

MAHAVIR JAYANTI 2000



International Jain Sangh

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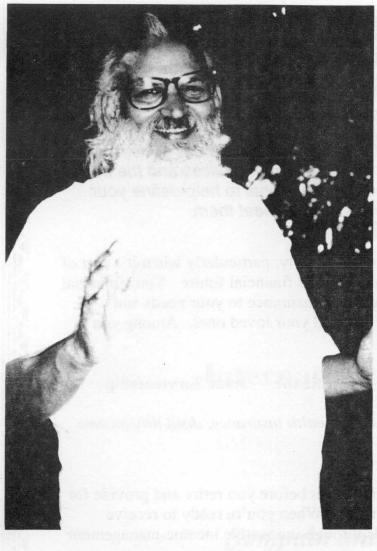
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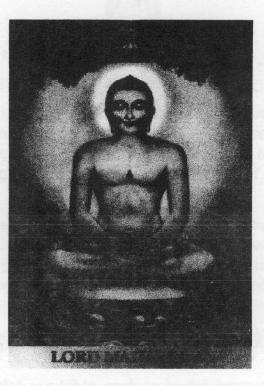
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Jai Jinendra

Best Wishes and Congratulations

to

International Jain Sangh

for

1st Annual Mahavir Jayanti Function

And

Continued Success in Creating Awareness Of the Principles of Jainism

From

Chandra Kumar and Urvashi Jain

Akash and Sunita Jain

Roshni and Ashwin Jain



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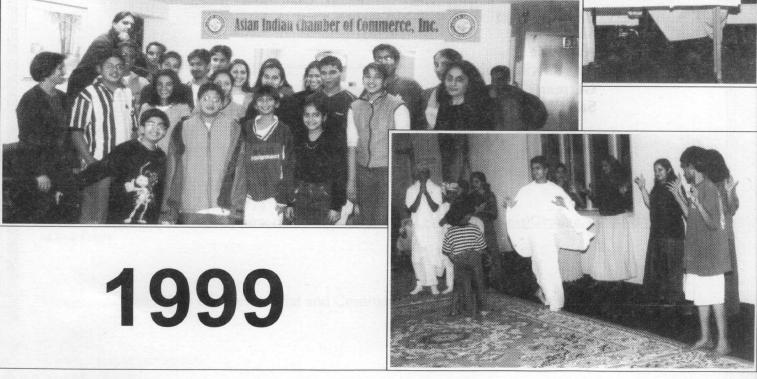
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JAIN EVENTS





MAHAVIR JAYANTI SOUVENIR

Editors: Naresh Jain Prem Jain Sampath Jain

Published by: International Jain Sangh 42 Cotswold Circle Ocean, NJ 07712

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"Respect for all living beings is non violence" ---- Mahavir ŝ,

"The highest religion is to rise to universal brotherhood; and to consider all creatures your equals." ---- Guru Nanak

"I have nothing new to teach the world. Truth and non-violence are as old as the hills. All I have done is to try experiments in both on as vast scale as I could." ---- Mohandas K. Gandhi, Harijan, March 1936

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly."

---- Martin Luther King, Jr.,

Letter from Birmingham City Jail, April 1963



International Jain Sangh 42 Cotswold Circle, Ocean, NJ 07712 (A non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Fed ID # 22-3655912)

Is proud to celebrate

MAHAVIR JAYANTI 2000

The birth anniversary of LORD MAHAVIR

Date: Place:	Sunday, Ap Edison Jew 91 Jefferson Edison NJ	ish Commu	
Capacity:		s. Passes are	e available in advance. Please contact any volunteer.
Admission:	FREE		
Program:	10.30am -	11.30am	Dev Shastra Guru Puja & Mahavir Swami Puja.
-			Pravachan by Jain Monk / Scholar
	11.30am -	1.00pm	Cultural Program by Artists, Youth & Children
	1.00pm -	2.30pm	Swami Vatsalya (Social hour & Lunch)

A beautiful Multi colored souvenir will be published to mark this auspicious occasion. International Jain Sangh sincerely thanks all volunteers & supporters for their valuable time & donations. This is your organization for spiritual benefit to entire community. Please support generously. All donations are tax-deductible.

Coordinators:	Mool Singhi	(973) 895-2754	Naresh Jain	(201) 933-8963			
Volunteers:	Ashok Jain (Jain Jewelers)	(732) 283-5855	Subhash Kothari	(732) 946-2303			
	Sampath Jain	(973) 533-1617	Dr. Subhash Jain	(201) 784-0118			
	Ashok Jain (Bridgewater)	(908) 231-6790	Ashok Jain (Udupi)	(908) 756-0233			
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NAMOKAR MANTRA

(A Jain Prayer)

NAMO ARIHANTANAM

Obeisance to the Arihantas - perfected souls - Godmen

NAMO SIDDHANAM

Obeisance to the Siddhas - Liberated bodiless souls

NAMO AAYARIYANAM

Obeisance to the Acharyas - heads of congregations

NAMO UVAJJHAYANAM

Obeisance to the Upadhyayas - ascetic teachers

NAMO LOE SAVVA SAHUNAM

Obeisance to the Sadhus - all ascetic aspirants

ESO PANCHA NAMOKARO SAVVA PAVAPANASNO MANGALANAM CHA SAVVESIM PADHMAM HAVAI MANGALAM

This five-fold obeisance mantra Destroys all demerits And of all auspicious recitations It is the first and foremost

(I bow and seek inspiration from the perfected souls, liberated souls, heads of the religious orders, teachers of the scriptures; and all monks and nuns in the world. These five obeisances erase all sins. These are most auspicious to bring everyone happiness and bliss.)

Jain Education International

INTERNATIONAL JAIN SANGH, Inc.

(Non-Profit Tax Exempt Organization, Federal ID # 22-3655912) 42 Cotswold Circle, Ocean, NJ 07712 Tel (732) 493 0093

Introduction

Jain families are entering into an era where three to four generations live under one roof. Majority of the youth is constantly on move due to the location of their colleges, jobs and homes. The central tristate location of urbanized New Jersey and the inter community relationships provide an ideal opportunity for interaction with the best Jain talents in the world. The above organization was founded by concerned Jains to avail these opportunities, focus on youth participation, promote rational conduct in dayto-day living, and conduct programs at a conveniently accessible location.

Mission Statement

To promote the teachings of Jainism by organizing spiritual, cultural, academic and charitable programs by following the principles of Ahimsa (non-violence) and Anekaantvaad (multiplicity of views) dedicated to the community's needs and committed to honoring all sects and religions and maintaining alliances and cooperation with other institutions of similar aims and objectives.

Aims and Objectives

- 1. To establish programs and facilities for teaching principles of Jainism and foster spirit of Jainism into the future generation.
- 2. To foster academic, cultural, intellectual and spiritual exchanges.
- 3. To organize yoga, meditation, educational and research programs.
- 4. To organize camps and retreats and celebrate auspicious Jain festivals and religious events.
- 5. To promote compassion and social values among all communities.
- 6. To maintain alliances and cooperation with other non-profit organizations of similar aims and objectives.
- 7. To establish permanent facilities to promote above aims and objectives.

4

Current Activities

- 1. Observe auspicious Jain religious festivals and social events such as Paryushana, Duslaxan, Mahavir Jayanti, Diwali, etc.
- 2. Organize youth seminars and educational programs.
- 3. Conduct compassion and volunteer activities.

Short Term Plan

- 1. Establish a convenient activity center for weekly meetings, interactions and spiritual discourses.
- 2. Conduct programs in cooperation with guest speakers and other institutions.
- 3. Publish IJS News Letter

Long Term Plan

- 1. Establish Jain Bhavan with meeting hall, library, prayer room, classrooms and guestrooms.
- 2. Frequently host local and international conferences in cooperation with other organizations.
- 3. Extend help and grant to other Jain institutions for promoting talents in their area of expertise such as research, publications, dramas, etc.

Membership

Membership is open to all (18 years of age or more) who believes in the principles of Jainism. Membership includes the individual, spouse, unmarried children, and dependent parents. Annual membership fee is \$25 for a calendar year and life membership is \$251. Donations to IJS are tax deductible. Each member or a family has one vote. Members shape and mould the organization. Members may also have priority privileges. Membership is not required to participate in IJS programs or to hold non-administrative positions. All are welcome to attend its programs.

"He who tries to make others happy, himself gets happiness." ---- Mahavir

INTERNATIONAL JAIN SANGH, INC. (Non-profit tax-exempt organization. Fed. ID 22-3655912) 42 Cotswold Circle, Ocean, NJ 07712 Tel: (732) 493-0093

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date:

(Please Print)

١

I hereby apply for membership in International Jain Sangh :

Family member's names:	Last Name:	First Name							
Address:	Family member's names:		-						
Home Tel.: () Fax: () Work Tel : () Fax: () E-MAIL: Fax: () Enclosed are the membership dues for the current calendar year: [] \$25.00 Annual membership [] \$251.00 Life membership Signature [] I would like to volunteer in the following capacity:			-						
Home Tel.: () Fax: () Work Tel: () Fax: () E-MAIL: Fax: () Enclosed are the membership dues for the current calendar year : [] \$25.00 Annual membership [] \$251.00 Life membership Signature	Address:		- -						
E-MAIL:: Enclosed are the membership dues for the current calendar year: [] \$25.00 Annual membership [] \$251.00 Life membership Signature [] I would like to volunteer in the following capacity:			-						
[] \$25.00 Annual membership [] \$251.00 Life membership Signature	Home Tel.: () Work Tel : () E-MAIL:	Fax: (Fax: ()						
Signature [] I would like to volunteer in the following capacity:	Enclosed are the membership dues for [] \$25.00 Annual membership	or the current calend [] \$251.00 Life r	ar year: membership						
[] I would like to volunteer in the following capacity:	Signature								
	[] I would like to volunteer in the fo	ollowing capacity:							

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Youth Volunteers:

Agrawal, Karishma and Namrata Agrawal, Kruti

Volunteers:

Agrawal, Shashi and Sunita Agrawal, Subhash and Rita Chaudhari, Sheela and Umesh Chowdhary, Sheel and Manikanta Doshi, Vardhman and Rekha Dosi, Lata and Nirmal Dugar, Jay and Kamala Garg, Vinay and Poonam Jain, Ashok and Kusum Jain, Ashok and Nilima

- * Jain, Dr. Narpat and Archana, Dumont, NJ (Swami vatsalya)
- * Jain, Drs. Sanjay and Seema, Hackettstown, NJ (Swami vatsalya)
- * Jain Sanjay and Heather, San Fransisco, CA (Mahavir Swami Picture)

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Chaudhari, Amit Doshi, Preeti

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Jain, Sampath and Dolores Jain, Sandeep and Rashmi Jain, Sudhir and Pramila Kothari, Subhash and Anita Kumar, Rajendra and Neerja Nahata, Suparas and Kiran Shah, Pravin and Sandhya Singhi, Mool and Shanti Sodhia, Raj and Sushma

Lord Mahavir and His Teachings

Lord Mahavir was the twenty-fourth and last Tirthankara of the Jain religion of this era. According to Jain philosophy, all Tirthankaras were human beings but they had attained a state of perfection or enlightenment through meditation and self-realization. They are the Gods of Jains in the sense that they were the persons extremely revered. The concept of God as a creator, protector, and destroyer of the universe does not exist in Jainism. Also the idea of God's reincarnation as a human being to destroy the demons is not accepted in Jainism.

Lord Mahavir was born on the thirteenth day of rising moon of Chaitra month, 599 BC in the state of Bihar, India. This day falls in the month of April as per English calendar. His birthday is celebrated as Mahavir Jayanti Day.

Mahavir was a prince and was given a name Vardhaman by his parents. Being son of a king, he had many worldly pleasures, comforts, and services at his command. But at the age of thirty, he left his family and royal household, gave up his worldly possessions, and became a monk in search of a solution to eliminate pain, sorrow, and sufferings.

Mahavir spent the next twelve and half years in deep silence and meditation to conquer his desires, feelings, and attachments. He carefully avoided harming or annoying other living beings including animals, birds, and plants. He also went without food for long periods. He was calm and peaceful against all unbearable hardships that he was given the name Mahavir, meaning very brave and courageous. During this period, his spiritual powers fully developed and at the end he realized perfect perception, knowledge, power, and bliss. This realization is known as keval -jnana or the perfect enlightenment.

Mahavir spent the next thirty years travelling on bare foot around India preaching to the people the eternal truth he realized. The ultimate objective of his teaching is how one can attain total freedom from the cycle of birth, life, pain, misery, and death, and achieve the permanent blissful state of one's self. This is known as liberation, nirvana, absolute freedom, or moksha.

Mahavir explained that from eternity, every living being (soul) due to its ignorance is in the bondage of karmic atoms. Then these karmic atoms are continuously accumulated by our good or bad deeds. Under the influence of karma, the soul is habituated to seek pleasures in materialistic belongings and possessions. This is the deep-rooted cause of self-centered violent thoughts, deeds, anger, hatred, greed, and such other vices. These result in further accumulation of karma.

Mahavir preached the right faith (samyak-darshna), right knowledge (samyak-jnana), and right conduct (samyak-charitra) together is the real path to attain the liberation from karmic matter of one's self.

At the heart of the right conduct for Jains lie the five great vows:

Non-violence (Ahimsa) - not to cause harm to any living beings Truthfulness (Satya) - to speak the harmless truth only Non-stealing (Asteya) - not to take anything not properly given Chastity (Brahmacharya) - not to indulge in sensual pleasure Non-possession/ Non-attachment (Aparigraha) - complete detachment from people, places, and material things

Jains hold these vows at the center of their lives. These vows can not be fully implemented without the acceptance of a philosophy of non-absolutism (Anekantvad) and the theory of relativity (Syadvad). Monks and nuns follow these vows strictly and totally, while the common people follow the vows as far as their lifestyle will permit.

In the matter of spiritual advancement, as envisioned by Mahavir, both men and women are on an equal footing. The lure of renunciation and liberation attracted women as well. Many women followed Mahavir's path and renounced the world in search of ultimate truth and happiness.

Thus, the principles of Jainism, if properly understood in their right perspective and faithfully adhered to, will bring contentment and happiness and joy in the present life. This will elevate the soul in future reincarnations to a higher spiritual level, ultimately achieving Perfect Enlightenment, reaching its final destination of Eternal Bliss, ending all cycles of birth and death.

Mahavir attracted people from all walks of life, rich and poor, kings and commoners, men and women, princes and priests, touchable and untouchables. He organized his followers into a four-fold order, namely monk (Sadhu), nun (Sadhvi), layman (Shravak), and laywoman (Shravika). This order is known as Jain Sangh.

Jainism existed before Mahavir, and his teachings were based on those of his predecessors. He followed the well-established creed of his predecessor Tirthankara Parshvanath. Mahavir was more of a reformer and propagator of an existing religious order than the founder of a new faith was.

At the age of 72 (527BC), Lord Mahavir attained Nirvana and his purified soul left his body and achieved complete liberation. He became a Siddha, a pure consciousness, a liberated soul, living forever in a state of complete bliss. On the night of his nirvana, people celebrate the festival of Lights (Dipavali) in his honor. This is the last day of Hindu and Jain calendar year known as the Dipavali Day.

Jain Education International

MAHAVIR JAYANTI PROGRAM

Edison Jewish Community Center, 91 Jefferson Blvd. Edison NJ

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2000

- 10:30-11:30 Dev Shastra Guru Puja and Mahavir Swami Puja Prem Jain and Lata Dosi
- 11:45-11:50 Welcome International Jain Sangh
- 11:50-12:10 Pravachan Samani Charitra Prajna and Samani Sangh Prajna

Samani Charitra Prajnaji and Sangh Prajnaji are disciples of Acharya Tulsi. Charitra Prajnaji was initiated in 1990. She speaks four languages and has conducted yoga and meditation sessions; and has given speeches in many colleges and universities. She celebrated Paryushan and Duslaxan mahaparvas in Edison, NJ during 1999. Sangh Prajnaji is on her first visit out side of India.

12:10-1:15 Cultural Program

A series of 11 items include dances, devotional songs and plays which describe various incidences of Lord Mahavir's life. Six of these items are directed and choreographed by Preeti Doshi. Preeti is a recent Rutgers University graduate in Business Finance. She also studied Eastern Religions and has directed such items in several cultural shows during past two years.

The hosts are Dr. Seema Jain and Kruti Agrawal. Seema is Chief of Psychiatry in Newton Hospital, has given several radio talks; and has conducted many professional seminars. Kruti is a Rutgers student and she hosted the International Jain Sangh Diwali Program.

1. Saraswati Vandana

This opening number performed by Neha Sidana pays respects to the goddess of knowledge. Neha is daughter of Padma Khanna who has established Indianica Dance Academy in Edison and Union, NJ as well as in Pennsylvania. She teaches kathak and folk dances and her academy has participated in several dance competitions in USA.

2. Jain Symbol

This item describes each section of the Jain symbol. Participants are youngsters 6 to 11 tears: Rajat Kumar, Pratik Doshi, Rashi Garg, Samanth Mahta, Pranita Mehta, Seema Chaudhari and Dipika Agrawal.

3. Megh Muni and Bhagwan Mahavir

This play depicts conversations between Lord Mahavir and his disciple Megh Muni, who was son of King Shrenik and Queen Dharini of Rajgiri Nagri before he became a monk. The role of Mahavir is played by Dr. Ashok Jain and Sunil Jain is Megh Muni. The act is directed by Sunanda Jain from Washington, DC. Sunanda has directed several plays with teenage actors.

10

- 4. Veer Janme Mahavir Janme This dance is about the birth of Mahavir performed by Ronak Rawal and Pranita Mehta.
- 5. Devotional Song Bela Bhatt is a Rutgers University student and she has accomplished significant mastry in singing.
- Trishla Ke Dulare Teree Jai Jai Ho This beautiful dance by Ruchi Kumari and Sameepa Doshi depicts the praise for Queen Trishla's son Mahavir Bhagwan.
- Prabhu Tum Chandan Hum Paani
 This number in Raag Durga is performed by Sur Sadhana students trained by
 Preeti Cholera. Participants are Bharat Doshi, Sweta Shah, Ruchi Patel, and
 Dushyant Patel. Adarsh Doshi is on tabla. Preeti Cholera, Sangeet Visharad
 from Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, operates Sur Sadhana in South River.
- Chaandan Pur Ke Gaaon Me.....
 A song & dance item describing Chandan Pur village, the birth place of Mahavir performed by Suruchi Jain and Swati Agrawal.

9. Birth of Mahavir

This play shows the happenings around the time of the birth of Lord Mahavir. The participants are Rajat Kumar, Pratik Doshi, Rashi Garg, Samarth Mehta, Pranita Mehta, Seema Chaudhari, Dipika Agrawal, Ruchi Kumari, Sameepa Doshi and Preeti Doshi.

- 10. Story Minute A short story narrated by Shailee Jain.
- 11. Namokar Mantra Group chanting by all cultural program participating youth and children.
- 12. Prize Distribution
- 1:15 Vote Of Thanks International Jain Sangh

"Mere reading of holy books is of no avail unless the knowledge derived from them is translated into practice and used in shaping one's conduct in life." ---- Mahavir

INTERNATIONAL JAIN SANGH, Inc.

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MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the teachings of Jainism by organizing spiritual, cultural, academic and charitable programs dedicated to the community's needs and committed to honoring all sects and religions; and maintaining alliances and cooperation with other institutions of similar aims and objectives. The focus will be on basic principles such as Ahimsa (Non-violence: universal love and respect for all living beings); Anekaantvaad (openness for views of others); and day to day conduct for Truthfulness, Non-stealing, Chastity and Non-attachment.

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Jain, Sanjay and Manisha Jain, Subhash and Anita Kumar Rajendra and Neerja Saraf, Dr. Komal Shah Swati

"All human beings are miserable because of their own ignorance, and they themselves can be happy by acquiring proper knowledge." ---- Mahavir

Jain Education International

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ACROSS

1. MERITORIOUS DEEDS

- 4. SOUL-LIVING MATTER
- 6. FUNDAMENTAL
- 7. PASSIVE NIRJARA
- 10. ANGER
- **13. PASSIONS**
- 14. LIBERATION
- 16. NON-MERITORIOUS DEEDS
- 17. HATRED
- 19. EGO

DOWN

- 2. NON-LIVING MATTER
- 3. DECEIT
- 5. STOPPAGE OF KARMAS
- 8. INFLUX OF KARMAS
- 9. ERADICATION OF KARMAS
- 11. BONDAGE OF KARMAS
- 12. GREED
- 15. ACTIVE NIRJARA
- 18. ATTACHMENT

(Solution elsewhere in this souvenir)

MY ASPIRATIONS

(PANDIT JUGAL KISHORE MUKHTAR)

MERI BHAAVANA*

HE WHO CONQUERED LOVE AND HATRED, AND VANQUISHED SENSUAL TEMPTATION. TRUE COSMIC KNOWLEDGE WHO ATTAINED AND SHOWED THE PATH TO SALVATION.

SOME MAY CALL HIM BUDDHA, HARI, JIN, OR MAY CALL HIM BRAHMA, SUPREME; HIS THOUGHTS AND DEEP DEVOTION MAY BE IN MY HEART AND MIND AND DREAM.

WHO DO NOT LONG FOR SENSUAL ZEST, WHOSE FEELINGS ARE GENTLE AND RIGHT; IN WELL-BEING OF WORLD AND SELF, WHO DO ENDEAVOR DAY AND NIGHT.

WHO DO PENACE OF SELFLESSNESS AND WHO HAVE NO REGRETS IN LIFE; TO LESSEN SUFFERING OF THIS WORLD; SUCH LEARNED SAGES DO STRIFE.

MAY I ALWAYS LOOK UP TO THEM AND MAY I KEEP THEM IN MY MIND; PRACTICE THEIR CONDUCT IN MY LIFE, I WISH MY MIND BE SO INCLINED.

MAY I NEVER INJURE A LIFE; OF LYING, MAY I NEVER THINK; NOT WANTING OTHERS' WEALTH AND SPOUSE, CONTENMENT NECTAR MAY I DRINK. MAY EGOTISM I NEVER FEEL; ANGRY, MAY NEVER I BECOME; ON SEEING OTHERS' WORLDLY WEALTH, TO ENVY MAY I NOT SUCCUMB.

MAY I ALWAYS FEEL AND PONDER TO ACT TRUE AND SINCERE WAY; I ALWAYS MAY DO GOOD TO ALL, AS FAR AS I CAN, EVERY DAY.

FOR LIVING BEINGS OF THE WORLD FEELING OF FRIENDSHIP MAY I SHOW; FOR WOEFUL CREATURES, FROM MY HEART, MAY STREAM OF KINDNESS EVERFLOW.

THE CRUEL, WICKED AND EVILDOERS, MY MOOD AND MIND MAY NOT RESENT; MAY THOUGHTS OF MINE BE SO MENDED, OF OTHERS I MAY BE TOLERANT.

MY HEART MAY BE SO FULL OF LOVE, WHENEVER I SEE A NOBLE MAN; MY MIND MAY BE SO FULL OF JOY; I SERVE HIM AS MUCH AS I CAN.

MAY I NEVER BE UNGRATEFUL; MALICE NEVER BE IN MY MIND; MAY I NOT SEE FAULTS OF PEOPLE; HIGH VIRTUES MAY I ALWAYS FIND. LET SOMEONE CALL ME GOOD OR BAD, LET RICHES COME OR TURN AWAY; WHETHER I LIVE FOR MILLION YEARS, OR I FACE DEATH THIS VERY DAY.

WHETHER SOME ONE DOES FRIGHTEN ME, OR EVEN TEMPT ME IN SOME WAY; MAY MY STEPS NEVER FALTER FROM PROVEN GOOD AND RIGHTEOUS WAY.

NEITHER MAY I BE TOO JOYOUS, NOR MAY I BE NERVOUS IN PAIN; I MAY NOT DREAD STORMY RIVER, A JUNGLE, GHOST OR ROUGH MOUNTAIN.

FIRM, UNSHAKEN AND WELL-BALANCED, MY MIND MAY EVER GROW AND GROW; IN BELOVED'S PASSING, EVIL'S FACE, ENDURANCE MAY I EVER SHOW.

MAY WORLDLY CREATURES BE BLISSFUL, UNEASINESS MAY NO ONE FEEL; FORGETTING ILL WILL, PRIDE AND GUILT, NEW SONGS OF JOY MAY SING WITH ZEAL.

* ENGLISH ADAPTATION BY DEVENDRA KUMAR JAIN. REPRINTED FROM "ESSENTIALS OF JAINISM." PUBLISHED BY JAIN CENTER OF GREATER BOSTON. MAY TRUTH BE TALK OF EVERY HOME, THERE BE NO SIGN OF EVIL ACT; ENLIGHTENED PEOPLE MAY IMPROVE, FRUITS OF THIS LIFE MAY GET, IN FACT.

MISFORTUNE, DREAD MAY NEVER COME; BEAUTIFUL RAINS COME WELL IN TIME. MAY RULERS ALWAYS BE RIGHTEOUS, MAY JUSTIC BE EVEN, SUBLIME.

DISEASE AND FAMINE MAY NOT BE; MAY PEOPLE HAVE PLENTY AND PEACE; NONVIOLECE BE THIS RULE OF WORLD; MAY WORLD BE FULL OF JOY AND EASE.

MAY MUTUAL LOVE PERVADE THE WORLD, AND DARK DELUSIONS FADE AWAY; UNTRUE, UNKIND, INTRIGUING, HARSH, SUCH WORDS, NO ONE MAY EVER SAY.

MAY ALL BECOME YUGVEER* AT HEART; WELFARE AND PEACE MAY ALL ATTAIN; FACING ALL SORROWS WITH PATIENCE, NATURE OF TRUTH MAY PEOPLE GAIN.

January 8, 2000 : A page from my Diary – Sandeep Jain

I was eagerly looking forward to 8th Jan when the International Jain Sangh had planned to have the program on YOUTH AND JAINISM IN THE NEW MILLENIUM, where we had invited young, enterprising, energetic youth to participate in topics covering

- Vegetarianism and Non Violence
- Impact of Cultural Diversity and Multi-religious society
- Parents and You (Parents role in your life)

Rajiv Jain and I were playing the role of facilitators, I was a bit sceptical in the beginning as to how the topics would evolve and what kind of involvement would be coming forth. But was I in surprise twenty five youths mixed very fast in the absence of their parents and after some snacks were raring to go for discussions. The topics were prioritized and discussion started. One topic led to other and it was matter of few minutes every one had a point to make.

The participants have accepted vegetariansim as way of life and take pride in promoting awareness, more so in todays context as vegetarianism is being followed world over. Non Violence is associated with Vegetarianism to some extent, but by nature most of the Indians are non violent anyway, but when it comes to agressiveness or taking a stand they are well equipped to face any challenge.

The group felt that there are cultural differences and because of which they have had instances where they were made acutely aware of this specially more so in middle school were it is very difficult to make others aware of your social standing, but later on in higher classes as one matures these differences are accepted and other qualities are noticed. They were thankful that their parents have not tried to force Jainsim on them and they had the freedom of accepting it themselves. They realize that Jainism is a very scientific religion and anyone who follows the principles of Jainism can become a Jain. It is probably a very practical religion to adopt as it a way of life.

The most debated topic was Parents and You and interestingly almost all felt that the differences happen because of the fact that most of their parents have been raised in India in a protected environment, hence they would like to do the same for their children. A general feeling was that it is their life and only when they face hurdles or make mistakes will they be able to become a better person. They felt that there is no subsitute for experience and hence parents should necessarily have faith in their ability and judgement.

The time just flew and before we realized it was time for dinner, all felt that more such programs be arranged in future covering discussions, lectures (technology, finance, religion etc), dine and dance and cultural activities. Each one of them should get one more friend in the next gathering to participate.

It was indeed a good gathering and I was quite impressed with the manner in which the topics were discussed, everyone participated with enthusiasm which made it a success. Thanks to the host Neelam Jain and Sangya Jain for good food.

मेरी भावना

जिसने राग द्वेष कामादिक जीते, सब जग जान लिया। सब जीवों को मोक्ष मार्ग का, निस्पृह हो उपदेश दिया।। १।। बुद्व वीरजिन हरि हर ब्रह्मा, या उसको स्वाधीन कहो। भक्ति भाव से प्रेरित हो, यह चित्त उसी में लीन रहो।। २।। विषयों की वांछा नहिं जिनके. साम्यभाव धन रखते हैं। निज पर के हित साधन में जो, निश दिन तत्पर रहते हैं।। ३।। स्वार्थ त्याग की कठिन तपस्या. बिना खेद जो करते हैं। ऐसे ज्ञानी साधु जगत के, दुःख समूह को हरते हैं।। ४।। रहे सदा सत्सग उन्हीं का. ध्यान उन्हीं का नित्य रहे। उन ही जैसी चर्य्या में यह, चित्त सदा अनुरक्त रहे।। ५ू।। नहीं सताऊँ किसी जीव को, झूठ कभी नहीं कहा करूं। पर धन वनिता पर न लुभाऊँ, सन्तोषामृत पिया करू ।। ६ ।। अहंकार का भाव न रक्खूँ, नहीं किसी पर कोध करूं। देख दूसरों की बढ़ती को, कभी न ईर्ष्या भाव धरूं।। ७।।

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रहे भावना ऐसी मेरी. सरल सत्य व्यवहार करूं। बने जहां तक इस जीवन में, औरों का उपकार करूं।। द ।। मैत्री भाव जगत में मेरा. सब जीवों से नित्य रहे। दीन दुःखी जीवों पर मेरे, उर से करुणा स्त्रोत बहे।। ६।। दुर्जन कूर कुमार्ग रतों पर, क्षोभ नहीं मुझ को आवे। साम्य भाव रक्खूँ मैं उन पर, ऐसी परिणाति हो जावे।। १० ।। गुणी जनों को देख हृदय में, मेरे प्रेम उमड़ आवे। बने जहाँ तक उनकी सेवा, करके यह मन सुख पावे।। ११ ।। होऊं नहीं कृतघ्न कभी मैं, द्रोह न मेरे उर आवे। गुण ग्रहण का भाव रहे नित, दृष्टि न दोषों पर जावे।। १२ ।। कोई बुरा कहे या अच्छा, लक्ष्मी आवे या जावे। लाखें वर्षों तक जीऊँ, या मृत्यु आज ही आ जावे।। १३ ।। अथवा कोई कैसा भी भय, या लालच देने आवे। तो भी न्याय मार्ग से मेरा, कभी न पग डिंगने पावे।। १४ ।। होकर सुख में मग्न न फूलै, दुःख में कभी न घबरावै। पर्वत नदी श्मशान भयानक, अटवी से नहीं भय खावै।। १५ ।।

रहे अडौल अकम्प निरन्तर, यह मन दृढ़तर बन जावे। इष्ट वियोग अनिष्ट योग में, सहन शीलता दिखलावे।। १६ ।। सुखी रहें सब जीव जगत के, कोई कभी न घबरावे। वैर भाव अभिमान छोड़ जग, नित्य नये मंगल गावे।। १७ ।। ं घर घर चर्चा रहे धर्म की, दुष्कृत दुष्कर हो जावें। ज्ञान चरित उन्नत कर अपना, मनूज जन्म फल सब पावें।। १८, ।। ईत भीत व्यापै नहीं जग में, वृष्टि समय पर हुआ करे। धर्म निष्ठ होकर राजा भी, न्याय प्रजा का किया करे।। १६ ।। रोग भरी दुर्भिक्ष न फैले, प्रजा शान्ति से जिया करे। परम अहिंसा धर्म जगत में, फैल सर्व हित किया करे।। २० ।। फैले प्रेम परस्पर जग में, मोह दूर पर रहा करे। अप्रिय कटूक कठोर शब्द नहीं, कोई मुख से कहा करे।। २१ ।। बनकर सब 'युगवीर' हृदय से, देशोन्नतिरत रहा करे।

वस्तु स्वरूप विचार खुशी से, सब दुख संकट सहा करे।। २२ ।।

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आरती श्रीमहावीर स्वामी

ॐ जय महावीर प्रभो, स्वामी जय महावीर प्रभो । कुण्डलपुर अवतारी, त्रिशलानन्द विभो ।। ॐ जय

सिद्धारथ घर जन्मे, वैभव था भारी । बाल ब्रह्मचारी ब्रत, पाल्यो तपधारी ।। ॐ जय

आतम ज्ञान विरागी, समद्रष्टि धारी । माया मोह विनाशक, ज्ञान ज्योति जारी ।। ॐ जय

जगमें पाठ अहिंसा, आपही विस्तारचो । हिंसा पाप मिटाकर, सुधर्म परिचारचो ।। ॐ जय

यहि विधि चांदनपुर में, अतिशय दर्शायो । ग्वाल मनोरथ पूरचो, दूध गाय पायो ।। ॐ जय

अमरचन्द को सपना, तुमने प्रभु दीना । मन्दिर तीन शिखर का, निर्मित है कीना ।। ॐ जय

जयपुर न्रप भी तेरे, अतिशय के सेवी । एक ग्राम तिन दीनो, सेवा हित यह भी ।। ॐ जय

जो कोइ तेरे दर पर, इच्छा कर आवै । धन सुत सब कुछ पावै, संकट मिट जावै ।। ॐ जय

निश दिन प्रभु मन्दिर में, जगमग ज्योति जरै । हरि प्रसाद चरणों में, आनन्द मोद भरै ।। ॐ जय

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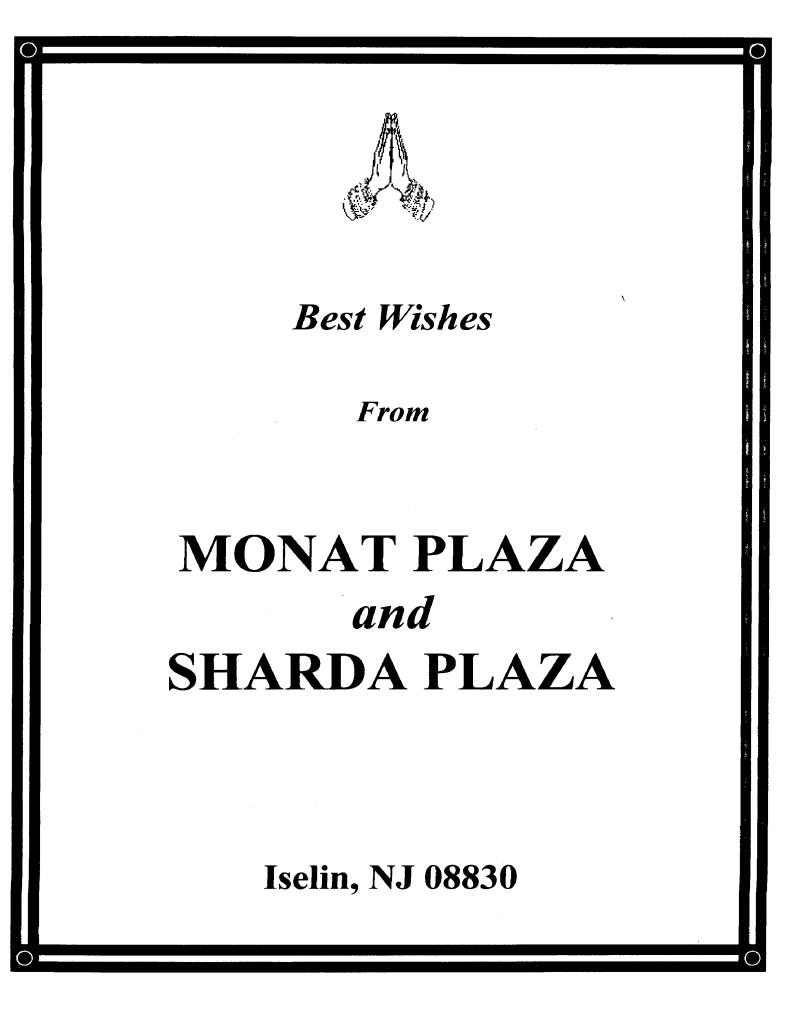
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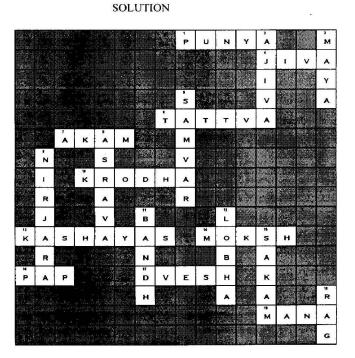
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