



Indian Diaspora Council®

Indian Diaspora Council International

Shared heritage, aspirations, and interests

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PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

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Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Flushing, New York, on August 4, 2024

The Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC) congratulates BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Flushing on its 50th Golden Jubilee Celebrations. This significant day commemorates August 4, 1974, when the BAPS organization was initially registered as a non-profit organization under US Law as BSS (Bochasanwasi Swaminarayan Sanstha).



*In the joy of others lies our own
In the progress of others rests our own
In the good of others abides our own –*



**His Holiness
Parmukh Swami Maharaj**

On June 7th, 1974, Pujya Parmukh Swami Maharaj, along with 11 sadhus, graced the land of America. Swami Shri's tour gave a tremendous impact on the growth of *satsang* (Sanskrit: सत्सङ्ग, '*the company of truth*'). IDC recognizes that BAPS Flushing Mandir has served as a beacon of faith, service, and unity for the past five decades. Through initiatives such as health fairs and disaster relief, the Mandir has nurtured spiritual growth and fostered community engagement. To commemorate its 50th anniversary, **NY50**, the mandir is proud to publish a commemorative book that showcases its journey and contributions. BAPS Flushing is honored to celebrate its Golden Jubilee on August 24-25th and September 7-8th, 2024.

Hilary Clinton, Former Secretary of State, Democratic Nominee for President of the United States: "*Pramukh Swami didn't just teach values – he lived them every day. That's what made him a Guru to millions of devotees around the world.*"

Hon. Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India: "*HH Pramukh Swami Maharaj was a mentor to me. I will never forget my interactions with him...a stalwart among humans who embodied compassion & humility.*"

RT. Hon. Theresa May MP, Prime Minister of Great Britain: "*HH Pramukh Swami Maharaj exemplified the value of British Hindus whose contribution helps make the UK one of the world's most successful, multi-cultural, multi-faith democracies.*"

"As the **IDC** reflects on the enduring legacy of BAPS, it is imperative that we embrace and propagate the guiding principle of his Holiness HH Pramukh Swami Maharaj '*in the joy of others lies our own.*' This profound ethos encapsulates a vision for societal progress that transcends individual interest and fosters collective wellbeing."

- Dr. Nicole Bissessar, Director of Community Cultural Affairs, Indian Diaspora Council

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Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC), established in 1997, is an international non-profit organization with global affiliates and membership in 21 countries with the objective to embrace, engage and enhance the shared heritage, aspirations and interests of persons of Indian origin with optimum inclusivity.