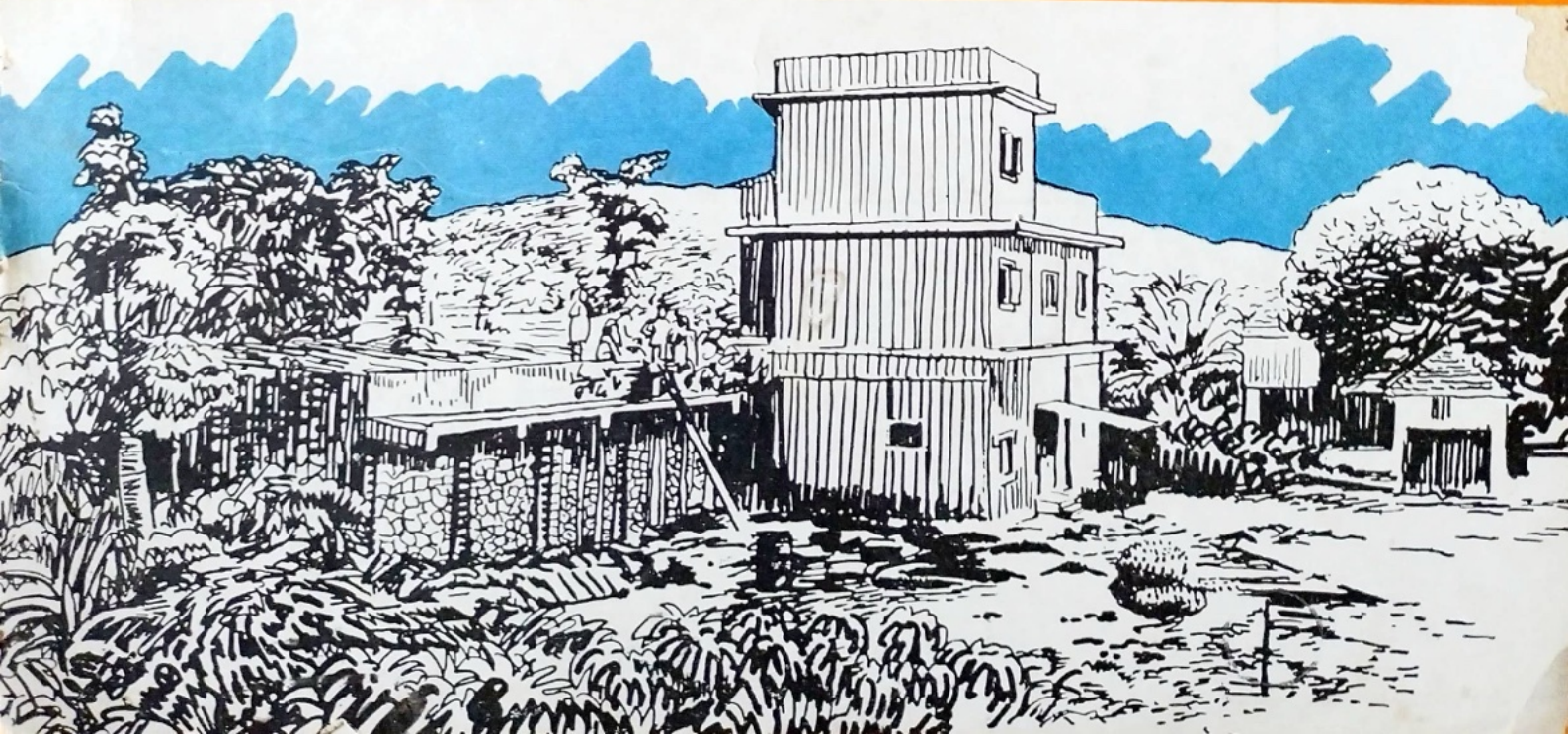


Shri Sant Sitarambuva Walawalkar Charitable Trust

3Shenviwadi, Bombay 400 004



—: विघ्न विनाशक :—

'श्री मंगल मुर्ति मोरया'



ॐकारस्वरूपा अनादी अनंता । तीनही जगतां तूंचि मूळ ॥
चारी वेदां मूळ तूंचि विश्वाधार । तुज नमस्कार सर्वभावें ॥
वेद प्रतिपादी तुज एकल्यासी । तुज तूं जाणसी स्वयमेव ॥
तूंचि बा गणेशु बुध्दिदाता एक । मतिप्रकाशक स्वयमेव ॥

SHRI SANT SITARAMBUA WALAWALKAR CHARITABLE TRUST APPEAL

The Divine is not extraneous to us. He ever resides in our hearts. On realising the Oneness with this Inner Divinity, we should discern 'Self' in every sentient being around us.

This has been eternally emphasised by the Holy Ones of this land—the Effulgent Spiritual Giants, whose devotion to the Divine and the Human was absolutely total. These Holy Ones had realised their Spiritual Oneness with each sentient being because of Self-Realisation, acquired through a total sacrifice of things material.

Rev. Saint Sitarambua Walawalkar was one of these self-realised persons who made his home in the village of Derwan near Chiplun in Ratnagiri District.

The purpose of his life was to offer untiring service, untinged with personal motive, to the destitute and indigent who found themselves entangled in hardships. This, too, he did with a spirit of perfect detachment.

The only form of worship he offered for his entire life-time was to discern Divinity in the destitute and indigent, amongst whom he lived and to serve them with total dedication.

It is because of this that Rev. Shri Vithalrao Joshi Maharaj regarded him with deep respect. Rev. Saint Shri Satarambua cast off his mortal coil on the 18th January 1969 at Derwan.

Rev. Shri Vithalrao Joshi Maharaj, Rev. Saint Sitarambua and the latter's spiritual mentor, Rev. Saint Shri Digambarbua Wahalkar were bound together with bonds of deep sympathy and affection.

In order to afford furtherance to the cause, which Rev. Saint Sitarambuwa served all his life and to perpetuate his memory. 'Shri Sant Sitarambua Walawalkar Charitable Trust' was formed, under the inspiration and able guidance offered by Rev. Shri Vithalrao Joshi Maharaj. The Trust intends to continue

॥ ॐ श्रीसद्गुरवेनमः ॥

श्रीतद्गुरुचरणरज विठ्ठल गणेश जोशीमहाराज

उर्फ दिगंबरदास



१९५१ सालापासून या संस्थेचे प्रवर्तक
सर्वभावें श्रीसद्गुरुचरणीं ।
समर्पिलें जीवन झणीं ।
त्यांहीं अहंकार स्वीकारोनी ।
चरणीं दिधला आश्रयो ॥ १ ॥
आतां सकल जीवोपकारा ।
उरलों अवनीवरी खरा ।
ठावितां सद्गुरु वासुदेवानंत बरा ।
स्व-स्वरूप सांप्रदायी ॥ २ ॥
सकळीकांचे जीवन । सुखी होवोनीयां पूर्ण ।
घडो जीवांसी श्रीहरी भजन ।
मोक्ष सुखी वाढो आस्था ॥ ३ ॥

श्रीसद्गुरुचरणरज वि. ग. जोशी

the work of Rev. Saint Sitarambua for the very people of the extremely backward region, amongst whom he spent his life of total dedication.

The saintly Shri Vithalrao Joshi Maharaj is regarded as a Spiritual authority in the cult of Guru Dattatreya. When the basic needs for leading a life of peace, contentedness and health are satisfied, one acquires leisure for contemplation and for investigation into the real purpose of life on earth.

It is with this basic idea that Rev. Shri Vithalrao Joshi Maharaj has set out in life for propogation of spiritual philosophy. The Trust has been established on this basis.

The Trust was conceived so as to provide educational and medical facilities to the educationally and economically backward residents of the precincts of Derwan and its surrounding villages, which was the field of activity of the late Rev. Saint Sitarambuwa and is active to the fullest extent in the matter. The Trust simultaneously provides facilities for deepening the natural human tendency of growing towards the Divine through prayer and other methods, whilst satisfying the primary needs of life.

The Trust also activates itself in action for providing educational facilities for children of those who could not receive even primary education, for providing every modern medical aid to those who have not known even the first principles of health and hygiene, and to create solid citizens of worthy substance by providing aids, at tender age, for accretion of physical and mental strength.

The Trust, for the last few years, extends monthly stipends to students (a total of 20) in the village schools of Derwan, Savarda, Kasarvadi and Kudup,



△
Rev. Shri Vithalrao Joshi Maharaj with members of the Trust, local people and young students.

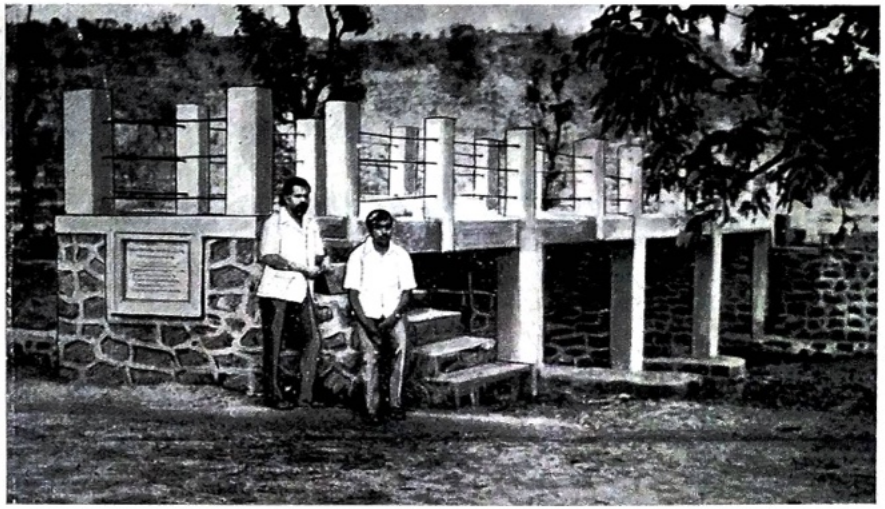
which stand in the precincts of Derwan. It has also provided teaching aids like laboratory equipments and charts for Science subjects and charts for physiology, botany, etc., apart from utensils for drinking water facilities to the Poorna Prathamic School, Derwan. Besides this, the school has been recipient of valuable books on varied subjects, a cupboard, and cash donation of Rs. 250.00 from the Trust.

Donations of Rs. 2,000/- each have been extended to Kasarwadi Vibhag School, Sawarda and Dharma Sevasharam, Vanagule—Devarukh. Commencing with 1975, the Trust intends to distribute books worth Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 5,000 to deserving students.

The most essential public festivals are celebrated as a means of extending educative, informative values to the people of the precincts. The Birthday Celebrations of Chhatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj are held on a mass scale, annually. During Shri Ramdas Navmi festival, competitions like recitation of classics etc., are held for the young and the old, and prizes are distributed to the winners. In addition to this, arrangements are made for dissemination of information and practical coaching in scientific Yoga-asanas, twice annually in the village of Derwan.

Villagers used to construct temporary wooden bridges every year during monsoon over the river Kashyapi to facilitate movement of villagers, specially students. The Trust has acquired gratitude of the local populance by throwing a permanent concrete bridge across the river in the year 1974.

Apart from the bridge, a temporary 'Vasant Bandhara'—earth-work dam—is thrown across the Kashyapi each year for storage of water for agriculture and other purposes.



△
Permanent Concrete Bridge, created by the Trust, across the river Kashyapi.

With a view to affording fillip to the mental, moral and cultural upliftment of the populance of the precinctual areas, the Nirvana Day festivals of Rev. Shri Akkalkot Swami, Rev. Saint Vahalkar Maharaj and Rev. Saint Sitaram Bua are observed on a large scale and 'ANNADAN' is arranged for the visitors of the area. These celebrations, including 'PALAKHI' processions, are held in an atmosphere of total love for the Divine and these evoke an aura of Holy City (Teertha Kshetra) within the boundaries of the Trust-lands.

The Trust is active in extending every type of service for the people without discrimination on the basis of class, creed or community and is straining its utmost capacity for further expanding this work.

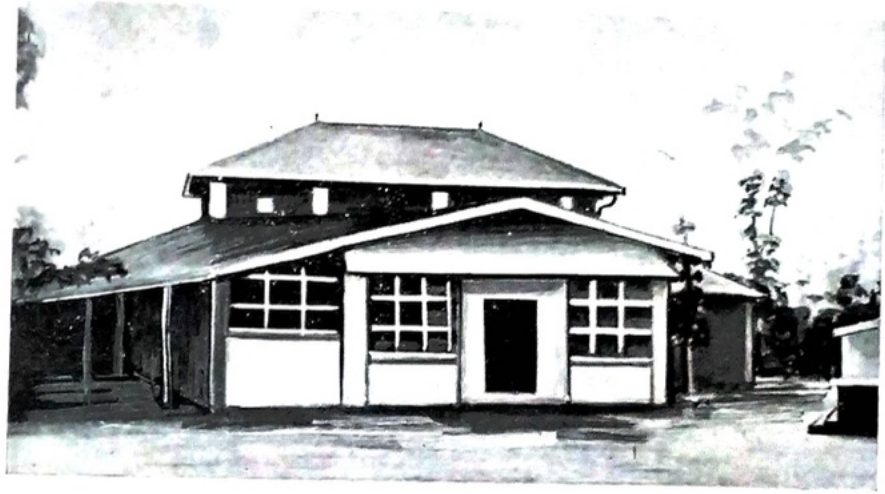
The mainstay of the people of the village and in fact, the entire taluka is agricultural activity. In order to afford an avenue of employment to the local people and also, as a means of creating a degree of self-sufficiency for itself, the Trust has acquired 51 acres of contiguous rice-growing and other arable land through the untiring efforts of Rev. Shri Vitthalrao Joshi Maharaj.

Rev. Shri Vitthalrao Joshi Maharaj has created an ideal before the local agriculturists by practically depicting how to create 'Paradise on Earth' by cultivation of standing orchards of coconut, arecanut, jack-fruit, pineapple, sugar cane, flowers, creepers, banana, mango, cashew-nut etc., by earth filling of arid, infertile and rocky lands, digging of wells and making arrangements for free flow of life-giving waters to vegetation through imaginative use of oil-pumps and pipe-lines. The Trust has today a flourishing orchard of 50 mango trees. Each year, plantation of Kinjal, pine trees etc., on the hilly tracts is undertaken. A plan for dissemination of information of scientific nature and practical guidance in agriculture, horticulture and related subjects to the people of the region is being visualised. Even today, the Trust affords wage-earning opportunity to the landless labourers of the area. 'NIVASASTHAN' is the prime structure in the Trust property. It can easily accommodate 200 to 250 visitors at a time. In front of this structure, there is a substantially proportioned plain land on which a light shed is erected during summers. In a prominent site in the plain, stands a small but exquisite Samadhi Mandir of Rev. Saint Sitaram Bua. On one side, stands a temple sacred to Lord Hanuman. In front of this temple, is a two-storied structure and a cow-pen. A structure

▽ A view of the plantation.

A view of the Nivasthan from the rear. ▽



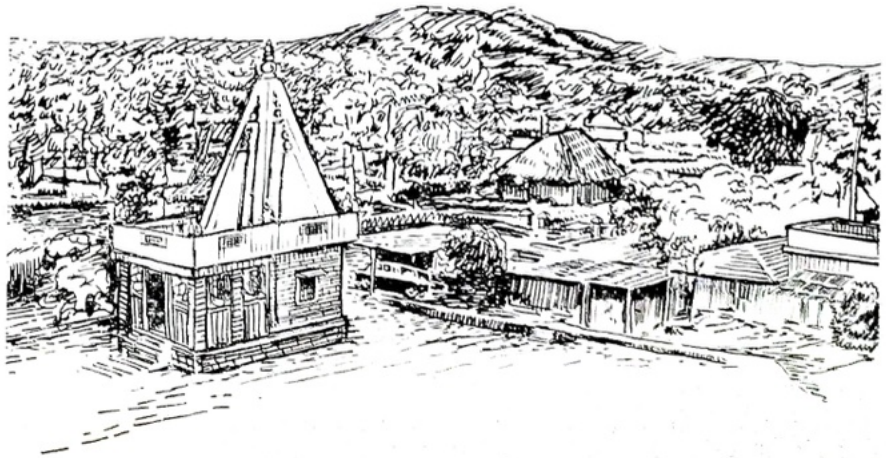


△
NIVASTHAN—residence for permanent Workers & visitors.

of the locally available CHIRA stone is available for storing odds and ends of agricultural implements and 2 structures of the same stone are available as pens for cattle (numbering about 30 cows, bulls etc.).

All this has been created through the Grace, emanating from Rev. Shri Vithalpant Joshi Maharaj and with his Divine Blessings. In fact, it is he who has

Gopur, for housing cattle and with superstructure reaching towards the skies in the Samadhi Mandir of Rev. Shri Sitarambua Walawalkar.
▽





2. MAHADWAR : This is the entrance to the Trust properties. The friezes in full colour on the structure, representing Shri Ganesh, Shri Laxmi and the sentinels, are exquisitely executed. Two gorgeous lions majestically stand guard on either side of the gate. Above the gate is the traditional 'Nagarkhana', whence melodious tunes of the 'Sanai-Chowghada'—traditional musical instruments of Maharashtra—invoke an atmosphere of sanctity in the area. Near the NIVASA STHANA, low earthen walls protect about four acres of land.



Temple, sacred to Lord Hanuman. ▷



△
A view of the Trust Properties, the Samadni Mandir and the roof of the Nivasthan beyond it are seen in the centre.

A frieze in the anteroom of the Samadhi Mandir, depicting Shri Dattatreya, being propitiated by Bhagwan Parashuram.

▽



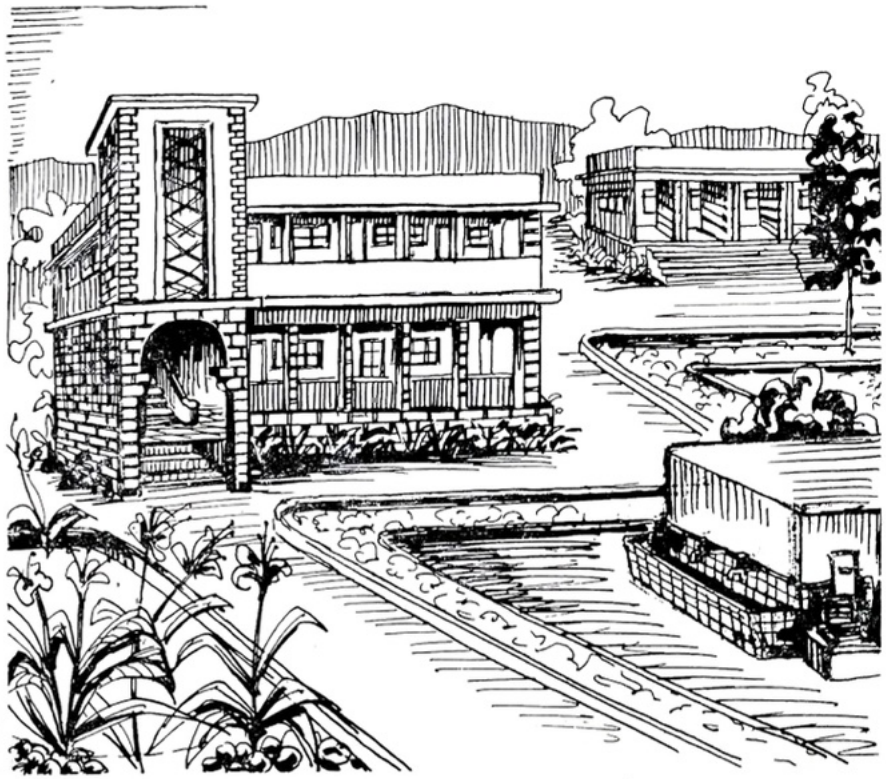


△
Visitors being taken around the Trust & properties, by Rev. Shri Vithalrao Joshi Maharaj, Shri V. S. Page and Shri P. K. Sawant who were guests, are also seen in the group.

created this all from nothing with his untiring efforts, through rain and sunshine, with the only purpose of all round progress of those around him and the Trust area. The expenditure incurred in these projects has been extremely heavy. Devotees, faithful and munificent, have assisted the work by generous donations and even by extending temporary loans. But this is only the beginning of the real work.

Amongst the projects visualised by the Trust for execution in the near future are :

1. An additional 'Vasant Bandhara'—earth dam—for provision of drinking water.
2. A temple consecrated to Shri Ram.
3. A small closed hall, annexed to the Samadhi Mandir of Rev. Saint Sitaram-Bua.
4. Gifts of articles of daily use and stipends to a batch of 4/5 schools in the area.



△
Artists conception of the proposed hospital, clinic and quarters for medical staff etc.

5. The more important part of future planning is to create a cottage hospital for the backward area, which would include a maternity ward, a clinic and residential quarters for medical staff, a guest house, inclusive of arrangements for short halts of visiting Talatis and Gram Sevaks, and if public munificence permits, an up-to date mobile hospital.

The present activities and the future projects, visualised by the Trust, have to depend purely on public munificence. Moreover, the temporary loans from devotees, which the Trust has availed for incurring the expenditure till date, have to be fully repaid.

For these reasons, the Trust needs several lakhs of rupees. In view of the foregoing, the Trust requests the affluent, munificent and public-spirited donors to examine the creative aspects of the work of the Trust and to donate with generous hearts.

NO DONATION IS TOO SMALL

NO DONATION IS TOO BIG

'Contribute your Mite to the Noble Cause'

BOARD OF TRUSTIES OF
SHRI SANT SITARAMBUA WALAWALKAR
CHARITABLE TRUST

CHAIRMAN
DR. S. D. JOSHI

VICE-CHAIRMAN
SHRI S. D. MUNI

TREASURER
SHRI M. K. DABHOLKAR

SECRETARY
SHRI D. N. BANAVLI

MEMBERS
SHRI K. L. WALAWALKAR
SHRI T. S. TENDOLKAR
SHRI V. M. TIKEKAR