

AUTONOMOUS CANONRY OF JAMTARA
CELEBRATES SILVER JUBILEE (1984-2009)

The Silver Jubilee of Autonomous Canonry of Jamtara (1984-2009) together with 875th Death Anniversary of St. Norbert, (1134-2009) & Blessing and Inauguration of Abbey Renovation was celebrated on **15th February 2009** at St. Norbert Abbey, Jamtara. It was a privileged moment for the Canonry of Jamtara; an appropriate time to express our profound gratitude to God for all that has been accomplished and an opportunity to plan for the future with renewed vigor and enthusiasm. It was also a time to introspect and see how we have achieved this glorious stage through generous support and solidarity received from the Abbot General & Norbertine Order, Abbey of Berne & Fifty Dutch Missionaries, Diocese of Jabalpur, Norbertine Abbeys, Dioceses, Missieprocur (M.P.), Solidarity with Jamtara (SWJ) and numerous Foundations, Philanthropists & Friends.

The program started at 4 p.m. with blessing and inauguration of renovated St. Norbert Abbey. Abbot Rocky D' Souza, O. Praem blest and inaugurated the renovated Abbey; Fr. Bernard Kersten, O. Praem and Mr. Frans Slangen, Chairman, SWJ unveiled Abbey renovation plaque & homage was paid to Late Mr. Joop P.M. Janssen, former Chairman, SWJ.

A thanksgiving Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Abbot Rocky D'Souza, concelebrated by Bishop Em. Theophane O, Praem, Abbot Em Nicky Ambrose, O.Praem, Msgr Jacob Mullapilly V. G. of Jabalpur Diocese, Msgr Mathew, V.G. of Bhopal Archdiocese, Fr. Bernard Kersten, O.Praem, Delegate of the Abbot of Berne, Fr. Glenn Morris OP, Rector of St. Charles Seminary, Nagpur, Superiors of Norbertine Dependent Pories of Mumbai, Trichy, Kollam, Varanasi & Khunti Mission in the presence of large gathering of confreres, priests, religious, distinguished guests and friends. Jubilee cake was cut after Mass and all shared cake and coffee at the Abbey lawn.

To mark the occasion of triple celebrations, a colorful & vibrant **FESTIVAL OF DANCE** was organized at the Abbey Auditorium that was performed by Jamtara brothers, parishioners from Jamtara & Paraswara, Norbertine Schools in Sagda, VFJ & Ghamapur. Distinguished guests, Norbertine pioneers, canonry officials & superiors were also felicitated with traditional shawl, mementoes & jubilee souvenir. A special Silver Jubilee Souvenir & DVD titled **'ONE HEART & ONE MIND'** was released to mark this joyous occasion. Our special guests then spoke highlighting canonical life & ministry carried out by Norbertine community in India. Abbot Rocky thanked and appreciated those who contributed to growth of Canonry of Jamtara, guests & friends. The grand & glorious event came to a close with St. Norbert Anthem, festive meal & screening of DVD at the spacious Abbey Lawns.

We pray that the Canonry Silver Jubilee Celebration will continue to challenge the Norbertine religious community to earnestly live our rich canonical heritage, cherish and appreciate our common life of prayer, worship, meals,

ministry and charism of '**COMMUNIO- KOINONIA- KENOSIS**'. This charism of understanding, building and enhancing community life is also our mission and witness to the Church and the World in the present Millennium.