



Jagatguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji



Satguru Baba Pippal Dass Ji Maharaj

God on Earth

Satguru Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji



Satguru Hari Dass Ji



Satguru Garib Dass Ji



Amar Shaheed Sant Rama Nand Ji



Shri 108 Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji

Original Writer
Sant Surinder Dass Bawa

Publication : Ravidassia Dharam Parchar Asthan Kahanpur, Jalandhar

God on Earth

Satguru Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji



Religious Symbol of
Ravidassia Religion

By :
Sant Surinder Dass Bawa
Ravidassia Dharam Parchar Asthan Kahanpur

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Published by :

Ravidassia Dharam Parchar Asthan Kahanpur,

Distt. Jalandhar (Punjab)

11th June, 2020

First Edition : 1000

Price : 300/-

Printed by :

Vijay Graphics, Jalandhar (Punjab)

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Some Important facts of life Jagat Guru Ravidass Maharaj Ji

- * **Date of Birth :**
Year 1377 AD (Bikrami Samvat-Magh Sudi 15,
1433)
- * **Birth Place :**
Seer Goverdhanpur, Banaras (U.P.)
- * **Name of Mother & Father :**
Father, Respected Sh. Santokh Dass Ji Mother,
Respected Smt. Kalsi Devi Ji
- * **Name of the Grandmother and Grandfather :**
Grandfather, Respected Sh. Kalu Ram Ji
Grandmother, Respected Smt. Lakhpati Ji,
- * **Name of wife & son :**
Wife Respected Smt. Lona Ji
Son Respected Sh. Vijay Dass Ji
- * **Brahamlin :**
Harh Di Sangrand 1584 Bikrami Samvat (1528) at
Banaras



Principles of Ravidassia Religion

- (1) Our Guru : Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji
- (2) Our Religion : Ravidassia
- (3) Our Religious Book : Amritbani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji
- (4) Our Religious Symbol : 
- (5) Our Salutation : Jai Gurdev
- (6) Our Ultimate Place of Pilgrimage : Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Mandir Seer Goverdhanpur, Varanasi (U.P.)
- (7) Our Objectives : To propagate the Bani and teachings of Satguru Ravidass Ji. Besides, the teachings and the thoughts of Maharashi Bhagwan Valmik Ji, Satguru Namdev Ji, Satguru Kabir Ji, Satguru Trilochan Ji, Satguru Sain Ji and Satguru Sadna Ji would Also be propagated.
: To respect all religions, love the mankind and lead virtuous life.

Preface

Prem panth ki palki Ravidass baethiyo aaye!!

Sache saami milan koon aanand kahiyo na jaye!!

Jagatguru Ravidass says that “I have boarded the palanquin of devotion to God and I cannot describe the supreme pleasure and eternal ecstasy of union with Almighty God.”

Most revered Jagatguru Ravidass, during his incarnation in this world, preached all human beings about absolute unity, universal brotherhood & love for humanity and conveyed his sacred sermon to keep company of learned saints and practice devout meditation of God. While Jagatguru Ravidass liberated people, suffering from oppression for centuries, of all bondage on the one hand; he simultaneously enlightened the foes of humanity with his pious and truthful sermon:

“Satsangati mil rahiae Madhou jaise madhup makhira”!

O God! Kindly bless us also like honey bees to live ever happily together in pious company of Thy holy men.

Jagatguru Ravidass conveyed his sacred sermon about universal brotherhood and also envisaged one common universal abode “*Begumpura*” for all human beings of the world as explained in his *Amritbani*. Such a great revolutionary, Jagatguru Ravidass had his incarnation at Seer Govardhanpur in Varanasi during the month of Magh, 1433 *Vikram Samvat* (1377A.D.) at the blessed house of respected father Santokh Dass and esteemed mother Kalsi Devi. In order to establish an egalitarian society with equal rights for all, Jagatguru Ravidass pierced his shoulder on the occasion of *Makar Sankranti* and showed four types of *Janeu* (the cotton thread) symbolising the four Yugas or cosmic periods and abandoned the one made of thread that adorned his body in staunch protest against the social disharmony bedeviling the society.

On the auspicious & historic occasion of *Vaisakhi*, (First day of *Vaisakh*- the second month of *Vikram Samvat* Calendar), Jagatguru Ravidass achieved the unique feat of floating of stone on the water of river *Ganga*. He created myriad forms of himself in the *darbar* of King Sangram Singh and Queen Jhali and launched the unique tradition of spiritual congregations and community feeding for one and all. He spent major part of his

life travelling far and wide preaching all human beings to tread the path of truth and devout meditation of God. A large number of kings, emperors and people from all sections of the society bowed before him with allegiance and became his devout disciples. He worked for the emancipation of human society throughout his life and left this perishable world for his heavenly abode on the first day of the month of *Harh* 1584 *Vikram Samvat* or 1528 A.D. in Varanasi.

Guru Kabir reckoned Jagatguru Ravidass as the ultimate epitome of *Bhakti* and recited the following hymn;

***Saadhan mein Ravidass Sant hae, supach rishi so maaniya!
Hindu Turk dui deen bane hae, kashu nahin pahichaniya!***

Guru Kabir said that Jagatguru Ravidass is the greatest amongst sages in the entire world and reckons him as a highly respected saint. Contemporary Hindus and Muslims bowed with reverence before Jagatguru Ravidass and venerated him like God.

Sant Pipa explains the unique services of Jagatguru Ravidass towards human society as follows in his hymns:

***Je Kali Raedas Kabir na hote,
lok ved aru Kaliyug mili kar bhagti rasatal dete!***

Sant Pipa explained that “But for the timely incarnation of Jagatguru Ravidass and Guru Kabir; contemporary upper caste society, Vedas and distorted philosophical thinking under the influence of Kaliyuga would have buried '*Bhakti*' or devout meditation of God under deep sea.”

***Ravidass chamar ustati karei, Hari keerat nimakh ik gayi!!
Patit jati uttam bhya, chari varan paye pagi aayi!!***

Guru Ram Dass explains that Jagatguru Ravidass practiced such devout meditation of Oankar God and eulogised glory of divinity with dedicated devotion that he himself became one with God and indistinguishable from God. Despite his birth in a so called low caste; people from all the four classes of society bowed at his lotus feet with reverence because of his devout *Bhakti* and dignified spiritual knowledge.

Guru Arjan Dev eulogises him as follows;

***Ooch te ooch Namdeo samdarsi Ravidass thakur bani
aayie!! i.e.***

Greatest of all learned sages, who treated everyone equal.

has been Guru Namdev and Jagatguru Ravidass was incarnation of God himself in this world. Jagatguru Ravidass states in his *Amritbani* that:

***Meri jaat kutbandhla dhor dhovanta nitahi Banarasi
aas pasa!!***

***Ab bipar pardhan tihi karei dandout tere
Naam sarnaei Ravidass dasa!!***

People of my caste living around Banaras are engaged in carting away and skinning of dead animals, tanning of leather and making leather goods. Jagatguru Ravidass says that O God! As I have taken shelter under Thy sacred feet, now even the head of the Brahmins, bows before Thy devotee with reverence. This entire glory is because of Thy worship and kind blessings.

After listening to the sacred, revolutionary and redeeming spiritual sermons of Jagatguru Ravidass; King Babar, King Nagar Mall (Hardev Singh), *Rana Vir Baghel Singh*, King Sikandar Lodi, King Chandra Pratap, King Bijli Khan, Rana Ratan Singh, King Kumbha, Maharana Sangram Singh (*Rana Sanga*), Queen Jhali, King Bain Singh, King Vijaypal Singh, great saint Meera Bai, and sages Karma Bai, Bhanmati, Sant Sadhna, Sant Parmanand, as well as sage Gorakh Nath along-with people from all sections of society became his devotees.

Messiah of humanity, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar formulated the Constitution of India based on the human rights enshrined in sacred hymn “*Begumpura sahar ko nao*” recited by Jagatguru Ravidass.

Jagatguru Ravidass says that:

Ravidass soi sadhu bhalo jou rahayi sada nirbaer!

Sukhdai samta gahyi sabhnah mangahi khaer!! i.e.

Jagatguru Ravidass articulates that “A pious sage never has any enmity with anyone. He always longs for comforts and equality for everyone and he prays to God for welfare of one and all.”

Such a great benevolent and devout saint *Brahmgyani* Guru Sarwan Dass practiced dedicated meditation of God day and night on the sacred soil of village Ballan and he enabled myriad number of people of this world to pursue devout *Bhakti* of God. He always preached his devotees to become highly educated, serve one's parents, respect the elderly, love the

younger ones, keep company of learned saints and practice devout meditation of God. He got a *Dera* (Holy Place) constructed on the sacred soil of village Ballan and christened same as “*Dera Ravidassian Da*” on 2nd February, 1964 to push forwards clear identity of the community. Once, devotees pleaded at the lotus feet of Guru Sarwan Dass, “*Maharaj!* When shall we become free of the shackles of centuries old slavery?” He said, “When compilation of *Amritbani* of Jagatguru Ravidass will get completed.” *Sant* Sarwan Dass located the sacred birth place of Jagatguru Ravidass through his divine enlightenment and *Sant* Hari Dass laid the foundation stone of the temple to be built at that place in *Seer Govardhanpur*, Varanasi on 14th June, 1965 - the auspicious occasion of *Sankranti* of *Harh*, (First day of the month of *Harh*). Construction work for the temple was carried out under the able guidance of *Sant* Garib Dass.

A great place of pilgrimage was thus dedicated to the society and Guru Sarwan Dass declared that people from all over the world will always congregate at this holy place of pilgrimage to pay their obeisance. *Sant* Ramanand decorated the temple with gold '*Kalshas*' and launched the programme to frame the temple in gold. Enemies of humanity perpetrated a dastardly attack on Jagatguru Ravidass Temple, Vienna on 24th May, 2009. *Sant* Ramanand suffered grievous injuries and attained martyrdom for the sake of *Ravidassia* community and left for his heavenly abode in the early hours of May 25, 2009 to become immortal. There were spontaneous and forceful but peaceful protests all over the world by *Ravidassia* community to express their pain and dismay against this barbaric act of violence.

There-after, announcement of new religion “*Ravidassia Dharma*” was made on the sacred occasion of 633rd birth anniversary of Jagatguru Ravidass from his *Janam-Asthan Temple, Seer Govardhanpur*, Varanasi with the blessings of Jagatguru Ravidass, Guru Sarwan Dass and the entire congregation of learned saints in the presence of thousands of devotees. More than 200 million people of *Ravidassia* community were delighted to get this novel identity. That night, Jagatguru Ravidass could be seen as if blessing people of the world from the largest visible full moon of the century.

The sacred *Amritbani Granth* has been installed at lacs of

Ravidassia Temples all over the world. Detailed commentary and explanations of sacred *Amritbani Granth* have been published in many languages including Punjabi, Hindi, Marathi, English, Nepali, Italian, and Dutch languages for the benefit of devotees. Compact booklets titled '*Sukhsagar*' containing, selected hymns from *Amritbani*, have been distributed in lacs the world over.

Present English translated version of the Holy Scripture "**God on Earth Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj**" My special thanks to Sh. Sadhu Ram Heer, Kanshi Ram Kaler, Sh. Parwan, Rajni Viridi (M.Sc. Math), Yogita Viridi (MA Ed.), Ms. Alka Viridi (MA Ed.), for their important inputs to bring the Holy Scripture to its present form.

I feel extremely delighted to present English edition of the Holy Scripture "**God on Earth Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj**" to devotees all over the world with the blessings of Jagatguru Ravidass and Guru Sarwan Dass.

Devotee of Lotus Feet of *Guruji*,
Sant Surinder Dass Bawa

'Ravidassia Dharma Prachar Asthan, Kahanpur'

A Brief History

Ravidassia Dharma Prachar Asthan Kahanpur is located along Jalandhar - Pathankot National Highway in Jalandhar District of Punjab State in India. A precious jewel of *Ravidassia Dharma*, *108 Sant Surinder Dass Bawa* who established this complex, heads this organization. The foundation stone of this complex was laid by revered saint *108 Sant Krishna Devi*, Spiritual Head of *Dera 108 Sant Hari Dass*, Boparai Kalan on 27th March, 2014 in the august presence of a large congregation of saints and devotees. The plot of land for construction of this complex was very generously donated by the family members of Shakuntala Devi wife of Late Mohan Lal of village Kahanpur. As there was great enthusiasm amongst the local communities and devotees; the ardent followers of Jagatguru Ravidass completed the entire construction work within a few months even though that would have normally taken years.

Learned sages, saints and scholars, members of social and religious organizations, followers of Jagatguru Ravidass and devotees in extremely large numbers travel from faraway places to visit this complex now a days. This complex, located in a small hitherto unknown village, radiates its brilliance in all directions and is now extremely well known all over the world.

Devotees from European countries presented a sedan safari car on 1st January, 2015 to Sant Surinder Dass *Bawa* in appreciation of growing spiritual and awareness campaigns amongst the devotees for facilitating further strengthening of these praiseworthy efforts. An academy dedicated to spiritual music known as *Jagat Jagatguru Ravidass Music Academy* has been established in part of the two storey building of this complex. Expert and experienced musicians impart training to nearly 50 boys and girls to be proficient in various disciplines of spiritual music with special emphasis on Harmonium and *Tabla* musical instruments. The entire expenditure is borne by *Sant Surinder Dass Bawa* with the cooperation of the devotees. The suffering poor patients are also served at this *Ravidassia Dharma Prachar Asthan* through free *Ayurvedic* medical services and medicines. Unemployed youth are guided and

helped to join various courses to receive employment oriented education and acquire professional skills. Financial assistance is also provided by this organization to poor youth for pursuing such studies and training courses.

Baba Pipal Dass, accompanied by young son *Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass*, visited village Kahanpur first of all. When digging of soil for laying foundation to build a *Kutiya* was in progress there, a double headed snake emerged from the site. *Babaji* then told the local devotees “How can we uproot someone to build a house for us?” They moved to the next village after saying that and making a promise to visit the village again sometimes in future and build a complex for stay.

Sh. Gurdas Ram and Bibi Gurbachan Kaur, respected parents of *Sant Surinder Dass Bawa*, were profound disciples of *Guru Sarwan Dass*. *Guru* stayed at their house for several nights on many occasions. *Gurbachan Kaur* fell seriously ill during 1972 and the doctors expressed their inability to save her life. However, *Guru Sarwan Dass* visited *Gurbachan Kaur* in the Civil Hospital, Jalandhar along with many devotees and gave her a new lease of life. He also blessed her with a boon then and there itself “Do not cry for the loss of this son. You will be blessed with two more sons in due course of time.” *Gurbachan Kaur* at once declared to dedicate the elder boy for serving at the lotus feet of *Guru Sarwan Dass*. The young boy inherited the spirit of selfless service and devotion from his worthy parents. His revered parents were profound devotees of *Guru Sarwan Dass*. His respected father in this human life, *Gurdas Ram* had full blessings of *Guru Sarwan Dass* and one of the proofs of *Guruji's* benevolence is described here as follows:

Guru Sarwan Dass abandoned his perishable human body on the 11th June, 1972 to be amalgamated with God. Before leaving this transient world, *Guruji* told devotees that he has to come back soon as some tasks of utmost importance for the society are still left. All preparations for cremation had been completed. Devotees from all parts of the country and abroad had assembled to have a last glimpse and pay their respects to their beloved and revered *Guruji*. Preparations had been made to light the pyre as pure ghee, sandalwood, incense, copra and other relevant items had been put in place. Final prayer had just

been rendered to proceed with lighting of the fire. Just at that moment, devotees assembled for the cremation rites witnessed a burst of stream of blood from *Guruji's* mortal human body comprising of five elements and a few drops of the blood smeared the body of Gurdas Ram. It is extremely important to analyze this strange phenomenon to appreciate why did those drops of blood fall only on the body of Gurdas Ram? Later exactly after the lapse of 9 months since Guru Sarwan Dass abandoned his perishable human body; the birth of *Shri 108 Sant Surinder Dass Bawa* on 14th March, 1973 certainly poses a spiritual question. It merits mention that *Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass* himself sent 'Bhagwa' or sacred cloth/robe worn by saints to Saint Surinder Dass *Bawa's* parents to be worn by the new born baby (*Shri 108 Sant Surinder Dass Bawa*) well before his birth. This in itself declared the child to be born would be a saint. *Shri 108 Sant Hari Dass* blessed *Bawa* (Saint Surinder Dass) with the same sacred maroon coloured saintly robes at the young age of just 5 years as per the wishes of Saint Sarwan Dass and brought him from village Suchipind to Dera Sachkhand Ballan. *Shri 108 Sant Garib Dass* made arrangements for his education and studies.

With the blessings of Jagatguru Ravidass and Guru Sarwan Dass and the entire community of learned saints, *Shri 108 Sant Surinder Dass Bawa* made an epoch making pronouncement on the 30th January, 2010 establishing *Ravidassia Dharma* (Religion) (as envisioned by Saint Sarwan Dass on 2nd February, 1964) and also dedicated *Ravidassia's* Holy Book – *Amritbaani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj* that gave a distinct separate identity to *Ravidassia* community at the congregation.

A large library has been set up at *Ravidassia Dharma Parchar Asthan*, Kahanpur to commemorate the sacred memory of Guru Sarwan Dass. This library maintains thousands of books including texts on Dalit History and literature published by scholars specializing in issues related to Dalit communities. This library has large stock of literature related to great *Guru's*, eminent freedom fighters, brave warriors and distinguished scholars and writers. In addition to all such efforts, books are being distributed free of cost to

budding writers through Dr. Ambedkar Library and other libraries. This organization preaches and promotes sacred mission of Jagatguru Ravidass and Guru Sarwan Dass on continuous basis.

Sant Surinder Dass *Bawa* held spiritual discourses several times from the year 2010 onwards in several European countries including Austria, Greece, Italy, Germany, Holland, Spain, France, Norway, Portugal and United Kingdom as well as in America, Canada and UAE. Further he addressed religious congregations and preached about *Ravidassia Dharma* (Religion) and *Amritbani* in various countries as follows :

1. 2014- Italy and Austria.
2. 2015- Greece, Portugal and Austria.
3. 2016- America, Canada, Greece, Italy, Austria and United Kingdom.
4. 2017- Austria, United Kingdom, Greece, Italy, America, Canada and UAE.
5. 2018–United Kingdom, France, Austria, Italy, Greece, Norway, America, Canada and United Arab Emirates.
6. 2019 - Austria, Greece, Italy, France, UK, America & Canada.

Sant Surinder Dass *Bawa* was also honoured by many organizations with Gold Medals from time to time at various places in the world as follows:

1. *Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha*, Bergamo, Italy during 2010.
2. *Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha*, Karopi, Athens, Greece during 2011.
3. *Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha*, Vienna Austria, *Shri Jagatguru Ravidass Sabha*, Rome, Italy, and *Shri Jagatguru Ravidass Sabha*, Valencia, Spain during 2012.
4. *Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha*, Rome, during 2013.
5. Village Madhar, District Jalandhar, Punjab, India during 2014.
6. *Shri Guru Ravidass Sukhsagar Durbar*, Mandy, Greece on 11th September, 2015.
7. Village Alawalpur, District, Jalandhar, Punjab, India on 30th December, 2015.
8. South Hall, London, UK on 11th September, 2016.

9. *Shri Guru Ravidass Bhavan*, Bari, Italy on 21st May, 2017.
10. *Shri Guru Ravidass Durbar*, Carpi, Greece on 28th May, 2017.
11. Toronto, Canada on 20th August, 2017 and
12. *Ravidassia* Community of Village Suchipind, Jalandhar, Punjab, India on 30th December, 2017
13. Tripton, United Kingdom during 2018
14. 2 November 2019 Chicago USA.

Sant Surinder Dass Bawa was honoured with *Shri Guru Ravidass National Award* by the Indian Dalit Literature Academy, at New Delhi during 2006. Keeping in view the growing numbers of devotees and the need for publicity and communications; the devotees from U.S.A., Canada, U.K. and many other European countries made arrangements for purchase of an adjoining plot of land at Kahanpur and presented same to this organization to meet genuine requirements of the devotees. Presently this preaching centre has emerged as a leading light house. *Sant* Surinder Dass Bawa has made permanent arrangements for his stay at this place where he practices devout meditation of God, listens to *Amritbani* and conducts spiritual discourses. Simultaneously, he preaches the devotees to follow on his footsteps in respect of meditation and spiritual pursuits. Devotees are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the teachings of *Ravidassia Dharma* (Religion) at this place.

Amritbani Bhavan constructed at this place has been adorned with '*Amritbani Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji*' that is recited every morning and evening regularly. Religious and spiritual discourses are also held regularly and special *pandal* is set up for same on specific occasions like weekend Sundays and *Sangrand* or the first day of each new month as per *Vikram Samvat* calendar. Noble wishes of devotees get fulfilled here. People have immense faith and respect for this sacred place. Lots of devotees throng this complex in the morning and evening daily to have a vision of this sacred place. Apart from motivating people for worship and meditation of God and study of scriptures, this *darbar* makes earnest efforts to address the social evils like drug addiction, dowry, wasteful expenditure on social ceremonies, abortion and unfounded criticism etc. that

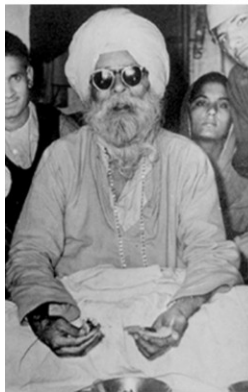
torment the society. Doctors, who are medical specialists and expert in treating various diseases, check patients by holding camps and prescribe suitable medicines.

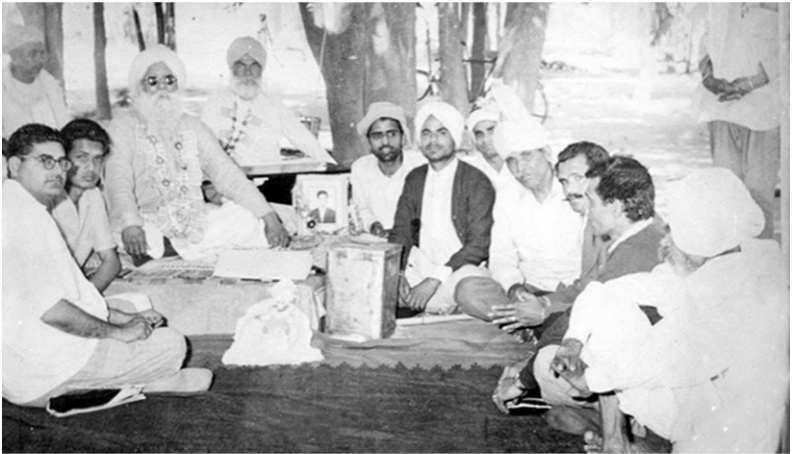
This sacred place is easily accessible to all sections of society. Everyone, rich or poor gets equal treatment and this place has been built to respect everyone. There is no caste based discrimination here and no one is superior or inferior. This centre preaches and spreads the message of welfare of all human beings, *Begumpura* Concept enunciated by Jagatguru Ravidass and clarion call of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar for education, unity and determined struggle against discrimination. A holy statue of Jagatguru Ravidass was installed at the *Amritbani* Bhavan of this sacred place by dignitaries including *Sant* Surinder Dass Bawa, *Sant* Satyapal - Chandigarh, *Sant* Krishna Devi - Boparai Kalan, *Sant* Harvinder Dass - Adampur and a large congregation of learned sages and revered saints on Sunday the 24th July, 2016. Sadhu Ram Heer, retired Chief Engineer, Northern Zone Door Darshan, was honoured with a Gold Medal for his dedicated services to the *Ravidassia* Community. This complex has facilities for community kitchen, meals for all and night stay of devotees. The sacred vision of Guru Sarwan Dass seems to be getting fulfilled here at this holy preaching centre as *Gurujii* used to think of eulogy for grandeur of Jagatguru Ravidass in every house hold. *Sant* Surinder Dass Bawa has been making earnest efforts in this direction through dedicated hard work day and night with utmost devotion. May revered *Gurujii*'s benevolent blessings be always with him so that he continues to render devoted and fruitful services to the community.

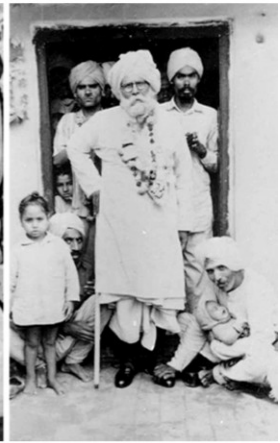
Kanshi Ram Kaler,
Jandu Singha (Jalandhar)

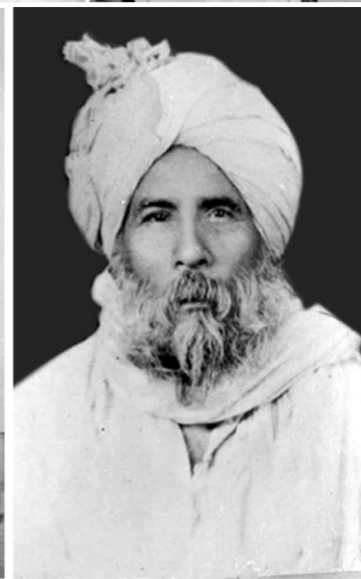
On 10th July 2019, the great writer Sh. Kanshi Ram Kaler's wife Smt. Kiran Bala was honoured with Gold Medal by *Sant* Surinder Dass Bawa Ji in the presence of Saints & devotees. On 14th January 2020, *Sant* Satyapal Dass Ji from Barbala (Haryana) who is preached the *Ravidassia* Dharam (Religion) in all over India, was honoured with Gold Medal by *Sant* Surinder Dass Bawa Ji in the presence of Saints and devotees.

Holy Memories of Satguru Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji



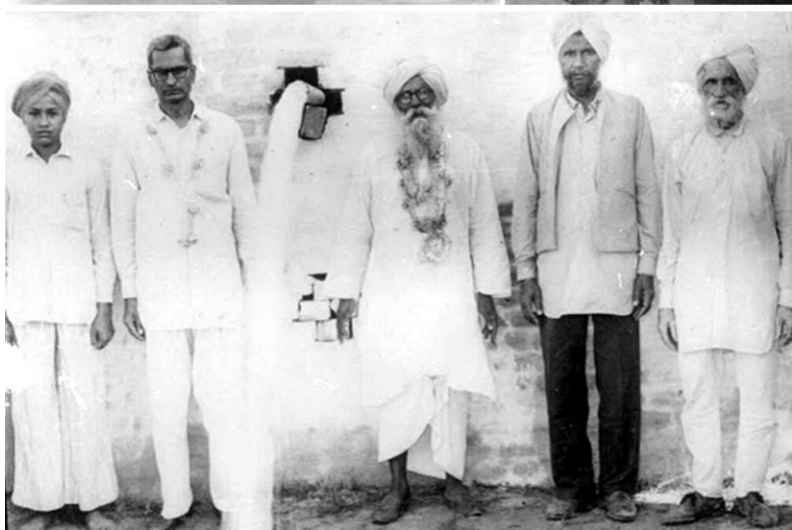


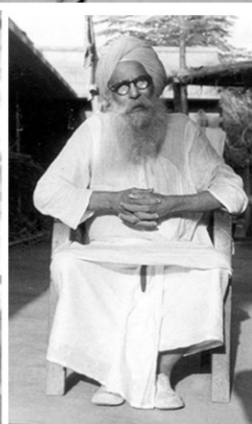


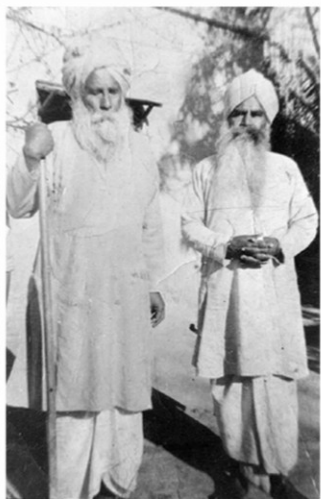










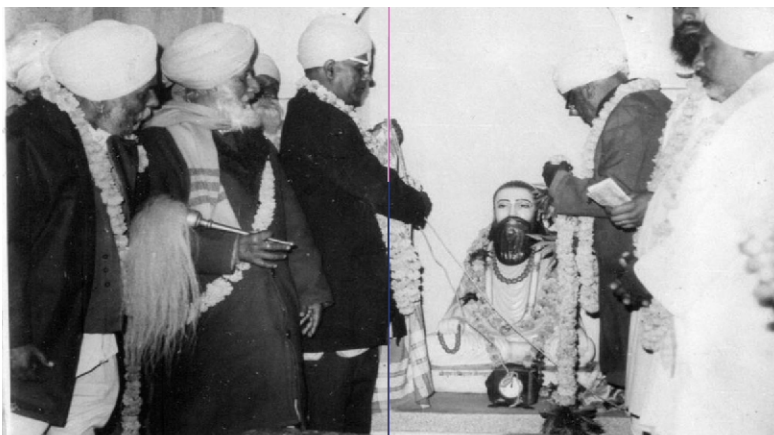


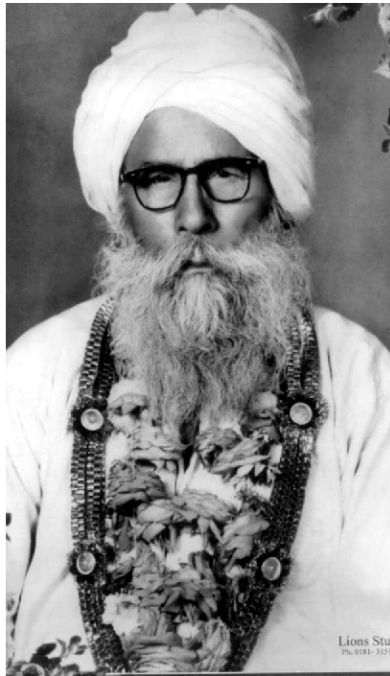
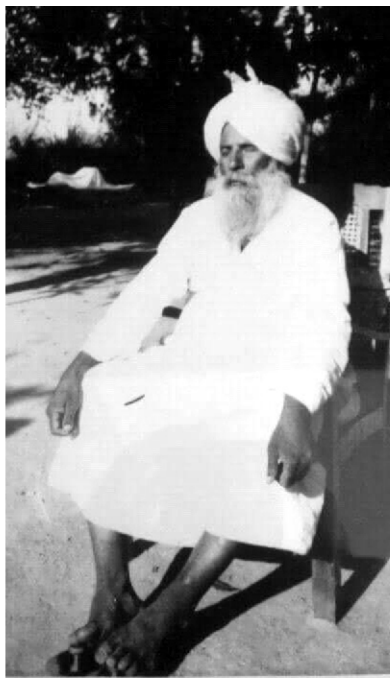




*Kalyug Kali Badli, Bars Rahi Angiar,
Sant Na Hote Jagat Mai, Jal Marta Sansar ||*







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433	One hit with 'Khoonda' or Long Walking Stick is Enough	453
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447	Satguru belongs to Dedicated Devotees	462
448	Impact of Three Hits with the Long Walking Stick	463
449	Maharaj Ji ensured Rapid Promotions	464
450	Munna or Yong Girl is Alone in Kutiya	465
451	Maharaj Inculcated the Spirit of Confidence amongst Children	466
452	Maharaj Ji wanted Everyone to be Highly Educated	467
453	June 11 is Really a Day of Darkness for Us	468
454	When Little becomes Plenty with Blessings of God	469
455	He will keep sending Money Orders	470
456	Don't get Scared! You may go Home	470
457	Give him one more Blanket	471
458	The Words of Saints Always Come True	472
459	When Little becomes Plenty with Maharaj Ji's Blessings	472
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462	Blessings of Satguru Ji with Long Walking Stick	475
463	A Perfect Guru always prevents his Devotees from Vacillation	476
464	Blessing Bangarh Raipuria with a Son	477

* * *

**Poem recited by
Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj**

Tariya Nagar Mall Jis

*Aaye Kashi vich, tariya Nagar Mall jis!!
Ikk dum maya wali fasi kihne torhi aa!!
Fir fir sare jagg ekta failayi kis,
dubbe jande Bharat di jind kin morhi aa!!
Ouch neech raou rank bhai hae na bhed koyi,
jat-pat Hind vichon aaye kin torhi aa!!
Dasso Satguru Ravidass ton bina chuhan juggan chon,
fati hoyie shrishti milaye kin jorhi aa!!*

Venerated Guru Sarwan Dass Ji

*Dhann guru Sarwan Das Ji, pind Ballan Sachkhand bana ditta!
Jagat guru Ravidass da, sare jagg vich mission faela ditta!!*

*Gill Patti Baba Pipal Dass Ji, mata Shobhavanti ghar jaye ne!
Dharti Ballan di tap karke, bhag sutti hoyi kaum de jagaye ne!!
Nashiyen da karke tiyag ji, parho vidiya ih path parha ditta!
Jagat guru Ravidass da, sare jagg vich mission faela ditta!!*

*Dere nu likha ke Ravidassia, sann 64 vich shan vadhayi ji!
Dib-drishhti nal khoj karke, Kashi vich ninh rakhwayi ji!!
World level te kathe hon da, sangtan nu rasta dikha ditta!
Jagat guru Ravidass da, sare jagg vich mission faela ditta!!*

*Kaum di tarakki bhala sabh da, har vele ardas karde!
Sabh sangtan diyan jholiyan, Hari Namm nal bharde!!
Guru Ji di Amritbani ne, samaj bandhna ton mukat kara ditta!
Jagat guru Ravidass da, sare jagg vich mission faela ditta!!*

*Sant Hari Dass Ji Garib Dass Ji mission wadhayi ae!
Ramanand dittiyan shahadian, amar shahid kahaiya ae!!
Bawe fir sant samaj ne, nawan Dharam Ravidassia saja ditta!
Jagat Guru Ravidass da, sare jagg vich mission faela ditta!!*



Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji

*Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji ne Hari Hari da Naam japaiya ae!
Sariyan sangtan nu Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji de charni lagaiya ae!!*

*Pita Pipal Dass Ji, mata Shobhavanti Ji de ghar'ch agman hoiya!
Nagar Gill Patti Bathinda vikhe satgur da chanan hoiya!!
Satguru Ji ne sangtan nu sach da rah dikhaiya ae!
Sariyan sangtan nu Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji de charni lagaiya ae!!*

*Ballan di pawan dharti te satgur ne tap kita!
Iss nagar di shobha nu sansar vich pragat kita!!
Tahiyon tan ajj rahibran da nam jagg ch rushnaiya ae!
Sariyan sangtan nu Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji de charni lagaiya ae!!*

*Dib-drishhti rahin Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir di khoj karwayi!
Sant Hari Dass Ji pason Harh di Sangrand nu ninh rakhwayi!
Sant Garib Dass Ji ton ih kamm sampooran karwaiya ae!
Sariyan sangtan nu Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji de charni lagaiya ae!!*

*Iss Tirath asthan ton Ravidassia Dharam da aelan hoyia ae!
Ravidassia kaum nu sare Sansar vich rutba prapat hoiya ae!
Tahiyon Amritbani nu sare jagg ne mann vich vasaiya ae!
Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji ne Hari Hari da Naam japaiya ae!
Sariyan sangtan nu Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji de charni lagaiya ae!!*

* * *

God on Earth Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj

Satguru Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji revived the sacred mission of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji during the twentieth century. This humble writer got the wonderful opportunity with the benevolent blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj to dedicate his entire life at the lotus feet of Satguru Hari Dass Ji since the young age of just 5 years to render dedicated services to Dera Sachkhand Ballan and its followers. Many disciples of Satguru Baba Pipal Dass Ji, Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and Satguru Hari Dass Ji Maharaj often meet me regularly. I feel really proud when I listen to the amazing devotional stories related to the lifetimes of such revered, accomplished and perfect saints from their blessed devotees and I am fully satisfied to have the honour of serving at the lotus feet of such distinguished Satguru Sahibs. Satguru Hari Dass Ji invariably addressed Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj as “*Rabb*” Ji i.e. God with utmost reverence. Whenever Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj assigned any specific task that was respected as an order of God by Satguru Hari Dass Ji who always executed the instructions very diligently without any reservation.

Satguru Hari Dass Ji pursued devout meditation of God while serving at the lotus feet of Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and attained inner self enlightenment with the benevolent blessings of Maharaj Ji and he clearly realized that whatever the Supreme God does all over the universe from Sachkhand; similar tasks are being performed regularly by Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj from the planet Earth. Satguru Hari Dass Ji's worthy successors and subsequent spiritual heads of Dera Sachkhand Ballan also likewise respect Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj as divine incarnation of God and Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. Dedicated disciples amongst the congregation of infinite numbers of devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj also describe Maharaj Ji as incarnation of Almighty God while narrating their unique personal experiences pertaining to the lifetimes of their revered Satguru Ji. This writer has made earnest efforts to edit and publish some of such unique true stories narrated by devout disciples of Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Such

published historical details related to the life time of Satguru Maharaj Ji will serve as beacon light in future times and I am sure that learned readers and devotees will take full advantage through careful study of same.

This collection of devotional stories will surely benefit innumerable numbers of learned readers and devotees while simultaneously carrying forwards the important tasks related to promotion of philosophy and teachings of Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj, Ravidassia Dharam, 'Amritbani Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj' and the sacred mission of Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. The present publication is a small collection of selected stories. A larger collection of such devotional stories will be presented for the perusal of learned readers and devotees in future. All difficulties experienced by a devotee, who is devoted to the lotus feet of Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj, get resolved automatically and his noble desires get fulfilled. Satguru Maharaj Ji helps his devotees to realize God and escorts their noble souls to Sachkhand - the realm of God. Even these days, disciples of Maharaj Ji and infinite numbers of devotees of Dera Sachkhand Ballan pursue devout meditation of God treading on the spiritual path shown by the revered satguru and they are fully prepared to attain eternal salvation and secure shelter at the lotus feet of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji and Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj in Sachkhand.

This humble writer is sure that learned readers and devotees will take full advantage and benefit immensely from study of these devotional stories and carry forwards the sacred mission of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji and Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. We shall certainly be successful in expanding the sphere of influence and following of Ravidassia Dharam in accordance with the teachings of Amritbani Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. Ultimately we shall be able to realize Guru Ji's dreams like Begumpura, "*Aesa chahun raj mae*" i.e. the kingdom of equality of all and deprivation of none and "*Pradhinta paap hae*" i.e. slavery is a great curse and grave sin. We shall be successful in guiding all humanity on the righteous path of spiritual renaissance and devout meditation of God to realize the cherished noble dream of Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj.

Brahmgiani Shri 108 Sant Baba Pipal Dass Ji Maharaj

Ravidass bhanae jo janae so jaan! Sant anantahi antar nahi!!

Jagatguru Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj has aptly said that there is no difference whatsoever between God and saints. Saints represent eternal incarnation of God in this world who unite the misguided ignorant people of this world with God. Saints also ameliorate and improve lives of human beings. Brahamlin Shri 108 Sant Baba Pipal Dass Ji Maharaj was one such extremely revered saint. The sacred birth place of Baba Pipal Dass Ji is Village Gill Patti in Bathinda district of Punjab. Baba Ji's grandfather shifted from village Kuttiwala to village Joganand for some years and latter settled down permanently at village Gill Patti, district Bathinda. Baba Ji's original name was Harnam Dass and Baba Ji's parents were highly religious minded. Baba Ji used to sit in isolation and pursue devout meditation of God. All residents of the village loved him dearly. He was highly obedient to his parents and he handled farming operations very diligently under the guidance of his parents. He studied Gurmukhi language and scriptures and became a great scholar. Baba Ji mostly used to study such scriptures and religious granths that promote ascetic thinking. Baba Ji was very fond of planting trees. A Ber (*Zyziphus mauritiana*) tree planted by Baba Ji is still growing very well at Gill Patti. He got married with Bibi Shobhavanti Ji who was an extremely pious and virtuous lady. He received blessings of sacred Naam from Shri 108 Sant Mohan Dass Ji.

God blessed Shri Harnam Dass Ji with two sons over a period of time. The elder son was Shri Sewa Dass and the younger son was named Sarwan Dass Ji. While Sarwan Dass Ji was just five years old, his mother Shobhavanti Ji left for her heavenly abode to be one with God. Shri Harnam Dass Ji then entrusted all responsibilities related to farming to his elder son Shri Sewa Dass Ji and left his house for ever along with his younger son. Baba Ji and young Sarwan Dass travelled to several places motivating people of this world to connect with Naam and meditation of God. Baba Ji also sanctified villages such as Kahanpur, Sarmastpur, Raipur and Ballan with his lotus feet. Local residents of these villages welcomed them with

utmost regards. During Baba Ji's first visit to village Kahanpur, he decided to make a cottage for stay there. However when Baba Ji started to dig the soil for construction of a hut, a burrow of a double headed snake was found at that location. Baba Ji did not wish to destroy the abode of a snake to build a hut for his stay. Therefore Baba Ji abandoned the idea to build a hut there and moved away from that village. Baba Ji promised to the villagers to visit them sometimes again and walked away towards village Ballan along with young Sarwan.

The living area of village Ballan was quite open with neat and clean environment those days. There were lot of Dek (*Melia azadirachta*) trees in the village and they liked the place very much. Baba Ji preached the local residents for some days to connect with Naam and practise meditation of God and then moved to village Singriwala and stayed with Shri Lalu Ram Ji for some time. However young Sarwan Dass Ji requested his respected father to take him back to the village with Dek trees because he was not comfortable with the new environment in Singriwala. Baba Ji then returned to village Ballan along with his illustrious son and the villagers welcomed them whole heartedly with great enthusiasm. All of the residents were extremely delighted and they displayed far greater respect, love and affection for the distinguished visitors compared to their earlier visit. Therefore Baba Ji decided to stay permanently in that village on regular basis. Local people made arrangements for their stay in a small house where Baba Ji and young Sarwan pursued devout meditation of God day and night and also preached devotees to practise regular meditation of God.

There was a Pipal (*Ficus religiosa*) tree near that house and that old tree had unfortunately dried up completely. Local residents of village Ballan one day told Baba Ji that they used to sit under the dense shade of Pipal tree during hot summer months and they prayed, "Baba Ji! Kindly revive this sacred tree and restore it to become lush green again." Baba Ji very kindly recited prayer and poured water around the dry Pipal tree with his 'Chippi' – a boat shaped pot. Within a few days of that new buds started to sprout slowly and the tree became lush green over a short period of time. The local residents were

amazed and delighted and they started to call Sant Harnam Dass Ji as Baba Pipal Dass Ji with great reverence after this miraculous development. Mark Juergens Meyer has written in his famous book 'Religious Rebels' in Punjab on page number 84 "Baba Pipal Dass Ji established this Dera at a time when he was on a pilgrimage in search of the truth. When he noticed the dry Pipal tree, he applied water around the same and it sprouted to be lush green again. Baba Ji was convinced that this was the right place to stay and continue the search for truth. The villagers donated a small piece of land and a small Dera was built for Baba Ji's stay. That Dera very soon emerged as a spiritual centre for the people hailing from central Punjab and untouchable communities." This became the focal point for the followers of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj over a period of time.

Baba Ji used to go to secluded places on the western outskirts of village Ballan and perform devout meditation of God along with young Sarwan Dass in the calm and quiet environment of dense forest. Dera Sachkhand Ballan is located at the same place these days. Baba Ji opened a vernacular school at the small Dera to teach Punjabi language and sacred Gurbani to the children. Baba Ji preached people to pursue meditation of God and listen to Satsang and teachings of Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj and other revered saints. Devotees used to visit Baba Ji with great reverence and prasad. Baba Ji always motivated people to ensure good education for their children and to shun social evils, ritualistic worship, intoxicants and narcotic drugs. Baba Ji also extolled people to respect and serve their parents and live together with great love and fraternity. When the great social reformer Babu Mangu Ram Magowalia Ji was collecting historical literature related to spiritual sages such as Maharishi Bhagwan Valmik Ji, Satguru Ravidass Ji, Satguru Namdev Ji, Satguru Kabir Ji and their teachings; he also met Baba Pipal Dass Ji to seek similar information from Baba Ji.

Ravidass soi sadhu bhalo nirmal jake baen!

Jih kari daras aau paras son man upjahi sukh chaen!!

i.e.

Satguru Ravidass Ji explains that, “A saint who speaks in pious soothing words is noble. One realizes true and lasting pleasure just by having a glimpse and bowing with devotion at the lotus feet of such a sage.”

Whatever Baba Ji ever said that proved to be an eternal truth. Once Baba Ji visited Shri Shiami Ram Ji's house at Haripur and conducted a spiritual discourse there. Baba Ji preached devotees to practise regular meditation of God. Shiami Ram Ji used to store wheat grains in a mud bin at his home. Baba Ji very kindly conveyed his blessings and said, “This bin will always remain full of food-grains.” They continued to use the food-grains for 13 months and then decided to replenish the stock for one more year. However when they opened the bin from the top, it was still full of grains. Likewise Baba Ji visited village Arjanwal one day. One woman placed her head with reverence at Baba Ji's lotus feet and prayed, “Baba Ji! I have no offspring and therefore my mother-in-law is threatening to expel me from the house.” Baba Pipal Dass Ji very kindly placed his hand with blessings on her head and said, “You will give birth to five dear sons over a period of time.” She was blessed with five sons including Giyani Joginder Sigh Ji over a period of time with the benevolent blessings of Baba Pipal Dass Ji.

Motivating innumerable devotees this way to pursue devout meditation of God, Baba Pipal Dass Ji left this perishable world to be one with God on the first day of Navratras during the year 1928. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji became the worthy successor of Baba Ji and spiritual head of Dera Sachkhand Ballan.

Brahamlin Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj

A great messiah of humanity and Brahmngiani saint, who promoted spiritual philosophy of Jagatguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj and other distinguished saints, Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj had his incarnation on 15th February, 1895 at the home of blessed parents Baba Pipal Dass Ji and Shrimati Shobhavanti Ji in village Gill Patti, district Bathinda. There was a sign of legendry Padam on the under surface of Maharaj Ji's

right foot. Maharaj Ji's respected parents pursued devout meditation of God. As advised by his respected father Baba Pipal Dass Ji; Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj secured the blessings of sacred Naam from Sant Harnam Dass Ji. Maharaj Ji's revered Satguru Sant Harnam Dass Ji often used to say, "Sant Sarwan Dass is indeed a great and accomplished saint who has gone far ahead of me in spiritual knowledge and enlightenment because of his devout meditation of God. He will be a highly venerated great saint in future."

Even a desolate forest gets transformed into a sought after heaven where ever revered saints set their pious feet and decide to stay. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji used to pursue devout meditation of God at a tranquil secluded place on the western outskirts of village Ballan. Maharaj Ji also practised Angkati yoga at this very place and many individuals had witnessed that unique frightening scenario of severed limbs during yoga and later return to normal human form by Maharaj Ji. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji used to stay for the night at the Kutiya inside village Ballan where Maharaj Ji conducted spiritual discourses everyday in the evening. Maharaj Ji used to pursue devout meditation of God since his childhood. A local farmer Shri Hazara Singh was so deeply impressed with the benevolent and compassionate humanitarian approach and exceptional spiritual attainments of Maharaj Ji that he donated one Kanal land to Maharaj Ji to establish a small Kutiya or cottage for meditation. Maharaj Ji received primary education from his illustrious father. Maharaj Ji studied Sanskrit and received higher education under the able guidance of Sant Karta Nand Ji, village Kishangarh to become a great scholar of Sanskrit, Hindi and Punjabi. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji was also an accomplished poet and a poem composed by Maharaj Ji is reproduced below for the information of the learned devotees.

Aaye Kashi vich, tariya Nagarmall jis!!

Ikko dum maya wali fasi kihne torhi aa!!

Fir fir sare jagg ekta failayi kis, dubbe jande Bharat di jind kihne morhi aa!!

Ouch neech raou rank bhai hae na bhet koyi, jati pati Hind vichon aaye kin torhi aa!!

*Dasso Guru Ravidass ton bina, fati hoyie shrishti milaye
kihne jorhi aa!!* *i.e.*

Jagatguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji had his incarnation in Kashi and emancipated king Nagarmall. He shattered the noose of Maya with devout worship of God and meditation of Naam. He travelled far and wide preaching universal brotherhood & equality of human beings, unity in diversity like honey bees and he salvaged the sinking ship of human values in the society all over India. He shattered the myth of inherent caste based superiority or inferiority, discrimination based on financial status, highlighted equality of all human beings and made earnest efforts to eradicate such evil discrimination and injustice forever. None else except Shri Guru Ravidass Ji made such sterling efforts to unite the disintegrated and highly divided human society during the four Yugas of cosmic time.

The Kutiya inside village Ballan was designated 'Dera Ravidassian Da' after completion of its reconstruction on 2nd February, 1964 and that further strengthened the identity of society and it was said that Ravidassia community will have its own religion and granth someday.

Maharaj Ji first got a small masonry platform built in this desolate place. Thereafter a small room with a veranda on front side was constructed where Maharaj Ji used to pursue devout meditation of God. Sant Baba Pipal Dass Ji left for his heavenly abode to be one with God on Thursday the first Navratra the 26th day of the month of Assu or Ashvin, Vikram Samvat 1985 (1928 A.D.). Thereafter as desired by Baba Ji, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji assumed the responsibilities to motivate devotees to pursue devout meditation of God and to ferry them across Bhavsagar to the realm of God. Maharaj Ji also continued to teach Punjabi language to young children in the school with in the Kutiya and guide people for study of scriptural granths and educate them for improving their social standing. Maharaj Ji used to get Mahal Poorhas and Khir or rice pudding prepared in the community kitchen on many Sundays to serve to visiting saints, devotees and students. Many children received good education and rose to become very senior officers with the benevolent blessings of Maharaj Ji.

*Maat pita sut shatar hae, puttār parhavahi nahi!!
Sobh na pavat sabha mahi, jiou bag hansan mahi!! i.e.*

Those parents who do not provide good education to their children are the real enemies of their own children. An illiterate person does not get any respect in a congregation and he is easily recognized just as a heron is easily identified in a flock of swans.

Maharaj Ji often used to visit many revered saints who pursued devout meditation of God. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji visited Dera Beas along with Giyani Bishna Ram to meet Baba Sawan Singh Ji during 1940. Baba Sawan Singh Ji was seated on a cot on the first floor of his residence and some devotees were also present there at that time. When he saw Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Baba Ji got up from the cot and greeted the distinguished visitor with folded hands and great affection. Maharaj Sarwan Dass Ji also greeted Baba Sawan Singh Ji very affectionately with folded hands. Baba Ji requested Sant Sarwan Dass Ji to sit comfortably on his right hand side on the same cot and both revered saints exchanged views on issues related to meditation of God and spiritual ascent. Maharaj Ji had great love and affection for the community of learned saints. Maharaj Ji was also an exceptionally great ayurvedic physician and all patients received treatment and medicines free of cost at Maharaj Ji's Kutiya.

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji visited Delhi during 1948 at the request of many devotees posted at Delhi such as Shri Fakir Singh, Shri Swaran Singh and Shri Niranjan Singh Hothi from village Ballan, Shri Pooran Chand from Biaspind, Shri Bhagat Ram Mall and Shri Nama Ram from Dihana. Maharaj Ji conducted spiritual discourses at the residences of various devotees at Delhi for nearly two months. Maharaj Ji also went to meet the messiah of humanity Baba Sahib Dr. B.R. Ambedkar at his residence. Giyani Bishna Ram Ji and his colleagues also accompanied Maharaj Ji. Baba Sahib welcomed Maharaj Ji with utmost respect and he was highly impressed by the unique personality and progressive views of Maharaj Ji. In 1932, during the developments related to Poona Pact, fasts were observed from both the sides. Babu Mangoo

Ram Mugowalia undertook fast unto death on behalf of Baba Sahib Bhim Rao Ambedkar. When finally this fast was broken, it was Swami Sarwan Dass Ji who offered a glass of juice to Babu Mangoo Ram Ji.

Baba Sahib Ambedkar Ji visited Butan Mandi in Jalandhar during 1951. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji then sent a written communication to Dr. Ambedkar that was read out for the benefit of everyone present in the congregation to greet and listen to Dr. Ambedkar. Maharaj Ji had written in that communication, "My brave lion hearted son! You must remain steadfast in your commitment to serve the community. You will have a glorious success and the entire society shall be always extremely proud of you and your sterling contributions."

Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji actively promoted the philosophy and teachings of Jagatguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji and Maharaj Ji laid foundation stones of temples dedicated to Guru Ji at several places. One of the most significant contributions of Maharaj Ji was the identification of the exact site of Guru Ji's birthplace and construction of a seven story elegant Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Sir Govardhanpur, Varanasi through the dedicated efforts of Sant Hari Dass Ji and Sant Garib Dass Ji. This sacred temple is the revered place of pilgrimage for Ravidassia community and all humanity. Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj also made very significant contributions for construction of rooms at important public places such as Bhagwan Ravidass Ashram, Nirmala Chhawani, Haridwar, Shri Guru Ravidass School, Jalandhar, Art and Craft Training College, Jalandhar, Shri Guru Ravidass Technical College Phagwara and Primary School, Raipur-Rasulpur.

People all over the world are very well aware of the innumerable amazing spiritual feats of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji for welfare of humanity. Maharaj Ji fulfilled the aspirations and noble desires of infinite number of people with his benevolent blessings including most desirable treasure of offspring for childless couples. Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji cured many patients suffering from incurable diseases just with his benevolent blessings and soothing words even though doctors had expressed their inability to treat them. Whenever Maharaj

Ji blessed any disciple with sacred Naam; Maharaj Ji used to explain about the stages of the five sacred words of Naam and their signs and location etc. Many devotees prayed to Maharaj Ji from time to time for kind blessings when they experienced difficulties to concentrate on meditation and achieve self enlightenment. Satguru Maharaj Ji then used to convey his blessings to such a devotee and open his tenth aperture leading to self enlightenment and realization of God.

As per indications given to many individuals in advance; Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji left for Sachkhand to be one with God on 11th June, 1972. All preparations for cremation had been completed.

Devotees from all parts of the country and abroad had assembled to have a last glimpse and pay their respects to their beloved and reversed Guru Ji. Preparations had been made to light the byre as pure ghee, Sandal Wood, Incense, Copra and other relevant items had been put in place. Final prayer had just been rendered to process with lighting of the fire. Just at that moment. Devotees assembled for the cremation rites witnessed a burst of stream of blood from Guru Ji's human body compromising of five elements and Sant Hari Dass Ji became the illustrious successor and spiritual head of Dera Sachkhand Ballan. Shri 108 Sant Hari Dass Ji and thereafter Shri 108 Sant Garib Dass Ji maintained the healthy traditions and followed on the footsteps of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji to motivate and guide the devotees to pursue devout meditation of God. With the benevolent blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj this sacred place Dera Sachkhand Ballan is now very well known all over the world.

Brahamlin Shri 108 Sant Hari Dass Ji Maharaj

Ravidass soyi Sadhu bhalo jou rahyi sada nirvaer!

Sukhdayi samta rahyi sabhnah mangahi khaer!!

Jagatguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj says that those saints are excellent who are always impartial with no enmity for anyone. They provide succour to everyone without any discrimination and seek welfare of everyone. Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji says in Amritbani that the saints motivate people of this world

to pursue devout meditation of God and help them to ferry across the unfathomable Bhavsagar.

Brahamlin Shri 108 Sant Hari Dass Ji Maharaj, the third spiritual head of Dera Sachkhand Ballan, was truly such an accomplished saint who was epitome of peace and devout meditation of God and a great social reformer. Sant Hari Dass Ji had his birth at the blessed home of respected parents Shri Hukam Chand Ji and Shrimati Tabi Ji during 1885 on the sacred soil of village Garha, district Jalandhar Punjab. Revered saint's original name was Shri Punnu Ram Ji and his elder sister's name was Shrimati Punna Devi Ji. Their respected parents were highly religious minded and pious. While Shri Punnu Ram Ji was still very young, his respected parents left for their heavenly abode and he had to shoulder all household responsibilities at tender age. He mastered the arts of making beautiful shoes and white washing and painting of buildings. He was very fond of listening to and singing Gurbani hymns and keeping company of revered saints since childhood. He solemnized the marriage of his elder sister Shrimati Punna Devi in village Maherhu and then he was free of his worldly responsibilities. Shri Punnu Ram Ji then got busy in search of a perfect Guru Ji to make his scarce human life truly fruitful.

Param paras guru bhetiyae poorab likhat lilat!

Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj has rightly said that a human being is able to meet a truly perfect Guru when his past noble deeds make that possible. When Shri Punnu Ram Ji listened to the unique glory of Baba Pipal Dass Ji from some of the devotees of revered Baba Ji ; he had a passionate longing to have a vision of Baba Ji soonest possible. Therefore he reached village Ballan to meet Baba Pipal Dass Ji. He met Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj there and paid his regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Thereafter he enquired about Sant Baba Pipal Dass Ji. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji served him meals and then said, "Baba Pipal Dass Ji has gone to Shri Shiami Ram Ji's house in village Haripur. You are most welcome to go there and meet Baba Ji." Shri Punnu Ram Ji paid his regards to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and took leave of Maharaj Ji to proceed to Haripur. When he reached Haripur, Baba Pipal Dass Ji was conducting a spiritual

discourse at Shri Shiarni Ram Ji's home. He was ecstatic with joy after having a vision of revered Baba Ji and he was extremely delighted as his life's goal had been achieved. He paid his regards at the lotus feet of Baba Pipal Dass Ji and sat down to listen to the spiritual discourse. On completion of the Satsang, Punnu Ram Ji prayed to Baba Pipal Dass Ji to kindly bless him with sacred Naam. Highly impressed with his devotion and humility, Baba Ji said, "I shall visit your village Garha day after tomorrow and bless you." He conveyed his gratitude to Baba Ji and took leave to return to his village.

Baba Pipal Dass Ji reached village Garha on the third day and blessed Shri Punnu Ram Ji with sacred Naam keeping in view his utmost devotion and assigned him the name Hari Dass. Hari Dass Ji surrendered himself completely including his physical body, mind and wealth at the lotus feet of his revered Satguru Baba Pipal Dass Ji. Thereafter Sant Hari Dass Ji devoted most of his time to pursue devout meditation of God. He used to visit Baba Ji's Kutiya at Ballan very frequently and stay there for many days to render voluntary services at Baba Ji's durbar with dedicated devotion. He held Sant Sarwan Dass Ji in very high esteem and had immense devotion and affectionate love for Maharaj Ji.

Baba Pipal Dass Ji abandoned his perishable human body comprising of five elements to be one with God on Thursday the 26th of the month of Assu or Ashvin, Vikrami Samvat 1985. Such separation from his revered Satguru was unbearable for Hari Dass Ji and therefore he used to remain extremely sad. Before leaving for his heavenly abode; Baba Pipal Dass Ji had told Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, "I have blessed Hari Dass with the sacred Naam and you should offer him saffron robes at an appropriate time and bring him here for permanent stay at this Dera. He will be a great accomplished saint who will motivate people to pursue devout meditation of God and emancipate them." Sometimes thereafter Hari Dass Ji organised a congregation of revered saints at his village Garha as desired by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Revered saints in very large numbers including a Muslim fakir Syed Ghulam Gilani participated in the congregation. Satsang or Spiritual

discourses by venerated saints followed the Bhog ceremony of Gurbani recital. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj preached people to pursue devout meditation of God and make their precious and scarce human lives truly fruitful.

Thereafter fakir Syed Ghulam Gilani Ji delivered his sermon and conveyed sincere gratitude to Sant Hari Dass Ji for organising the congregation and enabling the devotees to have a vision of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. He said, "Divine brilliant illumination of God is radiating from the face of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj." Thereafter as desired by Baba Pipal Dass Ji, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj offered sacred saffron robes to Sant Hari Dass Ji who then shifted permanently to stay at Maharaj Ji's Kutiya and devoted his entire life to dedicated service of Sant Sarwan Das Maharaj Ji with utmost devotion and humility. Sant Hari Dass Ji studied Gurbani and religious scriptures under the guidance of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj to become a distinguished scholar. Sant Hari Dass Ji was extremely fond of study of religious granths and he used to read from various scriptures during the evening discourses at the Kutiya inside village Ballan and Maharaj Ji gave a scholarly commentary for the benefit of the devotees present in the congregation every day. He was also very fond of planting trees, ornamental plants and seasonal flowers in the premises of Kutiya. Many such trees including mangoes planted by Sant Hari Dass Ji are present at Dera Sachkhand, Ballan even these days. Baba Pipal Dass Ji and Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj had opened a vernacular school in the Kutiya where Sant Hari Dass Ji used to teach Punjabi language and Gurbani to children.

Sant Hari Dass Ji also used to emphasize that the parents who do not ensure good education for their children are in fact enemies of their own children. Sant Hari Dass Ji always preached people to pursue devout meditation of God, listen to Satsang and Gurbani, inculcate the spirit of brotherhood, equality and unity, shun vices, illusions and do not believe in hearsay and wizards. He obeyed each and every instruction of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj with utmost humility and dedicated devotion happily without any reservation. As desired by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj, the foundation stone of Shri

Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple, Seer Govardhanpur Varanasi was laid by Sant Hari Dass Ji and he also supervised the construction work related to this elegant temple on 14 June, 1965 built for the benefit of all humanity.

Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji left for his heavenly abode to be one with God on 11th June, 1972 and Sant Hari Dass Ji became the worthy successor as the third spiritual head of Dera Sachkhand Ballan. Sant Hari Dass Ji had such dedicated devotion and infinite love for Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj that he said with great humility publicly on that occasion “Had Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji lived physically with us for another ten years period then I would have also become a saint.” Sant Hari das Ji always urged upon all people to keep company of revered saints, worship God and shun vices. Maharaj Hari Dass Ji used to recite special poems written by the famous poet Girdhar Kavirai.

Sangat kariye sadh ki bandiyon kare Khuda, loha kanchan hot hae dekho paras la!!

Dekho paras la sumat kar mana hasa, sabh ban chandan hot hae jahan bansan ka vasa!!

Kahi Girdhar kavirai nadi sanse ki tariye, wade bhag jab hoye santa di sangat kariye!!

We should always keep company of learned saints who have the capabilities to transform a human being to be like God just as a mere contact with the 'Paras' the philosopher's stone turns any metal into gold. Try it yourself and do not ignore it like a joke. You can find sandalwood trees in a forest where bamboos also grow. Poet Girdhar says that we must cross over the river like realm of illusions and we should treat ourselves to be extremely fortunate when we keep company of learned saints.

Sant Hari Dass Ji treated this world like an inn and often used to recite the following stanza to highlight the point that everyone has to leave this world one day:

“Doli chak laou kaharo meri, rondiyen nu ron dio! Doli chak laou kaharo meri, rondiyen nu ron dio!!” Or

Let four people carry the bride in palanquin on their four shoulders while others may keep weeping and crying. In

spiritual terms, the bride soul is taken in a palanquin to unite with her husband God.

Jind meriye tera koyi nahin, aeven koorh haveliyan malliyan ni!

Chhad javna des ih mapiyan da, pher aaye na dekhengi galliyan ni!

Charkhe tand na pawna miloo taenu, jadon kant ne chithiyan ghalliyan ni!

Toon bhi ronvadi javengi ais shahiron, jiven agliyan rondiyan challiyan ni!! i.e.

O my soul! There is no one of your own here. You are making futile claims over these unreal worldly possessions. You will have to leave this parental abode and you will never revisit these lanes. You will not get even one second extra time when God sends you orders for return and death will knock you down. You will have to leave this world crying just as others departed in the past.

Sant Hari Dass Ji was a true Brahmgiani (omniscient) and every word he spoke even casually proved to be eternal truth always. Judge Shri Gurnam Chand Suman had three daughters over a period of time and the family begot a son thereafter with the blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. He visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan along with all members of his family during 1973. While his young son Bobby was playing along the canal bank together with his three sisters, he accidentally slipped into the flowing canal and drowned when he tried to touch the water with his hand. The child's mother fainted on hearing the tragic news that his son drowned in the canal. Many devotees and saints went in search of the boy and finally retrieved his dead body and placed same in front of the sacred idol of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj in the temple. Shri Gurnam Chand and his wife Bibi Gurbachan Kaur desperately prayed to Sant Hari Dass Ji to be kind to save the child. Sant Hari Dass Ji recited a passionate prayer to God with great humility and then advised the family to rush the child to Civil Hospital Jalandhar where Dr. Shingara Singh examined the child and said that the boy was safe and all right. When he heard the complete details about the accident from Judge Suman; the doctor said, "It is indeed because of the

benevolent blessings of Sant Hari Dass Ji that this child has miraculously survived even after remaining drowned under water for more than an hour.” Doctor Shingara Singh then asked, “Bobby! What had happened to you?” Bobby said, “Sant Maharaj Ji was pushing me with his long walking stick towards the canal bank.” This is how Sant Hari Dass Ji gave a new lease of life to the young boy Bobby.

While motivating infinite number of devotees to pursue devout meditation of God and ensuring their emancipation; Sant Hari Dass Ji amalgamated with God at 11 a.m. on 6th February, 1982. Just a few minutes before abandoning his perishable human body; Sant Hari Dass Ji had said, “Jagatguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj, Baba Shri Chand Ji, Baba Pipal Dass Ji and Sant Sarwan Dass Ji have just materialized.” Shri 108 Sant Garib Dass Ji became the worthy successor and next spiritual head of Dera Sachkhand Ballan.

* * *

Brahamlin Shri 108 Sant Garib Dass Ji Maharaj

Shri 108 Sant Garib Dass Ji was the fourth spiritual head of Dera Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and he dedicated his entire life to the service of society and social reforms, motivating misguided people of this world to pursue devout meditation of God and to address their misplaced beliefs and dilemmas. Such a great noble and pious soul had his incarnation during the year 1925 at the house of respected parents Shri Nanak Chand Ji and Shrimati Har Kaur Ji in village Jalbheyana, district Jalandhar on the sacred soil of Punjab. Shri Garib Dass was the youngest amongst the five brothers. His parents were highly religious minded and very pious. His dear father left for his heavenly abode when young Garib Dass was just 6 months old. Thus he was brought up only by his mother with great affection. His respected mother always motivated him to keep company of revered saints and listen to Satsang. He has been extremely soft spoken and very friendly and courteous with all of his colleagues since his childhood.

Whenever any devotee from his village visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan, Garib Dass Ji also used to accompany him. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj used to love him dearly because of innocent love and devotion of young boy Garib Dass who

endeared himself to everyone. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj asked him to sit nearby during one of his visits to Dera Sachkhand Ballan. Maharaj Ji then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Maharaj Ji! My name is Garibu." That vernacular word Garibu means a very poor person. Maharaj Swami Sarwan Dass Ji then very kindly blessed him and said, "Dear child! You are not Garibu or poor but you are the messiah of the poor and impoverished people. As you have utmost devotion and love for revered saints in your heart since childhood, you will be a great accomplished saint one day. Just as you come here to have my vision, people from all over the world will then visit you to have your vision." All of the residents of his village who were present there on that occasion were extremely delighted to witness this amazing feat and listen to such kind words of Maharaj Ji.

Shri Garib Dass Ji started to stay at the Dera to render dedicated services in accordance with the directions given by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and Sant Hari Dass Ji. Sant Chetan Dass Ji also stayed at the Dera those days. Garib Dass Ji provided ayurvedic medicines to treat needy patients as guided by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Anyone who was given medicine by him used to get cured with the kind blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He was also expert in astrology. He had extremely amiable, affectionate serene and serious thinking nature. He remained engrossed in devout meditation of God every moment. Sant Garib Dass Ji made several trips to Varanasi to supervise construction of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple in accordance with the instructions of Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. He led a group of large numbers of devotees to visit Varanasi and completed the laying of lintels and roof slab of the ground floor of the temple complex during 1965.

Sant Garib Dass Ji laid the foundation stone of the printing press complex in Mohalla Sunder Nagar, Jalandhar for the publication of Weekly Begumpura newspaper during 1991 in the interest of civil society. Devotees and revered saints from all over Punjab were present there in very large numbers on that auspicious occasion. When Sant Garib Dass Ji addressed the august congregation from the stage, everyone

was highly impressed and amazed. Sant Garib Dass Ji stated on that occasion, “Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj had assigned him two most important responsibilities. The first is to render dedicated service to human society and the second one is to pursue devout meditation of God. I don't need to speak for long time on these two crucial issues.” Sant Garib Dass Ji motivated infinite numbers of devotees abroad to pursue devout meditation of God and adhere to the teachings of Gurbani and Jagatguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. Sant Garib Dass Ji visited England six times and United States of America twice on such humanitarian missions.

Sant Garib Dass Ji got an elegant welcome gate built on the main link road leading to village Ballan from Pathankot Road to commemorate the pious memory of Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. He got Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple decorated with gold. Sant Garib Dass Ji used to lead the devotees who travelled in large numbers to Varanasi by special Begumpura Express train every year to celebrate the auspicious occasion of birth anniversary of Jagatguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. Revered saints and devotees from all over the world, including countries such as England, USA and Canada, were sent formal invitations to participate in a unique religious congregation at Varanasi on 19th June, 1994. Extremely large numbers of venerated saints and devotees including 300 delegates from abroad participated in that congregation. Sant Garib Dass Ji reached Varanasi along with large number of devotees on 15th June and returned back on 23rd June, 1994 after the conclusion of the huge spiritual congregation to commemorate the sacred memory of Jagatguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. Sant Garib Dass Ji made a very significant public pronouncement while addressing the congregation and said, “I shall not visit Varanasi again as I have fulfilled the onerous responsibilities entrusted to me by my revered Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji with Maharaj Ji's benevolent blessings.” Sant Garib Dass Ji had also told the devotees during his visit abroad from October 9, 1993 to November 26, 1993 that he would not visit England again.

Most of the people were wondering why Sant Garib Dass

Ji wanted to hold the congregation at Varanasi in such intense heat of June, 1994 during the peak summer season. However he knew very well in advance that he has to abandon his perishable human body to join Satguru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj very soon in Sachkhand - the realm of God.

While Sant Surinder Dass Bawa and Shri Bhag Mall Ji were escorting Sant Garib Dass Ji to the washroom just three days prior to the event of his amalgamation with God, he had told them, "I shall leave this perishable world very soon." Likewise when Sant Ramanand Ji and Sant Surinder Dass Bawa Ji were sitting beside him a few days earlier in the evening; Sant Garib Dass Ji had told them that he had fulfilled all the responsibilities entrusted to him by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj with Maharaj Ji's blessings. Thereafter Sant Garib Dass Ji completed his distinguished life's journey and left this perishable world for his eternal abode in Sachkhand at 14.55 hrs. on 23rd July, 1994. All of the devotees the world over were terribly shocked to hear about this extremely painful event and unbearable loss. Lacs of devotees, revered saints and sages from all over India and abroad assembled quickly to have a last glimpse and pay their homage to their revered Satguru. Sant Garib Dass Ji's perishable body comprising of five elements was consigned to flames on 25th July, 1994.

* * *

Immortal Martyr Shri 108 Sant Rama Nand Ji

Some exceptionally great men take birth in this charming and enigmatic world occasionally and they leave the foot prints of their benevolent and brave deeds for all people to remember with reverence till eternity. However such distinguished revered saints become a beacon light for the entire humanity. Limitations of international borders and discriminations based on colour, caste, creed, religion and social groups are meaningless for such sages. Revered saints are like the giant *Ficus (Ficus bengalensis)* tree that provides cool shade and shelter to everyone while venerated saints protect the humanity from the extreme heat of sins like the cool breeze from the west ameliorates the whole environment.

Sant Rama Nand Ji was born on February 2, 1952 at the

house of respected parents Shri Mehinga Ram Ji and Shrimati Jeet Kaur Ji at village Ramdasspur, district Jalandhar in Punjab. His enchanting looks used to charm one and all in the streets of the village and he had a saintly nature from his childhood. Rama Nand Ji completed his graduate degree studies from Doaba College, Jalandhar. He used to remain very quiet and secluded while pursuing his studies. He was very fond of sacred company of revered saints and that had to bear fruit one day and the saffron dye was extremely deep and fast beyond limits with final approval. Most of the members of his family opposed him and decided to prevent Rama Nand Ji from keeping company of learned sages and revered saints. Topics related to Satsang and venerated saints were commonly discussed at home. Shri Rama Nand Ji used to remain busy with meditation of God all the time even while attending to household responsibilities assigned to him. Finally his parents offered their son Rama Nand to serve at the lotus feet of Shri 108 Sant Hari Dass Ji, Dera Sachkhand Ballan. Sant Hari Dass Ji initiated him as a disciple and blessed Rama Nand Ji with sacred Naam. Sant Rama Nand Ji used to stay at the Kutiya inside village Ballan from 1973 onwards and he remained busy there with meditation of God to commemorate the sacred memory of Baba Pipal Dass Ji Maharaj. Sant Rama Nand Ji used to stay at the Dera and render various services to the devotees and visitors and also sing Gurbani Kirtan and narrate from spiritual granths everyday for the benefit of devotees during the life times of Sant Hari Dass Ji and Sant Garib Dass Ji.

It is worth stating here that Sant Rama Nand Ji was blessed with sacred Naam and self enlightenment by Sant Hari Dass Ji. However he was offered saffron robes formally by Sant Garib Dass Ji. Sant Rama Nand Ji had the fortunate opportunity to travel abroad to many countries with Sant Garib Dass Ji to promote the philosophy and teachings of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj all over the world. He successfully motivated infinite numbers of devotees within India and abroad with the teachings of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj under the dynamic leadership of Satguru Garib Dass Ji spiritual head of Dera Sachkhand Ballan. He endeared himself to the vast numbers of devotees abroad who held him in very high esteem and loved

him dearly. Devotees present in any congregation used to get mesmerized after listening to Gurbani Kirtan in melodious voice of Sant Rama Nand Ji.

Sant Rama Nand Ji was a very talented administrator who managed the affairs of the Dera very efficiently. He extolled the philosophy and teachings of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj in the congregations of revered saints at the international level. Simultaneously he took very active part in promoting all of the social projects launched by Dera Sachkhand Ballan for the welfare of humanity. Sant Rama Nand Ji rendered praise worth exemplary services as the editor of Begumpura Shaher weekly newspaper for which he was publicly honoured by the Indian Dalit Literature Academy. He is also credited with the unique first historical precedence of delivering a scholarly and passionate speech about the life and philosophy of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj in the Parliament House of United Kingdom. He was an accomplished and respected scholar of Gurbani who used to explain extremely difficult concepts of Gurbani to devotees in very simple language with apt examples. Whenever Sant Rama Nand Ji sang Gurbani Kirtan in his extremely melodious voice; everyone present in the congregation used to be amazed and absolutely mesmerized.

Sant Rama Nand Ji made sterling efforts to create serious interest in Gurbani Kirtan amongst youngsters of the new generation. Simultaneously he was able to spot talented poets, missionary singers, scholars and writers with his expert discerning eye and such brilliant artists were honoured publicly with gold medals. Door Darshan, Jalandhar also used to telecast special programmes titled 'Amritbani Shri Guru Ravidass Ji' and 'Begumpura Shaher Ko Naou' in the mesmerizing melodious voice of Sant Rama Nand Ji. Sant Rama Nand Ji was an extremely brave and determined warrior who left no stone unturned to accomplish all missionary goals successfully and he never felt tired or annoyed while pursuing these noble tasks relentlessly. Sant Rama Nand Ji often used to emphasize, "Whatever time one can devote for the service of satguru and society' that is indeed fruitful and good. Who knows whether one will get any such fortunate opportunity later or not?"

A great scholar, talented Gurbani singer, accomplished ayurvedic expert Vaid, pivot of Jagatguru Ravidass Mission and precious gem of community of saints; Sant Rama Nand Ji pursued devout meditation of God all the time. He suffered serious bullet injuries in a dastardly attack by misguided cowards and enemies of humanity at a temple in Vienna, Austria on 24th May 2009 while he was on a mission to promote philosophy and teachings of Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. Even after being hit by bullets, Sant Rama Nand Ji continued to chant name of Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj as if to tell everyone that he was yet very keen to do a lot more to preach Guru Ji's philosophy and teachings. However the destiny decided otherwise and Sant Rama Nand Ji amalgamated with God and attained martyrdom for the sake of humanity in the early morning hours of 25th May 2009. Sant Rama Nand Ji dedicated his entire life till his martyrdom and departure for Sachkhand the realm of God to preach teachings of Gurbani and Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj. He urged all members of the Ravidassia community to get united at the national and international level as preached by Jagat Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj in his Amritbani, *"Satsangat mil rahiae Madhou jaise madhup makhira"* i.e. O God! Kindly bless us to live happily together like honey bees in the company of your blessed devotees.

Ravidassia Dharam has attained a separate identity and received recognition the world over after the martyrdom of Sant Rama Nand Ji and Amritbani Granth has been adopted in lacs of sacred temples in different countries of the world. Following on his footprints, Sant Surinder Dass Bawa is rendering dedicated services to humanity in order to fulfil the dreams and aspirations of Sant Rama Nand Ji to promote religious feelings amongst Ravidassia society for the development and awakening of down trodden impoverished communities and freeing them from the chains of slavery and inferiority complex so as to create a well educated, learned and responsible society. Caravan is making rapid progress towards its noble destination and this meaningful important journey will continue to move forwards.

* * *

God on Earth

Satguru Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji

1. Return of Happiness of Life

Once, Baba Pipal Dass Ji was going somewhere in village Ballan, when Shri Mall Singh Ji met Baba Ji on the way and he paid his regards to Baba Ji. Then, Baba Ji asked him, “Is everyone fine in your family?” Mall Singh Ji replied, “Maharaj Ji! We are in deep trouble. My brother's wife died and my brother S. Natha Singh son of S. Sunder Singh's waist is injured. Please be kind and help us.” Baba Ji replied, “Don't worry. Your brother Natha Singh will get married and children will make merry at his home in due course of time.” Baba Ji's words proved to be absolutely true. Natha Singh recovered fully within a few months and later he got married. His son Ajit Singh said, “We are seven brothers and we have one sister at present with the kind blessings of Baba Ji.”

*(S. Ajit Singh son of S. Natha Singh, Village Ballan,
21.10.2001)*

2. Blessing Shri Batan Singh with Children

Shri Batan Singh and Bibi Kesari Devi lived in village Muradpur. Later they shifted to Alawalpur. They have no child. They were devotees of Baba Pipal Dass Ji. Whenever Baba Pipal Dass Ji visited their home, he used to tell them, “Prepare Chapatis with salted flour.” Baba Ji used to relish salted chapatis. One day Baba Ji went to their home at Muradpur. Batan Singh and Bibi Kesari Devi prayed to Baba Ji and said, “Maharaj Ji! We have no child. Kindly bless us.” Baba Ji said, “Dissolve five 'Patasas' (special type of sugar crystals) in water and use that sweet water for kneading the flour and then prepare chapatis.” Chapatis were prepared accordingly and served to Baba Ji. Baba Ji relished eating those special chapatis. After eating the food, Baba Ji said, “Batan Singh! Don't worry about anything. God will surely bless you?” After this they were blessed with four children including Shri Sarwan Dass in due course of time.

*(Shri Sarwan Dass son of Shri Batan Singh, Village
Alawalpur)*

3. Blessings for Pukka (Concrete) Houses

Once, Baba Pipal Dass Ji went to village Biaspind. At that time almost all houses in the village were made with mud plaster and unbaked bricks. Baba Ji conveyed his blessings and said, “*Kaku lalo lal ho jane.*” That remark meant that all houses will be pukka (concrete) houses built with baked bricks and cement mortar in due course of time. That is exactly what happened. Baba Ji's words proved to be eternal truth. The entire village developed and progressed in very short time. All of the houses in the village are beautiful pukka houses these days.

(Shri Raj Mall son of Shri Atma Ram, Village Biaspind, 20.06.2003)

4. Omniscient Baba Pipal Dass Ji

One day Baba Pipal Dass Ji was on his way to village Rahimpur to meet Baba Badri Nath Ji. After reaching close to village Dugari, Baba Pipal Dass Ji said, “Hari Ram! That lady, who is coming towards us, has no cover on her head.” Shri Hari Ram replied, “Baba Ji! Her head is covered with dupatta.” Baba Ji said, “Hey! You don't understand. Naked head means that she is a widow as her husband is already dead.” When the lady came close to them, Shri Hari Ram politely enquired about her husband. She replied sadly, “Brother! My husband unfortunately died a few months back.” Baba Ji was omniscient. It was an unpleasant truth that the lady was a widow having lost her husband a few months earlier.

(Shri Tarsem Lal son of Shri Hari Ram Ball, Village Maqsudan, Jalandhar, 13.7.2003)

5. Flood of Milk

Baba Pipal Dass Ji used to seek voluntary offerings of food items from a limited number of households in the village and then have meals. One day Baba Ji and young Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, who was about eight years of age then, went to the house of Shri Bishan Singh 'Nambardar' or local revenue official of village Sanghwal to seek offerings of food items. Shri Bishan Singh's wife gave some chapatis and buttermilk to Baba Ji and pleaded, “Maharaj Ji! We are short of milch animals. Therefore I could offer only small quantity of butter milk.” Baba Ji said, “Don't worry! It is all right.” While both of them

were returning from village Sanghwal, they approached near a well with Persian wheel when Baba Ji told young Sarwan, "Let us eat the chapatis here." Baba Ji placed the Kamandulu with buttermilk at the spot where water lifted from a well in galvanized iron pots run by the Persian wheel drops. Baba Ji together with young Sarwan started operating the Persian wheel. The Kamandulu with small quantity of buttermilk was full in no time and buttermilk diluted with large volumes of water started flowing in the irrigation channel.

They stopped operating the Persian wheel and meanwhile some local villagers also reached the spot. Baba Ji looked at the Kamandulu and then remarked, "Sarwan! The buttermilk has increased many folds in volume. The family which gave us this buttermilk will have abundant volumes of milk from their milch cattle." Later Baba Ji had food along with young Sarwan and some chapatis were given to the villagers to eat. Baba Ji's words proved to be eternal truth and the house of Bishan Singh always had plenty of milk beyond their imagination.

(Shri Ram Kishan son of Shri Keru Ram, Village Sanghwal, Jalandhar)

6. Prediction of Marriage

Shri Atma Ram father of Shri Raj Mall from village Biaspind had profound devotion and reverence for Baba Pipal Dass Ji. One day, Baba Pipal Dass Ji went to Shri Atma Ram's house. A large number of devotees paid their respects at the lotus feet of Baba Ji. When a neighbour's 12 -13 year old son named Chhajju Ram bowed to Baba Pipal Dass Ji then Atma Ram Ji said, "Baba Ji! This boy will get engaged shortly and he will be getting married after a few months. Kindly bless him with your benevolence." Baba Pipal Dass Ji said, "The girl chosen for his scheduled engagement will die before her marriage. This boy will get married with another girl." Baba Ji's prediction proved to be absolutely true as that girl died before her marriage. Baba Ji's words proved to be eternal truth. Later on that boy married another girl in due course of time.

(Shri Raj Mall Ji village Biaspind, March, 2003)

7. When Sant Sarwan Dass Ji fulfilled Desire of Bibi Channan Kaur

Shri Shingara Singh and his wife Bibi Channan Kaur, from village Raipur Rasulpur, had devout respect and love for Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji once promised Bibi Channan Kaur, “When I have to abandon this human body comprising of five elements and leave for the realm of God - Sachkhand Begumpura; I will definitely come to meet you before that. Channan Kaur! This is my solemn promise to my daughter.” Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj was in a hospital at Ludhiana while Maharaj Ji was preparing to leave this perishable world for Begumpura on that fateful day of June 11, 1972. Maharaj Ji was sick for the people of this world. However in reality, Maharaj Ji was busy in devout meditation of God and meticulously fulfilling his words, the boons and blessings granted to the devotees and promises made by Maharaj Ji during his life time. As Maharaj Ji had also promised to Bibi Channan Kaur to meet her before abandoning his perishable body, Maharaj Ji materialized at her residence at Raipur Rasulpur to meet her just 20 minutes before departure for realm of God at night time. Maharaj Ji said, “Channan Kaur! I have come here just to meet you as promised. I have very little time and I shall abandon my perishable human body very soon.” With these last words, Satguru Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj dematerialized. Very soon thereafter, Maharaj Sant Sarwan Dass Ji abandoned his perishable human body comprising of five elements at Ludhiana and became amalgamated with God.

(Naseeb Kaur D/o Shri Shingara Singh & Bibi Channan Kaur, 2002).

8. Blessing Shri Swaran Dass with a Son

Shri Swaran Dass, hailing from village Lalliyan Khurd, is currently resident in U.K. He had six daughters but he had no son. He had listened about the glory of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji from Shri Gurbachan Dass Ji. Then he came to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji at Dera Sachkhand Ballan with the fond hope of getting Maharaj Ji's blessings to beget a son. He and his wife paid their profound regards at the lotus feet of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj after reaching the ashram. Omniscient

Maharaj Ji of his own accord said, “Your wish will definitely get fulfilled. A son will be born in your house after one year. You should name him Saligram.” Maharaj Ji's words proved to be exactly true as they begot a son after one year and the child was named Saligram.

(Shri Gurbachan Dass, Village Lalliyan Khurd, Date 2.2.2001)

9. Blessing with Land

S. Sunder Singh, from village Chamiara in district Kapurthala, was profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Once, Maharaj Ji went to visit his home and Maharaj Ji had to leave for village Khojewali thereafter. When Maharaj Ji reached Chamiara then S. Sunder Singh Ji prayed, “Maharaj Ji! I have taken 15 acres land on lease in village Safipur with your blessings. Kindly bless that land with your lotus feet.” Maharaj Ji readily agreed and went to Safipur to visit that land along with other devotees. After reaching there, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji asked, “Sunder Singh! “Who is the owner of this land?” Sunder Singh said, “Maharaj Ji! This land belongs to S. Darshan Singh.” Then Maharaj Ji said, “Sunder Singh! This is your land. It belongs to you. Now you are the owner of this land.” Immensely delighted, Sunder Singh said, “Yes please! That is very kind of you.” Finally, S. Sunder Singh bought that 15 acres land from S. Darshan Singh in the year 1959. This is the unique way Maharaj Ji blessed S. Sunder Singh.

(S. Sohan Singh, Nephew of S. Sunder Singh)

10. Protection during War

S. Sunder Singh's nephew S. Sohan Singh had very high regards for Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. Soldier Sohan Singh sought blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj before proceeding to fight in the 1962 war between India and China. His family members received first telegram at their home that mentioned that Sohan Singh had been injured while fighting the war. After some more days another telegram was delivered at their home. Unfortunately this telegram mentioned that Sohan Singh has made the supreme sacrifice as a martyr in the war. With tears flowing uncontrolled from their eyes, Sohan Singh's mother

Jawali Ji, his wife Channan Kaur, other family members and his uncle Sunder Singh came to meet Maharaj Ji holding both the telegrams in their hands. Weeping bitterly, they showed both the telegrams to Maharaj Ji and said, "Maharaj Ji! Sohan Singh has attained martyrdom in the war." Maharaj Ji advised all of them to stop crying. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj then tore apart both of the telegrams and said, "Sohan Singh is absolutely fine. He will return home fit and fine within one week."

That's exactly what happened. Maharaj Ji's words proved to be eternal truth. After the end of the war, Sohan Singh Ji was brought from China border to Delhi by aeroplane and thereafter he reached Jalandhar by train. He met his family members at home and then reached Dera Sachkhand Ballan along with his family members. They paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and all of them conveyed their profound gratitude to Maharaj Ji. They said, "Maharaj Ji! It is because of your gracious blessings that Sohan Singh is present amongst us today. All members of this family will be indebted to you for lifelong for your kind benevolence." Maharaj Ji said, "It is all because of grace of God. All of us should be grateful to God. Let us all say glory to God."

(S. Sohan Singh Ji, July 2002)

11. Protection of Baby in Womb

Shri Pritam Dass Patwari and his wife Bibi Balwant Kaur, from village Chamara near Bhogpur, were profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Once, Bibi Balwant Kaur had been pregnant for seven months. It was winter time and one day Bibi Balwant Kaur slipped while climbing up the stairs to reach first floor and she fell down. When Doctor arrived and examined her, he said, "Everything is fine and she is safe. She has suffered only mild injury to her wrist." Bibi Balwant Kaur asked her husband to visit Kutiya and pay sincere gratitude and profound regards to Maharaj Ji. When Shri Pritam Dass Ji reached Kutiya, Maharaj Ji had gone out for a walk along with Sant Chetan Dass Ji. Then Pritam Dass Ji also went out and followed them to meet Maharaj Ji. When he paid his respects to Maharaj Ji, Maharaj Ji told him, "Go to Dera. We shall also reach there after some time." Then Maharaj Ji told Sant Chetan

Dass that Pritam Dass looked to be very sad. Sant Chetan Dass Ji replied, “Maharaj Ji! Now that he has come here to meet you, his sadness will vanish.”

Maharaj Ji returned to the Kutia after some time and said, “Pritam Dass! Your child is absolutely safe. Don't worry and relax. You will got a male child.” Pritam Dass replied with folded hands, “Maharaj Ji! You are omniscient.” Thereafter, Maharaj Ji gave him Prasad for Bibi Balwant Kaur and asked him to return home. When he reached his home, Balwant Kaur said, “Maharaj Ji came here just one hour ago and advised me not to worry. Maharaj Ji also said that I would give birth to a son. Maharaj Ji also told me that Prasad has been sent for me through Pritam Dass. When she said so, Maharaj Ji returned back quickly.”

Shri Pritam Dass was extremely surprised to hear this account and he said, “It is amazing. Maharaj Ji was sitting inside the Kutiya one hour earlier and I was also there at that time.” Sant Sarwan Dass Ji was thus always by the side of his devotees to protect them at all times. Bibi Balwant Kaur gave birth to a handsome son after two months as per blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj.

(Shri Pritam Dass Patwari, 2002)

12. Dalit Awakening Conference at Dera Sachkhand Ballan Glory to Shri Guru Ravidass Ji

There are two very important aspects – political and religious for the development of any society. An incredible movement known as Adi-Dharam movement was launched under the dynamic leadership of Babu Mangu Ram Ji during the year 1925 for the empowerment and development of scheduled castes and backward castes. This missionary work was continued under the leadership of Punjab Adi- Dharam (Scheduled Castes) Federation with head office at Jalandhar City. Babu Mangu Ram Ji was appointed as President of this Federation. The responsibility to spearhead this movement on the country level throughout India was delegated to Shri M.C. Raja resident of Madras. However when Simon Commission came to India during 1928, Shri M.C. Raja was replaced and Baba Sahib Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar was entrusted that

responsibility to lead the movement at country level. Adi-Dharam (Scheduled Castes) Federation was fully recognized by the Government of India during 1930.

Three separate Commissions visited India on three different occasions till 1935. The first one was Sir John Royal Commission) during 1928, the second was The Franchise Committee (Lord Lothian Committee during 1932 and the third was The Delimitation Committee (Lord Laurie Hammid Committee) during 1935. Finally three Round Table Conferences were held in England. There were serious differences between Raja Munje Pact (M.C. Raja and Dr. Munje) and Minority Pact (Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and his Associates) that could not be reconciled. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and his Associates were demanding separate political rights for the backward castes while M.C. Raja was against it. Ultimately political rights were granted to backward castes in accordance with Poona Pact vide India Act 1935. The agreement between Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi is called Poona Pact. Grant of political rights to backward castes has been possible only because of untiring efforts of Baba Sahib Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Babu Mangu Ram Ji. In reality, Baba Sahib Dr. B.R. Ambedkar fought for securing the political rights for backwards castes in England like a lion with complete whole hearted support of Adi- Dharam (Scheduled Castes) Federation and Babu Mangu Ram Ji was the founder of Adi-Dharam movement. Finally, Dr. Ambedkar was successful in securing the political rights for scheduled castes and backward castes.

It was very clearly understood by Lord Lothian Committee (Franchise Committee) 1932 That the backwards communities all over Punjab belong to Adi-Dharam in accordance with the views of their revered Gurus (Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji, Maharishi Valmik Ji Maharaj, Satguru Kabir Sahib Ji and Satguru Namdev Ji) and their religious granth is Adi-Granth that comprises of Gurbani hymns of those revered saints. Keeping that in mind and in accordance with the instructions of Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji; Babu Mangu Ram, Shri Hazara Ram General Secretary and Master Lal Chand Ji Valmiki from Ferozepur visited Varanasi during

the year 1934 to study historical facts related to Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji and his birth place. During those days people belonging to scheduled castes community lived on the western side of villages and cities. Such localities were known as Chamar Majra or 'Chamarhli'. It was found after due research that Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji lived in 'Chamar Majra' locality of Kashi. It is quite likely that the same locality was later named Seer Govardhanpur as the shepherds and Thakurs also stay there these days. That is comparable to renaming the Kalu Ghat as Hari Chand Ghat and Maharishi Valmiki Ashram as Ram –Tirath. Likewise the original Chamar Majra might have been renamed Seer Govardhanpur.

That is not the end but the search for Maharishi Valmiki Ashram, presently known as Ram Tirath was also spearheaded through untiring efforts, despite many hurdles, by Babu Mangu Ram Ji, Shri Hazara Ram Ji and Pundit Bakhshi Ram Ji Valmiki from Wadala Kalan district Jalandhar. Based on such intensive research birthday celebrations related to incarnation of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji were performed on the full moon day during the month of Magh every year. A massive Nagar Kirtan or spiritual procession was organized in Jalandhar City on the auspicious occasion of Jayanti or incarnation day of Satguru Ravidass Maharaj Ji during 1938. Shri Ravidass Deep Granth was decorated on the back of a caparisoned elephant and taken around the city in procession with spiritual discourses at several places en-route. Keeping these celebrations in mind, then Government of Punjab headed by Sir Sikandar Hyatt Khan declared a public holiday on that day. In addition successful efforts were made to get Maharishi Valmiki Ji's birthday also declared as a public holiday by government. An idol of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji brought from Kashi formed the basis of photographs of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji to be published in calendars. Sant Harnam Dass Ji from village Jandali district Jalandhar was given the rights and responsibility to publish authentic calendars with portrait of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji. He took great pains and worked very hard work to publish the calendars with Shri Guru Ravidass Ji's portrait. No such calendar with portrait of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji or Guru Ji's

photograph ever existed before that. It is quite clear therefore that extremely useful work was done by Adi-Dharam movement in respect of research related to the history of aforesaid venerated Gurus. With the accomplishment of these tasks, decks were cleared for the political work by this organization.

There were many branch offices of this organization Adi-Dharam (Scheduled Castes) Federation in India during that period and some of those branches were located at Akalianwala district Ferozepur, Chuharhpur, Dehradun, Bridge no. 4 Kolkata, Dasuya and Mahilpur in district Hoshiarpur, Chamba in district of Himachal Pradesh, Samundri Dichkot district Lyallpur, Mcleod Ganj Road in district Bahawalpur, Montgomery in district Montgomery, Tappa Kheda in district Ferozepur, Raikot district Ludhiana and Varanasi in U.P. The Federation also had offices in foreign countries like Singapore, New Zealand and Fiji. Some of these organizations may still be functional in those countries. However the religious aspect of the Federation was incomplete in the absence of leadership of a truly perfect saint. In order to bridge this gap, well known accomplished saint Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji initiated the project to establish an elegant temple at the birthplace of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji at Seer Govardhanpur, Kashi Varanasi in U.P. as a venerated place of pilgrimage for the society during the year 1965. Simultaneously compilation of Adi Gurbani Granth (Adi Prakash) was also taken up by various scholars and learned saints for publication on completion of the onerous task. Even though there are infinite numbers of saints, philanthropists and sages in our country, yet no one had ever undertaken the important task of construction of a suitable temple in honour of incarnation of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji at Guru Ji's birth place before 1965. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji, village Ballan in Jalandhar district took the initiative to build an elegant Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Seer Govardhanpur, Kashi, Varanasi in U.P. The foundation stone of this temple was laid by venerated saint Sant Hari Dass Ji, Dera Sachkhand Ballan and a sum of more than 1.5 lakh rupees has already been spent on the construction of the temple. The

construction work is being carried out under the supervision of a Management Committee with the overall guidance of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. The head office of the Management Committee is at Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, village and post office Ballan, tehsil and district Jalandhar in Punjab state with a branch office at Seer Govardhanpur post office Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi in U.P.

A meeting was held on 2.10.70 to discuss ways and means to expedite completion of the construction work related to temple at Varanasi and other temples in sacred memories of Satguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj, Maharishi Valmik Ji, Satguru Kabir Ji and Satguru Namdev Ji Maharaj. The following major decisions were taken in that meeting:

1. A Trust should be registered so that there is no delay or interruption in works related to construction of any temple in sacred memory of aforesaid Satguru Sahibs, gurudwaras, libraries or educational institutions.
2. A Trust should be set up to speed up work related to construction of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, U.P. The Chairman of this trust shall be distinguished saint Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji, village Ballan, district Jalandhar.
3. A large public conference should be organized to pass suitable resolutions to ratify and implement these proposals.

Thereafter a very large public meeting was held on Sunday the 20th December 1970 at Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji village and post office Ballan, tehsil and district Jalandhar that was presided over by Shri Mangu Ram Ji, President Adi-Dharam (Scheduled Castes) Federation. More than ten thousand dignitaries participated in this public meeting and the following important decisions were taken unanimously:

1. Although there are different political parties in many countries of the world yet each country generally has only once society such as Americans in America or Canadians in Canada and Russians in Russia. But in India, there are many political parties and social / religious affiliations such as Hindus, Sikhs,

Christians and Muslims. However no political party or social organization really worked hard to address the social, political and economic backwardness of scheduled castes and tribes. For the development of backward communities of Indian society, Babu Mangu Ram Ji started a well known movement named Adi-Dharam Movement in 1925. The organization was set up to spearhead the missionary work and was named Adi-Dharam (Scheduled Castes) Federation with head office in Jalandhar. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar provided able leadership to this federation at all India level. This organization worked hard for the political and social development and empowerment of backwards castes. This organization was recognized by the then Government of India as a responsible organization of backwards castes in 1930. It was because of the untiring efforts of this organization that the scheduled castes and backwards communities were given full political rights under the provisions of the Poona Pact and India Act during 1935. It is amply clear therefore that Babu Mangu Ram Ji the founder of Adi-Dharam Movement played a sterling role to secure such social and political rights for the backwards castes. If anyone else claims to be the founder of this movement to take undue advantage, that is absolutely preposterous and outright cheating of innocent people of these deprived communities. Therefore this Conference unanimously appeals to all sections of the society to remain alert and not to get misguided by bogus leaders and support Babu Mangu Ram Ji wholeheartedly to safeguard their economic development and political rights. It was further decided unanimously that Babu Mangu Ram will continue to be the President of this movement till he selects and nominates a suitable successor personally. All future work related to the social and political development of people of backwards castes shall continue to be spearheaded by Babu Mangu Ram Ji as President of Adi-Dharam (Scheduled Castes) Federation, Jalandhar. Babu Mangu Ram Ji is present in this Conference and he is unanimously elected as the President of this Federation. He has been fully authorized to select office bearers and volunteers to support him in his missionary work. He is requested to take all appropriate actions forthwith and start the missionary work in right earnest soonest possible.

2. Most revered saint Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji village and post office Ballan is extremely benevolent and truly great accomplished saint who is all the time concerned with the welfare and safety of impoverished and underprivileged people. Not only people of lower backwards castes but even people from higher castes are also disciples and dedicated devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji constructed a room in Guru Ravidass High School Jalandhar and also built two rooms in Haridwar for the benefit of the society. Maharaj Ji also provided financial support for construction of infrastructure facilities for marriage functions and schools in many villages where such projects were in progress from time to time. In spite of that where there any marriage hall and school have to construct then Maharaj Ji always helped there. Above all Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji made all arrangements to establish a pilgrimage centre and constructed a large elegant world famous temple known as Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Guru Ji's birth place at Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, U. P. The foundation stone of this temple was laid by Sant Hari Dass Maharaj Ji during 1965 as desired by Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. There are many learned sages, revered saints and philanthropists in Punjab and other parts of India but no one had taken the initiative to build a temple dedicated to the sacred memory of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji at Satguru Ji's birth place. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji only took the initiative to construct the temple to commemorate the sacred memory of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji. Therefore this Conference unanimously conveys sincere gratitude and grateful thanks to Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and further requests Maharaj Ji to be kind and benevolent to continue the excellent work so that the balance construction work related to the temple can be completed soonest possible with Maharaj Ji's blessings.

3. Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple is being built at Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, U.P. under the supervision of a Management Committee with the overall guidance of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Complete accounts of funds contributed by devotees for the construction of the temple and money spent on construction work are available with the Committee. In addition Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji makes

major contributions with personal funds and supply of food grains for the community meals of the workers at the construction site all the time. Everyone is entitled to have a look at the accounts of the funds donated by devotees and the expenditure incurred for the construction of the temple and the Committee has no reservations for such scrutiny. If someone wishes to pressurise Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and forcibly asks for the accounts or he maligns and threatens Maharaj Ji intentionally to gain control over the funds that is preposterous and great foolishness. Therefore this Conference strongly recommends that legal action should be taken against such erring individual falsely maligning Maharaj Ji's reputation and honour.

4. The construction work related to Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Seer Govardhanpur, Kanshi, Varanasi (U.P) being executed by Shri Gurdiyal Singh Ji will certainly get completed with the blessings and guidance of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. A Management Committee is supervising the construction work under the directions of Maharaj Ji and many devotees and philanthropists are making financial contributions and providing voluntary services for the construction of the temple. Therefore if any one wishes to make any financial contribution or supply materials / food grains, he can do so personally at Varanasi or make donations to the Management Committee and obtain proper receipt. The Managing Committee appeals to the people not to make any contributions to any self styled and bogus founder of Adi-Dharam Movement to prevent cheating and misuse of their hard earned money. No one else except the Management Committee has so far spent any money on the construction of temple. This Management Committee has already spent nearly Rs. 1, 50,000/ (Rupees one lakh fifty thousand) so far on the construction of temple.

5. The entire property of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, U.P; belongs to the temple on behalf of the entire community and all sections of the society. The property of the temple will never be owned by any one individual person, sage, revered saint or any other

organization. The construction work and management of the temple will be continued under the supervision of Shri Guru Ravidass Temple Trust under the guidance of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji as Chairman of the Trust. Accordingly therefore this Conference unanimously appoints Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji as the Chairman of the Trust and gives Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji the full rights and freedom to appoint the other Trustees and executives of the Management Committee. The Executive of the Trust is also hereby fully authorized to take action including legal proceedings against anyone who tries to interrupt the construction work related to the temple in any manner.

6. Devotees and revered saints visit the ashram or Kutiya of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji in village and post office Ballan, tehsil and district, Jalandhar in very large numbers every day to have a glimpse of Maharaj Ji and to pay their regards. Such visitors, hailing from all castes and various sections of the society travel to the Kutiya through various modes of travel including tongas, buses, motorcycles, tempos, bicycles and cars. Extremely large spiritual congregations are held here twice a year and devotees in large numbers assemble here on the occasion of each Sankranti, Sundays and also every day to benefit from the Satsang and spiritual discourses. However the visiting devotees face immense difficulties to reach Maharaj Ji's ashram in Ballan as there is no convenient bridge on the nearby canal and all village roads leading to the Kutiya are badly damaged. Therefore this Conference humbly urges upon Government of Punjab to allocate funds meant for public welfare and to build a bridge over the canal on the link road from village Ballan to Kutiya and repair all village link roads leading to the ashram so that the devotees can travel to the ashram comfortably.

7. The only link road available for transport of construction materials to build Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, is in very bad condition. This road is also often inundated by sewerage water discharged from Banaras Hindu University complex and that causes great hindrance in transport of building materials to the temple site

leading to undue delay in completion of the temple. Some influential upper caste persons often harass and pressurize the volunteers working for construction of the temple as they want to ensure that the temple construction does not get completed. Therefore this Conference appeals to Government of India and Government of Uttar Pradesh to allocate special funds to construct a proper link road up to the temple and divert the sewerage water originating from BHU Campus through a proper drain. Government should also acquire land and prepare a new link road up to the temple so that construction of the temple gets speeded up and the pilgrims can travel without any hurdles. The Management Committee of the temple is willing to contribute its share of the total construction costs of road as per norms fixed by the government. This Conference further requests the government to stop arrogant upper caste individuals from interference in the work related to construction of the temple and take appropriate legal action against the erring culprits.

8. This Conference appeals to the 'Adi-Vasi' people or original residents of Punjab, Himachal, Haryana and all other states of India that they should help liberally for the construction of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji. Shri Guru Ravidass Ji Janam Asthan Temple at Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, U.P. It has been further resolved unanimously by this Conference that the proceedings and the resolutions passed in this Conference should be got published in the form of suitable pamphlets. Thereafter copies of the pamphlets should be forwarded to Government of India and State Governments of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh for necessary action. Balance copies should be distributed amongst the general public and also sent to potential supporters and philanthropists. Names of the donors will be engraved in marble stones for public display after completion of the temple.

The Views expressed by Important Leaders during the Conference

The Conference was held on Sunday the 13th December, 1970 at Dera Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji Ballan from 12.00 onwards. The Conference began with the invocation of God

and recital of Gurbani hymns of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj “*Aesi lal tujh bin kaun karae*” and “*Bahut janam bichhure the Madhou ih janam tumhare lekhe*”. First of all, Shri Hazara Ram (Retired B.D.O.) welcomed the delegates and conveyed sincere thanks for their participation in the Conference. Shri Charan Dass Nidharhk recited his poem thereafter. A very large number of leaders from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu Kashmir and U.P participated in this Conference. Shri Hazara Ram highlighted the serious lacuna lasting over centuries that our community did not have religious place of pilgrimage and revered shrine where we could pay homage. The praiseworthy initiative to construct a temple in honour of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj at Seer Govardhanpur U.P has been possible only because of the vision and untiring efforts of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji, village Ballan.

Some arrogant misguided people have been boasting aloud only to assert their leadership but none of such self seeking individuals was ever visible there those days. He declared in the Conference that entire work related to the construction of Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi, U. P; as a religious place of pilgrimage, was carried out with the benevolent blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji, Dera Sachkhand, Ballan from 1965 onwards. Maharaj Ji has spent lacs of rupees gladly donated by infinite numbers of devotees from their hard earned meagre income. He also highlighted the conditions prevailing in our country prior to partition and independence and explained the fact that our brothers and sisters from Scheduled Castes and Backwards Communities were denied even the basic right to vote in elections those days.

Adi-Dharam (Scheduled Castes) Federation under the leadership of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Babu Mangu Ram spearheaded the movement to secure human rights for these communities. Because of illness, Shri Hazara Singh could not speak for adequate time but he did emphasize that we cannot safeguard our rights sans sound wisdom and expert knowledge about religious and political issues. Shri Tota Tam, Dr. Ram Lal Jassi and Shri Anant Ram Badhan also expressed their views.

Manager of 'Ravidass Patrika' Shri Bhagu Ram (Retired Captain) said "It is my lifelong experience that if we don't recognize the dignity of our human life and we do not inculcate the strong feelings and love for the community; people from other advanced communities will continue to treat us as their bought out slaves. The current crisis being faced by us is indeed a real challenge for us. Therefore all of us must stand fully united to face the challenge and secure emancipation from the life of slavery." Shri Manak Chand from Amritsar said "I hereby take a vow that I shall not sleep peacefully until we are in a position to overcome the serious problems currently troubling us. We have full blessings of revered saints, learned sages and Guru Sahibs with us now and I am absolutely confident that our difficulties will be resolved."

Names of some of the prominent persons who participated in the Conference are listed below:

Shri Sadhu Ram from village Larhoa, Rangi Ram village Dhanipind, Mallu Ram from Biaspind, Mela Ram from Butan Mandi, Dhanna Ram Sarpanch village Tajpur, Jai Ram Sarpanch from village Khambra, Shri Teju Ram, Aasa Ram from Kartarpur, Durga Dass, Sham Ji Dass, Hans Raj Banchi from Butan Mandi, Diwan Chand from Sadana, Goni Ram and Pala Ram from Biaspind, Arjan Singh, Sital Dass from village Butan, Atma Ram from Ram Nagar, Arjan Dass, Milkhi Ram from village Sadana, Bhola Ram village Aema Qazi, Bhagat Ram, Dharam Chand Sarpanch from Rampur, Khushi Ram from Lalliyan Kalan, Dalip Singh from Butan Mandi, Banna Ram from Nangal Kararh Khan, Dass Ram M.C. Kartarpur, Karam Chand Bath, Ishar Dass and Banta Ram Navi Abadi Mahitpur Road, Khushi Ram Bajaj Ladhrha, Karam Chand Lalliyan Khurd, Gulzari Lal from Tajpur, Pritam Dass from Basesarpur, Darshan Singh, Gurdip Singh, Sohan Singh and Mehar Chand from village Sanghwal, Raju Ram, Belli Ram, Prakash Dev and Tarlok Singh from village Dhepur, Pehlo Ram and Karan Chand from Khambra, Juala Ram from Ramnagar, Naseeb Chand from Randhawa, Shankar Dass from Phagwara, Ratan Chand from Rehpa, Variyam Chand and Shama Ram from Vidhipur, Naseeb Chand and Dharam Chand from

Hasanpur, Sadhu Ram from Ram Nagar, Jagiri Ram from Bath, Bant Ram Dhainowali, Karma Ram, Rakha Ram and Bachna Ram from Chakkowal, Diwan Singh, Gurdas Ram and Hazara Ram from Pathial, Sadhu Ram, Shankar Dass, Somi Ram, Bishna Ram and Daulat Ram from Alawalpur, Shiv Ram, Raja Ram, Piara Singh and Bhag Ram from Raipur, Niranjn Dass and Joginder Pal from Sanghwal, Mahinder Paul and Rakha Ram from village Biaspind, Daulat Ram, Ram Ji and Amar Chand from Daulatpur, Amar Chand from Larhoi, Sadhu Singh and Khushi Ram from Naugajja, Beli Ram, Swaran Singh, Fakir Singh and Dev Raj from Ballan, Pakhar Ram, Sant Ram, Gurbachan Ram and Amar Chand from village Mannan, Kirpa Ram, Khushi Ram and Ram Kishan from village Rasulpur, Balwant Rai from Khambra, Sarwan Lal from Bolina, Sant Ram Munim from Butan Mandi, Dari Ram, Karam Chand, Preetu Ram and Lashman Dass from Kolkata, Bishan Dass and Puran Chand from Delhi, Gurdas Ram from Suchipind, Munshi Ram Chaman from Basti Sheikh and Dev Raj from village Bhathe.

(Writer: - Shri Chhajju Ram Ji, General Secretary)

13. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji's visit to Delhi and meeting with Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

Giani Bishna Ram Viridi, Shri Fakir Singh and Shri Niranjn Singh Hothi from village Ballan, Shri Puran Chand from village Biaspind, Shri Bhagat Singh Mall and Shri Nama Ram from village Dihana were all having central government jobs in Delhi. They used to meet Dr. Ambedkar almost every week. All of them maintained close contacts with Dr. Ambedkar. Giani Bishna Ram maintained close contacts with Dr. Ambedkar from 1942 to 1956. He often used to tell Dr. Ambedkar about the unique glory of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and Maharaj Ji's great compassion and concern about the development of impoverished people of scheduled castes and Dalit communities. Giani Bishna Ram Ji further explained salient aspects of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji's life and work as follows:

“While Maharaj Ji invariably remains engrossed in devout meditation, Maharaj Ji also conducts spiritual

congregations regularly to preach teachings of Gurbani and motivate people to lead pious lives and practise meditation of God regularly. Maharaj Ji urges everyone to provide best possible education to children and live in complete harmony with mutual love and affection. Maharaj Ji has been extremely kind and benevolent to entire human society. Extraordinary spiritual powers and eternal truth of every word spoken by Maharaj Ji have influenced lives of all people very positively. Maharaj Ji has opened a school for poor children to pursue studies at the Dera. He personally teaches them Gurbani and Punjabi language daily. Every Sunday, Maharaj Ji gets community meals comprising of 'Mahal Poorhas'- special vegetarian pancakes made from wheat flour and jaggery by deep frying in ghee and 'Khir' or sweet rice cooked with milk exclusively for students, children and devotees on certain Sundays." Giani Bishna Ram Ji, Shri Fakir Singh Ji and Shri Swaran Singh Ji all told Dr. Ambedkar that they hailed from very poor families and that their parents couldn't make arrangements for their education. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji took pains to ensure that they receive good education and Maharaj Ji spent all the money on our studies. Maharaj Ji always preached them to work hard and live by honest means. Baba Ambedkar Ji was greatly impressed to learn about such sterling qualities of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Dr. Ambedkar expressed his keen desire to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and asked all of them to make arrangements so that he can have a personal vision of Maharaj Ji.

Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji visited Delhi for about 50 days during April-May, 1949 at the request of Giani Bishna Ram and all other devotees from Delhi. Maharaj Ji visited residences of all devotees during that period and blessed them. Maharaj Ji conducted spiritual discourses or Satsang at the residences of Giani Bishna Ram, Shri Niranjan Singh Hothi and others during this period. Prior to Maharaj Ji's visit to Delhi, Giani Bishna Ram Viridi and Shri Fakir Singh often used to brief Maharaj Ji about their discussions with Baba Sahib Ambedkar Ji whenever they used to visit Ballan on leave. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji one day expressed his desire to meet Dr.

Ambedkar. Accordingly Giani Bishna Ram Viridi and his companions accompanied Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj to meet Dr. Ambedkar at his home on Janpath Road, Eastern Court, New Delhi. Dr. Ambedkar and some of his colleagues were seated in chairs and holding some important discussions at home. Baba Sahib Ambedkar Ji got up from the chair and greeted Sant Sarwan Dass Ji on arrival very respectfully with folded hands. Baba Ji offered a comfortable chair and requested Maharaj Ji to be seated. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and Dr. Baba Sahib Ambedkar had extremely cordial discussions for nearly one hour when Maharaj Ji formally invited Dr. Ambedkar to visit Punjab. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj always remained deeply concerned with the plight of impoverished backwards communities.

In 1932, during the developments related to Poona Pact, fasts were observed from both the sides. Babu Mangoo Ram Mugowalia undertook fast unto death on behalf of Baba Sahib Bhim Rao Ambedkar. When finally this fast was broken, it was Swami Sarwan Dass ji who offered a glass of juice to Babu Mangoo Ram Ji.

Baba Sahib Ambedkar Ji visited Butan Mandi in Jalandhar during 1951. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji then sent a written communication to Dr. Ambedkar that was read out for the benefit of everyone present in the congregation to greet and listen to Dr. Ambedkar. Maharaj Ji had written in that communication, "My brave lion hearted son! You must remain steadfast in your commitment to serve the community. You will have a glorious success and the entire society shall be always extremely proud of you and your sterling contributions."

14. Omniscient Satguru

Shri Chain Ram Suman Ji, village Golewal tehsil Garhshankar Hoshiarpur and Shri Swaran Singh Ji village Ballan were both devout followers of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Both of them were Auditors working with the Defence Accounts Department at Sura Nussi, Jalandhar. It was during the month of May, 1970 when Swaran Singh was returning home from his place of work in the evening time when Shri Chain Ram Suman said, "Swaran Singh! I am also keen to

go to Dera Sachkhand Ballan today. Let us go together.” Both of them reached Dera Sachkhand Ballan riding on one bicycle discussing about their revered Satguru Ji and glory of saints on their way. When both bowed at the lotus feet of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Maharaj Ji said, “How nice that you were talking about Gurbani and self enlightenment today on your way to the Kutiya.” Maharaj Ji said that in such a manner as if he was with both of the devotees and listening to them throughout their journey.

(Shri Chain Ram Suman, 13.6.2003.)

15. Satguru knows about Inner Thoughts of Devotees

Shri Chain Ram Suman from village Golewal Garhshankar Hoshiarpur worked with Defence Accounts Department at Sura Nussi during 1969. He lived in Guru Ravidass Nagar near Maqsudan, Jalandhar those days. One day, he contemplated in his mind to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and pay his devout regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. He arranged to buy 100 grams 'Patasas' (special sugar crystals) for offering as Prasad and left for Maharaj Ji's Kutiya walking on foot. While he was on his way to Kutiya, he thought that the 'Patasas' being taken by him as offering would not be appropriate and to the liking of Maharaj Ji's taste. Some delicious fruits or high quality sweets made from milk and milk concentrates would be more appropriate for Maharaj Ji. He thought how Maharaj Ji can relish 'Patasas' or sugar crystals he was carrying with him.

While contemplating on such issues and focussing his mind at the lotus feet of his revered Satguru Ji, he reached the Dera. Incidentally, Maharaj Ji was resting in a chair at that time in front of the room used for distribution of medicines these days. There was a small table in front of the chair. There was no other devotee with Maharaj Ji at that moment. Shri Chain Ram Suman respectfully placed the Prasad brought by him on the table and paid his profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Thereafter he sat down on the carpet in front of Maharaj Ji. Very soon thereafter, Maharaj Ji picked up the packet of 'Prasad' and looked at the 'Patasas' or the sugar crystals in it. Maharaj Ji took out one large sized 'Patasa' and relished eating same with

delight while Shri Suman witnessed that event with utmost curiosity and delight. Chain Ram Suman Ji was totally convinced after witnessing this event that Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj was indeed omniscient and knew about the inner thoughts of all of his devotees.”

(Shri Chain Ram Suman, 14.6.2002.)

16. Protecting Shri Gurmit Singh

Shri Gurmit Singh son of Shri Khushi Ram from village Rasulpur often used to stay at Dera Sachkhand Ballan and pursue his studies with the blessings of Maharaj Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. It was the year 1971 and Gurmit Singh was studying at Doaba College Jalandhar those days. One day as he returned to Kutiya after close of college hours, Maharaj Ji said, “It is good that the student has returned after studies. Bhog ceremony of simple 'Path' or recital of Shri Guru Granth Sahib is scheduled for tomorrow at village Maqsudan. Recital is far behind schedule at present. Therefore, you should go to Maqsudan for recitation and then get back to Kutiya.” Gurmit Singh reached Maqsudan at 3.30 p.m. and after completion of recital he started his return journey to Kutiya at 9.30 p.m.

Family members of that house did not want him to travel so late. They told Gurmit Singh, “It is getting dark. You should get back to Kutiya tomorrow morning.” But Gurmit Singh said, “It is my Guru Ji's order. Hence I must go back to Kutiya now.” While Gurmit Singh was returning to Kutiya, he was surrounded by three robbers. One of them said, “Hand over your watch and other belongings failing which we shall kill you.” Then Gurmit Singh remembered Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Just then one person reached that place in his jeep. All robbers ran away when they saw the jeep. After this Gurmit Singh reached at Dera in village Ballan. Shri Mehinga Ram was also sitting in front of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj at that time. Then Maharaj Ji described the whole incident voluntarily and said, “Gurmit! Danger is over now.”

(Gurmit Singh 2001)

17. Saint's Words Prove True

Shri Khushi Ram and his family members from village Rasulpur were profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. His

son used to stay at Dera Sachkhand Ballan while he was pursuing his studies in college. It was during 1972 that Gurmit Singh's had to appear for political science paper in his final examination next morning. Simple 'Path' of Shri Guru Granth Sahib was organized at Shri Meet Ram's house in village Raipur. Maharaj Ji told Gurmit to go to Raipur for recitation of Gurbani for 4 hours and then get back. Gurmit Singh recited Gurbani for four hours at Shri Meet Ram's house. When Gurmit Singh came back to Dera, Maharaj Ji said, "Gurmit! Pursue your studies now for two hours. Your examination paper will have questions from the portions that you will read now." When Gurmit Singh saw his examination paper next morning, he was amazed to see that the entire paper related to what he studied last night. Shri Gurmit Singh secured 66% marks.

(Gurmit Singh, 2001)

18. Fulfilment of Shri Om Prakash's Wish

Shri Om Prakash son of Shri Guria Ram from village Lambrha near Bullowal was a devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. He worked with the Indian Army during 1968–69. He was deployed on duty at Pinetop near Tinsukia in Assam those days. He bought a carpet for Maharaj Ji from Army Canteen with the fond hope that Maharaj Ji should make use of that carpet to sit on same. Om Prakash reached the Dera with that carpet. Even before he could say anything about the carpet, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji said, "You have brought a carpet for me with immense love and devotion. Spread that just now at my seat for me to sit." Om Prakash spread that carpet with great delight and Maharaj Ji sat down on that lovely carpet. When Om Prakash witnessed this miracle, he was absolutely convinced that his Satguru Ji is indeed perfect and accomplished who had rightly read out the thoughts of his inner mind.

(Om Prakash, 13.9.2001)

19. Blessing Shri Kunnan Singh and Bibi Jeet Kaur with Sons

S. Shiv Singh son of Shri Prem Singh was resident of village Ballan. Kunnan Singh and his wife Bibi Jeet Kaur lived in village Barna, Phagwara. They had six daughters in due course of time. S. Shiv Singh took both of them along with him

and reached Dera Sachkhand Ballan. He requested to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, "Maharaj Ji! These people have six daughters. Please be kind and bless them with a son." Then Maharaj Ji gave one banana to Bibi Jeet Kaur as Prasad. After one year a son was born in their home. When they reached at Dera to meet Maharaj Ji and convey their gratitude and profound regards along with their infant son, Maharaj Ji graciously said, "You will beget one more son to have a pair of sons in your home." Approximately one year later their second son was born in their home. Both sons are named Manjit and Binder Singh respectively.

(S. Shiv Singh son of Prem Singh, Village Ballan, 19.9.2001)

20. Blessing Shri Atma Ram

Shri Atma Ram Ji son of Shri Nathu Ram Ji from village Biaspind was devout follower of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. He fell ill as he was close to completion of his life's journey. During the month of Maghar (November- December) during 1960, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji arrived at Shri Atma Ram Ji's house to look him up on a Sunday. While lying on his bed, Shri Atma Ram Ji paid his profound regards to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and he said, "Maharaj Ji! When will you come to escort me away from this world?" Maharaj Ji said, "I will come here on Tuesday i.e. day after tomorrow at 10 a.m. to take you along. You should not have any worries." Bibi Nami wife of Shri Atma Ram and their son Shri Raj Mall Ji were also present there at that time. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj stayed at their house for a short while and then returned to Kutuya at Ballan.

As that fateful day of Tuesday arrived and the time was about five minutes short of 10 a.m; Bibi Nami and her son Shri Raj Mall asked Shri Atma Ram Ji, "Where is Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj?" Aged Shri Atma Ram Ji said, "My revered Guru Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj Ji has already arrived here to emancipate me and Maharaj Ji is standing very close to me. I am now ready to leave this world and accompany Maharaj Ji to the realm of God." Having just said these words, Shri Atma Ram Ji abandoned his perishable human body within just three minutes and his blessed noble soul found a permanent abode at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj was in fact physically present at Kutuya west of village Ballan at that time.

(Shri Raj Mall Ji son of Shri Atma Ram Ji 8.11.2001)

21. Fulfilment of Shri Charanjit's Desire

Shri Charanjit Singh son of Shri Sant Ram was a profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He got blessings of Naam from Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. He was a mason by profession and he was working for building a house in village Khanke, Jalandhar during the year 1971. It was the day of Sankranti- the first day of a month as per Vikram Samvat Calendar. He told the land owner early in the morning “It is the sacred day of Sankranti today. Please grant me leave today as I must go and meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj Ji at Ballan.” The land owner and the other masons and labourers insisted that he must work that day. Charanjit requested them several times to permit him to go with the promise that he would be back at work the next day. But nobody agreed to allow him to avail leave and one of them said, “Charanjit! One should obey the elders and even if elders tell him to jump into a well, then he should jump into the well.” Charanjit Singh was feeling hurt and extremely sad because he had deep love and devotion in his heart for Maharaj Ji.

Masons and labours started their work after going up the scaffolding. Unfortunately the scaffolding collapsed within a few minutes and all of them fell down. Fortunately, no one was injured. Then Charanjit said, “Even if you wish to remove me from work, I shall not work today. I will definitely go to Dera and meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj.” When he reached at Dera and bowed down respectfully to Maharaj Ji, then Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji smiled and said, “Don't jump into the well even if elders advise you to do so.” Maharaj Ji then voluntarily narrated what all had happened at the work site and Maharaj Ji said, “Charanjit! Even if you may have lot of important work pending, you must visit the Dera on every day of Sankranti.”

(Shri Charanjit Singh son of Shri Sant Ram, Village Kaluwal, January 2001.)

22. Fulfilment of Shri Kabal Singh's Wish

S. Kabal Singh from Phagwara had keen desire to get blessings of Naam. He went to a saint and requested him for granting him sacred Naam. The saint said, “Come here any

other time.” S. Kabal Singh had heard that Sant Sarwan Dass Ji is a truly perfect and accomplished saint. He then enquired from some people and reached at Dera Sachkhand Ballan. He bowed and paid his regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji said, “You went to seek blessings of Naam from that particular saint.” Then S. Kabal Singh quickly realized that Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji is a truly perfect saint who knows everything about his heart's thoughts. He held the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji in his hands respectfully and requested Sant Sarwan Dass Ji to bless him with sacred Naam. Maharaj Ji said, “You should first recite “Mool Mantra” - for 1.5 lakh times. He did same as advised by Maharaj Ji. Thereafter, Maharaj Ji blessed him with sacred Naam.

(S. Kabal Singh Ji, Phagwara, 22.4.2004)

23. You only know your Unique Ways

One day S. Kabal Singh came to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. On that night S. Kabal Singh stayed at the ashram or Kutiya. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji as usual left the ashram inside the village very early in the morning and reached Kutiya around 3.30 a.m. Maharaj Ji sat down in a chair and went into perfect Samadhi in devout meditation of God. When Kabal Singh got up and paid his respects at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji said, “Kabal Singh! Just look how all of the 18 supernatural powers and 9 treasures are standing here in full attention and praying, “Kindly tell us whether we can render any service for this durbar.” Maharaj Ji further said, “I have told them several times that I don't need any of their services.” Then Kabal Singh said, “Maharaj Ji! You only know your unique ways. Your unique traditions are beyond my comprehension.”

(S. Kabal Singh, Phagwara 22.4.2002)

24. Blessing Seth Daulat Ram with Sons

Seth Daulat Ram Ji was resident of village Nangal Kararh Khan, Jalandhar. He and his wife Bibi Rao were very profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. They had a leather goods shop at Butan Mandi. They also had lots of property in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. Sometimes during 1955, Seth Ji and his wife went to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj at Dera Ballan. Bibi Rao then prayed, “Maharaj Ji! We have lot

of land and property but we have two daughters. Please bless us with a son.” Maharaj Ji said, “Bibi Rao! You are not destined to have a son. Daulat Ram will have to solemnize his second marriage and then her second wife will have four sons in due course of time.” Maharaj Ji further said, “There will be lot of mutual love and affection between his both wives. All sons will also love Bibi Rao profusely. However you will lose your land and property.”

Seth Daulat Ram had his second marriage with Bibi Ram Piari in accordance with Maharaj Ji's suggestion. Bibi Ram Piari gave birth to four sons over a period of time and they were named Surinder Kumar, Sughriv Kumar, Paras Ram and Ashwani Kumar respectively.

When I (Surinder Dass Bawa) went to Nangal Kararh Khan for participation in 'Sohila' and 'Antim Ardas' or final prayer ceremony of Bibi Rao after her demise, then Sughriv Kumar told me there “Although Bibi Ram Piari had given birth to me and my brothers, yet all of us were more affectionate with Bibi Rao since our childhood. Even though our properties in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh had to be sold yet we are extremely fortunate to be blessed with everything by Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji.”

(Sughriv Kumar son of Shri Daulat Ram, Village Nangal Kararh Khan, Jalandhar)

25. Blessings for Baby Manjit

Shri Amar Chand Hakim Ji and Bibi Ram Piari, village Raipur Rasulpur, had profound respect and sincere reverence for Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Their daughter Manjit was about five years old. Her legs were not functioning well and she could not walk. Thus she had to keep sitting most of the time. Her parents, along with their daughter Manjit, came to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji during 1963. They paid their profound respect at Maharaj Ji's lotus feet and prayed, “Maharaj Ji! Kindly bless this girl as she can't walk. We don't know whether anybody will take care of her when we are no longer alive.” Their prayer had some unique submission for mercy. Benevolent and kind forever, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj asked “What is the name of this girl?” Then Shri Amar Chand Ji said, “Her name is Manjit, but we fondly call her

Siso.” Then Maharaj Ji very kindly said, “Call her Mehar Kaur instead of Siso now onwards. You can rest assured. God's blessings are already with her. She will be able to walk properly over a short period of time.” With the benevolent blessings of Maharaj Ji, the legs of that girl started to become normal since that fateful day. She was able to walk perfectly well within the next few months.

While narrating this story of kind benevolence of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji on her today, Bibi Mehar Kaur could not control her tears and she started crying. She said, “Maharaj Ji had been extremely kind to me.” She further said, “My parents told me that Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had said that this girl will be highly educated and she will also teach the children in due course of time. I am working as a teacher these days. This is all because of kind blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. But for Maharaj Ji's blessings I would have lived a miserable life in oblivion.”

(Bibi Manjit Kaur (Mehar Kaur) daughter of Shri Amar Chand and Bibi Ram Piari Raipur- Rasulpur, 24.1.2002)

26. Miracle by Maharaj Ji

A husband and wife couple reached Alawalpur approximately 50 years ago during summer season at evening time. They asked local residents about Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji's Kutiya. The residents of Alawalpur told them, “It is already getting dark. You should stay here for this night and then go to Maharaj Ji's Kutiya next morning.” But the couple didn't want to stay there despite their request. When they reached near the railway line crossing, they saw a lion ahead of them and they quickly went back to Alawalpur. They stayed for the night at Alawalpur and reached Maharaj Ji's Kutiya in the morning. When they bowed to pay their regards at the lotus feet of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji then Maharaj Ji said, “When people of Alawalpur requested you to stay there at night, you should have listened to them and stayed there. Had you stayed there, you would not have been scared of the lion.” After this incident it was absolutely clear that the sighting of the lion was an amazing miracle of Maharaj Ji.

(Shri Jeet Ram son of Shri Sant Ram Alawalpur, 19.5.2003)

27. Information about Departure of Baba Jawahar Dass Ji

Maharaj Sarwan Dass Ji often used to visit Shri Sant Ram Ji's home. Sometimes Maharaj Ji would stay at his house and conduct 'Satsang' or spiritual congregation there during the night. Once, Maharaj Ji was conducting a spiritual discourse at the roof top of Shri Sant Ram Ji's house during night time. Suddenly there was a very loud thunder in the sky. Maharaj Ji kept absolutely quiet for some time and looked to be very serious soon after listening to that loud noise. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj said a little later, "Dear devotees! A perfect saint Sant Baba Jawahar Dass Ji from village Susan has just abandoned his perishable human body comprising of five elements to get amalgamated with God."

Shri Mehinga Ram, Shri Bhulla Ram, Bhajan Chand, Shri Hazara Ram, Shri Amar Nath, Shri Dass Ram, Giani Jeet Ram and Shri Jeet Ram, who was about 15 years old at that time, and many other devotees were present there in the congregation.

(Shri Jeet Ram son of Shri Sant Ram Alawalpur 19.5.03)

28. Knowing about Thoughts of Shri Tarlok Singh's Mind

S. Tarlok Singh Gill son of Major Lal Singh lived in village Jaffal Jhingarh. In July 1971, he returned from England to India. He wandered here and there from morning with empty stomach along with his brother-in-law Shri Harbans Singh. Finally they thought that they should go and meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji at Ballan. When they reached the Kutiya, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was sitting on the "Tharha" or the cemented raised platform. When both of them bowed to pay their regards at the lotus feet of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, Maharaj Ji said, "Go to the community dining hall and have tea and eat two 'Mahal Poorhas' each. You have been roaming around with empty stomach since early morning." Shri Tarlok Singh and his brother-in-law were extremely surprised to listen to these words of Maharaj Ji. They were also very delighted to quickly understand that Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj was truly a perfect Brahmngiani and omniscient accomplished saint.

(S. Tarlok Singh & Major Lal Singh, Village Jaffal Jhingarh, Jalandhar, 16.6. 2003)

29. Addressing Dilemmas of Shri Sohan Lal and Shri Pritam Dass

Both Shri Sohan Lal from village Khichipur and Shri Pritam Dass Patwari from village Chamari were devout followers of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Both of them had government jobs. This event pertains to the year 1963. Shri Sohan Lal narrated an incident as follows. Both of us were on our way to Maharaj Ji's Kutiya after completing our duties for the day to have a vision of Maharaj Ji. Both of us decided that we will make an offering of two rupees each to Maharaj Ji while paying our regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. However when they reached the Kutiya, both of them made an offering of five rupees each to Maharaj Ji and paid their regards to Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji immediately returned three rupees each to both of them and said, "You had decided to make offering of two rupees each while you were on your way. Hence, I am returning three rupees to each one of you."

Both of us then prayed, "Maharaj Ji! We have made a serious mistake. Kindly forgive us." Then Maharaj Ji told Sant Garib Dass Ji, "Garib Dass! Have these six rupees and buy something with this money."

(Shri Sohan Lal, Secretary, son of Shri Basant Ram, Village Khichipur, Jalandhar 6.6.2003)

30. Prior Knowledge about my Arrival

Shri Ram Kishan Raju Ji son of Shri Bhagat Ram Raju, hailing from village Chakkowal Shekhan, Hoshiarpur had profound regards and reverence for Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He currently stays at Baroda. In January 1960, Shri Ram Kishan was on his way to Ballan to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji at the Dera. Maharaj Sarwan Dass Ji was ready to leave Kutiya around 6.45 p.m. for Dera in village Ballan to take rest at night. Suddenly, Maharaj Ji stopped at the main entry gate of Kutiya. Shri Sant Ram from village Kishangarh and Shri Jagat Ram, chief cook at the ashram hailing from village Ballan, were also with Maharaj Ji at that time. Shri Sant Ram asked, "Maharaj Ji! Why have you stopped at this gate? Who are you waiting for?" Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji said, "Ram Kishan, hailing from village Chakkowal Shekhan, is coming to meet me. I am waiting for him."

After about 15 minutes when it was 7 p.m; Shri Ram Kishan Ji reached Kutiya and bowed to pay his regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji said, “Ram Kishan! It is good that you have come. I was just waiting for you. Park your cycle at cycle stand and then have your dinner quickly. We shall go to the Dera in Ballan together thereafter.” Shri Sant Ram told complete details of this incident to Shri Ram Kishan after reaching the Dera. Shri Ram Kishan retired from Oil and Natural Gas Commission (O.N.G.C.).

(Shri Ram Kishan Raju son of Shri Bhagat Ram Raju, Village Chakkowal Shekhan, Hoshiarpur; Currently at Baroda)

31. Blessing Shri Ram Kishan with a Job

Shri Ram Kishan son of Shri Bhagat Ram Raju from village Chakkowal Shekhan was blessed with grant of sacred Naam and accepted as a disciple by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj during 1958. He stayed at Maharaj Ji's ashram from end of December 1960 to 'Maghi' the first day of the month of Magh as per Vikram Samvat i.e. January 1961. One day while he was operating the hand pump to draw water for Maharaj Ji to bathe, he prayed, “Maharaj Ji! Someone has assured me to help me secure a permanent job if I am willing to pay the bribe. I am currently working as a typist clerk in the office of Session Judge, Hoshiarpur.” Maharaj Ji said, “Don't indulge in such a wrong practice. God will anyway bless you with a permanent job.” Maharaj repeated the same words for 7 times. Shri Ram Kishan had already passed matriculation examination. Very soon he appeared for an interview in Oil and Natural Gas Commission (O.N.G.C) and he was selected for permanent job. He jointed duty with O.N.G.C. on 27th July as a Junior Accounts Assistant and he retired from O.N.G.C. during 1998. He completed his B.A. after joining the service with O.N.G.C.

(Shri Ram Kishan son of Shri Bhagat Ram Raju, Village Chakkowal Shekhan, Hoshiarpur; Currently at Baroda, 18.6.2003)

32. When a Child Learnt to Speak at 7 Years Age

Shri Sarwan Singh son of Shri Mehru Ram, hailing from village Mithapur, Jalandhar was a very profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. One day Shri Sarwan Singh and

his wife Bibi Shinno along with their young son Pappu reached Dera Sachkhand Ballan. They requested Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji, “Maharaj Ji! Our son Pappu will have his seventh birthday within a few days. However he can not speak till now. Kindly convey your blessings so that he can start to speak normally.” Maharaj Ji said, “You should arrange a spiritual congregation at your home on the occasion of his seventh birthday. I will also come to your home on that day.” They made arrangements for religious congregation accordingly on Pappu's seventh birthday. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj also very kindly visited their house on that occasion. On completion of the Satsang or the spiritual discourse, benevolent Maharaj Ji said, “Bring your child here close to me.” They brought the child as directed and Maharaj Ji very kindly gave him a new name Surjit. Thereafter Maharaj Ji fondly gave him mild slap at his cheek and said, “Surjit! You must talk normally.” Then Maharaj Ji told his parents, “This child will learn to speak slowly from today onwards.” With Maharaj Ji's kind blessings the boy started to speak and he became proficient to speak normally within a short span of time. He manages his own shop these days in village Mithapur.

*(Shri Sarwan Singh son of Shri Mehru Ram Mithapur,
Jalandhar 18.6.2003)*

33. Wild Tigers also Respected Maharaj Ji

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj had very close friendly relation with Sant Ratan Dass Ji from village Jaijon. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji often stayed for several days with Sant Ratan Dass Ji at Jaijon in Hoshiarpur district. Sant Ratan Dass narrated this incident to Sant Jagat Ram Ji near village Sherpur in Hoshiarpur district. Sant Ratan Dass said, “Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was a perfect Brahmngiani and accomplished saint. He frequently stayed with me at Jaijon for several days. When he used to sit down for meditation in the forest, then wild animals also used to sit close to Maharaj Ji. There was a tiger in that forest and the tiger often was found sitting near Maharaj Ji in the forest.”

One day Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was sitting in a state of perfect Samadhi for meditation in the forest and a tiger

was sitting close to Maharaj Ji. Some devotees of Sant Rattan Dass Ji passed that way through the forest. They were scared to witness that scenario. When they reached the ashram, they told Sant Ratan Singh Ji, “Maharaj Ji! We saw a tiger sitting close to a saint who was in perfect Samadhi in the forest on our way. We were terribly scared to witness that scene.” Then Sant Ratan Dass Ji said, “The tiger will not harm the saint in any way. That saint is himself all powerful like a lion the king of forest. He often visits this forest to emancipate some of the wild animals. Therefore you should not be scared. One should try and secure the blessings of such a great accomplished saint. He is none else but venerated Sant Sarwan Dass Ji from village Ballan.”

(Bibi Bhajno Ji, Dera Sachkhand Ballan, 19.6.2003)

34. Blessing Shri Diwan Chand Ji with Land

Shri Kartar Chand, from village Kangniwal, was a very profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. His father Shri Diwan Chand built pukka residential house in his village during 1959. He then organized Satsang or a spiritual congregation at his new house as advised by Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Maharaj Ji also visited their house on the occasion of the congregation. Maharaj Ji then asked, “Diwan Chand! It is very nice that you have built a nice pukka house. Have you bought some agricultural land also somewhere?” Then Diwan Chand said, “Maharaj Ji! We do not have any agricultural land at present. However with your kind blessings, we shall also buy some land.” Maharaj Ji very kindly said, “Don't worry! You will be the owner of agricultural land as well very soon.”

Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji's words proved to be absolutely true. Shri Diwan Chand purchased 12 acres agricultural land in Santokhpura, Jalandhar City. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj then inaugurated a tube-well for irrigation of that land during 1964-65.

(Shri Kartar Chand son of Shri Diwan Chand, Village Kangniwal, Presently Santokhpura Jalandhar, 19.6.2003)

35. Salvation of Shri Seru Ram

Shri Seru Ram son of Shri Churha Ram from village Biaspind was a very profound disciple of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. It was the evening during the month of Harh or June-

July in 1970. Maharaj Ji asked a devotee to prepare 'Karhah Prasad' and then five hymns were recited and the devotees present on the occasion repeated recitation of each verse. Thereafter Maharaj Ji recited the prayer for the salvation of Shri Seru Ram Ji. Shri Pale Ram said immediately after the prayer was over "Maharaj Ji! Seru Ram Ji is alive and absolutely fine." Maharaj Ji said, "I have to escort Seru Ram Nambardar tomorrow early morning on his final journey." Next day, Maharaj Ji reached Seru Ram's house at 5 a.m. Shri Seru Ram suffered from serious breathing problems during the previous night. When Maharaj Ji arrived at Seru Ram's home, then Seru Ram had a good vision of Maharaj Ji and soon breathed his last and left for his heavenly abode. His son Shri Prakash Ram Patwari was also present by his side at that time.

(Shri Prakash Ram Patwari son of Shri Seru Ram village Biaspind, 20.6.2003)

36. Eternal Salvation of Shri Jagat Ram

Shri Jagat Ram Ji, from village Ballan was a very profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He used to stay at Maharaj Ji's Dera and prepare the Langar or community meals for the devotees. It was around 1966- 67 when his life's journey was close to its end that Maharaj Ji woke him up early in the morning and asked him to have bath and then put on new dress. Shri Jagat Ram Ji followed Maharaj Ji's advice and put on a new dress after having bath. Then Maharaj Ji said, "Jagat Ram! Just sit down in lotus pose and get busy in meditation of God. Your life time is nearing completion." As advised by Maharaj Ji, Shri Jagat Ram Ji sat down calmly for meditation and he abandoned his perishable human body while sitting in same position in Samadhi a little later to be one with God.

37. Blessing Shri Hargopal Singh and Bibi Mahinder Kaur with Children

It was the hot summer season during 1968. Shri Hargopal son of Shri Jai Singh and his wife Bibi Mahinder Kaur, from village Siajpur near Tanda, visited Maharaj Ji's Kutiya after hearing about unique grandeur of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. They currently stay at Hoshiarpur. Maharaj Ji had gone to Mukerian on that day. Maharaj Ji came back to Kutiya in the

evening and sat down on 'Tharha' - the raised cemented platform. Shri Hargopal Singh and Bibi Mahinder Kaur bowed to Maharaj Ji and paid their profound regards. Then Maharaj Ji asked, "Where do you hail from?" Then both husband & wife mentioned their village and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! We have no child and we live in simple mud plastered house. We are very poor without any job." Then Maharaj Ji took them aside and said, "Don't worry! You are destined to have five children. However the first child will be lost through abortion at 3 months pregnancy and the second will be dead at the time of delivery. The other three children would be absolutely fine. You will have beautiful residential house and you will also get a job as well in due course of time."

Bibi Mahinder Kaur said while narrating this story, "Every word spoken by Maharaj Ji came absolutely true. We have three children living with us with the blessings of Maharaj Ji - a son Bikram Singh and two daughters named Neetu and Manjit. My husband also got a good job and we have extremely good house. We have no shortage of anything with the benevolent blessings of Maharaj Ji.

(Bibi Mahinder Kaur wife of Shri Hargopal Singh Lane No. - 4 Mohalla Roop Nagar, Hoshiarpur 20.6.2003)

38. Protection of Shri Kirpal Singh

Bibi Mahinder Kaur narrated another story about her husband's younger brother Sarpanch Kirpal Singh who often suffered from seizures. He was also mentally upset. We took him to Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji gave him Ayurvedic medicine and said, "It will take quite some time for him to get well."

Somehow, he fell down into a well in the evening around 6 p.m. during the year 1974. When his family members rescued him from the well around 12 midnight, he was holding a tuft of grass firmly in his hands inside the well. The lower half portion of his body was under the water and upper half part was above the water level. He then explained about the incident and told all family members, "Just when I fell down into the well, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji became manifest there immediately and said, "Don't worry! Just catch hold of this tuft of grass

firmly in your hands.” That is how Maharaj Ji very kindly saved his life this way. Thereafter Shri Kirpal Singh recovered from illness as well and attained normal health with Maharaj Ji's blessings. He is the Sarpanch of village at present by Maharaj Ji's grace.

*(Bibi Mahinder Kaur wife of Sarpanch Hargopal Singh,
Village Siajpur, Tanda, Hoshiarpur)*

39. Prediction by Maharaj Ji

Shri Dalip Singh, an experienced mason from village Abadpura, was very close to Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He was associated with Shri Gurdial Singh Ji from village Noorpur and other masons for the construction works related to Shri Guru Ravidass Janam Asthan Temple at Varanasi and Maharaj Ji's Dera inside village Ballan. He together with other experienced masons also built the main temple at Dera Sachkhand Ballan dedicated to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. It was May- June 1971 when Shri Dalip Singh along with his brother Arjan Singh and son Karnail Singh visited Maharaj Ji's Kutiya. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji took them around the ashram and stopped at a particular place. Maharaj Ji then said, “Dalip Singh! You will have to construct something here after 1 year.” However Shri Dalip Singh could not understand the real significance of that prediction by Maharaj Ji at that time. Later when Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji abandoned his perishable human body to be one with God on 11th June, 1972: the same spot hinted by Maharaj Ji was chosen for final rites and consigning the mortal remains to flames on 13th June, 1972 in accordance with well known traditions.

Later after sometime, Sant Hari Dass Maharaj Ji decided to build a suitable memorial at that sacred place to commemorate the pious memory of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Accordingly it was planned to build the present “Angitha Sahib” on that sacred spot in accordance with the instructions of Sant Hari Dass Ji Maharaj and Sant Garib Dass Ji. When they asked Shri Dalip Singh to build the 'Angitha Sahib'; then he immediately recalled what Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had told him a year back, “Dalip Singh! You will have to build something at this spot after one year.”

*(Shri Karnail Singh, Mason, son of Shri Dalip Singh, Village
Abadpura, Jalandhar, 29.6.2003)*

40. When Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji met Sant Baba Bhagat Gir Ji

Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji went to Nangal once to meet Sant Baba Bhagat Ram Gir Ji at his Dera in Nangal. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had visited that Dera many times earlier also. This time Maharaj Ji came alone without any other devotee. Normally saints visited this place during the season for ripening of mangoes. Both of these saints were epitome of Bhakti and unusual powers. Faces of both revered saints had a bright radiance of divine brilliance on account of devout meditation of God. Both venerated personalities had rare calm and peaceful minds.

When Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji reached Baba Bhagat Ram Gir Ji's Dera then both distinguished saints greeted each other very cordially. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji then sat down comfortably as requested by Baba Ji. Thereafter I, Vatna Ram Gir, served cold water to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj after checking up about the preference. Later I enquired whether I could serve food for the learned visitor but Maharaj Ji said, "Thanks! But I do not require anything at present." After this, Baba Bhagat Gir Ji advised me to arrange to spread bedding suitably on the wooden cot at the backside of the building for Maharaj Ji to rest for some time. Accordingly I made all the arrangements and prepared the bed with absolutely clean linen for Maharaj Ji with the help of Shri Ram Saran and some other devotees. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj then sat down comfortably on the bed.

After that, I went to Baba Ji and asked, "Guru Ji! Normally, you never offered such comfortable cot and bed to any saint. Then how is that a special cot and bedding have been got readied today?" Baba Ji replied, "My dear child! You are not yet in a position to judge the status of a saint. This perfect saint deserves exceptionally high respect and befitting courtesies. Now just go and check with the venerated saint whether he would like to have some milk or cold 'Shardai' a - sherbet specially prepared by grinding almonds and seeds of cucurbits

etc.” I went to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and made enquiry exactly as advised by Guru Ji. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj said 'Dear child! You may bring whatever is easily available.’ There were enough cows and buffaloes in the Dera those days and five of those were yielding milk. I boiled some milk and added sugar and served to Maharaj Ji. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj had milk with great delight. Later around mid day, I served Shardai to Maharaj Ji. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji was very happy. Later I enquired whether Maharaj Ji would like to have some mangoes. Maharaj Ji said, “Dear child! If mangoes are available in the ashram then I will have a few sometimes later. However mangoes should not be purchased specially for me.” Thereafter Sant Sarwan Dass Ji lay down on the bed to rest for a while.

I went away and told Baba Ji what Sant Sarwan Dass Ji had said to arrange some mangoes if available in the Dera but not to buy from the market. Plenty of mangoes were available at that time at low prices in the market but there was no stock in the Dera. While I was just discussing this issue with Baba Ji, I could see a devotee coming towards the Dera with a basket full of mangoes on his head. He placed the basket full of mangoes in front of Baba Ji and sat down after paying his regards to Baba Ji. I served him snacks and tea and then sat down. Baba Ji said “Vatna Ram! Now that we have mangoes, wash these with cold water thoroughly and serve to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji.” I said, “Guru Ji! All right, I shall do that.” We operated the Persian wheel to draw cold water and washed the mangoes properly. When Sant Sarwan Dass Ji sat down after some rest, I asked whether I could serve mangoes and Maharaj Ji replied in affirmative.

I placed the mangoes in cold water in a bucket and kept same before Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji had a glance and asked “I hope that you did not buy these mangoes.” I said, “No! We did not buy. A devotee brought a basket full of mangoes for the Dera just a little while ago.” Maharaj Ji just laughed after listening to me. I then enquired about the reason for that and Maharaj Ji said “Dear child! Just relax. How will you benefit to know the reason?” When I insisted to know, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji said, “Baba Bhagat Ram Gir Ji's feats are unique and he commands immense powers. Baba Ji only knows that fully.”

Having said that, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj started to savour some mangoes and I returned to Baba Ji and sat down.

One of the devotees from the congregation then prayed, “Baba Ji! Kindly narrate some motivational educative stories so that we can adopt and transform our lives for the better.” Baba Ji said, “My son! There are many useful motivational stories. I am neither highly educated nor I had the opportunity to study scriptures. However I can tell you something as follows:

- The common married man should earn his livelihood honestly to meet his family needs also donate some part from his earnings as charity.
- Everyone should always speak the truth. One should never resort to slander and back-biting. Do not keep company of undesirable men and women.
- There are five powerful evils in human beings that make anyone to dance like a monkey. These five thieves are the lust for false desire, anger, greed, attachment and false pride. If any person makes judicious use of these on appropriate occasions then his life can become comfortable in this world.

At this point of time Vatna Ram asked, “Guru Ji! What is this pernicious cycle of birth and death?” His revered Guru Ji then explained as follows:

- Birth and death are under the absolute control of God. Normally such cycle is because of one's unfulfilled desires and his noble or evil deeds.
- Whatever desire or longing one harbours in his mind at the time of death, his soul takes rebirth accordingly as a particular species of living beings. That is why learned saints tell people aloud very emphatically to chant Naam and focus on meditation of God when the life's journey is close to the end. But no one listens.

Baba Ji further said, “My dear son! I did not have the opportunity to study Gurbani but I have certainly listened to Gurbani very carefully. Satguru Namdev Ji and Satguru Trilochan Ji explain as follows in their pious Gurbani hymns”:

- Anyone who cherishes riches and wealth at the time of his death is reborn as a serpent.
- Anyone who remembers his wife at the time of his demise will be reborn as a prostitute.
- One who takes interest in his sons just before death will be reborn as a pig.
- If one remembers only his house and buildings at the time of his death, he will have next life as a ghost.
- Satguru Trilochan Ji finally concludes that anyone who focuses his mind at the lotus feet of God through devout meditation at the time of his last moments, he surely attains freedom from the cycle of birth and death. He achieves eternal salvation.
- Thus the real cause of the endless cycle of birth and death is one's wish list and unfulfilled desires.

All of us listened to Baba Ji quietly and very carefully. Then Baba Ji said, "There are extremely rare blessed individuals who remember only God at the time of end of their life's journey."

Vatna Ram again asked at this point of time, "Guru Ji! What is slander?" Guru Ji then explained as follows:

- When someone exaggerates and distorts facts and tells lies to wrongly malign another person about something that was never said or done by the latter; then the first person is guilty of slandering the other man. Each and every holy book and all scriptures warn us again and again never to indulge in such slander. However the foolish persons do not believe and abide by the teachings of Gurbani and they are habitual slanderers. Slander of anyone is undesirable and wrong. Slander of any saint must be especially avoided.
- My dear child! Human beings should always pursue noble deeds without longing for any rewards for same. God will certainly recognize your noble deeds and give you everything with His blessings.
- Leading the pious life of a true saint is indeed very

difficult. Very rare individual only ventures to tread that arduous path. One has to face immense difficulties on his way to become a true saint. However if anyone achieves his ultimate goal facing all hurdles bravely, he certainly gets rewarded with amrita nectar.

Baba Ji hardly conducted any spiritual discourse. However whenever Baba Ji used to be in positive happy mood to speak on rare occasions; Baba Ji would convey truly unique spiritual messages in very subtle way and simple language. Even then it was extremely difficult to fathom the real depth and meaning of what Baba Ji communicated.

Meanwhile a large number of devotees from the local village and far flung areas had joined the congregation at the Dera. Sun was getting ready to set in the west after saluting the east. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji also then came close to Baba Bhagat Gir Ji in the congregation and sat down comfortably. Thereafter the spiritual discussions and exchange of views continued as follows:

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji: - “Swami Ji! You have performed devout meditation and penance. You keep sitting in perfect state of Samadhi for all the 24 hours.”

Sant Bhagat Gir Ji: - “Maharaj Ji! It is all because of regular practice. One can keep focussed on meditation over long periods through practice.

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji: - Baba Ji! One can clean his body and clothes by making use of soap. But what should one do to remove dirt of the mind?”

Baba Ji: - “Sant Ji! We can remove the external dirt from our body and clothes with the use of soap. But soap can't cleanse the mind because soap cannot be applied to mind and dirt smearing the mind is microscopic in nature that we can't even see with our eyes. We can wash invisible dirt with the invisible soap. That invisible soap is Naam-Simran or meditation of God which can remove invisible dirt of mind if practised with dedicated devotion.”

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji: - Swami Ji! Kindly tell us whether penance is absolutely necessary for a disciple. Can no one become a saint without penance?”

Baba Ji: - “Sant Ji! Just as we need food, water and garments for our body; penance and meditation are also necessary to keep one's mind under control.”

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji: - “One's mind becomes firm and strong through meditation and penance that enables one to control the powerful distractions of mind and vanquish desires and longing for worldly pleasures. That leads the disciple to realization of God and he is able to bear with praise and disrespect equally well. He is then able to exercise complete control over the five evil human vices. He develops the faculty of enduring a vast variety of known and unknown discomforts faced by human body. He is then beyond the influence of three basic qualities of human nature and attains the stable position of eternal tranquillity. He is then absolutely free from the pernicious cycle of birth and death.”

Vatna Ram: - “Guru Ji! Please tell us about the unique qualities of saints and how do we identify true saints?”

Baba Ji:-“My dear child! Sant Sarwan Dass Ji will answer your question as he is a great scholar and he has studied a large number of scriptures and spiritual granths.”

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji:-“My child! The unique traits of saints are as follows:

1. Devout meditation of God and visualization of same almighty God in every individual.
2. Saints treat extreme hardships and comforts alike and they have no enmity with anyone.
3. Saints are beyond the five evils like speech, touch, beauty, taste and aroma and they preach everyone to be beware of these. They are always very kind to all living beings.
4. Devout meditation of God is the real diet of saints. They are not influenced by Maya just as a lotus flower is not affected by water.
5. Saints preach friends and foes alike for their benefit and have devout love for meditation of God.
6. Saints do not listen to any slander with their ears and they are never proud of their virtues. They have no ego and they treat themselves like ordinary dust of everyone's feet.

True saints have all of these qualities. Saints with these six virtues described above are indeed truly perfect saints and they are really virtuous saints.”

Vatna Ram: - “Maharaj Ji! Have you practised any difficult penance? If so how long was the duration?”

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji:—“Dear child! I have not undertaken such hard penance as Swami Ji has done. He worships God all the twenty four hours every moment for all the twelve months of a year. He continues to pursue devout meditation even these days even though he has already realized everything. Baba Ji is endowed with infinite powers and devout meditation and I cannot match him. There is now no differentiation between Baba Ji and God. Both are same as the two have amalgamated into one.”

Satsang or spiritual discourses continued in this way and we listened with complete attention without realizing that the sun had set long time back. Satsang concluded with pious words of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and it was time for Aarti or devotional ceremonial worship. Everyone joined in recitation of hymns for Aarti and thereafter community meals were served to all.

After having the meals, all the devotees again sat down around Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji to listen to glory of God. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj initiated the sermon and said, “Dear devotees! Good education for all shall be absolutely necessary and extremely important in future. All people should endeavour to provide best possible education for all of their children. We can secure our rights and justice only if our children are highly educated. We have already suffered immensely for ages because of lack of education. Now everyone must be educated and learned. Those people, who don't provide good education to their children, are the biggest enemies of their children.”

Maat pita sut shatar hae, puttari parhavahi nahi!!

Sobh na pavat sabha mahi, jiou bag hansan mahi!! i.e.

Those parents who do not provide good education to their children are the real enemies of their own children. An illiterate person does not get any respect in a congregation and he is

easily recognized just as a heron is easily identified in a flock of swans.

Vidiya bandh prades mae, vidiya dev visekh!!

Pooj nirpokar aphati, vidiya binu pasu dekh!! i.e.

Education is one's best friend in foreign countries. Man is absolutely like an animal without proper education.

Tab lag vidiya parhiye, jab lag ghat mae praan!!

Dhani purakh pahunche nahi, jahan pahunche vidwan!! i.e.

Everyone should study and learn as long as he is alive. A learned educated person can achieve what a rich person cannot realize.

Uttam kul kis kamm hae, vidiya gun te hin!!

Neech jati vidwan nu, poojan dev praveen!! i.e.

What is the use of a higher caste of a person who lacks sterling qualities and who is not well educated? People respect an educated scholar like a god even if he hails from a so called lower caste.

Dear devotees! I Vatna Ram Gir followed the path shown by Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and studied recitation of Gurbani for 6 years under the guidance of Sant Mela Ram Ji at Odhra. That has benefitted me immensely in my life. I also got wonderful opportunities to receive further education also from several great personalities. It was possible only with the grace of my revered Guru Ji.

Thereafter Shri Vatna Ram asked Baba Ji, "Guru Ji! Please explain who is an Udasin and what are the special qualities of an Udasi or Ascetic?"

Baba Ji: - My dear son! Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji will answer your question."

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji:-"Dear child! Udasin is a person who keeps himself aloof from worldly pleasures and has no bias for or against anyone. He does not favour anyone or discriminate against someone based on considerations like community, relationship or friendship while providing truthful evidence or taking a judicial decision in a panchayat or court. Likewise he is not influenced by joy, sorrow, greed, affection or fright under all situations."

After a while Shri Vatna Ram Ji again asked, “Maharaj Ji! Who is '*Rurh Sanyasi*'?”

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji:-“Dear child! Baba Ji will provide suitable answer to your question.”

Baba Ji:-“I shall answer your question very briefly. One who exercises complete control over five powerful evils and human weaknesses, five sense organs, five work organs, his own mind and wisdom ; is called a '*Rurh Sanyasi*' commonly known as Braham Giani.”

In this way both of the learned saints discussed several matters pertaining to extremely complicated and high level spiritual issues of inner realm that no one else in the congregation could understand. Such spiritual discussions continued until very late at night when Baba Ji said “It is quite late at night now. All of you may now go to your respective beds and have rest.”

This is how we listened to a very large number of important spiritual issues and then went away to our respective beds to rest. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had breakfast next morning and then left for village Garh after taking leave of Baba Ji. Maharaj Ji later reached his ashram in Ballan via Rajpur and Haryana.

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41. When Maharaj Ji mentioned Complete Details before we reached the Dera

It was the year 1968 when omniscient Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji told the devotees sitting nearby Maharaj Ji in the Kutiya, “Three persons are coming to our Dera on two bicycles. One of them is a short statured man with a large gun on his shoulder.” Shri Karnail Singh narrated the details as follows. I was on my way to Dera on one bicycle and my father Shri Dalip Singh was seated on the pillion seat of my bicycle. He has short stature and he was carrying a big gun. My uncle Shri Arjan Singh was also with us on another bicycle. We paid our regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji on reaching the Dera. Maharaj Ji said, “Look here! The short stature person with big gun has just arrived.” Then other devotees sitting in front of Maharaj Ji explained to me that omniscient Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj

had already told them about the impending arrival of all three of you.

(Shri Karnail Singh son of Shri Dalip Singh, Abadpura, Jalandhar, 20.6.2003)

42. Exchange of Views about Spiritual Ascent

Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji often used to visit other saints who practised devout meditation of God. Once Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji accompanied by Giani Bishna Ram went to meet Baba Sawan Singh Ji at Dera Beas during the year 1940. Baba Sawan Singh Ji was resting on a cot on the first floor of his residence and some devotees were also present there. When Baba Ji saw Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji then he stood up and both revered saints greeted each other with folded hands. Baba Sawan Singh Ji then requested Sant Sarwan Dass Ji to be seated on his cot on his right side as a mark of respect for the distinguished visitor. Then they exchanged views about spiritual issues for nearly one hour. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had immense love and reverence for all revered saints in the community of saints.

43. Blessings for Securing a Job

Shri Chaman Lal from Chandigarh had devout respect for Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. When he was to appear for an interview for a job, he prayed to Maharaj Ji one day in advance of his interview, "Maharaj Ji! I have to appear for an interview for a job tomorrow. Please bless me suitably." Then Maharaj Sant Sarwan Dass Ji said, "You will be selected by them and you will get this job." He appeared for the interview on the next day with confidence. Chaman Lal was selected in the interview and he got a job after declaration of results. He has now retired from the government job. (Shri Chaman Lal, Chandigarh) a director of 'Press & Information Buearu of India' North Zone.

44. Narrating Story of Previous Life of Shri Khushi Ram

Shri Khushi Ram son of Shri Ishar Dass and Bimla Devi from village Dhade were profound and affectionate devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. They once prayed to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and said, "Maharaj Ji! We do not have any child. Kindly bless us." After a pause for some time Maharaj Ji said, "Khushi Ram! You were killed the fawns of a doe during your previous

life. Therefore you are not destined to have any child. But don't worry! Your sister's children will take extremely good care of you so well that you will not feel the lack of your own children.” Khushi Ram's wife Bibi Bimla Devi said that the children and grand children of Shri Khushi Ram's sister Bibi Jawali and her husband Dhanna Ram from village Heerapur, district Hoshiarpur love us so much that we have not felt the lack of our own children. Maharaj Ji's words thus proved to be absolutely true.

(Bibi Bimla Devi wife of Late Shri Khushi Ram, Village Dhade, Jalandhar 22.6.2003)

45. Revival of Shri Kishan Singh Mastana's Daughter - Bibi Gejo

Shri Kishan Singh Mastana son of Shri Chandu Ram and Bibi Bachni from village Nahlan near Basti Danashmanda, Jalandhar were very ardent devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Their daughter Bibi Gejo was married with Shri Mahinder Pal of village Kotli Than Singh, Jalandhar. Bibi Gejo once visited her native village Nahlan to meet her parents during harvest season of wheat in the year 1963-64. She was accompanied by her son named Amrik.

It was around 4 p.m. when Bibi Gejo stopped to breathe. Everyone thought that Bibi Gejo had died. Messages were conveyed to all relatives about her tragic loss. Carpets were spread on the ground as the local residents gathered at the house to convey condolences. After about three hours around 7 p.m. Bibi Gejo miraculously started to breathe again. She got up and sat down as if she had woken up after sleep. Everyone was extremely happy and surprised. People then asked her, “Bibi Gejo! What had happened to you?” Bibi Gejo said, “When I died and my soul left my perishable body, I found Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj standing on my way. Maharaj Ji then said to me, “Bibi! You have to go back. You have yet to see a lot in your life.” Bibi Gejo then asked his father to take her to Dera Sachkhand, Ballan to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj.

Her father Shri Kishan Singh Mastana and her husband Mahinder Pal said, “Gejo! All of us will go to Dera Sachkhand, Ballan in the morning.” When they reached the Dera, Sant

Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was resting on the 'Tharha' or the cemented raised platform. They paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and sat down. Thereafter they explained about the entire incident of the previous day at their residence and miraculous revival of Bibi Gejo. Maharaj Ji then told Shri Mahinder Pal, “Just go inside my room and bring some part of the medicine, kept inside a tin placed there, on a piece of paper.” Mahinder Pal went inside and returned quickly without any medicine and he said, “Maharaj Ji! The tin can is locked.” Then Maharaj Ji again said, “Go inside and fetch some medicine from the tin can.” When Mahinder Pal went inside the room again he was extremely surprised to see the tin can without any lock. He was amazed to witness this unusual feat. He took out the medicine and gave it to Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji then gave the same medicine to Bibi Gejo to take regularly as advised.

Shri Harbhajan Singh son of Shri Kishan Singh Mastana narrated this true story to explain how Maharaj Ji miraculously saved his sister and gave her a new lease of life with benevolent blessings. He further said “My sister has three sons and one daughter at present and all of them are happily married. My sister Bibi Gejo visits Dera Sachkhand Ballan regularly. However her husband Shri Mahinder Pal left for his heavenly abode a few years back.

(Shri Harbhajan Singh son of Shri Kishan Singh Mastana, Vill. Nahlan near Basti Danashmanda, Jalandhar, May 2003)

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46. Blessing Shri Swaran Dass with Sons

Shri Swaran Dass, son of Shri Marha Ram and Bibi Pritam Kaur lived in village Kaboolpur, Jalandhar. They had only daughters but they had no living son in the family. Unfortunately their three sons had died when each of them attained the age of about eight to ten years. They heard about the grandeur of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and a well wisher suggested that they should meet Maharaj Ji to seek help.

Shri Swaran Dass and Bibi Pritam Kaur went to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji during 1958 on 2nd of Phagun month (February) at Dera Sachkhand Ballan. At that time, Maharaj Ji was resting on the raised platform or Tharha. Sant Hari Dass

Maharaj Ji and Sant Chetan Dass Ji were also sitting there by the side of Maharaj Ji.

When Sant Sarwan Dass Ji saw the husband & wife couple approaching, Maharaj Ji said, “Chetan Dass! That person and his wife, who are walking this way, lost their three sons – all around the ages of eight to ten years. They are in deep sorrow. They didn't get blessings for another son from anywhere.” Swaran Dass and Bibi Pritam Kaur listened to all that Maharaj Ji had just said. They paid their profound respect at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and then prayed, “Maharaj Ji! You are Omniscient and aware of our distress very well. Please be very kind and bless us.” Then Maharaj Ji very kindly said, “Don't worry! You will have a son after one year and thereafter you will be blessed with another son in due course of time.”

Maharaj Ji's words proved to be absolutely true. Exactly after one year on 2nd of Phagun month (February) 1959; a son was born in their home. He was named Niranjn Dass. After some years, another son was born in their home with the blessings of Maharaj Ji. (Shri Niranjn Dass son of Shri Swaran Dass, Village Kaboolpur, Jalandhar)

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47. A Boon for Shri Channan Singh

Shri Channan Singh, a contractor from village Khadiala near Bullowal, Hoshiarpur was very close to Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji went to Shri Channan Singh's house during 1964 for Satsang or a spiritual congregation. Most of the houses in that village were made of un-baked bricks with mud plaster those days. At the conclusion of congregation, Shri Channan Singh prayed, “Maharaj Ji! All rooms in my house are made of un-baked bricks with mud plaster. Kindly be merciful and bless us.” Maharaj Ji said, “Don't worry! You will have double story pukka house soon.” Maharaj Ji's words came absolutely true. That family now owns pukka double story houses as per blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. (Shri Gurmukh Singh son of Shri Channan Singh, Village Khadiala near Bullowal, Hoshiarpur, 23.6.2003)

48. Blessing Shri Inder Dass and Bibi Giyan with Sons

Shri Garib Dass, from village Khadiala Hoshiarpur, was a

profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. One day, Maharaj Ji went to Shri Garib Dass Ji's house in Khadiala to participate in a programme. Shri Garib Dass introduced his relatives Shri Inder Dass and Bibi Giyan, residents of village Fattowal and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! My relatives have only daughters and no son. Please be kind and bless them." Then Maharaj Ji told them, "Everyone should just stand up. Don't worry! You will beget two sons in due course of time." Maharaj Ji's words came true and they had two sons in their home over a period of time.

49. Blessing Shri Kartar Chand with a Son

Shri Sohan Singh son of Shri Garib Dass, from village Khadiala in Hoshiarpur district, was very devoted to Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. His brother-in-law Shri Kartar Chand, from village Masiti, had only daughters but no son. One day, Shri Garib Dass took his brother-in-law and his wife to Dera Sachkhand, Ballan. Maharaj Ji was seated on the 'Tharha' or raised platform at that time. All of them paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Then Shri Garib Dass prayed, "Maharaj Ji! Kindly bless Kartar Singh as he has only daughters but no son." Maharaj Ji very kindly said, "Don't worry! You will beget a son in the house in due course of time." Maharaj Ji's words came true and a son was born in their house in due course and he was named Niranjan.

(Shri Sohan Singh son of Shri Garib Dass, Village Khadiala, Hoshiarpur)

50. Blessing Shri Darshan Singh with Sons

One day, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji went to Shri Darshan Singh son of Diyal Singh contractor's home in village Khambla. Shri Garib Dass, from village Khadiala requested Maharaj Ji to be kind to Darshan Singh as he had 7 daughters and no son. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji very kindly told Darshan Singh that his family would be blessed with two sons in due course of time. Maharaj Ji's words certainly came true. Two sons were born in their home in due course over a period of time with the benevolent blessings of Maharaj Ji.

(Shri Sohan Singh son of Shri Garib Dass, Village Khadiala, Hoshiarpur 23.6.2003)

51. Repentance by a Magician

Once a magician was showing his magic tricks with playing cards at Maharaj Ji's Kutiya during the year 1967-68. He continued with his magic tricks for nearly one hour. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and Shri Sohan Singh were present there along with some other people. Maharaj Ji said, "The magicians often exercise control over the eyes of onlookers." After this observation by Maharaj Ji; the magician couldn't show any further magical trick. He felt extremely sorry and repented sincerely. He prostrated at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and begged Maharaj Ji for pardon. Thereafter Maharaj Ji enabled him to perform as in the past.

(Shri Sohan Singh son of Shri Garib Dass, Village Khadiala, Hoshiarpur 23.6.2003)

52. Blessing S. Aasa Singh Saini with Grandsons

Once, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji went to the house of Shri Garib Dass at village Khadiala. In that village, S. Aasa Singh Saini's two sons S. Rajil Singh and S. Jaswant Singh were residents of that village. Both of them had no offspring. They requested Shri Garib Dass Ji to convey their plight and pray to Maharaj Ji for blessings. Then Shri Garib Dass apprised Maharaj Ji about their request and said, "Maharaj Ji! Both of these brothers Rajil Singh and Jaswant Singh have no children. Kindly convey your kind blessings to them. Then Maharaj Ji said to both of them, "Don't worry! Both of you will have one son each in due course of time." Maharaj Ji's words came true as both of the brothers had one son each at their homes after a few years. S. Rajil Singh's son was named Mangal Singh and S. Jaswant Singh's son was given the name of Daya Singh. Both brothers then visited Maharaj Ji's Kutiya along with their young sons and Shri Garib Dass and paid their homage at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji.

(Shri Garib Dass son of Shri Chandu Ram Khadiala, Hoshiarpur, 26.6.2003)

53. Blessing Shri Garib Dass with Farmland

Once, Shri Garib Dass son of Shri Chandu Ram from village Khadiala went to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji at Dera. When he paid his regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji

then Maharaj Ji said, "See! A land-lord has just arrived." He replied, "Maharaj Ji! I am not a landlord. I just take land on lease for cultivation." Maharaj Ji said, "Don't worry! You will have your own land as well." Shri Garib Dass described that he bought 11 acres farm land with the Maharaj Ji's grace a few years later. Garib Dass Ji later said, "I have now bought 5 acres additional land and thus I own 16 acres land with Maharaj Ji's blessings. Maharaj Ji's words thus came true. I became a landlord with the blessings of Maharaj Ji.

(Shri Garib Dass son of Shri Chandu Ram, Village Khadiala, Hoshiarpur 26.6.2003)

54. Blessing Amrik Singh with Sons

S. Amrik Singh son of S. Harbans Singh from village Ballan said that he got married in 1972. When both of us husband & wife visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan after our marriage; Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji gave two apples with blessings to my wife and said, "Dear daughter! Take these two apples and you alone should eat both apples." With the grace of Maharaj Ji we have two sons named Dharminder and Jatinder.

(S. Amrik Singh son of S. Harbans Singh village Ballan, Jalandhar 26.6.2003)

55. Blessing S. Piara Singh with Land

S. Piara Singh and Bibi Beant Kaur, from village Lambrha in Hoshiarpur district, were very profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Once, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji visited village Lambrha. Maharaj Ji also visited S. Piara Singh's land. S. Piara Singh said, "Maharaj Ji! We have just these two fields." Maharaj Ji said, "How much land do you want?" Bibi Beant Kaur said, "Maharaj Ji! You are omnipotent." Then Maharaj Ji went to see their land along with Piara Singh and Bibi Beant Kaur. Maharaj Ji stopped at a spot in their land and then perambulated many fields of adjoining land and returned to the original spot. Maharaj Ji then told my parents, "All of the land perambulated by me will soon belong to you." Shri Amrik Singh told that Maharaj Ji's words proved to be eternal truth and all that land is now owned by our family.

(S. Amrik Singh son of S. Piara Singh, Village Lambrha, Hoshiarpur 26.6.2003)

56. The First Bore Well will Function

S. Piara Singh and Bibi Beant Kaur from village Lambrha Hoshiarpur made arrangements for a new bore to install a tube-well at their farm. Suddenly that bore well was damaged. Then they arranged to drill another bore well at a different place but that was also not successful as there was no water there. S. Piara Singh then prayed to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, “Maharaj Ji! We arranged a bore well at a new place. But we did not get water even there. Kindly bless us and resolve our problem.” Maharaj Ji said, “The bore well at the first spot will function all right and you will get enough water there.” We again arranged to prepare the bore at original place and the tube-well functioned successfully. Now that bore-well has been functional for the last 40 years. A large number of tube wells around our village do not yield adequate water but our tube-well has been working properly ever since the day Maharaj Ji conveyed his blessings.

(S. Amrik Singh son of S. Piara Singh, Village Lambrha, Hoshiarpur)

57. Blessing Shri Ujagar Ram with Land

Shri Ujagar Ram son of Late Shri Maya Ram originally hailed from village Mufode. He currently stays at Guru Ravidass Pura, Phillore where he has a leather business. It was around 1970 when Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji visited village Nagar to meet Shri 108 Sant Mela Ram Ji. While returning to Dera Sachkhand Ballan; Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji visited Shri Ujagar Ram's home at Phillore. At that time he had a large house on one Kanal land. He had also leased some land across the road for his leather business. After visiting his house, Maharaj Ji also went to the land used for tanning leather. Then Maharaj Ji asked, “Ujagar Singh! Who owns this land?” He said, “Maharaj Ji! I have taken this land is on lease.” Maharaj Ji said, “This land now belongs to you.” Maharaj Ji's words came true. I bought that land almost within one month with Maharaj Ji's blessings.

(Shri Ujagar Ram son of Shri Maya Ram, Guru Ravidass Pura, Phillore 26.6.2003)

58. Blessing Shri Bhagat Ram with Land

Late Shri Bhagat Ram, son of Shri Labhu Ram from

village Dolike in Jalandhar district, was a very profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. His family members currently stay at 731, J.P. Nagar, Jalandhar. He used to visit Lahore to work there before the partition of India. He took possession of five acres land near Jalandhar City after India's secured independence during 1947 with creation of Pakistan. But some other people claimed ownership of that land and they filed a case in the court against him.

By 1962, Shri Bhagat Ram and his family members were very poor. Then he explained his plight to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Maharaj Ji said, "Bhagat Ram! You will surely win the court case." Shri Bhagat Ram then contemplated in his mind that he would build a room at Dera if he could win the court case pertaining to land. The legal battle continued from the local court right up to Supreme Court. In 1986, Supreme Court pronounced the judgement in favour of Shri Bhagat Ram. Maharaj Ji's words proved absolutely true. Later they sold that five acre land and bought farmland in Alawalpur. Shri Bhagat Ram Ji built a room at Dera Sachkhand Ballan during 1991.

*(Shri Des Raj son of Late Shri Bhagat Ram, Village Dolike,
26.06.2003)*

59. Fulfilment of the Desire of Shri Bhag Mall

Shri Bhag Mall hailed from village Sherpur Shekhe in Jalandhar district. He rendered extremely dedicated services as 'Bhandari' or main cook at the durbar of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj for many years. He explained that while he was on his way to visit Dera Sachkhand Ballan to meet Maharaj Ji during 1971; he contemplated in his mind that it would be extremely nice if he could meet Maharaj Ji just near the main gate of Kutiya. When he reached Maharaj Ji's Kutiya, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was standing just outside the main gate. Shri Bhag Mall paid his profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. He was fully convinced that Maharaj Ji was really omniscient who knew about the thoughts of his mind and fulfilled his cherished desire.

*(Shri Bhag Mall 'Bhandari' Dera Sachkhand, Ballan 27. 06.
2003)*

60. Blessing Shri Karam Chand with a Son

Late Shri Karam Chand and Bibi Tej Kaur from village Thakkarwal in Hoshiarpur were very profound devotees of Maharaj Sarwan Dass Ji. They made arrangements for Satsang or a spiritual congregation at their home during 1968. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji visited their home. Maharaj Ji spent the night in a room on the first floor of the house. Next day Shri Karam Chand and Bibi Tej Kaur prayed, "Maharaj Ji! We have five daughters but no son. Kindly convey your blessings so that we beget a son." Then Maharaj Ji said, "Don't worry! A son will take birth in your house in due course of time. Remember to practise meditation of God regularly." Maharaj Ji's words came true. A son was born in their house in due course of time. Maharaj Ji gave him the name as Ram Kishan who is working in police force now.

(Bibi Tej Kaur wife of f Late Shri Karam Chand, Village Thakkarwal, Hoshiarpur, 26. 06. 2003)

61. Blessing Shri Gurmit Singh with Promotion

Shri Gurmit Singh son of Shri Daulat Ram hails from village Litran, P.O. Saencha, Hoshiarpur. He is currently resident of a colony near electricity sub-station at Tanda. He had profound regards and reverence for Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. When Maharaj Ji visited his brother-in-law Shri Karam Chand's village Thakkar then Shri Gurmit Singh was also there. Gurmit paid his regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and said, "Maharaj Ji! I am a Havildar in army. Kindly be benevolent and kind to me and convey your blessings." Maharaj Ji said, "You will be promoted very soon." Maharaj Ji's words proved absolutely true and I was promoted soon. Finally, I retired from the army as a Captain.

(Shri Gurmit Singh son of Shri Daulat Ram, Tanda 27. 06. 2003)

62. Protection of Shri Gurmit Singh during War

Shri Gurmit Singh son of Shri Daulat Ram hails from village Litran, P.O. Saencha, Hoshiarpur. He was the follower of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and he worked in military. He was fighting along with his companions in the 1971 Indo-Pak war on the border near Sialkot. There was heavy bombing all

around them in that sector. At that time, he remembered Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! Kindly do protect me in this difficult situation." He and all of his colleagues were safe with the grace of Maharaj Ji. He visited the ashram at the end of the war and paid his sincere gratitude and profound regards to Maharaj Ji.

(Shri Gurmit Singh son of Shri Daulat Ram, Tanda; 27. 06. 2003)

63. Fulfilment of S. Hari Singh's Wish

S. Hari Singh constable son of late Shri Gajju was resident of village Kandola in Jalandhar district. He had resolved in his mind that he would become a disciple of a revered saint who would read the thoughts of his mind and bless him with Naam. It was during the year 1965 when he learnt about the grandeur of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji from some devotee. He then started to visit the Kutiya regularly to pay his regards at the lotus feet of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Such visits continued for nearly six months. Thereafter one day he contemplated in his mind that if Sant Sarwan Dass Ji is indeed a Brahmngiani and perfect saint then Maharaj Ji must fulfil his desire and bless him with Naam the same day. He reached Kutiya with such thoughts in mind. At that time Maharaj Ji was seated on the 'Tharha' or raised platform. Some devotees were also present sitting in front of Maharaj Ji. Hari Singh paid his regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and there after he sat down behind the other devotees. After a few minutes he was called by Maharaj Ji and then Maharaj Ji took him inside the room and very kindly blessed him with sacred Naam. Shri Hari Singh explained that this is how omniscient Maharaj Ji knew about his mind's resolve and fulfilled his cherished wish.

(S. Hari Singh son of Late Shri Gajju, Village Kandola, Jalandhar; 26. 02. 2003)

64. Transformation of Shri Aiya Singh Praiya as a Poet

Shri Aiya Singh Praiya son of Late Shri Bhan Singh lived in village Garhi, near Nangal Farid in Hoshiarpur district. A saint Sant Gir Ji also lived in their house. Sant Gir Ji often visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Shri Aiya Singh Praiya also accompanied him on

many such visits to Ballan. Once, Shri Aiya Singh wrote his first poem and recited that poem in the presence of Maharaj Ji. Then Maharaj Ji asked him to recite that poem once again. After listening to his poem for the second time, Maharaj Ji conveyed his blessings to him and said, “You will be a famous and great poet now onwards.” After that he started to write new poems regularly. With Maharaj Ji's grace he became an accomplished and famous poet in due course of time. He narrated this true story on Saturday the 28th June, 2003 from the stage on the occasion of anniversary of Brahamlin Sant Narayan Dass Ji at village Jattan Da Kadiala, Hoshiarpur. He also highlighted on that occasion “Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was a truly perfect saint and Brahmigiani. Whomsoever Sant Sarwan Dass Ji blessed with his kind benevolence, that person surely crossed over the Bhavsagar safely. Whatever I have achieved so far has all been because of blessings of Swami Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. I have no words to describe grandeur of Maharaj Ji.

(Shri Aiya Singh Praiya son of Late Shri Bhan Sing, Village Garhi, Hoshiarpur; 28.06.2003)

65. Advance Information about the Death of Son

Shri Piare Lal, son of Shri Sant Ram, and Bibi Swarni are residents of village Badhiana, Jalandhar and they are devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. A son was born in Shri Piare Lal and Bibi Swarni's house during 1960-61. Shri Piare Lal visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan with Prasad of laddus on the day of child's birth. He paid his regards at the lotus feet of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and prayed, “Maharaj Ji! O my true lord, kindly advise a suitable name for our newly born son.” However omniscient Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji knew about the bitter reality and Maharaj Ji said, “The baby boy is destined to die on the fourth day around 1 p.m. However all other members of your family will live normal lives.” That is exactly what happened and the child died at 1.p.m. on the fourth day. However as per words of Maharaj Ji, Shri Piare Lal and Bibi Swarni have three grown up sons and two daughters at present.

(Shri Piare Lal son of Late Shri Sant Ram, Village Badhiana, Jalandhar)

66. Blessing S. Bikkar Singh with Children

S. Bikkar Singh son of S. Bishan Singh and Bibi Prakash Kaur from village Raipur Rasulpur had very profound regards for Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji since their childhood. He was married with Bibi Prakash Kaur. She gave birth to a daughter and later on two sons over a period of time. However, unfortunately both of their sons died at young age. Then both husband and wife met Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! We had two sons but unfortunately both the boys died soon after birth. Kindly be merciful and bless us." Benevolent Maharaj Ji said, "Now onwards your children will not die like that. Just practise meditation of God regularly." Maharaj Ji's words proved to be eternal truth. S. Bikkar Singh and his wife have six sons with Maharaj Ji's blessings. Shri Bikkar Singh said, "Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was indeed incarnation of God as Maharaj Ji blessed infinite number of persons likewise.

(S. Bikkar Singh son of Late S. Bishan Singh, Village Raipur Rasulpur; 30. 06. 2003)

67. Blessing S. Karam Singh and Bibi Mahinder Kaur with Children

S. Bikkar Singh said that his sister-in-law Smt. Mahinder Kaur and her husband S. Karam Singh lived in village Lakhanke in Kapurthala district. They got married many years ago. But they had no offspring. S. Bikkar Singh took both of them along to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! They have no child in their house. Kindly bless them with children." Maharaj Ji said to Karam Singh and Bibi Mahinder Kaur, "Don't worry! You will beget children in due course of time." That's what exactly happened as they were blessed with children and Maharaj Ji's words proved to be absolutely true.

(S. Bikkar Singh son of Late S. Bishan Singh, Village Raipur Rasulpur; 30.06. 2003)

68 When Soldier Joginder Singh returned Home

S. Bikkar Singh's cousin sister Bibi Charan Kaur and her husband Gurbachan Singh lived in Gondpur near Nijhran, Jalandhar. Their son Joginder Singh worked in military and

used to operate a tank. There was no information about him for nearly one month after the end of 1965 Indo-Pak war. His parents were extremely worried. They thought that their son might have attained martyrdom in the war. They took S. Bikkar Singh along with them and visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. Weeping bitterly in front of Maharaj Ji, they mentioned that their son Joginder Singh was untraceable even after one month of end of the war. Omniscient Maharaj Ji said, "Don't worry! The boy will return home after some days. However you must make arrangements for Satsang at your house when he returns home." Maharaj Ji's words came true and they received confirmation about safety of their son after some days. Joginder Singh returned home safely later. Then Gurbachan Singh visited Maharaj Ji's ashram along with Shri Bikkar Singh and Joginder Singh and they paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Thereafter they made arrangements for Satsang at their house in accordance with Maharaj Ji's advice. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji also graced the occasion of Satsang at village Gondpur along with S Bikkar Singh.

(S. Bikkar Singh son of Late S. Bishan Singh, Village Raipur Rasulpur; 30.06. 2003)

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69. Blessing S. Darshan Singh with Children

S. Darshan Singh, son of S. Mela Singh, and Bibi Pritam Kaur lived in village Sanghwal. Their four children had died after 7 days or 7 months of birth of each child. One day S. Darshan Singh and his wife along with S. Sohan Singh, who is a very profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji, visited Maharaj Ji's Kutiya. They explained their plight to Maharaj Ji how their four children died after attaining the age of 7 days or months. They prayed for mercy and sought Maharaj Ji's blessings. Then Maharaj Ji said, "Don't worry! A son will be born in your home and he will be fine." A son was born in Darshan Singh's house with Maharaj Ji's grace in due course of time. S. Darshan Singh conveyed the good news to Maharaj Ji and requested Maharaj Ji to advise suitable name for the child. But Maharaj Ji did not suggest any name for his son. Then S.

Darshan Singh got extremely worried on that account. Then he met S. Sohan Singh and said, "I just can't understand why Maharaj Ji declined to advise suitable name for my son. I am very worried about it. Hope it does not happen as in the past." Then S. Sohan Singh said, "Don't be tense. Maharaj Ji is very kind and competent."

Later on during the night, both S. Sohan Singh and S. Darshan Singh had similar dreams in which they saw a nightmare like 'Yamdoot' or messenger of death standing near a Neem tree in the courtyard of Darshan Singh's house. They also saw Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj with a long walking stick standing in front of him. They heard Maharaj Ji clearly warning the Yamdoot to get lost and that he could not take the boy away under any circumstances. Maharaj Ji also said that a suitable name will be given to the child after he attains 40 days age. Next morning S. Darshan Singh told the whole matter related to his dream to S. Sohan Singh. S. Sohan Singh said that he also had an exactly similar dream.

When the child was 40 days old, Maharaj Ji sent a message to S. Darshan Singh to make arrangements for holding a spiritual congregation at his residence. Then Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji also graced the occasion of Satsang and blessed the child after assigning him a name.

(S. Sohan Singh, Village Sanghwal, Jalandhar 1. 07. 2003)

70. Blessing Shri Gulwant Singh with Promotion

Shri Gulwant Singh son of Shri Uttam Ram resident of 351, Shiv Nagar, Jalandhar was very devoted to Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He had been visiting Maharaj Ji's Kutiya since 1960. During the first week of June, 1972, he met Maharaj Ji and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! I joined P.W.D. Irrigation Wing as a Junior Draftsman. But I didn't get any promotion so far. Kindly be merciful and convey your blessings."

Maharaj Ji said, "Don't worry! You should practise meditation of God regularly. You will get promotion very soon." I was promoted as a Draftsman on 9th June 1972 with the blessings of Maharaj Ji. He brought papers of his promotion from the Head Office, Amritsar on 11th June 1972. So Maharaj Ji blessed me like this. It is worth mentioning here that Shri

Gulwant Singh prepared the map and lay out plan of the temple built in the sacred memory of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji at Dera Sachkhand Ballan.

(Gulwant Singh son of Shri Uttam Ram, 351, Shiv Nagar Jalandhar; 1. 07. 2003)

71. Respect for Saints

Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was very close to Sant Prem Dass Ji of Dera Shri 108 Sant Sital Dass Ji, village Bohan. Shri Mallu Ram from village Biaspind was the disciple of Sant Prem Dass Ji. He did everything in accordance with the directions of Sant Prem Dass Ji. He always sought prior permission to undertake any important task and obeyed Sant Prem Dass Ji's instructions. Sometimes Sant Prem Dass Ji used to tell him, "Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji lives very near to you. Hence you can always seek advice from Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and take further action as advised by Maharaj Ji.

(Shri Swaran Chand son of Late Shri Fumman Ram & Nephew of Late Shri Mallu Ram, Village Biaspind.)

72. Knowledge about Shri Fumman Ram's Wish

Shri 108 Sant Prem Dass Ji from Dera 108 Sant Sital Dass Ji, Bohan and Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had profound mutual respect and close friendship. Late Shri Fumman Ram son of Late Sultani Ram from village Biaspind had profound regards for both the revered saints. Fumman Ram was a disciple of Sant Prem Dass Ji who had blessed him with sacred Naam. Before independence Shri Fumman Ram had a leather factory at Gojra in Lyallpur district of present Pakistan and his business was prospering very well. Both of the revered saints wrote separate letters to Shri Fumman Ram a few months before the partition of India during 1947 and he received both letters at the same time. When he opened and read both the letters, then he was highly surprised because both the letters said same thing and write same thing "There will be very dangerous times ahead after a few months and you should leave your business and come to Jalandhar." The following poem was also written in both the letters:

Seb sabti da sauda rakh andar,

Poora bolna poora tolna, dehi jaan tu sach di hatrhi ae!!

*Sant aakhde ved nu khabar nahi jithe manzil fakir di
uparhdi ae!!*

Prem piar di lahir andar, sadh sant sare bhull janvde ne!!

Or

Always bear in mind to trade with honest and fair means. This human body is like a grocer's shop and one must always tell the right price and weigh full quantity of every item. Saints declare that even the Vedas cannot fathom the distinguished destination achieved by a true and accomplished fakir. Most people invariably forget about and ignore saints when they are steeped in love with worldly affairs.

Thus both of the revered saints forewarned Shri Fumman Ram Ji about forthcoming terrible times. The words of the both great saints proved to be eternal truth as terrible riots broke out with the partition of India and creation of Pakistan.

*(Shri Swaran Chand son of Late Shri Fumman Ram, Village
Biaspind, 2.07.2003)*

73. Blessing Mason Hari Singh and Bibi Gurbachan Kaur with Children

Mason Hari Singh Ji son of Late Shri Jhanda Ram Jassal and his wife Bibi Gurbachan Kaur from village Nizamdinpur were profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. They built a new house and fixed the date for opening ceremony. Maharaj Sarwan Dass Ji visited their house on that occasion. Maharaj Ji gave four walnuts to Bibi Gurbachan Kaur on that occasion and said, "Have these walnuts and eat. You will be blessed with four boys and four girls in due course of time." These words of Maharaj Ji came to be absolutely true. The family had four sons and four daughters in their home over a period of time.

*(Bibi Gurbachan Kaur wife of Mason Hari Singh, Village
Nizamdinpur, Jalandhar 02.07.2003)*

* * *

74. Blessing Bibi Gurmit Kaur with Sons

Shri Nasib Chand son of Late Shri Bariana Ram from village Ramdasspur was very devoted to Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He was married with Bibi Gurmit Kaur from village Kala Bahian. Bibi Gurmit Kaur was born in village Nangal

Saprorh near Chaheru. However, she had been staying with her maternal Uncle Gangu and his wife Nandi at Kala Bahia since her childhood. When they got married at village Kala Bahian, then Shri Nasib Chand and Bibi Gurmit Kaur visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan before proceeding to Ramdasspur. When they paid their regards at the lotus feet of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji then Maharaj Ji gave seven almonds to Bibi Gurmit Kaur and said, "Dear daughter! You should eat all of these seven almonds yourself alone." Thereafter they went to Ramdasspur along with other members of the marriage party. Next day when Bibi Gurmit Kaur took out those almonds, she consumed five of those and her sister-in-law, who was married in Kartarpur, took away two almonds and ate those.

After some days Shri Nasib Chand and Bibi Gurmit Kaur visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan again. They explained to Maharaj Ji that out of the seven almonds which were given to Gurmit Kaur, two almonds were eaten by her sister-in-law. Maharaj Ji said, "You will bear seven sons over a period of time. However two of them will not survive but balance 5 will lead normal lives. Your sister-in-law will bear two sons in due course." These words of Maharaj Ji proved to be absolutely true. Bibi Gurmit Kaur gave birth to seven sons over a period of time and two out of them died in young age while her other five sons are absolutely fine. Her sister-in-law, Bibi Binsi from Kartarpur also has two sons. Thus Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji's words proved to be eternal truth.

(Bibi Gurmit Kaur wife of Shri Nasib Chand, Village Ramdasspur, Jalandhar; 3. 07.2003)

75. Curing Bibi Bakhshish Kaur wife of S. Gurmit Singh

S. Gurmit Singh son of Late Arjan Singh lived in village Sanghwal Jalandhar. His wife Bibi Bakhshish Kaur was very seriously ill. They got her treated by many doctors. But she did not get better. Wherever someone told them, she was taken for treatment there. At last they told their entire sad story to Shri Sohan Singh who is a profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji. Shri Sohan Singh said, "Gurmit Singh! Let us take her along to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji tomorrow morning.

Shri Sohan Singh Ji, S. Gurmit Singh and Bibi Bakhshish

Kaur went to Dera Sachkhand Ballan next morning. Maharaj Ji was sitting on the 'Tharha' or raised cemented platform at that time. Sohan Singh paid his regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Thereafter both husband and wife prostrated at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Then Maharaj Ji said, "If there is yet another doctor, you can go there too and consult him." Both of them sat down after paying their regards to Maharaj Ji. Gurmit Singh thought that Maharaj Ji is truly a perfect Mahatma and he should not have any kind of argument. Sohan Singh then said, "Maharaj Ji! Bibi Bakhshish Kaur has been ill for the last many years and she did not get any relief from anywhere. We have sought shelter at your lotus feet. Kindly take pity on her and convey your blessings."

Maharaj Ji very kindly said, "Don't worry! Everything will be fine. Make a decoction with these herbs at home and then give it to her to drink." After returning home, Shri Gurmit Singh prepared the decoction as advised by Maharaj Ji and gave that to his wife to drink. Meanwhile he went to his farm to make arrangements of fodder for the cattle. When he came back to his home, he was absolutely amazed to see his wife. His wife was perfectly fine and she was preparing food. Bibi Bakhshish Kaur narrated that she is absolutely fine with the blessings of Maharaj Ji. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji very kindly put an end to her long time suffering and cured her this way in no time.

76. Blessing S. Gurmit Singh with two Sons

Thereafter, S. Gurmit Singh started visiting the Kutiya every Sunday along with S. Sohan Singh to provide their services in Langar or the community kitchen. Thereafter, Gurmit Singh used to accompany Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji to the ashram inside the village and listen to spiritual discourses. Shri Beli Ram and Shri Ujagar Singh, both from village Ballan, sought permission of Maharaj Ji one day to commence the religious discourse. Then Maharaj Ji said, "You should wait till the arrival of Gurmit Singh." When Gurmit Singh reached the ashram after a few minutes, Maharaj Ji permitted to commence the discourse. On the next day early in the morning around 3 a.m. Gurmit Singh was helping Maharaj Ji to take bath when Maharaj Ji said, "Gurmit Singh! You have 4 daughters. Anyway,

don't worry! A son will be born in your house within one year.” The words of Maharaj Ji came true as Gurmit Singh's wife gave birth to a son after 11 months and 11 days. The boy was named Ravinder Singh.

After some years, while Gurmit Singh was again helping Maharaj Ji to have bath early in the morning; Maharaj Ji said, “Gurmit you will have second son soon and have a pair. Gurmit Singh said “Maharaj Ji! That is indeed very kind of you.” After one year one more son was born in their home. He was named Gorman Singh. Thus, Maharaj Ji's words proved to be eternal truth. S. Gurmit Singh had two sons over a period of time.

(S. Gurmit Singh, Village Sanghwal, Jalandhar.)

77. Blessing Shri Ujagar Singh

Shri Ujagar Singh son of Late Shri Sunder Dass Ji was very profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He lived in Nijatam Nagar near Basti Nau, Jalandhar along with his family members. During 1970, he wanted to buy 15 acres land in village Sarnana, near Kotli Than Singh, Jalandhar and he paid an advance of Rs. 70000/. He already had 22 Kanal land in Nijatam Nagar. He thought that he would generate enough money when he would sell his 22 Kanal land in Nijatam Nagar. Then he will use that money to pay balance cost of 15 acres land. But his land in Nijatam Nagar could not be sold well in time and the deadline for payment of balance cost price of 15 acres land expired. The landlord kept a condition in front of him, “As long as you do not pay the balance full amount, you should keep paying me a penalty @ Rs. 700 per year. Indo-Pak war started during 1971. After the end of the war, Shri Ujagar Singh prayed, “Maharaj Ji! I am a very poor person. I concluded a bargain to buy 15 acres land during 1970 and paid an advance with the fond hope that I would pay the balance amount after selling my 22 Kanal plot of land and get 15 acres land registered. However, I have not been able to sell my 22 Kanal plot of land and pay the balance money to the land owner timely. Because of that default, I have been paying a penalty @ Rs.700/ per year to the landlord. Kindly convey your benevolent blessings and resolve this problem. I will not go away from here without securing your blessings for resolution of this problem.”

Shri Ujagar Singh continued to stay at Maharaj Ji's ashram till Maharaj Ji very kindly said on the third morning, "Ujagar Singh! You can return home now as your problem has been resolved." Ujagar Singh paid his profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and returned home with Maharaj Ji's blessings. When he reached home then his sons told him that four plots out of 22 Kanal land had been sold. With this money we would be able to pay the balance cost of 15 acres land and get that registered. Thus the words of Maharaj Ji proved to be absolutely true. Ujagar Singh paid the balance money to the owner and got 15 acres land registered. Later on he was able to sell balance area out of his 22 Kanal plot of land and he purchased more land with that money adjoining the 15 acre plot.

*(Shri Ram Saran son of Shri Ujagar Singh Basti Nau,
Nijatam Nagar, Jalandhar; 5.07.2003)*

78. Blessing S. Lal Singh with Sons

S. Lal Singh, son of S. Lashman Singh, and his wife Bibi Niranjan Kaur were profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. One day they prayed to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, "Maharaj Ji! We have only one daughter. Kindly bless us with a son." Then Maharaj Ji said "You will have a son in your home in due course of time." A son was born in their home with Maharaj Ji's grace in due course of time and he was named Jasvir Singh. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj abandoned his perishable human body on 11th June 1972 to be one with God. Sant Hari Dass Ji was the worthy successor as Spiritual Head of Dera Sachkhand Ballan.

One day Shri Lal Singh visited the Dera and he held lotus feet of Sant Hari Dass Ji with utmost devotion and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had very kindly blessed us with our son Jasvir. We request you to kindly be merciful and bless us with one more son." When he repeated same request three times then Sant Hari Dass Maharaj Ji went into perfect Samadhi for a little while. Thereafter Sant Hari Dass Ji very kindly said, "Dear brother! Your wish will be fulfilled with the kind blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj." Maharaj Hari Dass Ji's prophetic words proved to be absolutely true. Another son was born in their home with

Maharaj Ji's grace in due course of time. Shri Lal Singh Ji said, "Maharaj Ji has very kindly fulfilled my every wish and I do not find shortage of anything whatsoever."

(S. Lal Singh son of S. Lashman Singh, Village Naugajja, Jalandhar 5.07.2003)

79. Addressing Doubts of Foreign Minister S. Swaran Singh

Late master Gurbanta Singh Ji Minister for Agriculture, Punjab Government hailed from village Dhaliwal. He was a profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He often visited Dera to meet Maharaj Ji. One day he visited Dera Sachkhand Ballan along with Foreign Minister of India S. Swaran Singh. At that time Maharaj Ji was sitting on "Tharha" or raised platform. S. Swaran Singh and S. Gurbanta Singh along with their companions paid their regards to Maharaj Ji and sat down in front of Maharaj Ji. Giani Bishna Ram Ji from village Ballan was also sitting near Maharaj Ji at that time. S. Swaran Singh said, "I have just returned after visits to many foreign countries. Maharaj Ji! You should also visit some foreign countries." Maharaj Ji asked, "Which countries have you visited?"

Then S. Swaran Singh named a few countries he had visited recently. Maharaj Ji at once mentioned to him complete details about customs, behaviour of people and dressing sense of people of each country named by the Minister. After a little pause, Maharaj Ji asked him, "Have you visited a specific historical place in a particular country?" Then the Minister was absolutely silent and bewildered after listening to such a specific question from Maharaj Ji about a foreign country. He asked, "Maharaj Ji! Have you visited all of these countries sometimes?" Maharaj Ji replied, "Minister Ji! These visits are helpful only for people like you. However saints who perform devout meditation of God are able to visualize everything about them just because of their unique spiritual experiences." S. Swaran Singh was very highly impressed with Maharaj Ji's words related to worldly affairs and spiritual domain. Shri Swaran Singh used to visit Maharaj Ji's ashram regularly along with Shri Gurbanta Singh to have a vision of Maharaj Ji.

(Giani Bishna Ram Ji, Village Ballan, Jalandhar 5.07.2003)

80. Blessing S. Pakhar Singh and Bibi Bakhshish Kaur with Son

S. Pakhar Singh, son of late Jawala Singh, and his wife Bibi Bakhshish Kaur lived in village Naugajja. They had two daughters and the other two daughters died soon after their births. Both husband and wife had very profound regards and reverence for Maharaj Ji. One day, both of them requested Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, “Maharaj Ji! We have two daughters and two other daughters died soon after their births. Please be kind and bless us with a son.”

Maharaj Ji replied, “Don't worry! Practice meditation of God regularly. You will beget a son in due course of time.” After one year, a son was born in their home with Maharaj Ji's blessings and he was named Sukhdev Singh. Thus the words of Maharaj Ji's words proved to be eternal truth.

(Bibi Bakhshish Kaur wife of S. Pakhar Singh, village Naugajja, Jalandhar 6.07.2003)

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81. Fulfilment of Devotee's Desire

One day Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was sitting on the 'Tharha' or raised platform. Some followers were also sitting on mats in front of Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji said, “Mehinga Ram! We will serve tea with laddus to all devotees.” Shri Mehinga Ram replied, “Maharaj Ji! We don't have laddus.” Then Maharaj Ji replied, “Mehinga! Go on bicycle and bring some laddus.” Then Mehinga Ram went on bicycle to Kishangarh to get laddus. When he reached Kishangarh he met Bibi Kishan Kaur who had just arrived at that place by bus from Tanda. She had boxes of laddus which were meant for Maharaj Ji. Shri Mehinga Ram told her the whole incident that Maharaj Ji sent him to bring laddus for the Dera. Then both of them reached Dera by bicycle and paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji said, “Mehinga Ram! You were saying that there are no laddus in the Kutiya.” Then he replied, “Maharaj Ji! You alone know about your unique ways.”

A little while later Shri Kirpa Ram Ji and Bibi Karmi Ji from village Rasulpur, S. Gurdiyal Singh Ji from Noorpur and Shri Somnath Ji from Ramdasspur reached there with boxes of

laddus for Maharaj Ji. Then tea was served with laddus to all devotees as directed by Maharaj Ji.

(Bibi Kishan Kaur wife of Shri Bhag Mall, Tanda)

82. Blessings for Shri Garib Dass

Ayurvedic doctor & physician Shri Pritam Dass was resident of village Alawalpur those days. Later he shifted to village Reru. He used to stay at Maharaj Ji's Kutiya and he rendered extremely useful services to treat the sick and provide free Ayurvedic medicines to the patients. Shri Pritam Dass' son Garib Dass, who studied in 7th class at that time, made a garland of fruits of 'Dek' or Persian Lilac (*Melia azadirach*) tree. He visited Dera with that garland and garlanded Maharaj Ji with utmost devotion and paid his regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji then asked him, 'What fruits did you use to make this garland?' Then the little boy Garib Dass replied, "Maharaj Ji! This garland is made of 'Dakanus' or fruits of 'Dek' (*Melia azadirach*)." Then Maharaj Ji blessed him and said, "You will become an engineer one day." The words of Maharaj Ji came true. Shri Garib Dass completed his matriculation examination successfully and then obtained Diploma in Engineering Survey. Later he got a government job as a Surveyor in the Soil and Water Conservation Engineering Department. Shri Garib Dass narrated that he still works in the same department and that he has no dearth of anything with Maharaj Ji's blessings.

(Shri Garib Dass son of Late Shri Pritam Dass, Village Reru; 8.07.2003)

83. Fulfilment of Wish of Shri Kirpa Ram Ji

Shri Kirpa Ram Ji and Bibi Karmi Ji lived in village Rasulpur Brahmana. Shri Kirpa Ram Ji had resolved in his mind that he would become disciple of a revered mahatma who would first appear in his dream. He would accept that sage as his Guru Ji and seek blessings of Naam only from him. One night he saw a mahatma in his dream. But he didn't know him. He didn't know the name of that mahatma or the place of his stay. Later one day, he was going to Jalandhar when he met Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj near the present day canal west of village Ballan. Shri Kirpa Ram Ji greeted to Maharaj Ji and paid

his profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji took him along to the Kutiya. Shri Kirpa Ram Ji was overwhelmed with joy when he realized that Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj was the same mahatma he had seen in his dream. He was ecstatic with joy as he just met the truly perfect saint who fulfilled his resolve.

Shri Kirpa Ram Ji and Bibi Karmi started to visit Maharaj Ji's Kutiya regularly at very short intervals. Maharaj Ji very kindly blessed both of them with grant of sacred Naam. Maharaj Ji often used to visit Shri Kirpa Ram's home early in the morning around 4 a.m. Bibi Bhani Ji, respected mother of Bibi Karmi Ji, stayed at Maharaj Ji's Kutiya for many years and rendered devoted services in the community kitchen under the guidance of Maharaj Ji till she left for her heavenly abode. Shri Kirpa Ram Ji and Bibi Karmi Ji also used to spend lot of their time at Maharaj Ji's Kutiya and render useful services in the community kitchen or 'Langar'.

(Shri Kirpa Ram Ji, Village Rasulpur Brahmana)

84. When Maharaj Ji blessed Shri Kirpa Ram to have Vision of Ganga Ji

Once, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji firmed up program to visit Haridwar along with some devotees on the auspicious occasion of Kumbh festival. When Maharaj Ji got ready to leave for Haridwar on the scheduled day, then Shri Kirpa Ram Ji requested with profound devotion “Maharaj Ji! Kindly take me also along with you to Haridwar. I shall also be able to have a bath in holy Ganga Ji.” Maharaj Ji said “Kirpa Ram! Ganga is here only in this Kutiya.” Simultaneously, Maharaj Ji said, “You should stay here only and render various services till we return from Haridwar.” Thereafter Maharaj Ji left for Haridwar along with some devotees. Shri Kirpa Ram felt sad and contemplated in his mind that Maharaj Ji had taken many devotees along to Haridwar and told him, “Ganga is here only in the Kutiya.”

There was a hand pump close to Maharaj Ji's 'Tharha' or the cemented platform those days. While Shri Kirpa Ram Ji was resting during the night, he visualized in his dream and saw an extremely beautiful lady with divine aura radiating brilliance

all around near that hand pump. Shri Kirpa Ram Ji politely asked that lady “Who are you? And why are you here at this time?” Then she replied, “I am Ganga. When people of this world have bath in Ganga, they leave behind huge load of sins. Therefore, I visit this sacred place for my own purification by rendering various services to the revered saints of this ashram. Soon thereafter, Shri Kirpa Ram Ji woke up and opened his eyes. He was totally convinced that Ganga Ji was indeed in the Kutiya as very kindly mentioned by Maharaj Ji.

After some days Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj returned from Haridwar to the Kutiya along with other devotees. Then Shri Kirpa Ram Ji prostrated at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and paid his profound regards. Then Maharaj Ji said, “Kirpa Ram! Did you see Ganga?” Then the aged Shri Kirpa Ram Ji said, “Yes Maharaj Ji! You are exceptionally great and your grandeur is beyond description.” Then Shri Kirpa Ram resolved in his mind that he would get an electric motor and pump set installed on the hand pump where he had the vision of Ganga Ji.

This humble writer listened to this true story personally from Shri Kirpa Ram Ji and Bibi Karmi Ji.

85. When Maharaj Ji saved Shri Kirpa Ram's Life

Shri Kirpa Ram Ji and Bibi Karmi Ji, from village Rasulpur Brahmana, were very dedicated disciples of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. One day Shri Kirpa Ram Ji was ploughing his field with his oxen in his village. Suddenly a snake bit him on his leg. He stopped ploughing at once and started running to reach Maharaj Ji's Kutiya quickly. When he reached near the canal bridge near Ballan, he felt so uneasy with intense body heat that he jumped into the canal. Omniscient Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji arrived at the canal bridge immediately with his long walking stick. Then Maharaj Ji said, “Oye Kirpa Ram! What are you doing here in the canal? You have troubled me a lot. Now get out from the canal immediately.” Kirpa Ram came out from the canal and paid his profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Then he told Maharaj Ji about the snake bite and showed the specific point of snake bite on his leg with his hand. Then Maharaj Ji moved his

long walking stick around the wound on his leg. Maharaj Ji said, "Go to the Kutiya now and have tea. There is nothing wrong with you now." Shri Kirpa Ram Ji said, "Yes Maharaj Ji! I shall follow your advice." The intense pain and restlessness disappeared at once with Maharaj Ji's blessings and Shri Kirpa Ram went to the Kutiya. He had tea in the Kutiya and then rendered voluntary service for some time. Later he sought leave of Maharaj Ji and returned to his village absolutely fine and resumed ploughing his field.

(Shri Jogi Ram Ji, Headmaster, Village Dhepur, Kathar; 09. 07. 2003)

86. Maharaj Ji's Benevolence for Bibi Rakhi

It was extremely hot summer season. Headmaster Jogi Ram Ji and his father Shri Mehar Dass, from village Dhepur were very profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Shri Mehar Dass Ji's brother-in-law Shri Thakur Dass was married to Bibi Rakhi and they had two sons and two daughters. It was the year 1960 when Bibi Rakhi suffered from a very troublesome boil on her back. She consulted several doctors and Ayurvedic medical practitioners but she could not be cured. Most of the doctors expressed their inability to cure her. One day, Bibi Gangi grandmother of Shri Mehar Dass, Bibi Rakhi and her husband Shri Thakur Dass and Shri Mehar Dass visited Kutiya to meet with Maharaj Ji. That time young child Jogi Ram was also with them. All of them reached the Kutiya and paid their profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Thereafter they sat down quietly in front of Maharaj Ji and no one talked about any issue.

Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had told Shri Mehar Dass sometimes earlier not to raise any household problem. Omniscient Maharaj Ji then asked, "Mehar Dass! Who is this sick woman?" Shri Mehar Dass Ji said, "Maharaj Ji! She is Bibi Rakhi wife of my brother-in-law from village Bijwarha, district Hoshiarpur. Kindly be merciful to her." Maharaj Ji then asked "How many daughters does this ill woman have?" Shri Mehar Dass said "Maharaj Ji! She has two daughters." Maharaj Ji said, "Arrangements should be made for marriage of her elder daughter." They had not yet found a suitable groom for their

elder girl. Mehar Dass Ji asked “Maharaj Ji! When should we solemnize her marriage?” Maharaj Ji said, “Leave the coming Sunday and fix up her marriage thereafter for next Sunday.” The groom's marriage party should arrive at night and then marriage should be solemnized at 4 a.m. early next morning.

All of them then paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and returned to their respective homes. Shri Thakur Dass and Bibi Rakhi were able to firm up their choice of a suitable groom from Amritsar for their daughter just two days thereafter. They fixed up the date for the marriage ceremony for the second Sunday from that day as advised by Maharaj Ji. Accordingly it was decided that the marriage party should arrive on Saturday evening so as to complete the marriage ceremonies early morning on Sunday. The words of Maharaj Ji proved to be eternal truth. Their elder daughter Darsho was married on the fixed Sunday as scheduled. The marriage party arrived from Amritsar on Saturday evening and the marriage ceremony was performed at 4 a.m. on Sunday with the blessings of Maharaj Ji. Bibi Rakhi started recovering and getting well soon after her daughter's wedding. The troublesome boil on her back got miraculously cured within three months.

Later Bibi Rakhi gave birth to a son in due course of time and he was named Mansa Ram. He currently works as a Patwari or village level land revenue official. Bibi Rakhi Ji was also blessed with another daughter in due course of time and the young girl was named Sita. This is how Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj vanquished all serious troubles of Bibi Rakhi and also blessed her with two more children. Shri Thakur Dass and Bibi Rakhi Ji were real uncle and aunty of Judge Sahib Shri Hukam Chand.

87. Addressing Doubts of Shri Sunder Ram

Headmaster Jogi Ram Ji's grandfather Shri Sunder Ram Ji Sarpanch was very devout disciple of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. One day Shri Sunder Ram came to the Dera and requested Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, “Maharaj Ji! We wish to perform engagement ceremony of my younger son Bhag Ram. Maharaj Ji told him three times not to proceed with the

proposed engagement. However, Shri Sunder Ram explained, "Maharaj Ji! If we do not solemnize this engagement then my sister from village Dhamian will get annoyed with us as this proposal for engagement has been made by her." Maharaj Ji then said, "All right! You can go ahead with the engagement ceremony of Bhag Ram if you are so keen but I shall not join the event." Shri Sunder Ram then pleaded time and again for Maharaj Ji to grace the occasion. Finally Maharaj Ji said, "Okay! I shall come there but I shall not meet any guests."

Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj visited Shri Sunder Ram Ji's residence on the day fixed for the engagement of Bhag Ram and then returned to Kutiya. Bhag Ram's engagement ceremony was later performed the same day. However three days thereafter, they received a message that Bhag Ram's fiancée had suddenly died. Shri Sunder Ram and his grandson Shri Jogi Ram came to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji on the next day. As they paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji, Maharaj Ji said tersely, "Hey Sarpanch! Have you returned after performing the engagement ceremony?" Then Shri Sunder Ram said, "Maharaj Ji! When you already knew about the sad end of that engagement, you could have told us so before the ceremony." Maharaj Ji then said, "I had told you thrice not to proceed further with the proposed engagement but you continued to insist and went ahead to solemnize the engagement."

88. Blessing Shri Simran Dass with Sons

Shri Dhanna Ram Ji's son Shri Simran Dass Ji and his wife Bibi Prakash Kaur were very devoted followers of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. They had three daughters. They also had two sons but both of them died soon after the birth of each child. It was during the year 1969 that wife of Shri Lashkar Ram, from village Ramdasspur; Bibi Gurmit Kaur visited Maharaj Ji's ashram along with her brother Shri Simran Dass and his wife Bibi Prakash Kaur. She said, "Maharaj Ji! My brother has three daughters and his two sons died soon after birth. They have no male child. Kindly be merciful and bless them." Then Maharaj Ji very kindly asked Shri Simran Dass to come close and Maharaj Ji patted him on his back twice. Maharaj Ji also said, "Don't worry! Two sons will be born in your home in due course of time."

The words of Maharaj Ji proved to be eternal truth. The family was blessed with the birth of a son during 1970 who was assigned the name Jaspal. Later they had another son during 1977 and he was named Rajesh Kumar. Thus Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj blessed them with two lovely sons.

(Shri Simran Dass son of Shri Dhanna Ram Ji, Village Kangniwal, 09.07.2003)

89. Blessing Shri Gurbachan Singh Virdi with Children

Shri Gurbachan Singh Virdi, son of Shri Bhagat Ram, and his wife Bibi Ramesh Kaur from village Raipur Rasulpur were very profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. They had three sons and one daughter over a period of time but all of them died as infants. It was the year 1948 when Shri Gurbachan Singh and his wife Bibi Ramesh Kaur visited the Dera and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! We had three sons and one daughter over a period of time. However all of them died soon after the birth of each child. Kindly be merciful and bless us." Maharaj Ji said, "Don't Worry! A daughter will be born in your home in due course of time." These kind words of Maharaj Ji proved to be absolutely true. After one year a daughter was born in their house with the blessings of Maharaj Ji. She was named Mehar Kaur by Maharaj Ji. They were blessed with another daughter after a few more years and Maharaj Ji named her as Kehar Kaur.

Later after a few years, Shri Gurbachan Singh requested Maharaj Ji, "Maharaj Ji! I have two daughters with your kind blessings and I am extremely happy. Now it is your sweet will whether you wish to be kind and benevolent to us again. If so, kindly bless us with a son." Then Maharaj Ji replied, "Don't worry! A son will be born this time in your house." Maharaj Ji's words came true. A son was born in their home in due course of time and he was named Baldev Singh by Maharaj Ji. Thus, Maharaj Ji blessed Bibi Ramesh Kaur and Gurbachan Singh with three children.

(Bibi Mehar Kaur wife of Shri Jagjit Singh Village Sattowali and d/o Shri Gurbachan Singh Virdi)

90. Blessing Shri Sohan Singh with Children

Shri Sohan Lal, son of Shri Brij Lal, and his wife Bibi Bachni village Raipur were very devoted to Sant Sarwan Dass

Maharaj Ji. They had 5 daughters. Shri Sohan Lal used to make arrangements to hold spiritual congregations at his residence every year. Maharaj Ji also often graced such occasions. One day during 1945, Shri Sohan Lal came to meet Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji was standing near the main gate at that moment. Shri Sohan Lal paid his profound regards to Maharaj Ji and requested, “Maharaj Ji! I have five daughters. Kindly bless us with a son. Maharaj Ji said, “Do practise meditation of God regularly. You will beget two sons in due course of time.” These words of Maharaj Ji came to be absolutely true. They had a son in due course of time and Maharaj Ji named him Om Prakash. After some more years, they were blessed with a second son who was named Saligram. Thus Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji blessed Shri Sohan Singh with two sons.

*(Shri Sohan Lal son of Shri Brij Lal, Village Raipur,
Jalandhar, 10. 07. 2003)*

91. Fulfilment of Babu Mehar Chand's Desire

Babu Mehar Chand, son of Shri Karna Ram, and his wife Bibi Bhagwanti residents of Preet Nagar were profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Babu Mehar Chand rendered voluntary services every Sunday at Maharaj Ji's ashram to take care of shoes of visiting devotees. He had six sons and three daughters. One day he prayed to Maharaj Ji with great humility and said, “Maharaj Ji! Three of our daughters have attained marriageable age. However, we are not able to find suitable grooms for them. Kindly be kind and benevolent so that we find suitable matches for them.” Then Maharaj Ji replied, “Do practise meditation of God regularly. Your three daughters will soon get married with boys having government jobs.” While Maharaj Ji said these kind words, Maharaj Ji also pointed towards three villages, Sura Nussi, Jandusingha and Ramdasspur. These words of blessings spoken by Maharaj Ji came to be absolutely true. All the three daughters of Babu Mehar Chand got married in due course of time to three boys hailing from aforesaid villages and all of them were holding government jobs. The names of the three sisters who thus got married with Maharaj Ji's blessings are Shakuntla, Kaushalya and Nirmala.

*(Bibi Kaushalya wife of Shri Joginder Pal, Village
Ramdasspur, 11.07.2003)*

92. Blessing Shri Karam Chand

Shri Maghi Ram Ji lived in village Biaspind. He was blessed with sacred Naam by Baba Pipal Dass Ji Maharaj. He had two sons named Ajit Ram and Karam Chand. Both of them managed their leather business at Nirot Mahira, Pathankot. Shri Karam Chand lived in Pathankot. Once, Karam Chand was implicated in a false case of murder at the behest of the local residents of hills. The police imprisoned him after securing a judicial remand and filed a case against him in the court to prosecute him. Then his brother Shri Ajit Ram met Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! My brother Karam Chand has been implicated in a false case of murder. Please be merciful and help him." Maharaj Ji very kindly said, "Don't worry! Karam Chand will be acquitted honourably in this case and he will also become the Village Sarpanch in due course of time." Maharaj Ji's words came to be absolutely true. Karam Chand was acquitted by the court in the false murder case against him and he became the Sarpanch of village Nirot Mahira.

*(Shri Roop Lal son of Shri Ajit Ram, village Biaspind,
11.07.2003)*

93. Fulfilment the Desire of Shri Sadhu Ram

Nambardar Shri Sadhu Ram, son of Shri Inder Dass, and his wife Bibi Amro from village Ladhewali, Jalandhar were devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. One day during the time of hot summer, Shri Sadhu Ram Ji was rendering voluntary service by operating the hand held fan for some cool breeze for Maharaj Ji. A little later he contemplated in his mind that it would be nice if someone else could replace him and operate the hand held fan. Omniscient Maharaj Ji knew about the inner thoughts of his mind at once and Maharaj Ji said, "Sadhu Ram! Don't bother. You should now stop operating the fan." Then Sadhu Ram felt sadly ashamed and he sat down as advised by Maharaj Ji.

*(Shri Sadhu Ram son of Shri Inder Dass, Village Ladhewali,
Jalandhar, 12.07.2003)*

94. Blessing Shri Tarsem Lal with a Job

Shri Hari Ram and Bibi Jawali lived in village Ballan before they migrated to Maqsudan, Jalandhar. They had been visiting Maharaj Ji's ashram since the times of Baba Pipal Dass Ji. They often visited Kutiya to meet with Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji even after the departure of Baba Pipal Dass Ji for his heavenly abode. One day, he came to Kutiya riding on the pillion seat of bicycle of his son Shri Tarsem Lal sometimes around the year 1955. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji met them near the canal bridge. They conveyed their profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Then Maharaj Ji said, "Go to the Kutiya. I shall also reach there shortly." Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj returned to Kutiya after sometime and sat down on the raised cemented platform. Shri Hari Ram and his son Tarsem Lal also sat down in front of Maharaj Ji along with many other devotees.

Maharaj Ji then glanced at them and said, "Hari Ram! Your son sitting here will become a Police Inspector in due course of time." Shri Hari Ram said, "Maharaj Ji! It is your benevolence and sweet will. You can make him whatever you wish." These words of Maharaj Ji proved to be absolutely true. Shri Tarsem Lal joined police force in 1963 and retired as Police Inspector during 1996.

*(Shri Tarsem Lal son of Shri Hari Ram, Village Maqsudan,
13. 07. 2003)*

95. Satguru Protects his Disciples Personally

This story pertains to the year 1971 when there was a dangerous war between India and Pakistan. People all over the countries were greatly worried. The soldiers fighting at the war front were not able to maintain contacts with their family members. Therefore the family members and close relatives of soldiers were also greatly worried. Television and mobile phones were rare then and people used to listen to the news related to the war on radio. Shri Ram Lal son of Shri Bhagat Ram hailing from Barnala who was employed with the Indian Army and he was deployed at the war front on border with Pakistan. His family members were not getting any information about him. His family members were greatly worried. As they

were devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj, they visited Maharaj Ji's Kutiya one day and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! We are not getting any information about Ram Lal who is fighting at the war front." Maharaj Ji said, "Don't worry! No one can hurt him in any way. Now you should relax and return home." Later perfect Brahmngiani and omniscient Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj materialized at the war front and revealed his vision to Ram Lal at his post and told him, "Don't worry! Keep fighting bravely for protection of your country. The enemy cannot harm you in any way."

The war ended within a few days thereafter as Pakistan suffered humiliating defeat and cease fire was announced. Shri Ram Lal then visited his house at Barnala on a short leave. He then related this unique personal experience at the war front to his son Kulwinder Singh and other family members. Then all members of the family chanted Dhann Gurdev or glory to venerated Guru Ji. All of them visited Kutiya next morning to convey their sincere gratitude and thanks giving prayers to Maharaj Ji. Thus revered Satguru protects his devotees all the time everywhere and what is required is to have full faith and confidence in one's venerated Guru Ji.

96. Blessing Shri Khushi Ram and Bibi Bachni

Shri Khushi Ram, son of Shri Meeha Ram, and his wife Bibi Bachni lived in village Sarmastpur. They had utmost devotion and love for Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. They visited the Kutiya and rendered voluntary services for the ashram every Sunday regularly. It was during 1945 that they begot a son but unfortunately he died soon after birth. Shri Khushi Ram and Bibi Bachni went to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and prayed, "Maharaj Ji! We were blessed with a son but unfortunately he died soon after birth." Then Maharaj Ji said, "Don't worry! Do practise devout meditation of God regularly. You will have four sons and also daughters in due course of time." These kind words of Maharaj Ji came to be absolutely true as they were blessed with four sons and also daughters in due course of time with the grace of Maharaj Ji.

*(Bibi Bachni wife of Shri Khushi Ram, Village Sarmastpur,
Jalandhar 13. 07. 2003)*

97. Prediction about Freedom of India

Poet Mehru Ram and his family members from village Sanghwal were very profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Baba Pipal Dass Ji often used to visit Sanghwal and adjoining villages to seek food in alms. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji also used to accompany Baba Ji on certain days to motivate people to get up early in the morning and practise meditation of God. Poet Mehru Ram often visited Kutiya regularly to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Once, Shri Mehru Ram visited Kutiya during 1945. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji took him to the village temple for night stay. Maharaj Ji conducted spiritual discourse in the evening. Shri Mehru Ram also got up early in the morning and had his bath around 4 a.m. Maharaj Ji then asked everyone present there to sit down for meditation. When the sun was about to rise from the horizon, Maharaj Ji gave a mirror to Shri Mehru Ram and said, "Look into this mirror and see whether the full sun is visible or not." When Shri Mehru Ram looked into the mirror he saw that only about half of the sun had risen above the horizon and it was in a slanting position. He told Maharaj Ji exactly what he saw. Then Maharaj Ji said, "Now British rule over India will not last long." Maharaj Ji's words came to be absolutely true as British rule ended during 1947 and India became independent.

(Shri Ram Kishan son of Poet Mehru Ram, Village Sanghwal, Jalandhar 16.07. 2003)

98. Addressing Doubts of Bibi Harjit Kaur

Shri Rakha Singh from village Adamwal, district Hoshiarpur was very close to Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji also used to visit Adamwal sometimes. It was during 1969 that Bibi Harjit Kaur daughter of Shri Rakha Singh studied in Government Training College Ladowali to secure B.Ed. degree. She never missed her class periods in her college. On the day of Sankranti Bibi Harjit Kaur went to Dera to listen to the name and hymn for the new month before proceeding to college. Maharaj Ji said, "You should go only at the end of the spiritual congregation." Then she said, "Yes Maharaj Ji." She sat down along with other devotees and thought in her mind that

she would get late for the college and that her professor might punish her. When Bibi Harjit Kaur ultimately reached her college then she came to know that there was no class for some reason that day. She then came to the conclusion that Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji was indeed omniscient. Maharaj Ji already knew that there would be no class for her that day. Otherwise Maharaj Ji always used to tell her, “Dear daughter! Have tea and go to your college quickly so that your studies do not suffer a setback.”

*(Bibi Harjit Kaur daughter of Shri Rakha Singh Mahe,
Village Adamwal, Hoshiarpur.)*

99. Blessing Bhai Ami Singh's son Shri Prakash Singh with a Job

Shri Jiwan Ram and Bibi Puro from village Pathial, Hoshiarpur were profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. He often came to meet Maharaj Ji regularly. That is why his son Bhai Ami Singh and his wife Bibi Channan Kaur and other members of their family also had devout respect and reverence for Maharaj Ji. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji often used to visit villages Fattowal and Lambrha during the mango ripening season. Maharaj Ji then also used to visit village Pathial. One day, Bhai Ami Singh's son Shri Prakash Singh visited Maharaj Ji's Kutiya along with his mother Bibi Channan Kaur during the year 1971. He was working as a mechanic with Eichher Tractor Company at Faridabad those days. When they sought permission from Maharaj Ji to return home, Maharaj Ji said, “I have to visit village Kandola tomorrow. You should accompany me. I shall drop you at Adampur on my return journey.” Next day when Maharaj Ji was on his way to village Kandola along with both of them in a Jeep, Maharaj Ji asked, “Prakash Singh! How is your job?” He replied, “Maharaj Ji! I am working in Eichher Tractor Company on adhoc basis at Faridabad and I have already appeared for an interview to have a permanent job. But I have not yet received any final communication from the employers.” Maharaj Ji said, “You will get a permanent job very soon.”

When Maharaj Ji returned from Kandola, Shri Prakash Singh got down from the jeep at Adampur. When he reached

Faridabad then his landlord told him that he had got an offer for a permanent job and he handed over the relevant letter to Prakash Singh. Thus the words of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji proved to be an eternal truth.

*(Bhai Ami Singh son of Shri Jiwan Ram Village Pathial,
Hoshiarpur, 16. 07. 2003)*

100. Blessing Shri Suraen Dass Ji's Family

Shri Punnu Ram and Bibi Banti from village Raipur Rasulpur were profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. All of the family members were devotees of Maharaj Ji. During 1958, when Jalandhar-Pathankot Road was under renovation, Shri Punnu Ram's son Shri Suraen Dass and his two younger brothers Shri Shardha Ram and Shri Sohan Lal were placing small pieces of broken stones for the road construction. At that time Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji passed that way. Then all of them paid their profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and asked, "Maharaj Ji! When shall we be free of such heavy head loads of stones?" Then Maharaj Ji said, "You can leave this work right now?" They at once told the contractor that they would not work for him anymore. Then they again asked Maharaj Ji, "Kindly advise us what should we do alternately?" Maharaj Ji said, "You should sell Soda water." Then all the three brothers said, "All Right Maharaj Ji! We shall follow your advice." Maharaj Ji further said, "You should also visit Kutiya regularly every Sunday and offer some Soda water bottles to the visiting saints and devotees in the ashram." They followed Maharaj Ji's advice in letter and spirit and acted accordingly.

Later it so happened that with the blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji, Shri Suraen Dass' younger brother Shri Ram Chand Virdi migrated to England during 1961. Thereafter, one more of his brothers Shri Mit Ram also migrated to England after a few years. Shri Suraen Dass' son Shri Kundan Lal said that with Maharaj Ji's grace none of their family members was ever required to work as labourers on daily wage basis thereafter.

*(Shri Kundan Lal son of Shri Suraen Dass, Village Raipur
Rasulpur, 19.07.2003)*

101. Blessing Shri Harji Mall with Promotion

Shri Pala Ram Ji and his wife Bibi Gabi Ji from village Biaspind and all of their family members were devout followers of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. They often came to the Kutiya to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and sometimes they stayed in the ashram for many days.

Shri Pala Ram Ji's son Shri Harji Mall worked in an insurance company. During 1965, Shri Harji Mall said to his wife Bibi Resham Kaur Ji, "I shall leave my job because the salary is very low and there is little chance of promotion in this company. After some days Shri Harji Mall and Bibi Resham Kaur Ji come to the Kutiya to meet Maharaj Ji. Bibi Resham Kaur Ji said, "Maharaj Ji! My husband wants to leave his present job because of low salary and poor chances of promotion." Maharaj Ji said, "Harji Mall! Don't worry and do not leave your job. You will be promoted very soon. Just focus on regular meditation of God." Maharaj Ji's words come to be absolutely true as Shri Harji Mall got promoted just one month later.

(Bibi Resham Kaur, Village Biaspind, 20.07.2003)

102. Blessing S. Gurbachan Singh and Bibi Surjit Kaur with Sons

S. Veer Singh Ji lived in village Ballan. All of his family members had profound regards and reverence for Maharaj Ji. His farm land is very close to Maharaj Ji's Kutiya. One day S. Veer Singh Ji's son S. Gurbachan Singh and his wife Bibi Surjit Kaur came to meet Maharaj Ji. They currently stay at Fatehabad in Haryana. They paid their regards at the lotus feet of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and then prayed, "Maharaj Ji! We have four daughters and have no son. Kindly bless us with a son." Bibi Surjit Kaur was pregnant at that time. Maharaj Ji said, "Don't worry! Practise meditation of God regularly. You will have a baby girl this time. Thereafter, you will beget three sons over a period of time." Maharaj Ji's words proved to be absolutely true. After some months, Bibi Surjit Kaur gave birth to a baby girl. Later they had three sons over a period of time and they were named Tarsem Singh, Gurnam Singh and Ravinder Singh respectively.

*(Bibi Surjit Kaur wife of S. Gurbachan Singh, Village Ballan,
20.7.2003)*

103. Protection of Havildar Karam Singh

Havildar Karam Singh son of Shri Jawala Singh lived in Abadpura, Jalandhar. He worked with the Indian Army. S. Karam Singh, his wife and his family members had profound love and devotion for Maharaj Ji. During the period of the Second World War (1939-45), when India was under the control of British Government, the British rulers involved Indians in the Second World War contrary to their wishes. They deployed nearly 11000 Indian soldiers in the war against Japan. Shri Karam Singh Ji was also in the army at that time. Americans had dropped two atom bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. That cause immense damage to life and property and the war came to an end. Bibi Amar Kaur Ji came to meet Maharaj Ji and said, "Maharaj Ji! There is no information about my husband." Maharaj Ji said, "Most of the Indian soldiers deployed in war have attained martyrdom. However, S. Karam Singh and his 50 companions are safe at this moment. They will reach the military establishment at Sialkot Cantt and then return to their respective homes.

Maharaj Ji's words proved to be absolutely true. After one month, S. Karam Singh Ji returned to his home. That time he was sick and he used to suffer from seizures. After some days both husband and wife came to meet Maharaj Ji. S. Karam Singh Ji explained, "Maharaj Ji! Out of the 11000 soldiers deployed to fight the Japanese, only about 50 soldiers have returned alive." He further said, "Maharaj Ji! I reached Singapore from Japan along with my companions and then 50 of us reached Madras and finally Sialkot with your kind blessings. Maharaj Ji gave him suitable Ayurvedic medicines and he got cured after taking those medicines. After that he went to Sialkot along with his wife and resumed his duties with the army. He remained at Sialkot until India attained freedom with the partition of India and creation of Pakistan. After the partition he came to India and settled down at Gadaipur.

104. Salvation of S. Karam Singh

Later after about 10 years, S. Karam Singh became very sick. He prayed to Maharaj Ji with utmost devotion, "Maharaj

Ji! Either cure me completely of this disease or grant me eternal salvation.” Maharaj Ji told both Shri Karam Singh Ji and his wife, “Practice meditation of God regularly. Either Karam Singh will get cured by Sunday or he will attain salvation. On Sunday morning S. Karam Singh Ji breathed his last and left for his heavenly abode.

105. Government Jobs for Four Sons

When Shri Karam Singh left for his heavenly abode, Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj visited village Gadaipur a few days later. Then Bibi Amar Kaur Ji prayed, “Maharaj Ji! I have two daughters and four sons. My eldest son Tarsem is just 14 years old and his younger brother Amrik is three years old. My next son Madan is one and half years old and the youngest son is only 22 days old.

Maharaj Ji said, “Amar Kaur! This is all God's will. However, don't worry about anything. Your four sons will become government officers in due course of time.” Today Bibi Amar Kaur Ji told that Maharaj Ji had always encouraged her. After my husband's death, I reared milch animals and sold their milk to earn enough money to impart good education to my sons. With the blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj, all of my sons became government officers. My eldest son retired as an army officer. However unfortunately he is no more now. My second son Amrik who secured post graduate M.A. is a manager in Bank of Baroda. My third son Madan Lal is working in the department of irrigation and canals. The youngest son Sughriv Kumar also completed his M.A. and he too is a government officer. This has been possible only because of the kind blessings of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji.

(Bibi Amar Kaur w/o Shri Karam Singh, Village Gadaipur, Jalandhar, 21.07. 2003)

106. Blessing Shri Karam Singh

Havildar Shri Karam Singh son of S. Mehinga Singh Badhan is resident of village Pandori Nijhran near Adampur. He was employed with the Indian army. When he had to return to resume his duty after a few holidays at home, he always made it a point to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji before proceeding to resume duty. At one time he was posted in Leh-

Ladakh and he had to resume his duty there after a few holidays at home. As usual he came to meet Maharaj Ji before proceeding on return journey to resume his duties. He paid his regards to Maharaj Ji and then said, "Maharaj Ji! I have my posting in a remote area of Leh-Ladakh. My leave is over and I have to go now to resume my duty in Leh-Ladakh. Kindly convey me your blessings." Maharaj Ji said, "Do not worry! If you are posted in a remote far flung area, you will get transferred nearer home in near future." After that S. Karam Singh went to resume his duty in Leh-Ladakh. But when he reached his head quarters, he was extremely surprised to learn that he has been transferred to Punjab and his transfer orders have already been issued. Maharaj Ji's words proved to be absolutely true and he came to Punjab on transfer within a few days.

*(Balwinder Singh Badhan son of Shri Karam Singh Badhan,
Village Pandori Nijhran, Jalandhar)*

107. When the Cauldron was full of Rice Pudding Again

Shri Faggan Ram and all of his family members from village Sarmastpur was very profound devotees of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. He used to render various services in the Langar or community kitchen of Maharaj Ji's ashram. Shri Sada Ram Ji was about 12 years old at that time. Maharaj Ji got Khir or sweet rice pudding cooked that day for the visiting devotees. Everyone sat down in lines on the mats and Khir was served to all devotees at lunch time. Sometimes after that more devotees came to the Kutiya. All the newly arrived devotees paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji and then sat down. At that time Shri Kirpa Ram from village Rasulpur, Shri Sant Ram from village Kishangarh, Shri Faggan Ram and Sada Ram from village Sarmastpur and the chief cook Shri Jagat Ram were present in the community kitchen. Shri Faggan Ram and Shri Jagat Ram sent Shri Sada Ram to inform Maharaj Ji that all the cooked Khir had been served. He told Maharaj Ji accordingly. Then Maharaj Ji said, "Let us go and I shall see myself."

When Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj reached the community kitchen along with aforesaid devotees, the cauldron was full of Khir. Sant Sarwan Dass Ji then said, "You said that

there was no more Khir but there is plenty of Khir in this vessel. All of the volunteers present there were extremely surprised to see this miraculous development. Maharaj Ji smiled and told them to serve Khir to everyone lavishly.

108. Addressing Dilemma of Shri Sada Ram and Bibi Harbans Kaur

Once, Shri Sada Ram and his wife Bibi Harbans Kaur from village Sarmastpur decided to visit Kutiya and meet Maharaj Ji. Sada Ram asked his wife, "Please place two rupees in the pocket of my shirt as we have to make some offering to revered saints." Then Bibi Harbans Kaur put two rupees in his pocket and she said, "We can pay our regards to Maharaj Ji even with an offering of one rupee." When they reached Kutiya Shri Sada Ram Ji placed two rupees in front of Maharaj Ji as offering and both of them paid their regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Then Maharaj Ji said immediately, "Bibi! Even one rupee is enough as an offering." With these words, Maharaj Ji returned one rupee to Bibi Harbans Kaur. Both of them were extremely amazed because of this unique feat as Maharaj Ji knew exactly what she had told her husband at their house before leaving for Kutiya.

109. Saints Tread the Path of Purity

One day Shri Sada Ram and Bibi Harbans Kaur were on their way to the Kutiya to pay their regards to Maharaj Ji. Bibi Harbans Kaur was carrying a small pot full of milk for the ashram. When they reached near the Kutiya; they met some ladies of village Ballan who were also devotees of Maharaj Ji. Bibi Harbans Kaur kept the milk pot on the ground and she started greeting those ladies of village Ballan embracing each one of them turn by turn. Later they reached the Kutiya and Harbans Kaur placed the pot of milk before Sant Sarwan Dass Ji and paid her regards to Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji at once told her, "Bibi! First take this milk pot and clean its exterior properly with water. One should never place a pot containing milk on the ground at any time on the way."

Maharaj Ji also advised them that when someone goes to meet a revered saint, he must straight go to the ashram of that saint without stopping on route to meet any other person. Bibi

Harbans Kaur and Shri Sada Ram Ji apologized and requested Maharaj Ji to pardon them for their mistake. Both of them were amazed to learn about the vast spiritual powers of Maharaj Ji.

110. Blessing with Children

Whenever Shri Sada Ram came home on leave from the army duty, he used to visit the ashram and meet Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji. Once during the cold winter season, both Shri Sada Ram and his wife were sitting in front of Maharaj Ji. Another lady visited the ashram at that time. She paid her regards to Maharaj Ji and prayed, “Maharaj Ji! I have no children. Kindly be merciful and convey your blessings.” Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji looked around for Sant Chetan Dass Ji and said, “Chetan Dass! This woman is seeking something.” All of the devotees sitting in front of Maharaj Ji were watching with interest. There were many mango trees in the ashram those days but it was not the season for mango fruits. Surprisingly, one tree had an unseasonal mango fruit. Sant Chetan Dass Ji held his shawl under that tree and the mango fruit fell down into the lap. Sant Chetan Dass Ji then gave that mango fruit to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj Ji and requested, “Maharaj Ji! Kindly place this mango in the lap of this woman with your blessings.” Then Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji placed that mango in the lap of that woman. Many people were also watching this event besides Shri Sada Ram and his wife Bibi Harbans Kaur.

About one year later Shri Sada Ram along with his wife came to meet Maharaj Ji one day. At that time, the same woman, who was given a mango fruit by Maharaj Ji about a year back was also present there. She had come with her young son in her lap to convey her gratitude and pay her profound regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. This is how Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj blessed that fortunate woman with a son.

(Shri Sada Ram and his wife Bibi Harbans Kaur, Village Sarmastpur. 22.07.2003)

111. Miraculous Cure for a Woman's Suffering

It was during the year 1965 that Shri Karam Chand son of Shri Biru Ram from village Duhrhe came to the ashram one day to meet Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj. It was hot summer season. Maharaj Ji was seated on the raised platform and the devotees

were listening to Satsang or a spiritual discourse. At that time a woman reached there with her one year child. She was crying while she paid her regards at the lotus feet of Maharaj Ji. Maharaj Ji hit her four or five times with his shoe and then said, "Just go and sit down under that mango tree." Nearly fifteen minutes thereafter, Maharaj Ji called that woman and said, "Go to the community kitchen and have some tea and then come back here." When she came back after drinking tea, Maharaj Ji said, "Bibi! What is your problem? Just tell me." Bibi Ji said, "Maharaj Ji! I have been very restless and worried for too long a period. I had been under treatment for long but it was all in vain. However since you conveyed me your kind blessings with five hits with the shoe, I am absolutely fine, calm and composed." Shri Karam Chand and all other devotees present there on that occasion were absolutely amazed to witness this unique incident and rare miraculous cure for that woman.

(Shri Karam Chand son of Shri Biru Ram, Village Duhrhe, Jalandhar, 22.7.2003).

112. Amru! Get up and Sit Down

It was Sunday the 14th of March 1976. It was still cold winter season. Before going to sleep, Amar Nath closed the shop and pulled the shutter down from inside. He fell asleep very soon. It was about 11 o'clock that night when Amar Nath heard some noise. What is this, he wondered? Then he realized that some thieves were breaking the locks of the adjoining shops and stealing the goods. Whenever a vehicle passed that way with bright lights, the thieves would hide inside. After the passage of the vehicle, they would begin to steal valuable goods again. They looted merchandise from many nearby shops that night. Amar Nath was sweating profusely even during the winter night as he was terribly scared. Thieves were in large numbers. Amar Nath feared that if the thieves break open his shop then they may even kill him before looting his shop. He thought that the money and the materials inside his shop were worthless compared to his own life. He was not sure whether the thieves would spare his life after looting his shop or not. He was terribly scared and absolutely confused because of such negative thoughts.

To navigate across the storm of these thoughts and fear, Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj then materialized before him in divine form to emancipate him from such fear and apprehensions. There was bright light all around inside his shop. By that time the thieves had completed looting of adjoining shops and they were positioning crow bars beneath the shutter of his shop to lift the shutter and break open the door to enter inside his shop. Meanwhile his revered Satguru was present there with divine brilliance to protect him. The thieves tried very hard but they did not succeed in lifting the shutter. Finally they felt frustrated and extremely tired and they went away. Thus revered satguru Ji protected his disciple and vanquished his fear and apprehensions.

As mentioned earlier this miraculous event occurred on 14th March, 1976. Many years before that event, Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji had advised Shri Amar Nath on 26th January, 1970 to start the new business to sell vegetables. Inspired by these two extremely important events, Shri Amar Nath was completely soaked with devout devotion and profound love for his revered Satguru Swami Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj and he composed the following poem:

Shabbi janvari unni-sau sattar sann jano yad inhan nu kita!

*Jihrahe vachan zabano bole Rabb diyan inhan sharikan!
Uh ta mitne nahi uh pathar te likan!! Uh ta mitne nahi uh pathar te likan!!!*

Chauda March unni-sau shiattar jano Aetwar din aa giya!

*Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!
Aetwar fir tur ke langh giya, time saun da aa giya!!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Nau paenti da time ho giya, jor nind ne pa liya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Iss jogi di ki nishani, na kann mundran na gal gani!
Ih ta Rabb ne roop vata liya!!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Jadon time giara hoiya ih Ballan vichon aa giya!
Ikk mastana jogi ih aa ke gall samjha giya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Hun Satgur tera aa giya, rakha bhi tera aa giya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Jad Amru ne surat sambhali, diva batti la liya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Aase pase jinde tut gaye choran ne ghera pa liya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Dil Amru da dola kha giya!
Amru uth ke bahi ja ih Ballan vichon aa giya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Jogi apna Naam japa giya, Amru nu Satnam japa giya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah choran ton shuda giya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Aggon hal satguru jane, Amru da dil ghabra giya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Uho gall likhi hae ithe jihrhigall likha giya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Us din di ih gall jis din Karme nu nal sula liya!
Amru uth ke bahi jah jogi ikk jaga giya!*

*Ho jaange sbabb nal mele vishrhiyan sangtan de!
Ang sang ho ke sahayta uho karde aa, kite gayo nahi
hazar nazar aa!*

*Unnati March unni-sau shiattar nu Gurmel mere kol
aaiya si!*

*Uhnu ih Bhajan sunaya si!
Gurmeh ih gall kahinda si mae hor vi vadha karna si!
Gurmeh nu chup karaiya si Gurmeh gharan nu aaiya si!
Magron ih lekh likhaiya si!*

*Gurmeh iho gall kahinda aa, jihrrha na santan da laenda
aa!*

*Bute nu ih gall kahi dayin Gurmeh ih gall kahinda aa!
Jihrrha vich Kutiya de rahinda aa!
Ikk buta la giayo aa Kutiya vich jisnu Hawaigir kahi ke
aavaz marde hunde si!
Ih gall bhi changi lagdi aa, king jorhi andron vajjdi aa!*

Jai santa di!

* * *

Brief explanation about the meaning of this poem is as follows:

It was January 26, 1970 when I remembered my revered Satguru Ji. Whatever words my venerated Guru Ji and close companion of God said that day have proved to be an eternal truth that cannot be erased like a permanent line etched on a stone. Maharaj Ji's words always meant an eternal truth.

It was Sunday the 14th March 1976 when my revered Satguru yogi awakened me and said, "Amru! Get up and sit down for meditation." I enjoyed walking around here and there throughout the day of Sunday till it was time for me to sleep. I was fast asleep by 9.35 p.m. I was alerted and advised, "Amru! Get up and sit down for meditation."

How does one recognize this yogi? He had neither ear rings nor a rosary around his neck. In fact God had himself materialized in the form of a yogi who told me, "Amru! Get up and sit down for meditation."

It was 11 p.m. when my revered Satguru arrived from village Ballan and that unique carefree yogi counselled me, "Amru! Get up and sit down for meditation." Now your loving Satguru and saviour is here in front of you. Therefore just get up and sit down for meditation.

When Amru regained composure, he immediately lighted the lamp. Meanwhile the thieves had broken open adjoining shops and looted valuable merchandise. Thereafter they had surrounded my shop and they were trying to break open the shutter and I was terribly scared. At that very moment my revered Satguru from Ballan materialized as my saviour.

My venerated Satguru yogi vanquished all of my fear and negative thoughts and enabled me to sit down and practise meditation of God as he directed me and said, "Amru! Get up and sit down for meditation." Satguru Ji also saved me from any harm by the thieves who ran away after making futile efforts to break open my shop.

Only my Satguru knows more about the future as I was absolutely confused and worried. I have written here everything truthfully as prompted by my revered Satguru Ji. This incident happened on the day when Shri Karma also slept along with me and Maharaj Ji said, "Amru! Get up and sit down for meditation."

With the grace of God, I shall be able to meet most of the devotees who are away from me. My revered Satguru has not gone anywhere. He is always by the side of his disciples and helps them to overcome all of their difficulties.

It was on 29th March, 1976 when Shri Gurmel came to see me and I recited this poem before him. Gurmel suggested that this should have been expanded further. I somehow made him at peace and he returned home.

Later one day Gurmel asked me to add the following:

Gurmel has very profound regards for saints. He earnestly requests to convey to the sacred tree, which stays inside the Kutiya, that Sant Sarwan Dass Ji Maharaj had planted a sapling in Kutiya that has now grown into a majestic tree and Maharaj Ji fondly used to call him Hawaigir.

I like this too very much. Celestial music can be heard from within all the time.

Glory to the revered saints!

113. Restoration of Eyesight of Shri Jaimal Singh

Shri Jaimal Singh Ji was resident of village Raouwali. He was a very profound devotee of Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji.

He was very particular to visit Maharaj Ji's Kutiya on all important days like Sangrand or first day of any month as per Vikram Samvat Calendar, 'Purnima' or full moon day and 'Amavas' or no moon day and sing Gurbani Kirtan "Aasa Di Vaar" playing Iktara with one hand and 'Khartalan'- modified cymbals in a pair of wooden frames, with the other hand. As he grew old somehow he lost his eyesight. When Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji went to Raouwali to look him up at his house, Jaimal Singh said, "Maharaj Ji! I have lost my eyesight. That is why I have not been able to visit Kutiya for the last many days." Most of the village roads and pathways were not metalled those days. Sant Sarwan Dass Maharaj Ji said, "Jaimal Singh! Make arrangements to engage some boy to escort you to Kutiya and pay him some money for this service." He followed Maharaj Ji's advice and made arrangements to seek help of a local boy.

He continued to visit Kutiya with his help and sing Gurbani hymns in Kutiya for some months. Later during his visit to Kutiya one day he prayed to Sant Sarwan Dass Ji, "Maharaj Ji! Kindly restore my eyesight or grant me eternal salvation." Sant Sarwan Dass Ji asked a lady, who was sitting nearby, "Bibi! Just place your hands on the eyes of Jaimal Singh." However she was very shy and reluctant. When Maharaj Ji asked her for the third time, she placed her hands on Jaimal Singh's eyes briefly to caress the eyes. Shri Jaimal Singh's eyesight was partly restored immediately thereafter and he could see around. Then Maharaj Ji was magnanimous in giving credit to that lady as Maharaj Ji said, "Jaimal Singh! This lady performs devout meditation of God regularly. That is why your eyesight got restored partly when she caressed your eyes with her hands." However she submitted very humbly, "Maharaj Ji! Everything has happened because of your benevolent blessings. I have been only a medium but everything has been actually done by you." Shri Jaimal Singh's eyesight started improving slowly from that day with the grace of Maharaj Ji and he resumed his regular visits to Kutiya to sing Gurbani very early in the morning and have a vision of Maharaj Ji.

(Shri Sohan Singh, Village Sanghwal, 23.07.2003)