

## **AN APPEAL TO ALL OUR BELOVED BHAKTAJAN ABROAD TO REBUILD OUR “MUMBAI MANDIR” - OUR HOME**

Years ago 38 years to be precise, we thought of having our own mandir, a place where Bhaktajans could reside for a day or two when travelling abroad, at Mumbai, let us to think of it, **This idea was supported immensely by Bhaktajans residing abroad more than India. Leaders of that time struggled very hard to fulfill this huge task.** During the 70's, a lot of students reached USA for higher studies, Despite financial difficulties, the youth had a common passion, “let us make this project turn into reality. Simultaneously, all Bhaktajans in USA had put their heart and soul to build up our mandir, despite of their struggles. In spite of different opinions, negative thinkers, delay in starting the construction, a lot of positive support was extended towards us from Bhaktajans of Panama, to initiate this project. A lot of credit goes to complete it, A major portion of the funds had been donated generously by him towards the completion of our mandir in those days of hardship. Our elders have followed the preaching and values of Kabirji and given a new path, vision and stability to our Samaj.

**“DAAN DIYE DHAN NA GHATE, NADI NA GHATE NI;  
APNI ANKHE DEKHIYE, VO KATHI KAHE KABIR.”**

During those days, there was a severe shortage of cement all over India. So alternative materials were used in construction. Those buildings deteriorated sharply than the newly constructed ones. Mumbai Municipal Corporation too insists on demolishing such structures and to construct then on a modern basis to avoid future accidents. To keep the mandir in a good condition, a huge amount of money goes into maintenance yearly. More than 1 Crore rupees has been spent towards renovation and repairing till date during the last 10 years, but it's not enough to upgrade it.

Modernization with better facilities is our top priority. Increasing the construction area from 7,000 sq. feet to 14,00 sq. ft. from 18 to 36 rooms, would help us serving our own people with better facilities than the present infrastructure. A lot of consideration has been taken into avoiding inconvenience during the month of Nov., Dec. & Jan. for our beloved Bhaktajans.

After a lot of discussion, to build up a new mandir on our existing land would solve a lot of issues.

Our location at Vile Parle, friendly neighborhood of majority Gujaratis, relatively crime free area, peaceful suburban atmosphere, proximity towards major domestic place of importance, good links with roads and railways for medical/visa purposes, points the importance of preserving our mandir at the very same place.

At present the existing airport at Mumbai is approximately 262 km. (Kadodara to Mumbai Mandir) from our centre place. The Navi Mumbai airport shall be 42 km. away from our Mandir. But, the distance between Kadodara to Navi Mumbai Airport shall be 288 km. So, the total distance traveled from Kadodara to mandir to Navi Mumbai Airport shall be 304 km. It would mean a difference of only 16 km of travelling. But for the infrastructure to develop around the Navi Mumbai Airport will take few more years for completion. Also, the localists of this area would not be of Gujarati Community in majority. Above all, the domestic airport will remain the same in a functional capacity. Looking into the positive aspects, to construct a new mandir on our existing land is the best viable option. The new rules of Navi Mumbai requires a minimum of two local trustees in a particular public trust, which would not be feasible for us. To purchase a plot from open market and to safeguard it against encroachment, is difficult. Viewing the above points leads us to the conclusion that to construct a new mandir at our current place is best in the interest of all.

Many Bhaktajans, India and abroad have opposed the policy of issuing "Bhalaman Patra"/ Preference Letters for non Bhaktajans by our trustees. Our trust is a charitable trust our prime

motive is to serve everyone irrespective of caste and creed, though many decisions have to be taken politely. **Our Bhaktajans should be given first priority.** For that the Board of Trustees have taken a positive stand towards not issuing preference letters during months of November to January.

### **FACILITIES FOR BHAKTAJANS TOWARDS CONVENIENT STAY**

Till date, there has not been any **reservation policy** so as not to create any dispute among us. The person who arrives first shall be given first priority for accommodation. A few suggestions have been put forward, let us look into the collective effort of marking it possible.

- (1) Reserving rooms for those Bhaktajans who have informed at least 3 days prior to the available date for accommodation.
- (2) During the busy months of November – January to keep all rooms available to Bhaktajans only.
- (3) Guests can stay upto a continuous period of 7 days at a stretch.
- (4) Guests shall be charged per day basis till 11:00 a.m. in the morning.
- (5) Only Bhaktajans would be allowed to view the Guest Register on official demand.
- (6) We are committed to make all Bhaktajans comfortable during the stay.

The important information regarding the cost of construction has been already given before hand but sharing it again with everyone in a concise manner.

- (a) As per rules only 7,000 sq. feet of Construction is available. Our extra requirement of additional 7,000 sq. feet TDR is to be purchased at extra cost as per land market norms.
- (b) total built up area : 14,000 sq. feet, estimated cost of construction is 7 crore rupees where total of 36 rooms would be available.

Ground Floor

Mandir, Administrative office  
Passenger Lifts (2) Car lift (1)

	stairs.
1 <sup>st</sup> Floor	Car Parking
2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Dining Hall, Kitchen, office, luggage room
3 <sup>rd</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor	32
(Total of four floors)	Rooms } Total 36 rooms
7 <sup>th</sup> Floor	4 Rooms

We will have proposed to construct according to the above mentioned details.

To complete this giant task, it would not be possible without your support, faith and understanding. We appeal to all Bhaktajans, India and abroad to work towards this project.

Establishing committees in USA, particularly where our majority resides, would help us in progress. Our two main chapters:

**(1) Shree Ramkabir Mandir – Carson**

**(2) Shree Ramkabir Mandir – Bhakta Samaj of USA**

and it's sub committees would co-ordinate within themselves to form a common group of friends to accomplish this task.

Shree Ramkabir Mandir of Surat, would be highly appraise of fulfilling the duties and responsibilities given to us.

Abroad based Bhaktajans would be able to deposit donations directly to Shree Ramkabir Mandir Trust – Surat. Those having NRI accounts can transfer funds directly to mandir's/Trust account. For donors not having such facilities to India. Permission for FCR is underway for better convenience.

Our India based Bhaktajans have responded quickly towards this great noble task and wishing for our fellow Bhaktajans abroad to respond in the same manner collectively.

Rs. 5,00,000 (Five Lakh Indian Rupees) per single family, and gathering 100 such families to come forward would make this look very easy and feasible. We appeal to all Bhaktajans to the

occasion and fulfill this. Let us be Partners in Progress, Friends in Unity, Brothers at Heart and Architects of Destiny.

Ramkabir to all looking forward to your co-operation towards the society.

Kabirji rightly said:

**“Mar Jau Mangu nahi, Apne tan ke kaj I  
Parmath ke Karan ko, Mohi na Ave laj II”**

President, Vice President  
Trustees, Committee Members  
Ramkabir Mandir Trust, Surat