SHIKHARJI AT SIDDHACHALAM

Be Remembered By Present and Future Generations

Help Bring Shikharji Darshan and Yatra Experience To America

शिखरजी दर्शन अने यात्रा अनुभव अने साधक बनो
अमेरिकामध्ये लाव्या साधक बनो
शिखरजी दर्शन और यात्रा के अनुभव और भाव
cो अमेरिका लाने के साधक बनें

First Event of Shikharji at Siddhachalam

Bhoomi Pujan & Khanan

August 28-29, 2010


Visit Today:
WWW.SHIKHARJIATSIDDHACHALAM.ORG
or call (908) 362-9793
Model marble Tonk and plaque installed at Siddhachalam.

30 such Tonks will be installed on the 120-acre land in the layout that exists at Shikharji.

Bhoomi Pujan (purification of ground) and Khanan (ground-breaking) is the first event for Shikharji at Siddhachalam.

If you wish to give our future generations an opportunity to better know and relate with their rich heritage, now is the time to donate generously.

**Help bring the joy of teerth darshan to America**

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**Sakal Sangh is Respectfully Requested to Save the Dates**

**August 28-29, 2010, for the Auspicious Occasion of Bhoomi Pujan & Khanan of Shikharji at Siddhachalam**
SHIKHARJI AT SIDDHACHALAM

Shikharji is called Teerthraj, the foremost Jain place of pilgrimage. Twenty of the 24 Tirthankars of the current avasarpini attained moksha here. So did countless others.

We have an extraordinary and rare opportunity to create a complete replication of Shikharji in America at your teerth and give our future generations a heritage to be proud of.

Bhoomi Pujan and Khanan, August 28-29, 2010

Donation and Details

Donation for Bhoomi Pujan (purification of ground): U.S. $1,008
Donation for Khanan/ khaat mahurat (ground-breaking): U.S. $1,008

- All are cordially invited to be part of this historic occasion
- All donors will perform Bhoomi Pujan/ Khanan
- Names of all donors will be engraved in marble at Siddhachalam, recognized at samaroh and announced by Siddhachalam
- All donors will be honored with commemorative souvenir for their contribution to the world’s first complete replication of Teerthraj Shikharji
- Please see FAQs inside for more details

* See overleaf for Hindi and Gujarati translations

Siddhachalam logo above is taken from a stained glass window in the main temple and visually presents Hreem, Om and Arhum. In the background are shown two sadhvijis on way to Shri Parasnath Tonk at Shikharji
सिद्धाचलम् में शिखरजी

श्री शिखरजी सभी तीर्थों में तीर्थराज है। वर्तमान अवसरपिणी के चौबीस तीर्थकरों में से चौबीस ने यहाँ मोक्ष प्राप्त किया। और भी अनंतिक गिरींदों को श्री शिखरजी से मोक्ष की प्राप्ति हुई थी।

हम सब को यह अद्वितीय और सुनहरा अवसर मिला है कि हम मिलकर यहाँ शिखरजी की सम्पूर्ण प्रतिकृति बनायें। और अपनी भावी पीठियों को यह सांस्कृतिक विरासत दे।

भूमि पूजन एवम् खनन्, शनीवार-रविवार, अगस्त 28-29, 2010

दान एवम् अन्य विवरण

• इस ऐतिहासिक महापर्व पर आपको और सकल संघ को हार्दिक आमंत्रण है।
• भूमि पूजन (भूमि की शुद्धि) हेतु दान राशि: डालर ६,००८ ($1,008)
• खनन् हेतु दान राशि: डालर ६,००८ ($1,008)
• सभी दानवीर तथा उनके परिवारजन भूमि पूजन और खनन् का लाभ ले पायेंगे।
• सभी दानवीरों के नाम सिद्धाचलम् तीर्थ में संगमरमर पर उत्कीर्ण किये जायेंगे।
• समारोह में सम्मानित किये जायेंगे एवम् सिद्धाचलम द्वारा घोषित किये जायेंगे।
• विश्व के प्रथम तीर्थराज शिखरजी की पूर्ण प्रतिकृति के शुभ अवसर पर सभी दानवीरों को उनके योगदान के लिये स्मारिका से सम्मानित किया जायेगा।
• अधिक जानकारी, रहने की या अन्य विशेष व्यवस्था के लिए पृष्ठ १६-१७ पर दिए गए 'अवसर किये गए सवाल' (FAQs) कृपया देखें।

Photo: Main Pratimaji at Shri Parasnath Temple in Siddhachalam is in the Digambar tradition
સિદ્ધાયલમ પાણે શિબરજ્જ

શ્રી શિબરજ્જ તમામ તીર્થોમાં તીર્થરાજ છે. વાતમાન આરામાં ૨૪ માસથી વીઝ તીર્થરાજે અભિ મેલક પ્રાપ્ત કર્યો છે. તે જ પ્રમાણે અંશભાંદાય અન્ય સિદ્ધાયલમ પણ અભિ મેલક પ્રાપ્ત કરવે છે આપણને આ સુવારાં અવસર મળયો છે કે આપણે મળને સિદ્ધાયલમમાં શ્રીશિબરજ્જ ની સંપૂર્ણ પ્રતિક્રિયા બનાવીને લાભ પેદિયે સંસ્કૃતિક વાર્તાઓ આપીને પ્રીત કરશે, તેવી લાભ પેદી ખૂબ અનુભવ કરી શકીશે।

ભૂમી પુજન અને ભાત મુક્ત, ઓગસ્ટ ૨૮-૨૯, ૨૦૧૦ (શનિવાર, રવિવાર)

દાન અને વિગતો

ભૂમી પુજન (ધરતીનું શુભ્રક્રમ) માટેનું દાન: યુ.યુ.એસ. $૧,૦૦૮

ભાત મુક્ત (ભૂમી-લંબા) માટેનું દાન: યુ.યુ.એસ. $૯,૦૦૮

• આ વૈશ્વિક મહાપાર પર આપ લોને અને પરિવારનો લાભ અંતિક આભાર છે
• તમામ દાખલો ભૂમી પુજન/ભાત મુક્તનો લાભ તાજ શકે છે
• તમામ દાખલાઓના નામ સિદ્ધાયલમ પાણે આરામાં કોલાજામાં આવશે, સમારોહમાં સમાધાન કરવા આવશે અને સિદ્ધાયલમ દ્વારા જીતે કરવામાં આવશે
• તીર્થરાજ શિબરજ્જની વિશ્વની અદાવાય સંભવ્ય સંપૂર્ણ પ્રતિક્રિયા માટે પોતાની કાંઢી આપવા બદલ દેક દાખલોને આ પ્રતિક્રિયા ઉજવાની સંભાવનાઓના સંભાવનામાં આવશે
• દવિધુ મહિતી માટે ફયાં ૧૫-૧૭ પર આપેલ "વાર્તા પુષ્કલાતા સવાલ (FAQ)" જેવી વિનંતિ

Photo: Pratimaji of Shri Parasnath Bhagwan in Main Temple is in Shvetambar tradition
Shikharji at Siddhachalam

By Jaipat Singh Jain

Jai Jinendra. Many Jains are unable to undertake journeys to places of pilgrimage. This is more so for those outside India. As visits become infrequent, and future generations of Jains grow up away from India, so might understanding and bhava ("feeling") associated with pilgrimage.

Teerthraj Shikharji in Parasnath Hills in Giridih, Jharkhand, is the place where 20 of the 24 Tirthankars of the current avasarpini and countless others attained nirvana. It has marble tonks at each of the spots where our 20 Tirthankars, four shashvat Jina and two ganadhars are thought to have attained nirvana. In addition, it has tonks in honor of the other Tirthankars, a Jal Mandir and Bhomiyaji temple (see inside for layout and details).

Shikharji is the loftiest Jain teerth. As recently explained by a Jain muni: “When just one auspicious event of one Tirthankar can convert a place into a pilgrimage, it will be quite impossible for human intelligence to assess the holiness and power of that pilgrimage where as many as twenty Tirthankars have lit-up the inextinguishable light of nirvana. Although the first light of nirvana was lit-up in Ashtapad (in the Himalayas), today that pilgrimage is invisible to us. Under such a circumstance, Sammet Shikhar is that pilgrimage which we can hail as the “Shikhar” (summit) of the first light of nirvana.”

For a variety of reasons, however, including remote location and difficult terrain, Shikharji is visited less frequently by some.

Siddhachalam Jain Tirth, the world’s first teerth outside India, has embarked on complete, scaled, replication of Shikharji’s Tonks, Jal Mandir and Bhomiyaji temple.

Deer and other animal life are protected at Siddhachalam. Each year, Siddhachalam distributes nearly 25,000 pounds of corn for deer and other animals during winters.

Siddhachalam is uniquely placed to undertake this task.

A transcript of a lecture given by Acharya Sushil Kumarji Maharaj ("Guruji") that is available at Siddhachalam’s front desk is entitled “When I was Fourteen or Fifteen.” In the lecture, Guruji reminiscences a dialogue he once had with his spiritual Guru, Roopchandji.
Roopchandji Maharaj asked Guruji his purpose in life.

Guruji recalls having said that it was two-fold: to be a perfect yogi, and to build many temples. As is testified by the countless legends of his life, Guruji was a perfect yogi. And Siddhachalam, Guruji said, was the place he saw in his vision when a child.

Upon founding Siddhachalam, Guruji said that one of its purpose was to replicate Shikharji and four other teerths. Later, shortly before he left for devlok, he caused Siddhachalam to acquire an adjoining property so that it may have in the future a direct entrance from the north. That action was prophetic.

If the map of Shikharji is condensed in scale and then superimposed over the map of Siddhachalam by aligning the north entrance of Siddhachalam with the entrance of Shikharji, one finds that the Jal Mandir of Shikharji sits on the old spring house located at Siddhachalam. The spring house is a perennial source of natural water. Furthermore, almost all of the 30 Tonks of Shikharji get spread on our nature and meditation trails as if a near mirror image.

The layout of Siddhachalam mirrors the layout of Teerthraj Shikharji’s 30 Tonks and Jal Mandir

Siddhachalam is blessed to bring Shikharji darshan experience to America. Shikharji at Siddhachalam will enable our future generations to preserve and better share and relate with their rich heritage.

The 30 Tonks at Siddhachalam will be in white marble and accompanied by a marble plaque. Each Tonk will have details of the Siddha represented and the marble plaque will have details of the donors. See Shikharji and Siddhachalam map inside. Siddhachalam welcomes you to your teerth.

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1 Nirvana means liberation from the cycle of death and rebirth. Avasarpini means the regressive half of the current cycle of time (“kalpa”).
2 Shashvat means eternal. Jina is a synonym for a Tirthankar. Ganadharas are direct disciples of Tirthankars.
3 A teerth is often a place made auspicious by a significant event in the life of a great soul.
4 Mahapadhyaya Lalitprabh Sagar ji, Jain Pilgrimages, Reverence and Art, Prakrit Bharti Academy, Jit-Yasha Foundation, Jaipur, 2000.
5 Guruji joined Chotelalji Maharaj, a Jain monk, when he was 7-years-old and became a monk when he was 15.
6 Roop Chandji Maharaj left his body more than 100 years ago. He was a great yogi and enlightened master in the family of monks to which Guruji belonged. He was Guruji’s spiritual guru and communicated with Guruji in spirit during meditation.
7 Guruji was a monk in the Jain sthanakvasi tradition. Sthanskvasi reject the veneration of images. Guruji, however, was an iconoclast in the tradition of great reformers. He focused on the foundational principles of Jain dharma rather than differences among faiths. He shared with all the message of the Jinas, particularly ahimsa and anekantavada (perception, according to this doctrine, depends on standpoint) and held that peace and respect for environment was essential to mankind’s survival. Siddhachalam is an ashram for all who respect the message of the Jinas.
8 The Shvetambar Jain Society of Shikharji has pledged to sponsor the first Tonk.
This is likely the most authentic map of Shikharji’s Tonks today. It was commissioned by Siddhachalam in 2009 and has been prepared by well-known cartographers, Maps of India, and confirmed by satellite image, personal visit of informed Jains and review of literature.

The 30 Tonks of Shikharji, Jal Mandir and Bhomiyaji are identified here. Below is a complete list:

1. Shri Gautam Swami
2. Shri Kunturath Prabhu
3. Shasthwat Jin Shri Rishban Prabhu
4. Shasthwat Jin Chandran Prabhu
5. Shri Naminath Prabhu
6. Shri Arnath Prabhu
7. Shri Mallinath Prabhu
8. Shri Shreyansnath Prabhu
9. Shri Suvidhinath Prabhu
10. Shri Padam Prabhu
11. Shri Munievrat Prabhu
12. Shri Chandrav Prabhu
13. Shri Adinath Prabhu
14. Shri Anantnath Prabhu
15. Shri Sheetalnath Prabhu
16. Shri Sambhavnath Prabhu
17. Shri Vasupuja Prabhu
18. Shri Abhinanam Prabhu
19. Shri Shubh Swami Ghandhar
20. Jal Mandir
21. Shri Dharamnath Prabhu
22. Shasthwat Jin Shri Vardhan Prabhu
23. Shasthwat Jin Shri Varisn Prabhu
24. Shri Surmatnath Prabhu
25. Shri Shantnath Prabhu
26. Shri Mahavir Prabhu
27. Shri Suparasakavnath Prabhu
28. Shri Virmatnath Prabhu
29. Shri Ajjanth Prabhu
30. Shri Neminath Prabhu
31. Shri Parahavnav Prabhu
Map of Siddhachalam with the proposed tonks.

The tonks (and Jal Mandir) are identified by numbers 1 through 31. Below is a complete list.

1. Shri Gautam Swami
2. Shri Kunthunath Prabhu
3. Shashvat Jin Shri Rishbhanan Prabhu
4. Shashvat Jin Chandranan Prabhu
5. Shri Naminath Prabhu
6. Shri Arnath Prabhu
7. Shri Mallinath Prabhu
8. Shri Shreyansnath Prabhu
9. Shri Suvidhinnath Prabhu
10. Shri Padam Prabhu
11. Shri Munisuvrat Prabhu
12. Shri Chandra Prabhu
13. Shri Adinath Prabhu
14. Shri Anantnath Prabhu
15. Shri Sheetalnath Prabhu
16. Shri Sambhavnath Prabhu
17. Shri Vasupujya Prabhu
18. Shri Abhinandan Prabhu
19. Shri Shubh Swami
20. Jal Mandir
21. Shri Dhamannath Prabhu
22. Shashvat Jin Shri Vardhman Prabhu
23. Shashvat Jin Shri Varishen Prabhu
24. Shri Sumatinath Prabhu
25. Shri Shantinath Prabhu
26. Shri Mahavir Swami
27. Shri Suparshavnath Prabhu
28. Shri Vimalnath Prabhu
29. Shri Ajitnath Prabhu
30. Shri Neminath Prabhu
31. Shri Parshavnath Prabhu

Map also shows Siddhachalam’s 11 nature and meditation trails spread over nearly 3 miles. One of the trails contains a life-size pratima of Acharya Sushil Kumarji close to the spot where he did meditation. These trails were rededicated and Guruji’s tapasya sthal identified and opened to all in August 2008. In 2009, over 15,000 yatri visited Siddhachalam.
Thank you

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Asha & Samir Gupta
Shashidhar & Nehal Hiremath
Shailendra & Ruchika Jain
Ramesh & Kanta Jain
Sultan S. & Usha Jain
Vikram & Ncei Jain
Mayank & Priti Jain
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Akhil & Renuka Jain
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Vatsaraj & Seema Kaushik
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Mukund N. & Dhira Mehta
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Preyas & Snehal Shah
Naresh R. & Murdula Shah
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Sanjay & Nipa Shah
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Amit & Meghana Bhaiya
Yashwant & Preeti Chaudhary
Popat & Prafula Gala
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Shanti & Kusum Parakh
Sachin Somaia
Vinod Jain
Hemraj & Anjana Porwal

This list is dated July 6, 2010. Names in order of financial contribution.

*Pledged
I want to help bring Shikharji darshan experience to America!

हलनी अने भावि पेठी द्वारा तम्भारी गणना शाख अने तये थाक रहो. तेम करो मै शिखरजी दर्शन को अमेरिका मे साकार कराना चाहता हूँ।

***

Please tear along the marked line after filling in the form and mail it with your kind checks NOW.

Your participation and support is much appreciated.

हुऍ पर्ने आ पत्रक करीने विश्वानी बैती लीडी तेने शाय पन्ने अने तम्भारी थेंध सधेत तेने हस्ता ज तथापत्रांचा स्वादन करो. तम्भारी सहयोगिता अने टेकरी होषी केहर करास प्यार ङ्चे.

कृपया फर्म भरकर अपना चैक संलगन करके हमें नीचे दिए पते पर भेजें।

Siddhachalam
65 Mud Pond Road
Blairstown, NJ 07825, USA

Questions or comments?
Please contact any Project Lead on last page. Or Siddhachalam: (908) 362-9793
or Jaipat Singh Jain
president@siddhachalam.org (908) 887-0814

Dear Siddhachalam:

I would like to be counted as one who helped make Shikharji at Siddhachalam.

Enclosed please find my tax-deductible donation for:
Bhoomi Pujan ($1,008) x ______ : $__________
Khanan ($1,008) x ______ : $__________
Other: $__________
Total: $__________
Check No. __________ Dated: __________

All checks are to be made in the name of Siddhachalam Jain Tirth. For credit card payments, please visit www.siddhachalam.org

I will join for Bhoomi Pujan/ Khanan on Aug. 28-29, 2010.

Number of persons: ____________
Arrival Date: ____________
Departure Date: ____________

Name of Donor: __________________________
Spouse/ Mother’s name: __________________________
Address: __________________________________
__________________________________________
City, State, Zip, Country: __________________________
Telephone: ____________
Email: ____________
Comments, if any: __________________________

Date:______ Signature: __________________________
I would like to be a Sponsor* for:
(check as applicable):

- 28th Breakfast: $1,101
- 28th Lunch: $2,101
- 28th Dinner: $2,101
- 29th Breakfast: $1,501
- 29th Lunch: $2,501
- 29th Snacks & dinner: $2,101

I would like to volunteer for the following activities (check as applicable):

- Help with Pujan on 28th
- Help with Pujan on 29th
- On-site Printing Work on 28th night
- Serving:
  - Lunch on 28th
  - Dinner on 28th
  - Breakfast on 29th
  - Lunch on 29th
- Bhakti on 28th evening
- Handling Audio Equipment
- Handling Video Equipment
- Photography
- Report-writing
- Parking Help
- Help with Transportation
- Logistics at Tonks
- Cultural Program on 28th evening

Siddhachalam is managed by International Mahavira Jain Mission, a religious, tax-exempt, entity founded in 1983. Contributions for Bhoomi Pujan/ Kahanan are tax-deductible only in the United States.

Please make checks payable to Siddhachalam. Donations in cash may be made in person at Siddhachalam or after prior written approval of Siddhachalam. Tax-exempt receipt is provided by Siddhachalam for all donations.

This newsletter has been distributed to selected persons who are either existing donors or yatris to Siddhachalam. It is for your and your extended family's information only. It is not a solicitation where such solicitation are not permitted.

*Sponsors’ names will be duly recognized and displayed at the auspicious event and in announcements.
Picture of Main Temple at Siddhachalam Jain Tirth. Siddhachalam is an ashram and teerth for all Jains.

Event Leadership & Management

Siddhachalam gratefully acknowledges the guidance and help of all, including the following, for Bhoomi Pujan & Khanan:

**Vidhi Vidhan:**
Manojji Haran
Narendrabhai Nandu
Swami Devendra Kirtiji

**Community Leadership:**
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Chandrakantbhai Mehta
Jawaharbhai Shetti
Ashokbhai Shah
Kalpanaben Gandhi
Rashmibhai Shah
Meebaben Shah
Sheilaben Parekh
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Shirish Patrawalla
Sanjay Jain
Vivek Jain
Rashmi Jain
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Vallabkar Karni

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Mukesh Somani
Chandni Jain
Monica Gupta
Ira Jain
Sonia Jain
Moolchand Momaya

**Site Planning & Management:**
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Vachaspati Sharma
Bajrang Joshi
Apurva Shah
Ankit Bhojak
Paras Vakheria
Siddharth Jain
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Vishnu Joshi

**Newsletter Credits:**
*Translation:*
Dharm Jain, Birju & Tulsi Patel, Mukesh Mehta, Sanjay Jain, Rashmi Jain
*Pictures: Shikharji (Vivek Jain), Guruji (Kathy Kellogg McAdow), Trails (Vishnu Joshi)*
Others: Jaipat Singh Jain
Bhoomi Pujan & Khanan FAQ

Q. When is bhoomi pujan and khanan?
A. August 28-29, 2010. (Paryushanji start next weekend)

What is bhoomi pujan and khanan?
Bhoomi pujan is purification of ground and khanan is ground-breaking

What is the program for August 28-29?
August 28 program will comprise morning pujas followed by swamivatsalya. The next event would be Shikharji Mahapujan of all 30 Siddhas starting at 1:30 pm. This will be followed by bhakti, vyakhaan and cultural program etc. August 29 program will comprise bhoomi pujan vidhi vidhan, and other community events. These will start around 8:00 am and continue until late afternoon. Invitation cards for the event will have definitive program.

How many donors can do Bhoomi Pujan/ Khanan per Tonk?
There is no limitation on number of donors per Tonk

Does every donor get a chance to do bhoomi pujan / khanan?
Absolutely. If one has made the $1,008 donation for bhoomi pujan, one will be able to perform bhoomi pujan. Same for khanan

Why is the amount for bhoomi pujan / khanan $1,008?
We received many suggestions. It was felt that Guruji would have wanted wide participation. Accordingly, the sum of $1,008 was fixed so that a large number of donors will have the opportunity to participate in this auspicious and historic event

Can I donate for bhoomi pujan or khanan for more than one Tonk?
Yes, you can donate for as many tonks you want by donating $1,008 for each pujan or khanan

Where will I do bhoomi pujan / khanan ?
Bhoomi pujan / khanan will be performed at the site of the proposed 30 Tonks. There will be held a lottery to decide the Tonk for which you will do bhoomi pujan / khanan. The first round of lottery for assignment of tonks will be held and results announced at Siddhachalam on August 28th, 4:00 pm.

Will bhoomi pujan and khanan be held at the site of each Tonk?
Yes, they will be held at the proposed site of each Tonk in groups
Will the name of every donor be engraved at Siddhachalam?
Absolutely, yes. If one donates at least $1,008 for bhoomi pujan/ khanan. Our objective is to encourage future generations to follow the example set by this so they are encouraged to donate for good causes. Replicating our most important teerth in North America at Siddhachalam is a worthy cause

How will the names be engraved?
The names will be engraved in a plaque at a prominent place at Siddhachalam. We hope to engrave them in marble

How many names will be engraved?
Two names per donor. Two names may include any family member or friend

Will donors for bhoomi pujan and khanan get souvenir to memorialize the event?
Yes. These would be presented on August 29, 2010, at 8:30 am

Pictures show Shikharji trails and two Sadhvijis at a Tonk

Will Siddhachalam help arrange accommodation for out of town donors?
Siddhachalam will help make arrangements, including with neighborhood hotels at negotiated group rates. Please contact stay@siddhachalam.org for further information.

Can one donate any amount or must every contribution be at least $1,008?
Contribution for bhoomi pujan/ khanan is $1,008. However, one can donate any amount for the Shikharji at Siddhachalam project. Every dollar is important and appreciated. We will recognize all contributions

How can one sponsor a tonk? Will it be by ghee boli, fixed amount (nakra) or some other method?
We have 30 tonks. Some tonks will be dedicated by ghee boli, some through wide participation under a lottery plan, and some others opened for sponsorship for a fixed sum. The idea is to give each donor the best chance to help bring the bhava of Shikharji darshan to America

Tell us more.
We are touched by the joyful expressions of interests to sponsor tonks or be instrumental in pratishtha. We will announce details as soon as they are finalized, possibly at bhoomi pujan. Please make sure that you are at Siddhachalam on August 29 morning to take laabhb

Will we have other opportunities to contribute on 28th and 29th?
Yes, there will be bolis and nakra for pujas, aarti, mangal devo and other events on August 28th as well as 29th
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Jaipat Singh Jain  
Vice Chairman & President  
(908) 887-0814  
president@siddhachalam.org

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All Credit Cards Accepted. Foreign Donors: Wire transfer instructions available upon request.  
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65 Mud Pond Road
Blairstown, NJ 07825, USA
(908) 362-9793
For directions, information:
www.siddhachalam.org

Siddhachalam is spread over 120-acres and comprises temples, library, congregation halls, cabins, dedicated residence for sadhus and sadhavijis, natural spring water ponds, nature and meditation trails. etc. It is uniquely placed to replicate Shikharji darshan and yatra experience. Join us on August 28-29, 2010

Shikharji darshan and yatra is an experience of a lifetime