



KASHMIRI PANDIT SANGARASH SAMITI

Sathu Barbar Shah, Srinagar, Kashmir (J&K) – 190001

e-mail: kpss.kashmir@gmail.com

PRESS RELEASE

20.01.2010

(Opening of Sheetleshwar Bhairav Mandir, Sheetal Nath, Srinagar)

Today, the 20th day of January, 2010, is a historical day for the Kashmiri Pandits living in the Valley by opening the Historical Temple and Centre of the Community Activities after the gap of 21 years to celebrate 'Basant Panchami' an auspicious day in Holy Month Maagh (KP Calendar).

As all of you are aware that KPSS has taken the task to highlight the encroachment of temple/s properties by unscrupulous elements who are trying to be the custodians of these properties after the mass migration of Kashmiri Pandit Community in 1989, which is baseless, un-lawful and anti-religious in nature. Not only this the successive Governments as well as other local state political parties ignored our concern with respect to our identity and religious sentiments; **it seems that the leadership of these political parties and State as well as Central Government is penalize us (left out Kashmiri Pandits) because we did not chose to migrate from the Valley and stood with Muslim Majority Community in worst period of turmoil.**

After constant requests, memorandums, addressed to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Parliamentarians of Indian Parliament, Hon'ble Chief Minister of J&K, High Officials of the concerned Department and bureaucrats of the State to protect our identity i.e., our ancient Temples, Asthapans and Aashrams in the Valley. The step motherly treatment from these highest Constitutional Institutions of the Country as well as State has forced us to take all these socio-religious center alongwith their moveable / immoveable property in the hands of Kashmiri Pandit Sangarsh Samiti (KPSS) and today being the auspicious day of "Basant Panchami and Birth Day of Sheetleshwar Bhairav, Sheetal Nath, Sathu Barbar Shah, Srinagar" is start of this process.

Though it is not possible for this minuscule Kashmiri Pandit Community under the banner of "Kashmiri Pandit Sangarsh Samiti"



KASHMIRI PANDIT SANGARASH SAMITI

Sathu Barbar Shah, Srinagar, Kashmir (J&K) – 190001

e-mail: kpss.kashmir@gmail.com

to safeguard these temples after taking over, KPSS will take local inhabitants around these temples in confidence so that proper check and balance is maintained along with the protection of these Religious Centers from unscrupulous elements.

In coming days we are going to take other unattended temples in our control alongwith their properties with full co-operation from press and the Majority Community time to time; KPSS will again approach to the State Government through proper channel to investigate the misappropriation of temple properties and funds thereto. KPSS have already constituted a registered trust and managing committee of a temple in the City and shortly the Managing Committee so formed will take over the control of the temple. (The list of Managing Committee is enclosed).

Further, KPSS has constituted three member committee to approach the Managing Committees of Mosques, in the Valley to co-operate in the re-opening of these temples which includes the cleanliness and to restore the past glory of these temples. We are hopeful this time around the Majority Community will co-operate.

We are thankful to the people of Harvan for their cooperation to restore back the centuries old “Shumshan Bhoomi (Cremation Ground) back to the Community from the encroachers and expect the same will continue in future also.

Rattan Chaku
General Secretary

Sanjay K. Tickoo
President
9906564741

Dr. T. N. Ganjoo
Chairman