Name - His Holiness Late Govind Dixitar Rajasaheb.
Patni - Sou. H.H. Late Nagamambadevi Somapithini.
**Date of Birth & Place** - In the year 1525 A.D. at Pattishwaram on the banks of Tirumalairajan (branch of Kaveri River)
Demise - His Holiness Govind Dixitar left his Mortal Body in Patteeshwaram, near Kumbhakonam in 1620 A.D.
Gotra - Upamanyu Vasishtha.
**Agyadhan** - According to Ashvalayan and Apastamba Sutra.
Yag performed - Agnishtom, Atyagnishtom, Uktha, Shodashi, Atratra, Mahagnichit Aptyoryam, Vajapeya, Sarvatomukha and many other Mahasomayagas. He performed every Somayag which is to be performed by every Brahmin.
**Agnihotra and Vedic Tradition** - Long Agnihotra and Vedic Tradition. He never was without Agnihotram at home. He performed the Agnihotram at the exact time of two twilights, (Sandhyakala). It is said that in his house...
there always glow 'Holy Tretagnis' to be tended every Brahmin House incessantly. His own, the 8 Fires of his 8 Sons and that of his one Son-in-Law.

Is it a house of that type to be called the abode of Gods or of Men? No Wonder, Govind Dixitar had not mainly the grace of Divine Being but himself became Devine in his own life.

He performed various sacrifices laid down in the Vedas and distributed charities widely and established many permanent Institutions known by his name to this day. He gave the 16 Mahadanās (Grate Gifts) ordained in the Smritis, known as 'Shodash Mahadan' and that the 16 Lingas around the Mahamakha Tank at Kumbhakonam were established there, by Govind Dixitar to mark this Great Event and to invoke the grace of Ishvar for the good of the world. He gave Agraharam in the name of each Tithi ('Day of Lunar Month') and that the Village known as Ichangudi in the Tanjore District, is still called the 'Ekadashi Agraharam'. In Commemoration of the completion of all Yajnas by Govind Dixitar after he performed the Yag named as 'Sarvatomukha', he set up 4 Grand Pillars. The great Appaya Dixitar and Govind Dixitar had been brought together for the first time in Soumik Vihar of Govind Dixitar's Sarvatomukha Yag at Madhyarjunam.

In several villages, now a days also, SAMBHAVANAS are made in the name of Govind Dixitar on important days. The third Chola King Raghunath Nayak was blessed with the Throne for helping Govind Dixitar in the performance of Vajapeya Yag in which the King himself held the umbrella over the head of Govind Dixitar. We find the name of Govind Dixitar alias Ayyan given to different places in many cities even today.

1. Ayyankulam (Tank) and Ayyan Kadai (Bazaar) in Tanjore.
2. Ayyanpetta (Village) between Tanjore and Kumbhakonam.
3. Ayyan Vaikai (Canal) Irrigation Channel north of Coleroon.
4. Ayyantheru (Street) in Tiruvannamalai.
5. The Yagashala Street and Yagashala Mandapam in Kumbhakonam, where Govind Dixit performed Yagas on the banks of the Kaveri.
6. His house in west Ayyan Street at Kumbhakonam where the members of his clan till recently performed marriages etc.

Govind Dixitar built the temples at Kuttalam, Tirupalathurai and several ancient Shrines in South India. The celebrated Mahamakham Tank owes in present
condition to Govind Dixitar. Govind Dixitar also formed Mahadan Sreets in important Shrines like Madhyarjunam, Shvetaranyam, Tiruvandadu etc. He constructed Bathing Ghats, Pushya Mandapas in various places. The village Dixit Samudram or Venkat Samudram in Tanjore district are known in his name. He established Nandavanas far and wide in the Chola Desh which has become a common feature in all villages. The place called Govindapuram is such a sight of Nandavanna connected with Govind Dixitar. He built 'Garud Vyuha Fort' at Tanjore planned by himself, which looks like Garud Bird when seen from height. When 'Chavappa' was given Kingdom of Chola Desh he offered Govind Dixitar to be the King of Chola Kingdom which was plainly refused by Govind Dixitar being True Brahmin. It is no wonder that a tract of country which Govind Dixitar by his reforms and works with the willing co-operation of the Nayak Kings, turned into a such beautiful tract now has no parallel in south India with its network of temples, gardens, bathing ghats, Pushya Mandapas, Irrigation Channels etc. Govind Dixitar sacrificed his self for the walefare of the state and good of the people.

Due to his far-seen educational policy he established network of Pathashalas for the teaching of the Vedas, Vedangas and Shastras. The Raja Pathashala at Kumbhakonam traces its origin to the days of Govind Dixitar, is well-known centre of learning Vedas, Vedangas and Shastras. Similar Pathashalas are still seen in the Chola Desh. Hundreds of Scholars owe their learning to this Pathashala system inaugurated by Govind Dixitar in 16th century. Nityagnihotri and Somayag Tradition is very well established in Chola Desh even now a days. He discharged his ministerial funcions as conscientiously and as perfectly as he could. In his PRAVITTI or ‘Going Forth’ as a minister, he never allowed himself to forget that true end for a Brahmin was NIVRITTI or ‘Drawing In’. The benefits of this works carried out by Govind Dixitar are still enjoyed by common people in Southern India.

Govind Dixitar was a person in this very Tamasika Kalliuga, who laid a truely Brahmin Life and who did the work in the state, which several generations of Ministers and Statesmen have not been able to do in the time that was available to Govind Dixitar. He always referred to as ‘Adwait Vidyachari’.

He wrote concise treatise on the Shadadarshana which he taught to his disciples. He also wrote special commentry on Kumari Darshana, Mimamsa Work, Sangit Sudhanidhi, Jyotish, Sundar Kand of Ramayan. He was master of Astra (Weapons) and Shastra (Holy Texts) and skilled in War and Sacrifices.

Sons

- H.H. Govind Dixitar had 8 Sons and 1 Daughter out of them 2 sons namely 
  1. Yajna Narayan Dixitar and Venkateshvar Dixitar (Venkat Makhi) are prominently known. 
  2. Venkata Makhi - He is familiar figure in world of music. His treatise ‘Chaturdandi Prakashika,’ marked a turning point in the history of south
Indian music. He masterly reduced the old 22 swaras to 12 and designed the present Vina adopted to 12 swaras. He was author of Melakarta. He composed several songs. He wrote ‘Karmanta - Mimamsa’ and ‘Vartik Bharanam’.

Famous Nilakantha Dixit was his disciple. The great Appayya Dixit advised his grand nephew Nilakantha Dixit to learn the Shastras at the feet of Venkat Makh. Venkat Makhhi also performed several Somayagas.

Venkatesh the son of Yajnanarayan Dixitar was scholar in Jyotish and he composed ‘Jatak Chandrika’.

Govind Dixitar at the end gave up all his estate, palace etc. to God and resigned all Karma Fala and had for his Vibhava (wealth) only the Adwait Vidyara and realised his Atman. He retired from everything and spent his time in Tapasa in the Sannadhi of Mangalambika at Kumbhakonam. He left his mortal coil, to evolve from the prison house of mortal life and joined the great Rishis of Aryavarta, in the regions of Immortality. Now Govind Dixitar is worshiped as God in the form of Linga at Kumbhakonam and as Pattishwaram at Tiruvadi.

Govind Dixitar and his Drarmapati Nagambadevi standing there today as it to illustrate the famous line of Milton -

‘He for God only, She for God in Him’

Ref.: Booklet published by
Late Dr. V. R. Laxmikant Sharma
of Kumbhakonam