

A SKETCH OF



SAMARTH GURU MAHATMA
SRI RAMCHANDRAJI
MAHARAJ
OF FATEHGARH (U.P)

Revered Lalaji Maharaj

Pujya Ramchandraj Maharaj of Fatehgarh is the Master of Pujya Ramchandraj Maharaj of Shahjahanpur. We are happy to present the story of Revered Lalaji Maharaj - the Grand Master of the system with the hope that it will provide the sadhakas with glimpses of the greatness of our Adi Guru and motivate each one of us to try and emulate his way of living.

The influence of the East India Company got entrenched in India, lead to the enslavement to the British empire, which ruthlessly followed the principle of expansionism to the total detriment of the local culture and traditions. This lead to total submission to the economic (relating to wealth of a country), political (relating to the affairs of the government) and finally spiritual systems of the white race and their beliefs and faiths.

Revered Lalaji Maharaj

No spiritual spring was there from which the yearning masses could draw their succour. Sanatana Dharma, which is Spirituality per se beyond all religions, was almost lost even in the land of its origin.

However saints of the calibre of Swami Vivekanandaji who are pioneers in the field of spirituality and the guiding personalities in the field even today were convinced that a day would come when mighty minds would arise and India would show light to the world.



"Great men are not accidentally born, they are born when the world waits for them in eager expectation"
-Swami Vivekananda.



The power of Nature
descended in human
form as
Samarth Guru Mahatma
Ramchandraji Maharaj,
of Fatehgarh;
affectionately called
Lalaji Saheb.

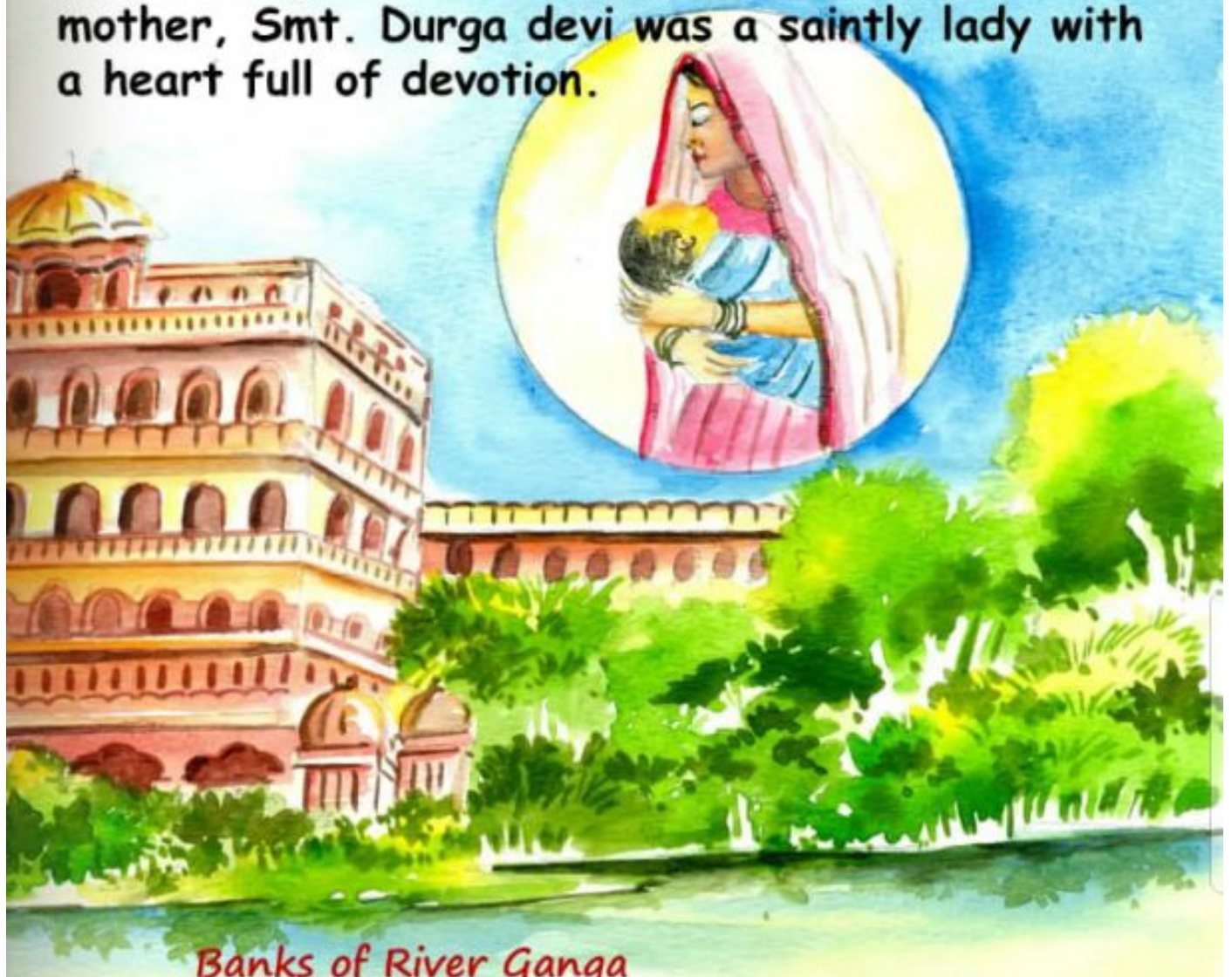
With the Advent in 1873
the New Era started,
which is known as
- The Lalaji Era.



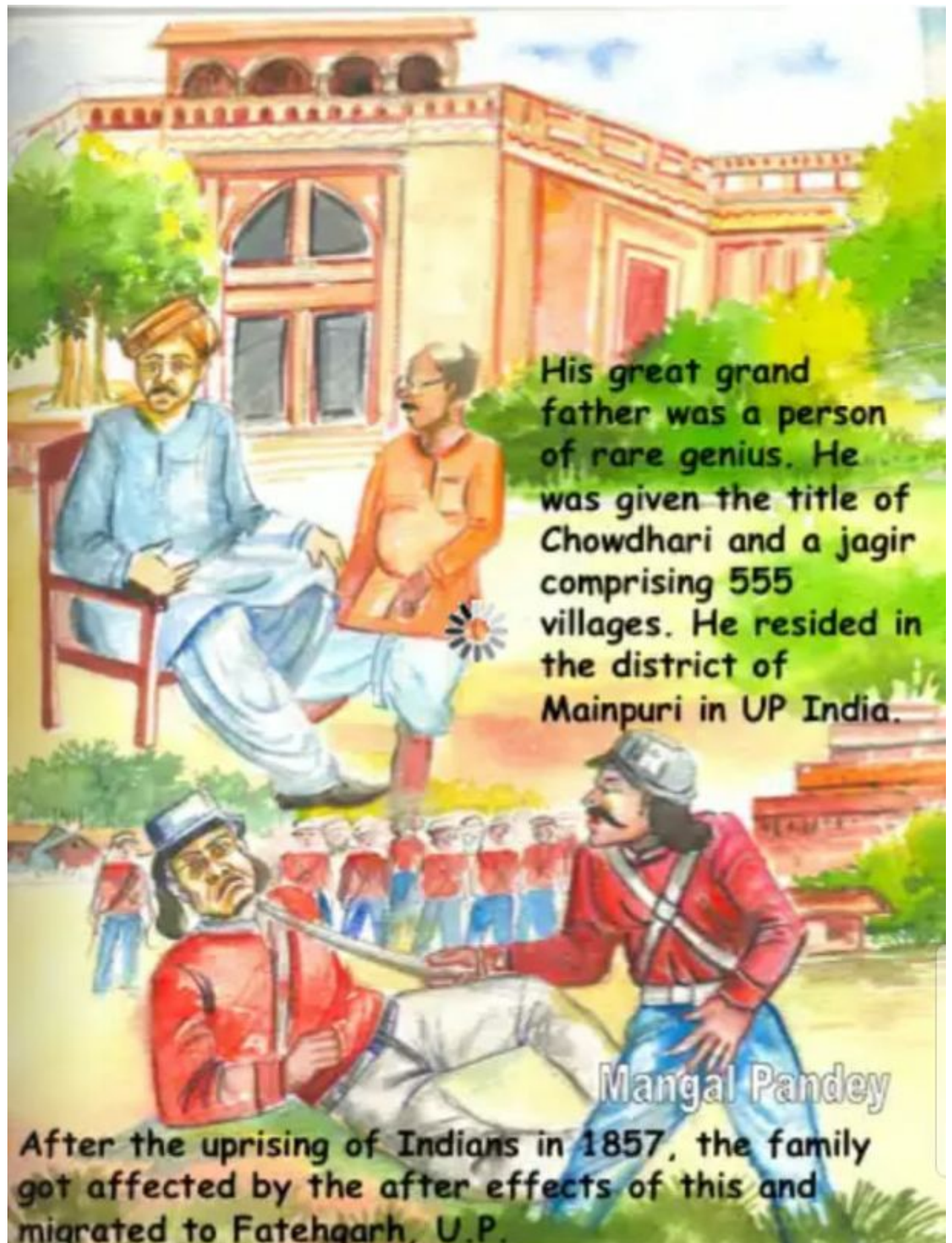
Birth Day of Our Beloved Grand Master

It happened as Divinity would will, on the Basant Panchami day in the month of Magha in the year 4974 after the beginning of Kali yuga corresponding to the 2nd Feb. 1873 A.D. at Fatehgarh in the state of UP in India.

His father Sri Harbux Rai, the superintendent of Customs and Excise, Farrukhabad belonged to a very distinguished family of kayasths and his mother, Smt. Durga devi was a saintly lady with a heart full of devotion.




Banks of River Ganga



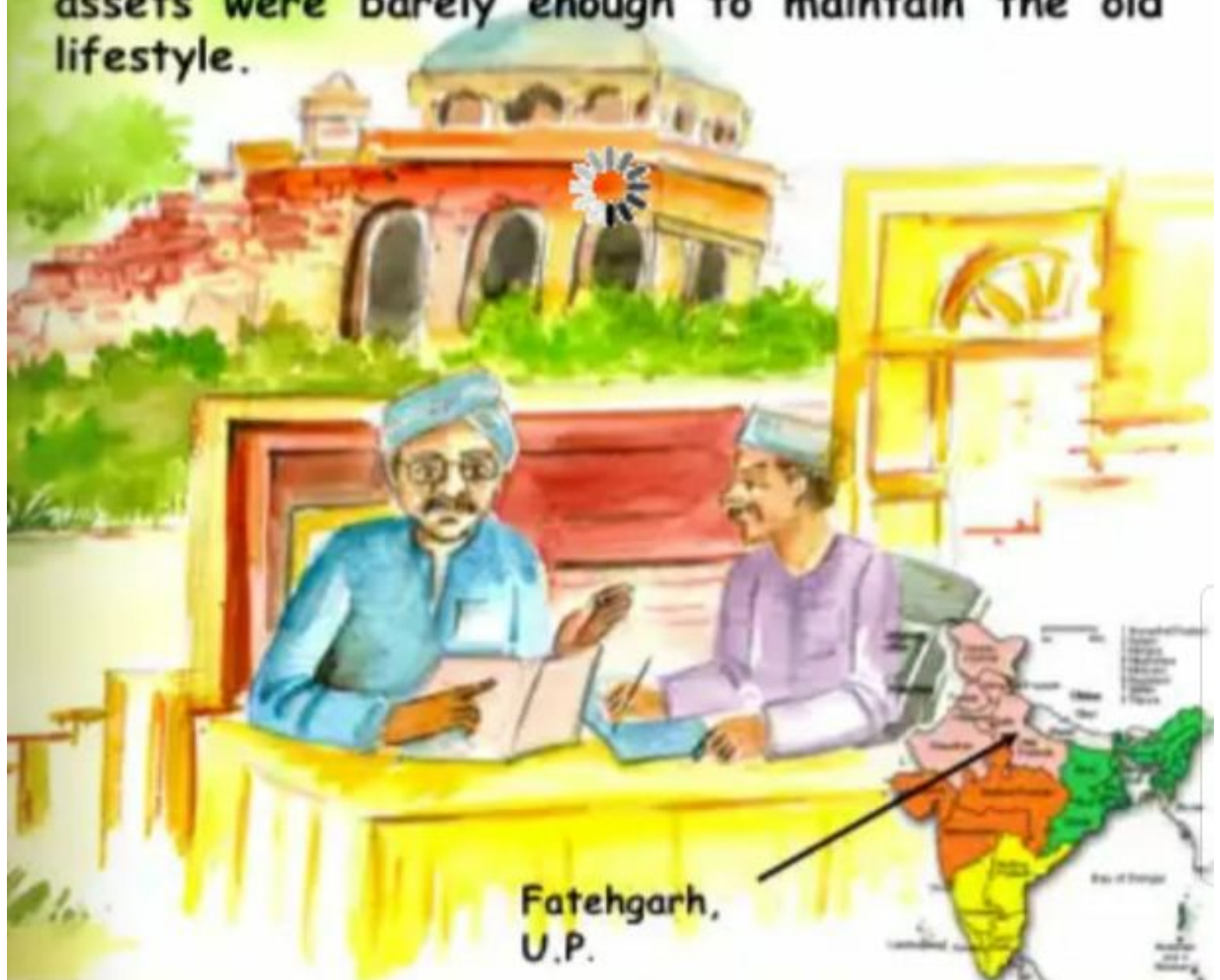
His great grand father was a person of rare genius. He was given the title of Chowdhari and a jagir comprising 555 villages. He resided in the district of Mainpuri in UP India.

Mangal Pandey

After the uprising of Indians in 1857, the family got affected by the after effects of this and migrated to Fatehgarh, U.P.



Now in Fatehgarh, U.P. his father worked as a tax superintendent and began to live with his family. In the changed circumstances his estate had been subjected to considerable damage. His assets were barely enough to maintain the old lifestyle.



Revered Lalaji's mother



Revered Lalaji's mother was a saintly lady.

Her heart was full of devotion and she was strongly attracted towards God. She had great regard for saints and served them whenever she had an opportunity.

She had a melodious voice and her recitation of Ram Charit Manas thrilled the audience.



Charity, the principle of a grhastha, was practiced by her to the fullest and no needy person ever left her house without satisfaction. However, she had no children. Therefore they had adopted a son.

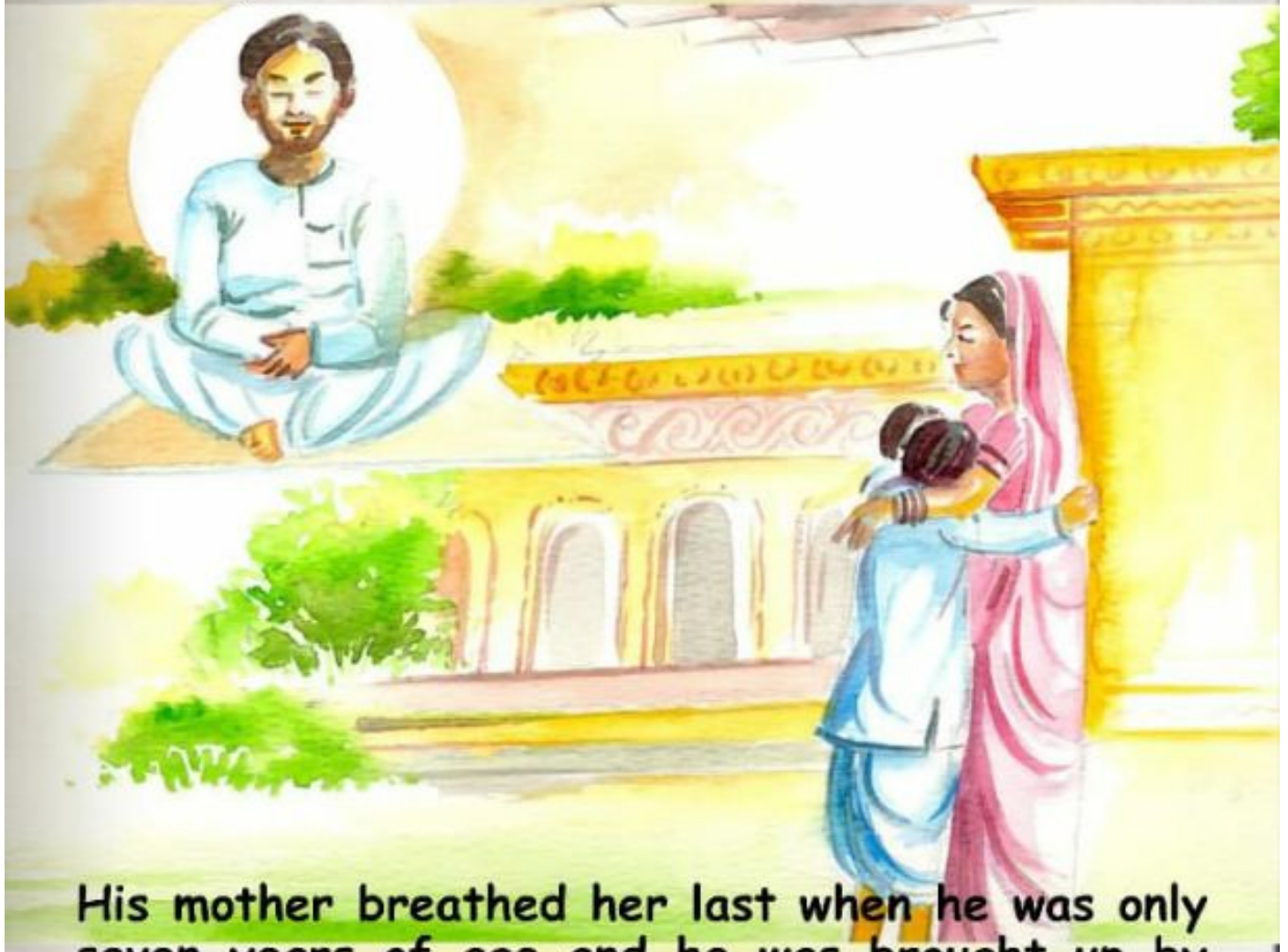
Once a saint came to Farrukhabad and she went to satsang along with her husband's younger brother.

The melodious singing of sakhis of Saint Kabir by the saint touched her tender devotional heart so much that tears welled up and she got into a state of absorption.



This was observed by the saint who silently blessed her. Since then the love for God increased in her and she soared into samadhi condition often.

His mother's spiritual life had a great effect on him and he had been developing a strong love for Reality.



His mother breathed her last when he was only seven years of age and he was brought up by another muslim woman who loved him very dearly. Lalaji had deep regard for her all her life.

Once she wanted to give all her property to him but he firmly refused to accept it and on his own part gave her presents and help throughout her life.

One day an Avadhoot called at her door. After partaking of food, he asked for a dish of fish. As she was a Vaishnav she found herself unable to provide the same and asked her maid to make some arrangements.



After getting his wish fulfilled. The saint blessed her. A few moments later, beaming with brightness, raising his fingers towards heaven said "One... two..." and so he left. Soon after the first son, Sri Ramchandra was born on 2nd Feb. 1873 A.D. and another son was born on 17th Oct. 1875 who was named Sri Raghubar Dayal.

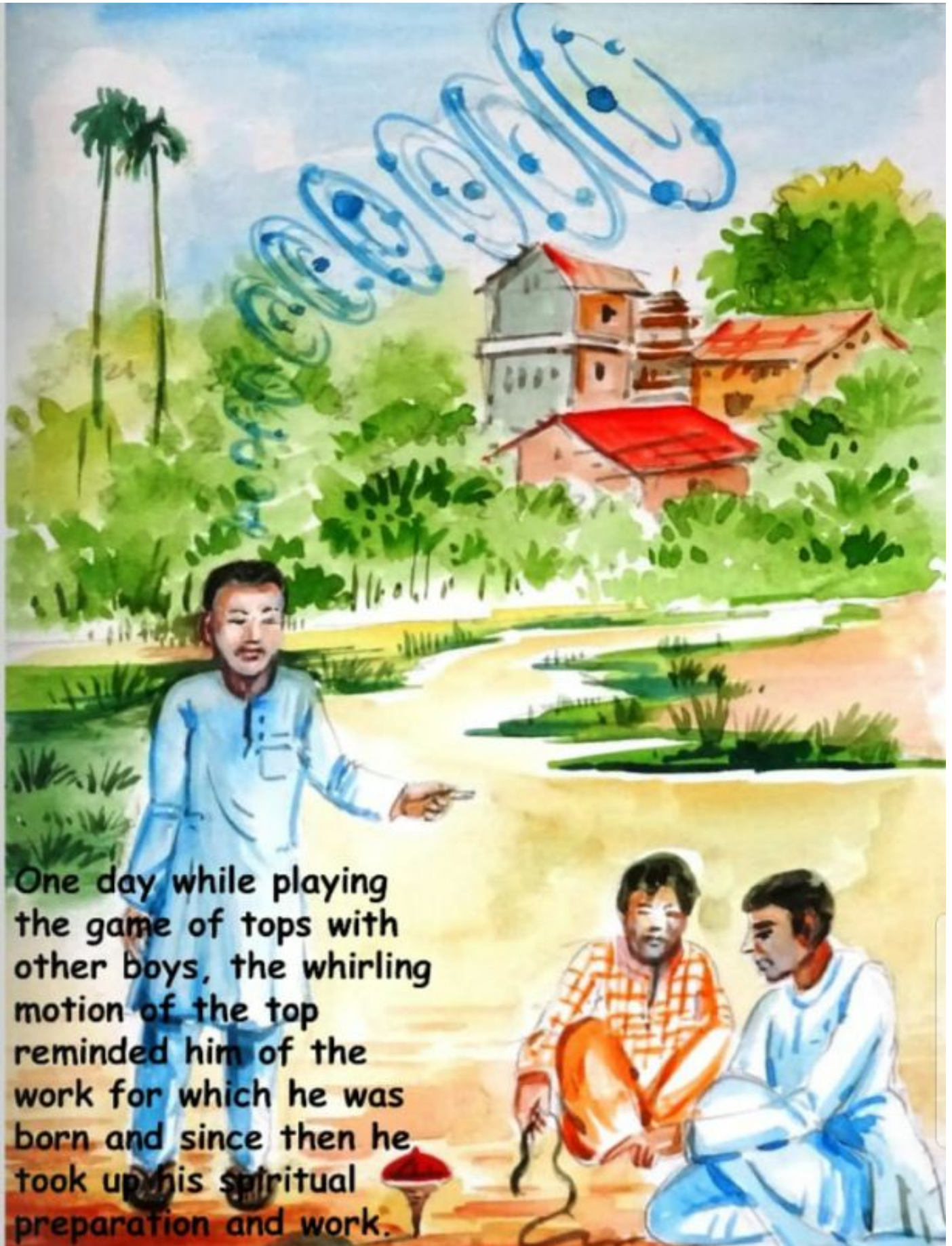
Sri Ramchandra affectionately called Lalaji Saheb from his childhood, used to recite Ram Charit Manas for his mother in uncommonly sweet and melodious voice inherited by him from her.



While a child, he inculcated in himself a deep love for music and had an amazing aptitude for producing an exact imitation of the intonation etc. of any song which he had heard only once.



During early years he was educated in Urdu, Persian and Arabic by private tutor and learnt Hindi from his mother.



One day while playing the game of tops with other boys, the whirling motion of the top reminded him of the work for which he was born and since then he took up his spiritual preparation and work.



Then he studied at the Mission School at Farrukhabad and passed the English Middle Examination. While at school he lived in a very small room.

During those days he was assisted by a muslim teacher in his studies and was influenced by him.

**It is the will of God that he attained
perfection within a brief span of seven
months.**





While still a student, his entire system was transformed into a celestial inner light and his consciousness ascended and transcended all the known stages and approaches so as to reach the state of statelessness.

Revered Lalaji grew up into a perfect specimen of graceful manhood with perfect build and average height.



He had a wheatish complexion. He sported a small beautiful beard and a mustache.

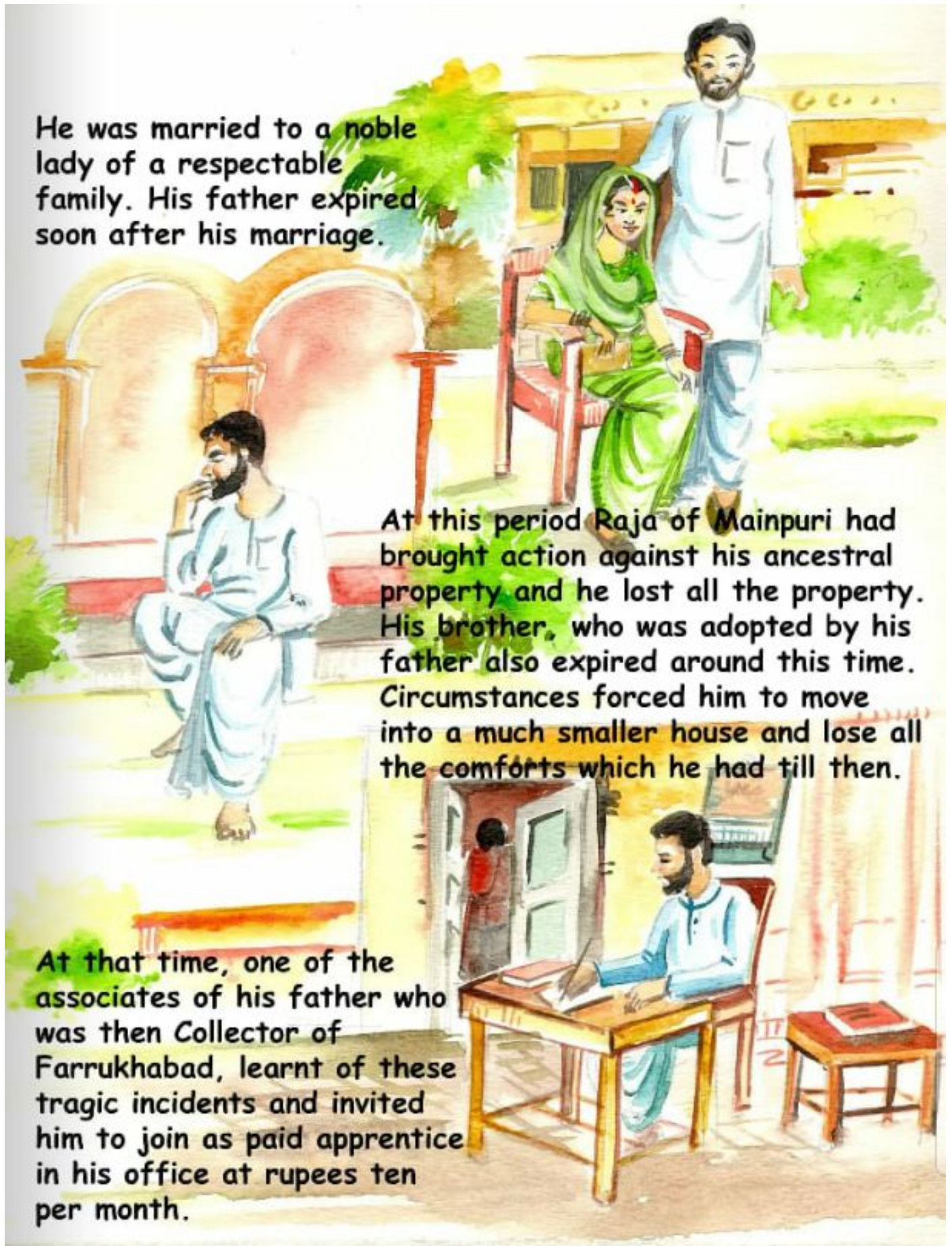
His broad and high forehead was indicative of the vast store of intellect which he used not as one used a lamp for his own seeing but like a light house to guide those on the sea.

Most remarkable were his eyes which were like two bright stars which appeared to see through everyone and every thing.

He was married to a noble lady of a respectable family. His father expired soon after his marriage.

At this period Raja of Mainpuri had brought action against his ancestral property and he lost all the property. His brother, who was adopted by his father also expired around this time. Circumstances forced him to move into a much smaller house and lose all the comforts which he had till then.

At that time, one of the associates of his father who was then Collector of Farrukhabad, learnt of these tragic incidents and invited him to join as paid apprentice in his office at rupees ten per month.



Way of life

By nature he was always calm but was easily moved by the pains and pleasures of others.

He possessed a melodious voice and was an adept at using sweet language for communicating his thoughts and captivating the hearts of his audience. Rarely could he be angered.

He spoke as little as possible avoiding frivolous talk.

With a view to train his fellow brothers and disciples he performed the duties of a householder(family man) exceedingly well.

He respected his elders and exercised humility with those of his own age without resorting to humiliation, and loved those who were younger than himself.



He was the source from which the yearning masses could draw the nectar.

Revered Lalaji's daily schedule



*He never
slept after
sun-rise.
After bath
etc,*



*devoted to
morning
prayer &
spiritual
work,*



*then went to
office.*

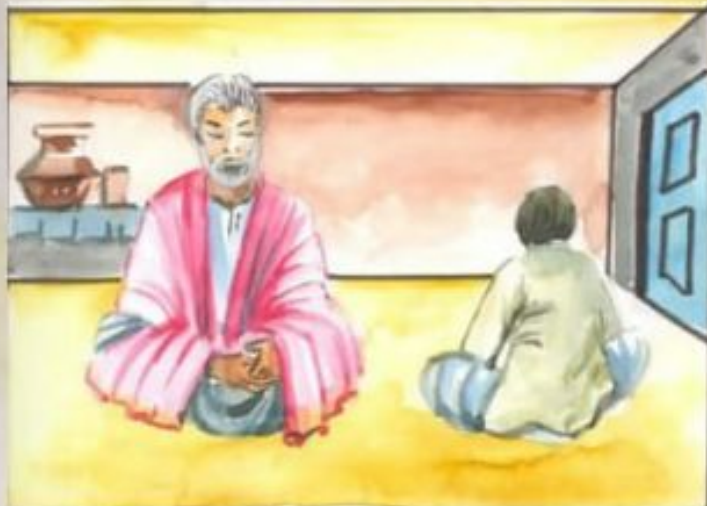
Revered Lalaji's daily schedule



After that he busied himself with training the aspirants and went to bed by 10 pm. Without going to sleep ~~he~~ used to attend the aspirants till 2 a.m in the morning.



Revered Lalaji's daily schedule



*After
returning
from office,
imparted
spiritual
training,*



*had early
dinner,*



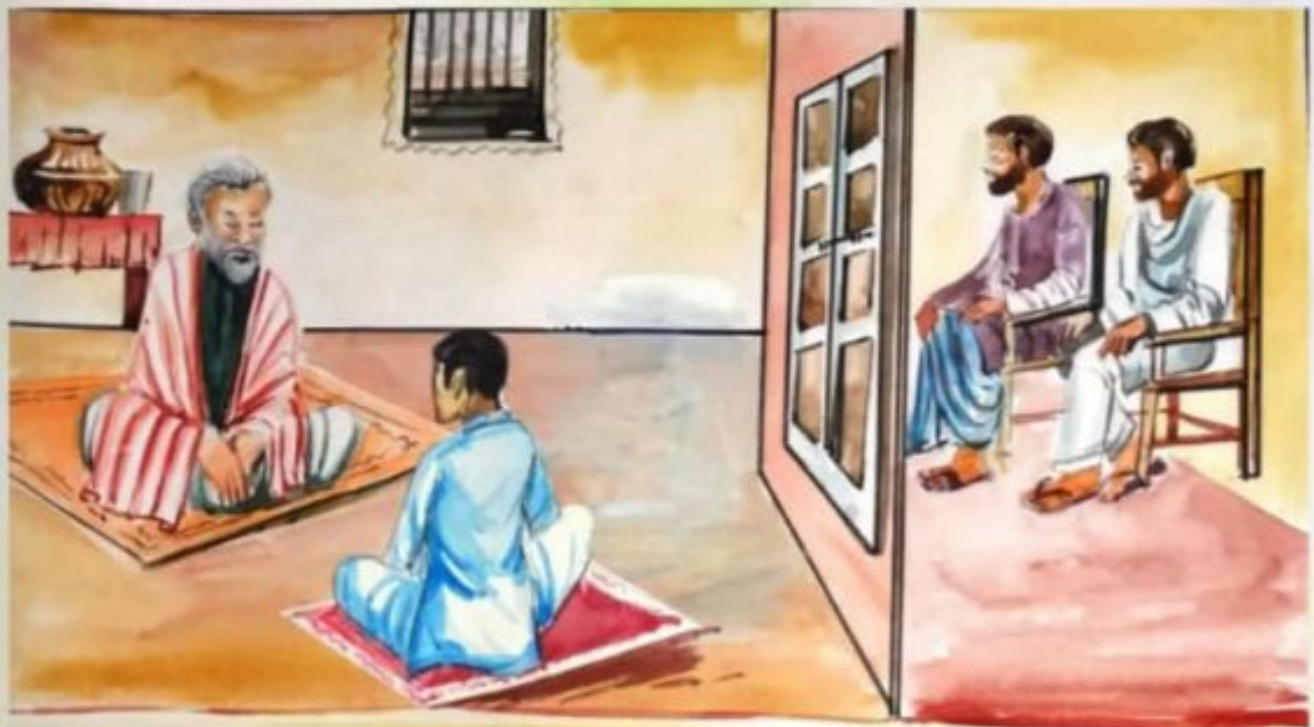
*and went for
walk around 8
pm.*

Frugal in his food habits he lived an unostentatious life.



He did not take break fast. Bread, pulses, and chatni was his morning meal, while in the evening he took bread, vegetables and pickles. He did not take meat, ice or tea. Kachauri and arvi were his favourite dishes.

In the beginning, some teachers came to him and were transformed in no time. Finding a great change in themselves, those teachers told some students about the change wrought in their personalities without their own effort and this brought some students to Lalaji, and they also got transformed likewise.



Learning of this amazing and novel method, other people began to come to him.

Revered Lalaji was transferred from Kaimganj to Fatehgarh in the year 1908. He began, for most of the time, to live in seclusion and to remain lost in God.



There was an old servant who did all the house-hold work. Lalaji's personality, mode of living and general behaviour impressed his neighbours very much and they loved him dearly and respected greatly.



He used to transmit, cleanse and transform them saying that his work was of a sweeper or washerman.

His motto was, no undesirable should be initiated but if one had come, he must not go back.

He had simply to carry out the orders of Divinity without thinking about the success or failure of his efforts.

*Revered Lalaji established
regular satsangh from the year 1914*

He started training his followers.

He did not put off his work even during his illness.



After his retirement in 1929, he began to give all his time to this noble work. He spent two to three hours every day on dictating books, articles and letters to satsanghis.

He was a great scholar of Urdu, Persian and Arabic and had a sound knowledge of Hindi and Sanskrit.

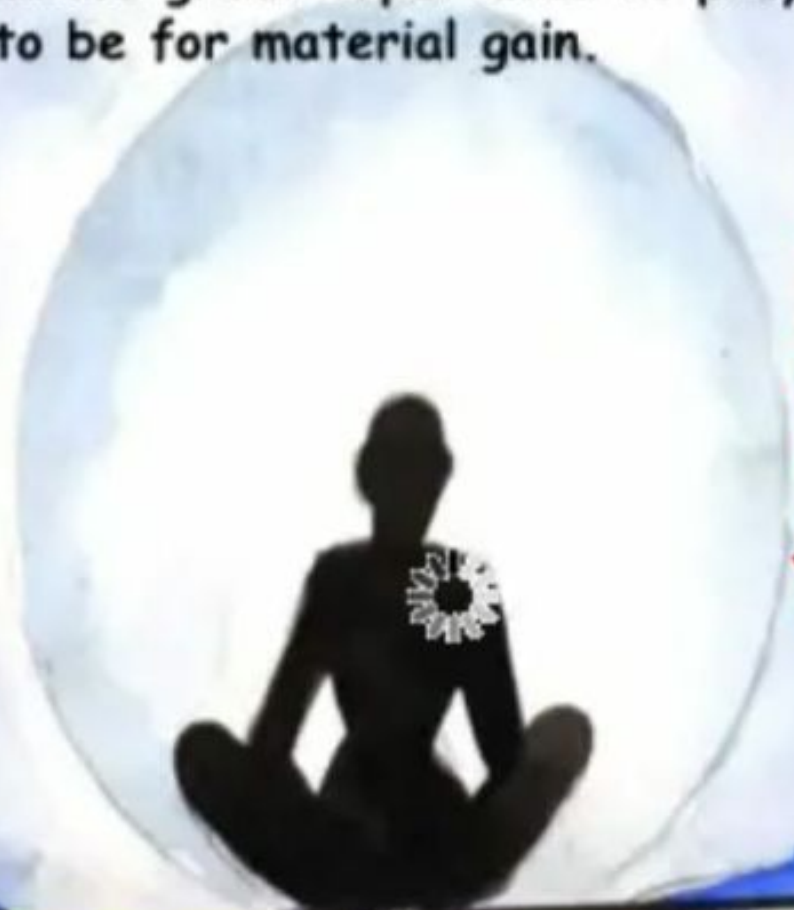


He had disclosed hitherto unknown secrets of the Vedas, illuminatingly interpreting important richas and bring Reality to light.

Controversial phrases and words commonly used in scripture, but generally misunderstood, were explained in such a simple way and in such easily understandable words coined by him that real knowledge became common property.

He regarded the meditation on the heart as the real sadhana.

He attached great importance to prayer, but it is not to be for material gain.



*He
considered
love to be
the
greatest
tapas.*

He himself constantly prayed for the soul of this world. Revered Lalaji was very particular regarding conduct.

He announced in unambiguous terms that realisation of self was not possible without adhering to the standard moral code of conduct.

He even forbade association and satsangh with immoral persons.

Once he wrote - "It is good to be put to worries. The home is the training centre for submission and endurance, etc. It is the greatest form of penance and sacrifice."

"I felt that all this was absolutely of no importance to me as compared to Reality which was predominant in all my being. So I ever smiled on them thinking them to be the very way of liberation."





Revered Lalaji considered spiritual perfection to be based on three things:

- 1) love for the Master
- 2) satsangh with the Master
- 3) obedience to the Master.



He considered three things necessary for a saint:

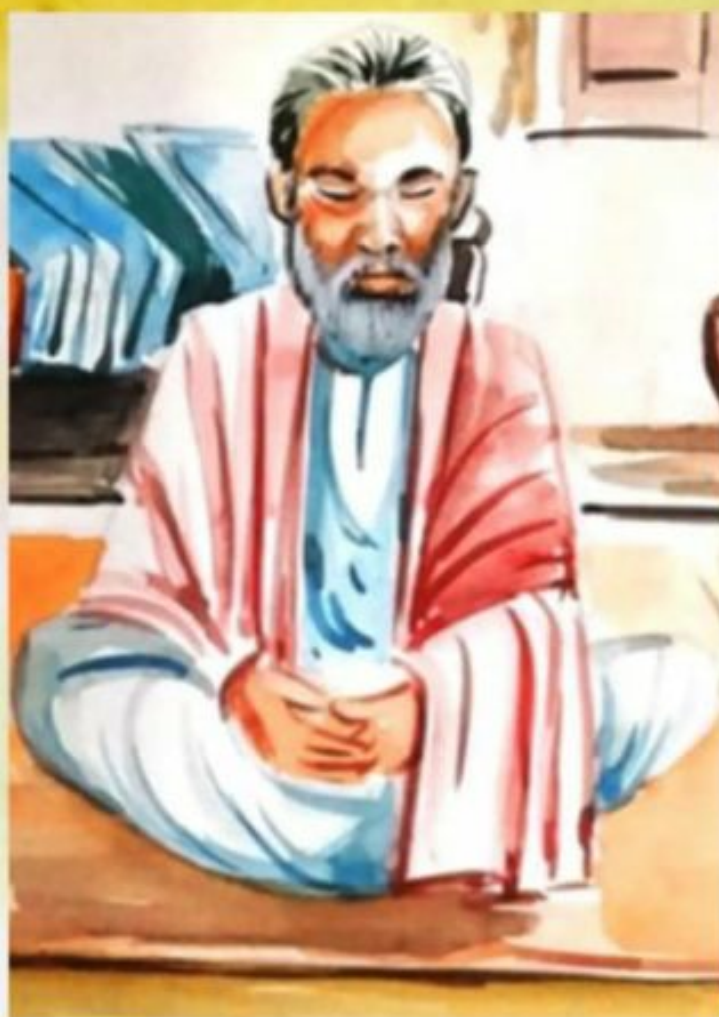
- 1) permanent bodily ailment
- 2) financial stringency and
- 3) nindak - one found fault with.



The real sadhana is to balance the mind.



He held the opinion that the great miracle of a saint was to transform an animal man into a perfect man.

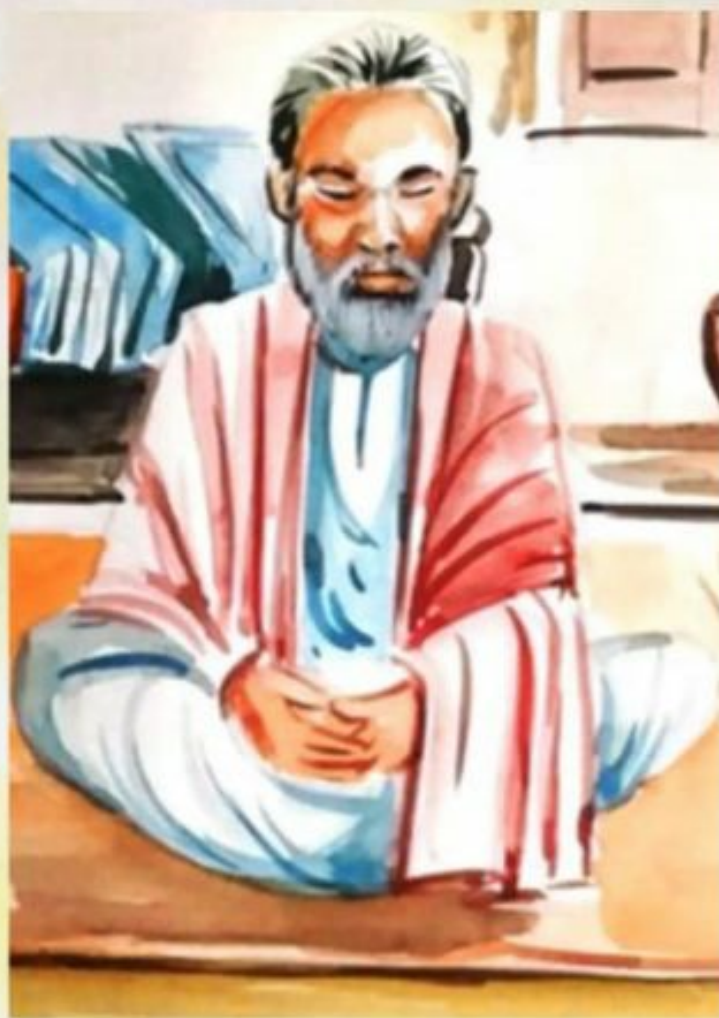


In his serious illness, he felt heart rending pangs of love for God.

He would say "As the coveted hour of merger with the beloved gets nearer, so increases the fire of desire of him".

A few days before His Maha Samadhi he said, "Many liberated souls are present around my bed. This is sure proof that the hour to be with my beloved is come."

*Great Master who was a prodigy of Nature,
the Ultimate Reality...*



brought back to humanity the long forgotten
art of transmission of the Upanishadic
pranasya pranah.

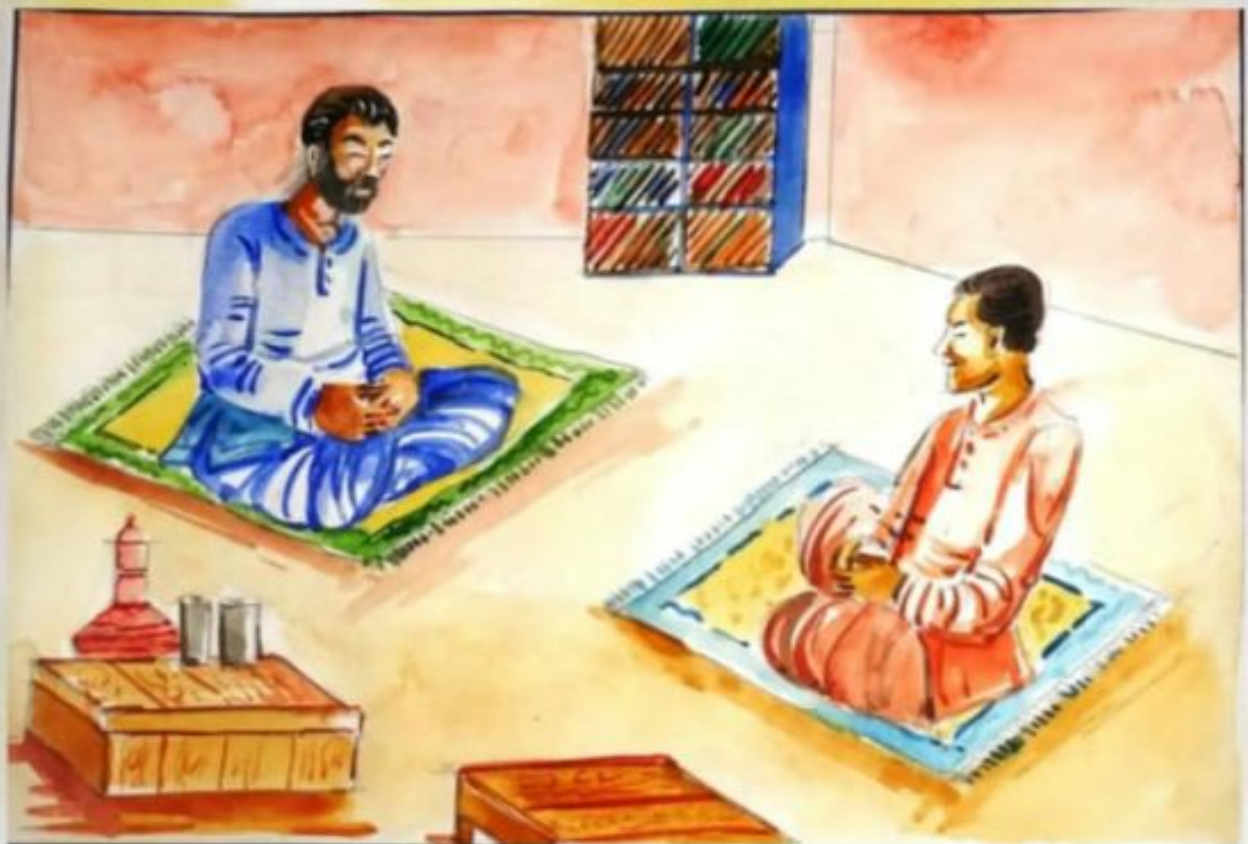
He worked out a novel method of spiritual
training which significantly relieves the
practicant of the struggle for spiritual
elevation.



He always advised to cleanse our manas (mind) with practice and sadhana and then read, otherwise Reality will be lost upon you.

He advised to avoid becoming a Master and serve as a servant should.

Pranahuti



With him dawned the new era of yogic training through transmission of which he was the Master.

He could bring a man to perfection simply at a glance. It was he who made it possible that a man could attain perfection in one life - rather a part of it - leading just a normal family life.

He simplified the method of spiritual training to a great extent and adjusted it to suit the requirements of time.

In the end he was attacked by diarrhoea and consequently became so very weak that he could not walk by himself. On 14th August, 1931, the day of leaving his mortal remains, he came to the puja room unaided, and all by himself lay on his bed with his eyes closed, never to be opened again.



At 1 a.m. in the night, the light, which had illuminated and enlightened the hearts of groaning humanity with unparalleled love and had changed the face of the earth, allowed itself to be extinguished.

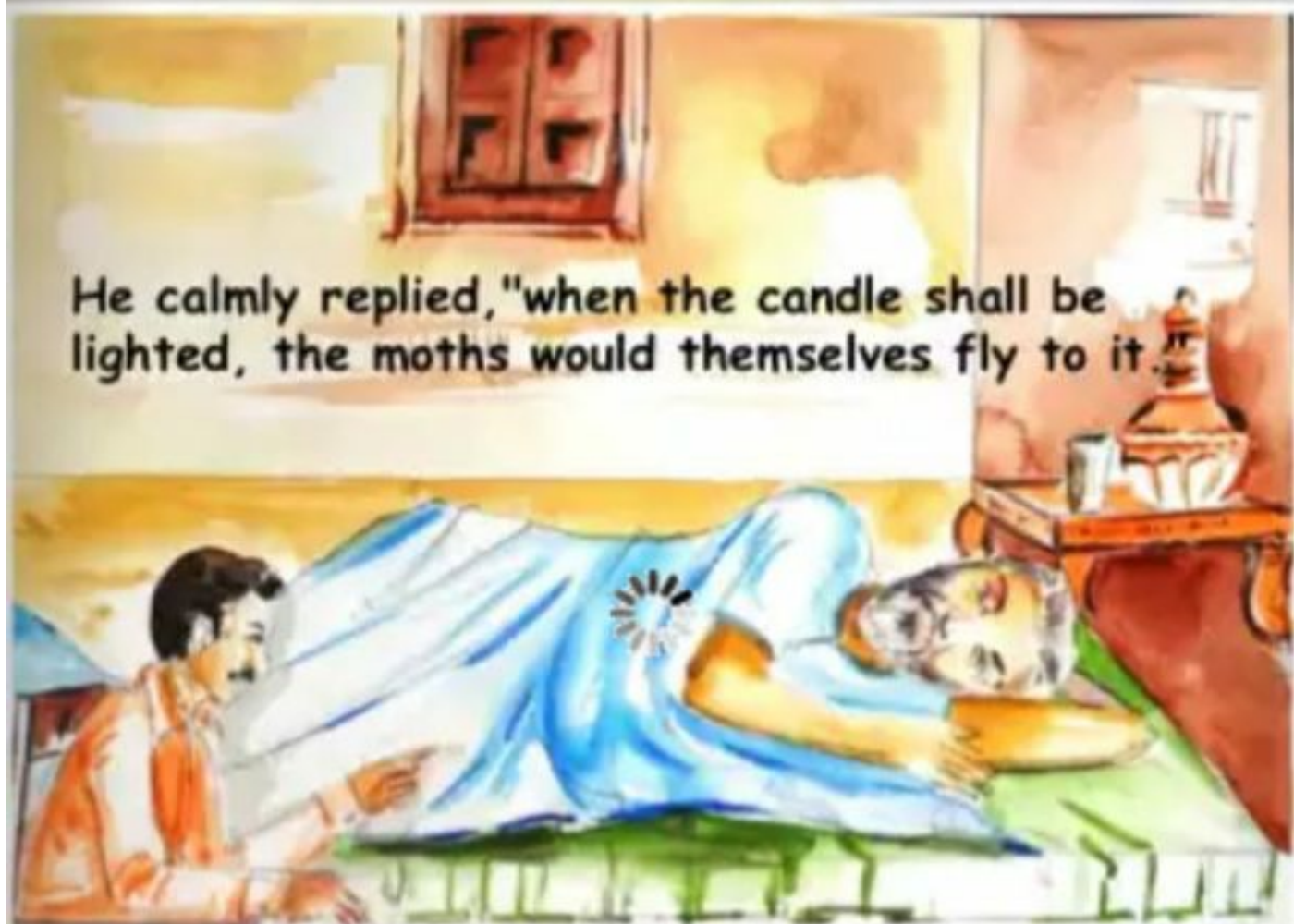


Sri Ram Chandra Maharaj (Babuji)
of Shahjahanpur, UP India

The greatest miracle of Revered Lalaji is perfection of Pujya Babuji's grand personality which is unparalleled in the history of spiritual development. His researches and discoveries in the field will be regarded as wonderful and superb and shall remain a subject of further researches for centuries. Only posterity will be able to assess and evaluate the boons bestowed upon humanity by Him.

When he fell seriously ill, some of his disciples including Sri Jagdambika Prasad inquired him about his representative.

He calmly replied, "when the candle shall be lighted, the moths would themselves fly to it."




On another occasion, Sri Madan Mohal Lal of Shahjahanpur (U.P) asked the same question, Lalaji smiled and said "Ram Chandra will be the light of the family (Ram Chandra Chirag -e- khandan hoga)."

On another occasion, Pandit Ganga Sewak put the same question and Revered Lalaji said to him "I am leaving my representative and he will himself appear."

Revered Lalaji Maharaj did not like...



Showing off

 *breaking promises*




playing cards



smoking



Teachings of Revered Lalaji Maharaj

- He taught, "Never offer advice unless invited, otherwise it is likely to yield bad results. If you find any fault with anybody, pray for his freedom from it."
- He always advised reduction of wants. He would say "Do not purchase a new thing if you can manage to carry on with your old belongings." 
- He was not against earning money by honest means, but insisted on spending it on others.
- He considered love to be the greatest tapas. He attached great importance to prayer, but it is not to be for material gain. He himself constantly prayed for the soul of this world.
- Self praise was disliked by him, so he did not allow people to touch his feet in order to pay respects to him.
- He was very particular regarding moral conduct.

Revered Lalaji Maharaj did not like...



Rituals



*Spending more
money on
ceremonial
occasions*



*Japa tapa and
idol worship*



Sri Ram Chandra Ji Maharaj (Babuji)
of Shahjahanpur, UP India

Sri Ram Chandra Ji Maharaj (Babuji) of Shahjahanpur, UP, India, the ablest disciple of the Adi-Guru, adhered to the discipline enforced by his Master. He used to send his diary narrating his spiritual experiences and his state to his Master.

One night Pujya Babuji saw his Master in a dream. He saw that his Master merged in him and said "I became you and you became me, I became body and you became soul, so that after this none could say that I and you were different". Pujya Babuji wrote this down in his autobiography.

**Attention should be only on
God and none else.**



**Samarth Guru Mahatma
Sri Ram Chandraji Maharaj
Of Fatehgarh (U.P.)**