

Chapter 25

The History of the Mandir

With the prayers of the great devotee Maganbhai, C.T. Patel had secured a transfer from Nairobi to Mombasa. He arrived in Mombasa in 1951, and made his house the base for Satsang activities. New spiritual aspirants began to join the fledgling Satsang community.

Construction on the Mombasa mandir began in 1953. With the invaluable assistance of Bhailalbhai Patel of Khankuva, Bhatesa Saheb, Premjibhai, Madhabhai, Harmanbhai, C.T. Patel, Tribhovandas, Ambalalbhai, Mohanbhai, Jamnadasbhai, Jethabhai Mistry, and all the devotees of Africa, the mandir was completed in two years. Jethabhai Mistry and Jamnadasbhai Mistry worked on-site overseeing the laborers, masons, and carpenters to ensure the construction was done properly. As a testament to the invaluable assistance, singular vision, oneness, and

camaraderie of the entire Africa Satsang Mandal, the Bhaktaraj Maganbhai Memorial Library was prepared on the first floor of the mandir.

Swamishri declared Vaishakh *vad* 3, Akha Trij, to be the auspicious day of the *murti-pratishtha* ceremony. Thus, it was determined that a grand procession, a grand feast, and the *murti-pratishtha* ceremony would be held on 23, 24, and 25 April 1955, respectively.