



of Manama Temple

● The Shri Krishna Hindu Temple has welcomed guests from many nationalities and all strata of society within its hallowed portals.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the formal beginning of the re-development of the temple of Shreenathji-the oldest in the Gulf region-in the wake of the auspicious festival of Janmash-tami. The Shri Krishna Hindu Temple in Bahrain has a long and vibrant history. Established about 200 years ago by the That-tai (Bhatia) Hindu Community, the temple is located in the heart of Manama Souq near Bab Al Bahrain.

The Thattai Bhatias, originally from Sind (in undivided India, presently in Pakistan), were one of the earliest expatriate communities to settle in Bahrain and set up business interests. They made Bahrain their home even before oil was discovered and in course of time, were joined by their families too. Being deeply devout and religious, they felt that a venue was required to facilitate the spiritual growth of the community and keep in touch with their cultural roots. This was the impetus behind the setting up of the Shri Krishna Hindu Temple which grew from humble beginnings. Evolving in infrastructure over the years, today the temple caters to the needs of the larger Hindu expatriate community for spiritual growth, social interactions, educational and other constructive activities.

The temple functions on the spiritual path of Pushti Marg (service to the Lord Krishna). Pushti Marg is a stream of Hinduism which was founded by Jagatguru Shreemad Val-labhacharya (Mahaprabhu-ji). The basic premise of this stream involves the offering of whole-hearted service to the Lord Shree Govardhan Nathji and Lord Shree Balkrishnaji (in-



Shree Krishna Temple in Manama.

carnation of Lord Vishnu in the form of an infant) by serving the Lord from morning to night according to a fixed schedule. The rationale behind this is to serve and care for the Lord just as a mother looks after her own child with selfless love and affection. The temple also undertakes celebration of major Hindu festivals, namely Holi (festival of colours), Diwali (festival of lights), Jan-mashtami (birth anniversary of Lord Krishna) etc.

The Shri Krishna Hindu Temple has welcomed guests from many nationalities and all strata of society within its hallowed portals. Being an ancient establishment, it has found its place

in the itinerary of the state's guests, spiritual leaders, celebrities, students, diplomats etc. 'We express our deep gratitude and salutations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander, the Government and the people of Bahrain who have always encouraged and extended their full support to our activities and allowing us to practice our religion and faith freely', Shrinathji (Hindu-Krishna) Temple officials said.



Former Singapore President S R Nathan during his visit to the temple.

towards cashless society

the National Payments Corporation of India



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