 Maharaj with disciples went to Balkrishna's house ...29

This was at Balapur on Das Navami day  
 Where Balkrishna was given darshan of Ramdas  
 And all his doubts were cleared away.



Chapter ten takes us to Amaravati  
To meet Balabhau of spiritual identity.  
Ganesh Appa and Chandrabai  
Surrender their worldly belongings  
At the feet of the Saint and get His blessings ... 30

Maharaj blessed Ganesh Dada Khaparde.  
Balabhau was beaten by an umbrella one day  
To test his devotion.  
A naughty cow was calmed down.  
Ghude's hypocrisy was exposed.  
Chapter eleven tells of Bhaskar's dog bite.  
Maharaj taking him to Trimbakeshwar.  
Where he met Gopaldas at Nashik ... 31

At the request of Zyamsingh, Maharaj visited Adgaon.  
Bhaskar expired and was interred at Dwarakeshwar  
By the side of Satibai's resting place.  
Crows were ordered to stop their menace  
Ganu Javeri was saved from an explosion in the well.  
Chapter twelve tells story of Bachchulal.  
Pitambar Shimpi wears clothes given by Maharaj.  
At Kondoli Maharaj brings leaves to a barren tree ...32

Pitamber stayed at Kondoli till he lived on.  
Now let us go chapter thirteen  
A new temple was built at Shegaon  
The Saint came there in cart carrying sand.  
Zyamsingh took Maharaj to Mundgaom.  
Rains stopped the feeding program.  
Zyamsingh gave his property to Maharaj,  
Pundalik was saved from plague infection. ... 33

Gangabharati was cured of leprosy.  
In chapter fourteen Bandutatya got lucky.  
He found buried treasure  
And freed himself of all his debts.  
This was all due to the blessings of the seer.  
On Somvati Amavasya he went to Narmada River.

Boat carrying him got a hole at bottom.  
Narmada closed it by delicate hands of her ... 34

A betel leaf was sent to Madhavnath.  
Chapter fifteen describes the Akola scene  
Where Tilak came for Shiva Jayanti.  
He was given bhakari as Prasad.  
Shridhar Kale was not allowed to go abroad.  
In chapter sixteen Pundalik was restrained  
From going to Anjangaon.  
Maharaj sent paduka to him with Zyamsingh ... 35

He enjoyed 'Bhaji Bhakar' brought by Kavar.  
Tukaram was relieved of a gun shot  
Which entered his head near his ear.  
Chapter seventeen tells of his travel  
To Vishnusa staying at Malkapur,  
When police prosecuted him for being nude.  
Mehtabshah was sent back to Punjab  
Advising him to command communities' harmony ... 36

Effects of an evil spirit were removed from Bapurao's wife.  
Ganges and Godavari waters were brought to Akot well site.  
Chapter eighteen tells the story of Baija.  
And how Doctor Kavar's boil was cured by sacred ash.  
Maharaj goes to Pandharpur with disciples and Bapuna  
Bapuna Kale was given darshan of Vithoba.  
A devotee from Kavathe Bahadur caught cholera infection.  
Maharaj cured him in a minute's fraction ... 37

To remove the ego of an orthodox Brahmin  
A dead dog was brought back to life.  
Chapter nineteen brings blessings to Kashinathpant.  
Gopal Buty takes the saint to Nagpur as guest.  
Hari Patil brings him back from the feast.  
Maharaj meets Shree Vasudevanand Saraswati.  
Balabhau had some doubts about the meeting ... 38

Maharaj removes those doubts.

He protects grains from donkeys' grazing.  
 Narayan dies at Balapur, a consequence of beating Maharaj.  
 Saint blesses Jakhade who gets married as he wished.  
 At Kapildhara Nimonkar gets his darshan.  
 As service to Maharaj Tukaram gives his son Narayan.  
 Maharaj goes to Pandharpur  
 Takes permission from Vithoba and returns from the tour  
 ... 39

In the month of Bhadrapada on Rishi Panchami  
 The saint of our times took Samadhi.  
 Chapter twenty narrates miracles after the day.  
 Those with faith get darshan and blessings even today.  
 Chapter twenty first is the climax of the story  
 Summarising the happenings in the journey.  
 This effort has been made for the devotees  
 To enjoy the essence of saint's history ... 40

Several incidents do occur  
 Those remind us of his existence.  
 Contributions came in ample  
 For the construction of the temple.  
 It is a majestic structure with no parallel in the world.  
 With rest houses in all quarters  
 For the devoted visitors ... 41

Listing the donors will be a long process.  
 So given here are important names.  
 Hari Kukaji Patil, Banaji of Sangawi.  
 Ganaji of Umari, Mesaji of Batwadi,  
 Gangaram of Ladegaon, Bhagu Nandu, Gujabai  
 Banabai of Akola mother of Sukhdeo Patil.  
 All of them donated in thousands.  
 There were other donors to the list ... 42

Ramchandra Krishnaji Patil, Dattu Bhikaji,  
 Sukhdevji of Palaskhed, Martand Ganapati  
 Resident of Shegaon, Ratanlal Balchand,

Dattulal and Bisanlal of Panchgavhan,  
Ambarsingh of Takli, Kisan Belmandalekar,  
Vithoba Patil Chavarekar, Gangaram of Hasanapur.  
All these donors got together in devotion  
And donated generously for the construction ... 43

Around the Samadhi were built halls  
Offices and kitchens to serve visitors all.  
Yet much remained to be completed.  
Thus a novel idea was initiated.  
Each land lord paid an anna per Rupee  
Of his revenue as religious duty  
And each cart load of commodity coming to the market  
Paid half anna per Rupee to the kitty ... 44

They all paid the amount happily  
As it was used as construction money.  
Many fire worships were performed for collection.  
Four of them were great celebrations.  
Kisanlal Shethji performed Shatchandi Anushtan  
Inviting many learned Brahmins to perform.  
The procedure of this worship is complicated.  
Any error in the process is not tolerated by Goddess Chandi  
... 45

This fire worship is performed under great tension.  
Bankatlal, father of Kishanlal  
Was a great devotee of Maharaj.  
On the last day of the performance  
He got such a sickness that he was sinking to death.  
Everyone was worried and wondered  
Why such a thing should threaten his health  
When the Shatchandi Yadnya was in progress ... 46

Bankatlal said to Kisan, 'My son, don't be upset.  
My savior Shree Gajanan will set the things right.  
So go ahead and perform the yadnya with correct rituals.  
Saint protecting his devotees will remove all obstacles.'

It all turned out to be correct.  
Bankatlal soon got well with the blessings of the saint.  
During this worship a lady under the influence of an evil spell  
Was also relieved from the menace and went home well  
... 47

Banaji Tidke Sangavikar, Gujabai of Kasura,  
Waman Shyamrao of Chapadgaon  
Also performed Yadna at Samadhi at Shegaon.  
Thus many religious functions were held.  
Shree Gajanan Maharaj is a great saint.  
So long people were pious in their stance  
Vidharbha was a happy piece of land.  
With decrease in faith downfall began ... 48

The yield from farms dwindled to a lower mark.  
The saint couldn't bear such a disorder.  
Therefore probably he concealed himself under water.  
In fact the foundation of Samadhi site  
Was built with mortar from depth of thirty feet  
And there was no reason for water to leak.  
Thus it was felt that Maharaj was upset  
At Vidharbha's attitude of neglect ... 49

He thus collected water around him.  
If people of Vidharbha desire to win again  
They should start worshipping the saint.  
This should be with great faith.  
If not, more despair they may have to face.  
Whatever is sown in the land of Shree Gajanan  
Will bring back a yield in multiple of a million.  
Grain sowed on rocks will bring nothing back ... 50

Whenever service to saints is ignored  
The result is famine in the region around.  
Religion is like a tiger in your psyche's den.  
If it is not there jackals of bad thoughts will dominate the cave.  
Devotion is like a virtuous woman divine.

Its absence resembles a concubine  
Who brings disgrace to a person  
Spending time in her association ... 51

Don't deviate from the path of religion  
And don't drift away from faith's conviction.  
Don't fight amongst yourselves.  
This alone will increase your strength.  
Behavior of this nature will surely brighten your future.  
Visit Shegaon at least once a year  
For darshan of Gajanan, the great seer ... 52

Read these prayers once a year.  
Reading twenty one chapters of this narration  
Is like offering as many modaks to Shree Gajanan.  
Or consider these chapters as twenty one tender twigs  
Of durva grass and offer them each  
With the reading of this devotional recitation.  
With friendly feelings of human nature  
Lend joy to the entire atmosphere ... 53

It is like rays of the moon taking over the night  
Which should be reckoned as a great delight  
As the Ganesh Chaturthi festival bright.  
Consider each letter here as a durva blades  
And it's meaning as the modak sweet.  
Offering of durva and modak  
Should be done in the form of reading  
These verses are authentic and not mere fictional writing  
... 54

A nonbeliever here is a loser.  
One who reads this with faith regularly  
Will achieve what he desires.  
This holy book is like River Ganges  
With events as water and the verses as waves.  
This biography is like the wish fulfilling tree  
With chapters as branches and stanzas as leaves.  
He who has faith will achieve the saint's blessings ... 55

He will be protected by the Divinity  
In times of difficulty.  
The volume is like the wish granting crystal  
Which gives you all you desire  
Provided you have full faith in the endeavor.  
Every house where this holy story  
Of Shree Gajanan is read daily  
Will achieve perpetual prosperity ... 56

By reading this book poor will get wealth.  
Sick persons will regain their health.  
Infertile will be blessed with a child.  
Those desiring a son will get a male offspring.  
The reader will get a selfless friend.  
All his anxieties will come to an end.  
One who reads this on Dashami, Ekadashi and Dwadashi  
Will be bestowed by the Saint with prosperity ... 57

He who reads the entire book  
On Gurupushya day in one sitting  
Will achieve fulfillment of all desires and well being.  
Presence of the book in the house will keep away  
All sort of evil spirits from your way.  
This is the magnitude of the treatise  
Which can be experienced by faithful devotees.  
Only rajhansa birds can rejoice Manasarovar's bliss ... 58

Likewise this composition is for saintly people.  
Our land had many saints in the past.  
Dnyaneshwar, Mira, Mehta, Kabir,  
Nama, Savata, Chokha Mahar,  
Gora, Bodhala, Damaji, Ainath at Umbarkhed,  
Sakharam at Amalner, Dev Mamaledar,  
Yeshwant or Manik Prabhu of Humanabad.  
Similar to them is Shree Gajanan Maharaj of Shegaon ... 59

My only request to the devotees  
Is that they love the saint wholeheartedly.

To enable them to liberate themselves  
From the birth and death cycle eternally.  
Now I request Shree Gajanan Maharaj  
To free me from all my despair.  
I have just been your spokesman.  
Please show me the right path of salvation ... 60

I hate every thing that is evil.  
Let me keep up my routine  
Of visiting your shrine till the end of my life.  
Let my love for saints stay alive.  
Give me the pleasure of residing on the banks of Godavari.  
Let me be self sufficient to avoid beggary.  
Please ensure that you will be around me  
I am at the feet of saints. From you I beseech safety ... 61

O Gajanan! This book narrates happenings  
With the inspiration from your blessings.  
Ratansa's archives at the monastery  
Have been the source of this glorious story.  
Nothing here is based on imagination.  
I cannot be responsible for omissions and commissions.  
Even then if there are any mistakes  
I beg your saintly pardon for my sake ... 62

Writing in Marathi was completed by Das Ganu  
With blessings of Shree Gajanan Maharaj  
In the morning of the first day of the year  
Called Pramathi samvastar.  
It was Wednesday in the month of Chaitra  
Of Shaka One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty One.  
It was written at Shegaon  
And presented to Shree Gajanan Maharaj ... 63

Let this treatise bless the devotees.



# jai gajanan

॥ ... Anant Koti Brahmand Nayak ... ॥  
॥ ... Maharajadheeraaj Yogiraj ... ॥  
॥ ... Parabrahma Satchidanand ... ॥  
॥ ... Bhakta Pratipalak Samartha Sadguru ... ॥  
॥ ... Shegaon Nivasi Shree Gajanan Maharaj ... ॥

॥ Samapta ... The End ॥



## **Shree Gajanan Maharaj Samadhi Mandir, Shegaon**



# Shree Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan

Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinaha

## Shree Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan

About, Shree Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan, Shegaon...

The Shree Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan was established in 1908 while Shree Gajanan Maharaj lived in Shegaon. Initially there were 12 trustees, who were drawn from amongst the close devotees of Shree Gajanan Maharaj. The rules and regulations of the Trust framed in the presence of Shree Gajanan Maharaj are followed scrupulously even today. These are the guiding principles on which the trust functions. Selfless service, non-accumulation of wealth, using the donations for the benefit of all people are the cornerstones of this charter. The end towards which all the resources and efforts of the sansthan dedicated is "Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinaha" - May all beings be happy.

About 75000 devotees on an average visit the temple for darshan. The Sansthan has been carrying out in all 42 activities on the above principles with devotion. 2000 honorary workers and 3500 volunteers render their services in the Sansthan. About 3000 volunteers are in queue at any point of time, eager to render their services to the sansthan. Some of the major activities are

a) The Sansthan promotes educational activities. A residential school for mentally challenged children which has 150 students in its rolls is being run by the Sansthan. The Warkari Shikshan Sanstha imparts spiritual education to 120 male students over a period of 4 years.

## Shree Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan

b) Medical services are provided to the needy and disadvantaged through free dispensaries and mobile dispensaries which reach remote rural areas in and around Shegaon. A scheme to reimburse medical expenses of those inhabitants of Buldhana district who are below the poverty line covers 13,38,881 people from 1140 villages. Vaccination camps are also organized.

c) Besides these, philanthropic activities carried on include free distribution of food to pilgrims and free commuting facilities around the vicinity of the temple.

d) Keeping in view the nature of the Vidarbha region developmental activity is carried on. Scheme to provide drinking water and fodder in the drought prone areas is undertaken.

e) The Sansthan has developed the Anand Sagar, a garden for rest and recreation which showcases our spiritual tradition. It attracts a growing number of people every year. More than 25 lakh people visited Anand Sagar during the last year.

All the activities of the Sansthan are possible only because of the grace and blessings of Shree Gajanan Maharaj. Over the years his grace is undiminished and continues to touch the lives of a growing number of devotees. The Sansthan is thus an instrument of his divine purpose.