

JAIN DIGEST

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**Jain Religion
and its principles
Ahimsa, Vegetarianism & Peace**

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**NEXT ISSUE will be at the end
of Aug'88. Send all articles to
the Editor directly before July
end 1988.**

**Jain Chaityalaya & Bhavan, of Jain Center
So California, will be inaugurated, July 2
& 3, 1988. Contact Dr Manilal Mehta (714)
898-3156 or Shirish Sheth (714) 998.9335**

**Siddhachalam Anniversary & Acharya
Sushil Muni birthday, June 18-19, 1988.
For details, call (201) 362-9793.**

**Inauguration of Europe's first Jaina
Chaityalaya & consecration, July 18-23,
1988. Write to: Jain center 32 Oxford
St., Leicester LE1 5XU, UK.**

**Arhum Yoga adult/family camp, July 2
-9 & Aug. 21-27 respectively at Sidd-
hachalam. Call (201) 362-9793.**

**Jain camp at Niagra Falls, Canada, Jul.
30-Aug. 06, 1988, organised by IMJMC.
For details call (416) 283-9072.**

**Siddha Chakra pooja celebration at the
Hinu-Jain Chaityalaya, Monroeville, PA,
July 30, 1988. Call Vinod Doshi (412)
856-9235 or Suresh Shah (412) 327.6570.**

**Front cover: "Jaina Pratika", symbol of
Jain Religion, officially adopted in 1975
during the 2,500th Anniversary of
Lord Mahavir's Nirvana.**

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who passed away

10 June 1986

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MAHAVIR JAYANTI BIRTH DAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE LAST JINA *

Mahavir Jayanti in 1988 marks the 2587th year celebration of the birth of Lord Mahavir, the last and the 24th Tirthankara in the continuing history of Jain Religion. Lord Mahavir was born in 599 B.C. at Kundagrama, a large city in Vaishali Kingdom flourished near modern Patna in India. Mahavir's father was Siddhartha, a warrior chieftain and mother was Trishala, princess of Vaishali kingdom.

Mahavir was a prince but left his royal household; gave up worldly possessions and entered into Jain monkhood. He was 30 years at the time. He spent over 12 years in meditation, penances and practiced various principles of Jain religion as has been taught by the Tirthankaras, from Lord Rishab to Lord Parshwanath. At age 42, he obtained **Infinite Knowledge**, following which he undertook **Vihars** - journey on bare foot - across vast part of Indian sub-continent. He preached non-violence, vegetarianism, peace, purity, truth, wisdom, modesty, self-control, forgiveness, fortitude and so forth. People from all walks - kings and commoners, rich and poor, men and women, prince and priests - were attracted and influenced by his preachings.

In 527 B.C., at age 72, Mahavir attained Nirvana at Pavapuri in Patna district of Bihar state in India. Thence onwards, the oldest of present day India's calendar, **Jain Calendar** began in the year 526 before Christ.

During this celebration, we could promise ourselves to follow the path of Ahimsa; consider all living beings like our own self; always be ready to help and protect the helpless and those in distress. Let's follow the philosophy of: "Live and Let Live. Love all and serve all."

* Mithul is the son of Dr Dhiraj & Pratima Shah of Grand Island, NY

MAHAVIR JAYANTI CELEBRATIONS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

Jain and non-Jain organisations in north America joyously celebrated birth day of Lord Mahavir, who addressed issues of humankind and showed right path of purification through Jain principles and philosophy. Here is a brief account of the joyous festivities organised in north America:

Vancouver, Canada. The Jain Society of British Columbia celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on Sunday, April 03, 1988. The day long festivity consisted of religious and cultural activities fully participated by the young and the adults together.

The program began with Namokar Mantra followed by pooja. Mrs Hira Shah spoke on the basic philosophy of Mahavir. The guest speaker, Dr Banarjee, gave an informative and interesting talk on history of Jain religion. Anand Jain and Shanta Arya sang devotional songs in praise

of the Lord. Over 500 people attended the festivity and families from Seattle also participated. The event was successfully programmed by the hard workings of Anand and Bina Jain, Ramesh and Padma Singhal, and Gyanchand and Kusum Singhal.

Siddhachalam, NJ. The celebrations were organised on April 23 and 24. Panch kalyan pooja, the five auspicious occasions in the lives of the Tirthankaras for the good of all beings in the world, was celebrated on April 23 from 2.00 - 5.00 PM.

On April 24, the main event was Dream ceremony dedicated to Lord Mahavir. The dreams of holy mother queen Trishala were enacted with scriptural interpretation. This was the first time this ceremony was performed at Siddhachalam.

St. Catherine's, ON. The Jain communities of St. Catherine and Wellend, Ontario celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on April 03 at 401 Linwell Rd. Agamic stutis and stotras, short speech, prayers were the highlights of the festivity. J.D. Jain from Wellend coordinated the program.

St. Louis, MO. Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated on April 16-17 by the Jain Center of Greater St. Louis. Gurdev Chitrabhanu was the chief guest at the festivities. The day-1 celebrations began at 2.30 PM with prayers followed by a short talk on the event. Gurdev delivered lecture on a relevant subject, "Youth-Religion-America". It was followed by question and answer session.

The day-2 programs were held at Brown Hall at Washington University. Lecture by Gurdev on "Practice of Ahimsa" emphasised its importance to understand life and living.

Gurdev's visit to St. Louis center was sponsored by Sushila Singhvi.

Toronto, Canada. The birth day festivities of Lord Mahavir was organised by Jain society of Toronto on April 10. Over 600 people attended the celebrations. The program began with Lord Mahavir pooja accompanied by chantings of mantras, readings from Agama and devotional songs in Hindi and Gujarati. The visiting Jains from Ottawa sang stavans. There were group dances and other cultural events presented under the directions of Madhu Shah, Kanan Jhaveri and Urmila Shah. Auctioning of Kalash etc raised funds at the time.

Cleveland, OH. Jain society of Greater Cleveland Tirthankara Mahavir's birth day on May 01. The highlights of the celebrations were devotional songs by children and the talk on Lord Mahavir by Dr Bhagchandra Jain, professor of Prakrit and Pali at university of Nagpur, India.

After Aarati and mangal divo, a delicious meal prepared by volunteers was served.

Racine, WI. Mahavir Jayanti, organised by Unitarian Universalist Church of Racine, was celebrated on Sunday 28 March 1988. The celebrations consisted of recitation of Namokar Maha Mantra, readings from the Agamas - the Jain scripture, a sermon on a Jain parable and sharing of "coconut prasad". Rev. Dr Tony Larsen, pastor of Unitarian Universalist church of Racine and Kenosha organised and conducted the celebration services.

Buffalo, NY. Jain Society of Buffalo organised Mahavir Jayanti festival on Sunday April 17, 1988. Dr (Mrs) Vinay Luthra from Rochester, NY performed Mahavir Pooja, conducted for the first time in Buffalo, NY. The Pooja began at 10.00 AM and was concluded at 10.30 AM. Then a group of children chanted Namokar Mantra and it was followed by various Agamic songs, in praise of Tirthankaras and the spirit of Jainistic values, were rendered individually by Vidya Jain, Meena Shah, Jagat Jain, Vandana Jain and Monisha Jain. There was group song by Urmila Jain, Pramodh Pahade and Kokila Chheda. Young Mithul Shah spoke on life of Mahavira while John D'Arcangelo gave a beautiful talk on impact of Jainism in his life.

Over 500 people participated in the festivities. A delicious lunch prepared by volunteers was served, and in the evening, the Jain group consisting of children and adults paid a visit to Buffalo's senior citizen home and shared their spirit and happiness with the residents.

Freemont, CA. Mahavir Jayanti - birth day of Tirthankara Mahavir - was organised on April 17, 1988, by Jain Center of No California, at Warm Springs community center 47300 Fernald Ave, Freemont.

The festivity which began with Namokar Mantra was followed by Panch Kalyan Pooja enlivening the five events, namely Conception, Birth, Initiation, Omniscience and Nirvana of Lord Mahavir. On the cultural side, there was Speech Competition organised in 3-age groups. The first prize winners in each group are: Aditi Doshi, Neha Dedhia and Kartik Shah. Lecture by Bhula Patel on Svadhyaya was engaging and interesting.

At the end a delicious dinner was served, courtesy of Hasmukh and Hansa Shah.

Rockville, MD. Jain society of Metropolitan Washington celebrated Mahavir Jayanti festivities on Saturday April 16. The program began at 4.00 PM. Bruce Constain, Jain Spiritualist from Toronto, was the Guest Speaker. A theatrical presentation, "Teachings of Lord Mahavir" by children was appreciably fresh, and "Poster Preparation and Presentation on Jain Principles" by children was involvngly interesting.

Cincinnati, OH. Lord Mahavir Jayanti was organised by Jain center of Cincinnati on Sunday April 10. It was a tremendous success in bringing youths to participate in the program that began at 2.30 PM with Namokar Mantra and stavans. Bruce Constain, named Bhalabhadra after initiated to Jain Religion by Gurdev Chitrabhanu in 1980, was the Chief Guest. Bhalabhadra who is in the process of completing Ph.d from university of Toronto, gave a talk on Mahavir's Message in Modern Times. And it was followed by question and answer session.

Rochester, NY. Jain Society of Rochester celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on March 29, 1988. The gathering was well attended. The highlights of the festivity were **Speech Session**, where five youths - Nina Shah, Umrag Dosi, Robin Vora, Shali Dosi and Anand gave **Mini Talks** on Mahavira and the principles of Jain Religion, and the keynote address by Dr Jagat Jain of Buffalo on "Relevance of Religion". Samit Maniyar, youth member of the community, spoke on **Birth Cycle of Lord Mahavir**. Lecture on Ahimsa by Tukharia revealed its application and relevance in the modern times.

Roswell, GA. The Jain community of Atlanta and the surrounding areas organised Mahavir Jayanti on March 27, 1988 at the residence of Bhaskar and Varsha Shah in Roswell, Georgia. The celebration began with Namokar Mantra followed by Jiten Shah reading on the teachings of Lord Mahavir. The children presented a group recitation of stavans under the direction of Jugna Shah. The teens had a session of discussion on Mahavir teachings and vegetarianism.

After Mahavir Aarati, delicious dinner was served to a gathering of 125. This is the second year of the festivities organised by the community.

**PROF. NARENDRA K SETHI OF NEWYORK
A PIONEER JAIN ACTIVIST OF AMERICA
PASSED AWAY: LOSS TO THE COMMUNITY**

Newyork, NY. Dr Narendra Kumar Sethi, one of the early Jain settlers in USA, from the state of Madhya Pradesh, India is no more with us. At a prime age of 53, Dr Sethi passed away on March 7, 1988.

Dr Sethi, one of renowned Business Management authorities in north America and a professor at Columbia University, was a pioneer Jain, in north America, to organise and establish Jain Society in America in early sixties. He was President of Newyork Jain Society and as well instrumental in establishing the **First Jain Caityalaya** in America.

Jain Digest and its editor respectfully salute the departed soul and pray for its Peace.

**MARCHING ANIMAL WELFARE AWARD
GOES TO DR SHIRLEY MCGREAL**

The committee of the World Society for the Protection of Animals has chosen Dr Shirley McGreal, of the So Carolina based International Primate Protection League, for the first Marching Animal Welfare Award in recognition of Shirley's practical work in animal welfare.

The award was actually presented in Toronto, Canada on May 14, 1988 at the conference of the World Society for the protection of animals.

* * * * *

HAPPY BIRTH DAYS TO JAIN PERSONALITIES

Harsh Chand Jain , authority on Advertising Media in India & founder of media giant, Jaisons International	01 Mar 1915
Adinathan Chakravarthin , reputed civil Engg, prominent Jain Activist turned politician from Tanjore, Tamil Nadu	16 Mar 1906
Sharan Rani Backliwal , great Sarod musician of India and national awardee of Padma Bhushan for Music	09 Mar 1929
Maj.Gen.Virendra Singh , commissioned officer who became Asst.Adj.General in Japan 1946	04 Apr 1917
N.K.Jain , noted Agricultural Scientist of India	28 May 1930
Madan Pandya , well known name in India's Paper industry & instrumental in establishing Jain institutions & schools in west Bengal, India	15 Apr 1915
Barrister J.L.Jaini , great modern writer on Jain philosophy and literature in English & reputed judicature of India	30 Apr 1881
Kamata Prasad Jain , founder World Jain Mission and internationally influential, acclaimed author & scholar of many books and numerous articles	03 May 1901
S.Dhanya Kumar , reputed chartered accountant & tax specialist-expert from Tamil Nadu	07 May 1906
Sri Devendrakirti Bhattarak , of Humcha Jain Mutt in Karnatak, prolific speaker & promotor of Jain Religion at home in India and abroad	25 May 1949
Prof.Appaswamin Chakravarthi , great educationist of Tamil Nadu & a philosopher of India specialised in Jain Religion, its principles, philosophy & literature	17 May 1880

ILLUSTRATED ARDHA MAGADHI DICTIONARY

A 5-volume, 20x30/8, full cloth bound, 5000 pages **Ardha Magadhi Dictionary**, edited by Shatavadhini Pt. Muni Ratan Chandraji, is now released for sale. The work uses English, Gujarati, Hindi and Sanskrit to explain the word.

Jain Saints and libraries can have the set for Rs.900.00 if ordered before 31 May 1988. The regular price is Rs.3,500.00 per set. Write to: **Bharatiya Vidya Prakashan**, 1UB Jawahar Nagar, Bungalow Rd, Delhi-110007

MATRIMONIALS
ALL JAINS WORLD OVER
(Max.25 words limit)

Educated Jain parents from Gujrat,US citizens seek suitable match preferably,M.D/Ph.d for pretty home loving daughter,M.S(Micro),24 years,5'4",vege.Reply Box No.20 c/o Jain Digest.

Parents invite correspondence for 25 yrs old,5'2" engg daughter,beautiful,US citizen. Reply:R.Surana,12802 Stonecrest Dr,SilverSpring,MD 20904.Tel:(301)622-0479.

Gujarati parents invite match,educated beautiful cultured Jain Gujarati for son 27,5'6" Mech.Engg. US citizen. Write to Kanu Shah,P-9 Oakleaf Village,North Brunswick,NJ 08902. Tel:(201)247-9442.

Suitable match sought for smart,fair,22 yrs,Electronics Engg,hails from illustrious Jain family. Correspond: Dr Surendra,582,10th Main,5th Block,Jayanagar,Bangalore-560042,India. Tel:641-462.

Matrimonial alliance invited for 2 highly educated girls: M.A.,Dip.Jour,26 years old & Doc.of Naturopathy,yoga,23 years old - talented,good looking,religious from broad minded Jain family. Write to: Prof.P.K.Toliya,12 Cambridge Road,Bangalore-56008,India. Tel.570443

Parents settled in California seek tall,handsome,well educated professional under 28 for outgoing,attractive,Rajasthani Jain girl,fluent in Hindi,strong Indian values,22,5'4" pursuing MBA. Send photo & particulars to: Box No.14781,Cleveland,OH 44114.

Correspondence invited from U.S/Canadian citizen/immigrant for a beautiful girl,22 yrs,5'4",Electronics Engg talented with classical music university athelete representing India at Moscow1987. Write to:Dr Dejjamma,229/A 4th Main,Jayanagar,Mysore-570014,India. Tel:24613 OR to c/o Kumar 4665 Moccasin Trail,Mississauga,Ontario,Canada L4Z 2W5.

WANTED a suitable pure vegetarian,religious Jain match for a Jain girl 23 years,U.S.citizen,3rd year medical student.Completing M.D. in May 1990. Please call (513)777-1554.

Sixty years old widower,Maharashtrian Jain,doctorate professor from India seeks matrimonial alliance. Write to: Dr A.P.Patil,Ashta-416301 Maharashtra,India.

Gujarati family invites correspondence from attractive,well educated and self-confident Indian girls in late 20's for a research Engg M.S.,MBA,5'7",138 lbs,never married,well placed,good looking and rationally modern. Contact: 28 Pierce Ave,Jersey City,NJ 07307.

Correspondance invited from professionals for a beautiful Gujarati Jain sister,36, 5'2",M.Sc., green card holder,never married,visiting U S A Reply to:(215)687-3474 or 429 Alderbrook Dr,Wayne PA 19087.

CINCINNATI-DAYTON JAIN CENTER ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 1988-89

Cincinnati, OH. At the Annual General Body Meeting held on April 10, 1988 the following officers were elected: Dr Sulekh Jain-President, Dr Mahesh Shah-VicePresident, Mr Harshad Shah-Secretary, Mr Rajnikant Shah-Treasurer, Mr Minal Jain-News Letter, Mr Ravi Bafna-Youth program, Mr Pramodh Jhaveri-Planning, Mrs Ila Punater-Membership, Mrs Surabhi & Mrs Ranjan Punater-Food, Mr Jyoti Shah-Library and Mr Ramesh Shah-Pooja.

AVAILABLE ALL VEGETABLE PRODUCT TOILET SOAP

Jainistic look into daily life is to live with Ahimsa, non-violence to the fullest practical means. As a 15-year old practicing Ahimsa as prescribed by the tenets, the Agamas of the Jains, I read ingredient labels of foods and cosmetics

Toilet soap is the most common product used every day by every one. Hence I set out to research into soaps in the market. My research showed that all major soap manufacturers use lard or beef tallow, the fat part of the animal, and a 4 oz soap contains as much as 85%, or 3.4 oz of tallow products. However, all vegetable soap is available in super markets, small grocery stores, drug stores and an increasing number of health food and vegetarian stores. Reasonably less expensive all vegetable soap is available under "Kirks".

My whole idea to present this is to subjectively inform Jains and others to follow Ahimsa in a deeper sense, if they choose to.

- Sameer Bhimani
Grand Rapids, MI

VEGETARIANISM ON THE RISE IN NORTH AMERICA

Even in the most determined of America's carnivorous strongholds, '80's-style vegetarianism is on the rise. About 8 million Americans and many high profile personalities like actress Doris Day, rock stars Michael Jackson and Madonna, tennis star Peter Burwash, labour leader Cesar Chavez, Nobel Laureates Issac B. Singer and George Wald, US congressman Andy Jacobs, Games star Bob Barker and many more practice vegetarianism as well promote it. **Vegetarian Times** magazine based in Oak Park, Illinois claims that fully 2 million of them have come over to vegetarianism since 1985 and the magazine itself has seen its circulation doubled in the past 2 years to 150,000. And **Vegetarian Times Restaurant Guide**, to be published soon, lists more than 1000 eateries in the U S and Canada compared to 350 in 1978.

TORONTO JAIN SOCIETY ELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE 1988-89

Toronto, ON. The new executive of Toronto Jain Society was elected on March 20, 1988. The officers are: Ramnik Kothari-President, Bhaichand Shah-VicePresident, Jaswant Shah-Secretary, Bhadra Kothari-Treasurer and Praful Shah, Pritam Mehta, Sangeeta Doshi, Bakul Ajmeera, Himat Khandor and Satish Jhaveri are the members.

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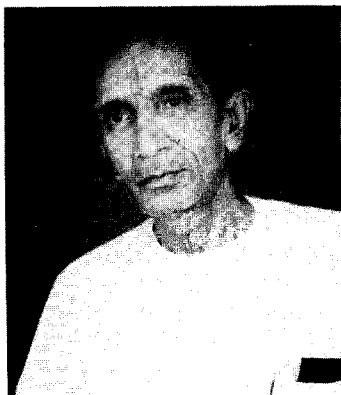
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176. Mr Arhant & Vandana Jain, Burlington, ON, Canada
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181. Dr Brahm & Dr Suman Parsh, Murfreesboro, TN
182. Mr Vir Singh Jain, Cincinnati, OH
183. Ajit Kumar Benadi, 2357 Henstedt-Urzburg, West Germany

DR PREMCHAND GADA, LUBBOCK, TX
DONATES \$2501 TO JAIN FEDERATION

Lubbock, TX. Recently a large sum of donation, to date, was made by Dr Premchand Gada of Lubbock, Texas to the Jain Federation of North America, in appreciation of its various activities carried out on behalf and for the Jain communities and to propagate Jain Religion, its principles and philosophy for the benefit of north American society.

Dr Gada, a reputed physician of Lubbock, Texas, made a donation of \$2000.00 towards the cost of establishing **Jain Library**, which will serve as a source of reference and research place for scholars and philosophers in north America. Another \$501.00 was donated for Jain Digest to help ensure its continuity.

**JAIN BHAVAN OF So CALIFORNIA
APPEAL FOR FUNDS**

Buena Park, CA. At an estimated cost of US\$ 1,000,000 the Jain Center of Southern California under the presidentship of Dr Manilal Mehta has constructed Jain Bhavan at 8072 Commonwealth Ave, Buena Park, CA 90621. The Chaityalaya houses 3 idols of Tirthankaras - Lord Mahavir (27"), Lord Parshwanath (21") and Lord Adinath (21").

Now the appeal has been made for donations to those who haven't had opportunity to make pledges. Under **Takhti** plan two major donations are sought: Dining Hall, 1000 sq.ft to accommodate 250 people, requires minimum donation pledge of US\$1,001, and video system (NEC TV system in every room) at a minimum donation pledge of US\$15,001 is available. **In addition, US\$1001 donation pledge** will include the names of the donors on the **Special Plaque placed at the entrance.**

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I/We, the undersigned, hereby pledge to **Jain Center of Southern CA**
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**INDU DHANAK CONCERTS
JULY 31 - OCT 31, 1988
IN USA & CANADA**

Des Plaines, IL. Indu Dhanak, known for melody music with emotional ecstasy, is again visiting north America to give concerts. Miss Dhanak was a hit during her last trip in 1984.

Dhanak Music Concerts in north America will start on July 31 and will last till October end. Interested organisations or individuals in U S and Canadian cities can obtain further info. from: Niranjan Shah, 8654-A Gregory Lane, Des Plaines, IL 60016. Tel: (312) 635-7780.

DO UNTO OTHERS

In Tumbur, at a function on March 20, 1988, Babulal Jain, with the inspiration of Gurudev Shree Chitrabhanu, distributed 100 artificial legs to the handicapped. Many ministers and leading politicians from throughout India took part in this humanitarian contribution. Five hundred people from all walks of life came to participate in and witness this generously helpful mission. From the 4th to the 20th of March, the handicapped who came to receive their artificial limbs were provided with lodging, food and care. It was a poignant and rewarding experience for all.

"WE ARE THE WORLD"

Never in 100 years has India experienced such a drought which is taking place now. So many farmers and cattle are desperately suffering helplessly without any water, food or fodder. In Bombay the Jains held an all-areas meeting to arrange getting people together to inspire them to give 2,000,000 rupees for the cattle and farmers. This took place during the celebration of MAHAVIRA JAYANTI on March 31, designated as AHIMSA DAY, with donations being collected for these cattle and farmers. The news of this desperate situation has been made known throughout the world, especially by the Jains now living in other countries.

PANCHA KALYAN MAHOSTAV AT RAIBACH, BELGAUM

The Pancha Kalyan Mahostav was organised here for Lord Chandraprab from 20 through 29, March 1988. It was organised by Jain Mutt of Kothapur under the direction of Sri Laxmisena Bhattarak.

Jain saints Shrutu Sagar, Kalyan Sagar, Shanti Sagar, Varangadatta, Bhadrabahu, Ajit Sagar, Srimandhar Jayakirti and many more attended the ceremonies. Over seven thousand shravakas witnessed the poojas.

Pooja celebrations were performed by Mr and Mrs Bandu Shetti.

VEGETARIAN FESTIVAL 1988 IN WEST GERMANY

A week long festivities on vegetarianism has been organised by **D-A-CHVEGAN BEWEGUNG, Zeitschrift Keimkraftwerk** at Bringhausen, West Germany.

Vegetarian Festival will commence on July 16 and will conclude on July 23, 1988. Meditation, yoga, living hapinnes, health, vegetarian food and cuisine, demonstration and exhibition and so forth will be covered during the vegetarian festival 1988.

Many reknowned authorities on these various topics will participate in the festival.

For info. write to: Hans Peters, Post Box 1163D,
7293 Pfalzgrafen Weiler, West Germany.

ANNUAL J A I N A MEET 1988
JAIN COMMUNITY OF BUFFALO, NY HOSTS
JUNE 2 - 4, 1988

Buffalo, NY. The Annual J A I N A Meet of the Board of Directors and the executives will be held on June 2-4, 1988 at Buffalo, NY. The host, Jain community of Buffalo is exalted about its role and is looking forward to the event.

For the success of the Meet and to provide a befitting welcome to the guests and make their stay in Buffalo comfortable, the Jain community of Buffalo has formed following sub-committees:

- Reception committee
- Host families committee
- Food committee
- Publicity committee

The Meet will be held at the Hindu cultural center, 1595 North French Road, Amherst, NY 14068. **All delegates and the members are requested to confirm their arrival plans by May 21, 1988 by contacting Dr Jagat Jain at (716)688-0104.**

CONFERENCE OF RELIGIONS

Cleveland, OH. The 4th conference of religions, where three questions as to: position of one's religion on other religions; inter-relating with persons of other faiths and basis of commonality were addressed, was held on April 17, 1988 at the Cleveland State University

Jain Religion was represented by Dr T. Salgia, president of Jain Federation. He addressed the issues in light of Jaina principles such as **Syadvada, Anekantavada, Ahimsa, vegetarianism, social ethics and Peace.**

The Jain Federation of No America was one of the six sponsors of the conference.

SACRED BOOKS OF THE JAINAS
BIBLIOTHECA JAINICA

This is the title of the series of ancient and historical Jain texts very lucidly translated into English and presented along with original texts in Ardhamagadhi or Prakrit languages. The series consists of 11 volumes and it is published by A M S Press Inc, 56 East 13th street, New York, NY 10003. Tel: (212) 777-4700. The volumes are:

Davva-Samgaha, Gomatasara Jiva - Kanda, Gomatasara Karma-Kanda 1 & 2 by **Nemichandra Siddhanta Cakravartin**; Tatvartadhigama Sutra by **Umasvati**, Panchastikayasara, Samayasara, Niyamasara by **Kunda Kunda**; Purushartha-Siddhyupaya by **Amritacandra**; Atmanushasana by **Cunabhadra** and Pariksamukhum by **Manikyanandi**.

The series summarise beautifully the philosophical basis of Jain Religion. Along with Jaina sutras translated into English by Herman Jacobi, the series provide a fundamental and logical foundation to understand Jaina doctrines and Jain Religion.

JAIN CHAITYALAYA IN KOBE, JAPAN

- Dr Jagat P. Jain, Buffalo, NY

The third International Jain Conference Feb'85 in Delhi, India resolved to establish **World Jain Congress**, a forum where Jains world over can come together to strengthen aims and aspirations to bring about changes in the community and in the world through principles and philosophy of Jain Religion: non-violence, vegetarianism and peace. As a Jain activist and believer in the WJC forum, I made a special trip, in October 1987, from Kyoto, where I had gone with my wife to participate in an international conference on Accounting Education, to Kobe. Kobe, an hour long travel by bullet train. Kobe is the city where Jain community of Japan lives. The community consists of 32 families, all in the pearl business. A few years ago, Jains of Kobe decided to construct Chaityalaya in the city. Architectural designs and plans were prepared and funds were raised. The construction soon began. Markhana marble, pure white marble from Rajasthan, India, was used in the construction to give purity, sanctity and Jaina tradition. The chaityalaya was ready at a cost of US\$2,500,000. The enthronement ceremonies were performed on May 4th 1984, and the inauguration of the chaityalaya was held on June 01, 1985. Chaityalaya has now become tourists attraction in Kobe.

The Chaityalaya is 2-storied. The second floor houses the altar with the idol of Lord Mahavir. In fact the chaityalaya symbolises the resoluteness of the 32 Jain families to sustain their religion as well to share and preach it in a distant land. This is an inspiration to the Jain communities in U S A, Canada and other parts of the world to build chaityalayas where the adopted life and land have become a reality.

Sri Shikarchand was our host in Kobe, and his elder son, Vidhanchand was instrumental in organising community meeting, where an opportunity was given to speak on various activities of Jain communities in north America; the north American Jain Federation, the 4th International Jain Conference 1985 in India and the establishment of World Jain Congress. Exchange of views and points revealed some unique features in the organisational approach to advance universality of the Jain communities world over. The inventitative approaches unraveled were:

- Given name, Lord Mahavir Chaityalaya, bars all divisional stands despite all devotees hail from one thought of Jain Dharma.
- Donors have been recognised alphabetically in accordance with Agamic principle.
- Although Jains of Kobe hail from one region of India with a language singularity, English is the medium of promotion and propagation.

It was a great opportunity for a Jain family from north America to interact with Jaina community of Japan. It was indeed a marvellous experience.

TIRTHANKARA IDOLS UNEARTHED IN GUJARAT

Saradabad, GR. Five Tirthankara idols belonging to 15th to 18th century were recently unearthed from deep buried mud tank in Saradabad district while deepening the tank for deeper water table.

The idols carry inscriptions and the biggest one measures less than 12 cms high. The Directorate of Archeaology, Gujrat has the custody of the idols.

INDIA HONOURS SAHU SHRIYANS PRASAD JAIN WITH PADMA BHUSHAN AWARD

Delhi. Sahu Shriyans Prasad Jain, industrialist, philanthropist, once Rajya Sabha member and an outstanding Jain leaders of India, was honoured by India with the Award of Padma Bhushan on the Republic day celebrations '88.

Mr Jain has served and still is serving the Nation and the Jain communities in various capacities. He has constructively devoted time and efforts to assist the Jain community of north America.

Many dignatories, politicians and industrialists of India recently organised "Jain Soiree" in Bombay to facilitate Sahu Shriyans at a huge gathering. Jain Digest and its editor take pride to **salute Living Legend of Jaina community, Sahu Shriyans Prasad Jain.**

CHARRIOT CELEBRATIONS OF LORD PARSHVANATH & DIETY PADMAVATI HUMCHA, KARNATAK

Humcha, KA. A week long Jain religious and cultural festivities, from 09 March to 14, 1988, were organised at Humcha, a Jain pilgrimage centre of India.

The first day festivity began with flag hoisting followed by various pooja performings. Day-2 program was anointment, poojas and coronation to Lord Parshvanath and Deity Padmavati. Shanti Chakra Pooja, flower charriot procession and Dharma Sammelan were the highlights of the day-3. The next day program was pooja performings associated with charriot celebrations and Sahitya Sammelan. The concluding two days reached climax fervor of the festivities. The week long benefactors of the festivities are: Madan Gangawal of Gauhati, Assam, Mahavir B. Patil of Belguam, Karnataka, Sushildevi Jain Backliwal of Nagaland, and the Jain communities of Tamil Nadu and Kolhapur.

The festivities were organised by the Humcha Mutt under the direction of its Pontiff Sri Devendrakirti Bhattarak.

JAINOLOGY LETTER FROM LONDON UK

London, UK. The monthly, Jainology Letter, published under the patronage of Mr Ratilal Chanderia, well known business magnate, exclusively deals with the philosophy of Jain Religion, enlightenment and advancement of the principles. Authentic, analytical and thought provoking articles on

various aspects of Jain Religion are presented in each issue.

Mr Ishwar Vasa is the author-editor of Jainology Letter. More info. can be obtained about Jainology Letter from Institute of Jainology, 31 Lancaster Gate, London 2W 3LP, England.

ACHARYA VIDYANAND MUNI LECTURE SERIES ON VIDEO CASSETTES

Bombay. Rajashri Pictures of Bombay, India's acclaimed movie producers, is a pioneer in bringing out Jain documentaries and music to the masses. And now, it has produced Acharya Vidyanand Muni Lectures on video and the cassettes are released for sale.

The lecture series present 35 varied subjects such as Bhaktamara stotra and Dasha Dharma on ten cassettes, each running a 3-hour duration.

Acharya Vidyanand Muni is nationally revered and recognised Jain saint and lauded throughout India for his perceptions, pursuits and panditry and **au courant** in philosophy and people alike in order to magnify humanistic essence of Jain Religion, its philosophy and principles.

Details on these cassettes can be obtained from Rajashri Pictures, Poonam Chamber, Worli, Bombay - 18, India.

MISS SUSMITA U O M SWIMMING SPORTS MEDALIST

Mysore, KA. The Sports Event 1988 of the university of Mysore, India brought out the best athletes. Hundreds participated in various games, and in the swimming event, Miss Susmita Jain, a swim athlete from JSS college, bagged **silver medals** for free style and back stroke swimming. Susmita, also a classical dancer, has successfully adopted Jain **Ashta Vidharchana** pooja into choreography. She is the daughter of Mr N. Prasanna and Nagaratna Kumar. Mr Kumar is the deputy director of horticulture, Mysore.

VEGETARIAN STALL ON MAHAVIR JAYANTI

Harrow, UK. The Young Indian Vegetarians celebrated Lord Mahavir Jayanti on April 09, 1988 by keeping a vegetarian stall at Navnath Bhavan, 36 Masons Ave, Wealdstone, Harrow. Acharya Sushil Kumar Muni graced the occasion with his presence.

JAINISM ABROAD VBIF PLANS PUBLICATION

Bangalore, KA. An Annual Magazine, Jainism Abroad, in English has been planned by Vardhaman Bharati International Foundation, the organisation dedicated to popularise Jain music, literature, meditation and yoga. The magazine will cover Jain Religion, its communities: peoples, progress, promises and programs world over.

For details write to: Prof. Pratap K. Toliya, 12 Cambridge Road, Bangalore - 560008, India.

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Compiled & Edited By

Dr. T.J. Salgia

Foreword by Dr. James E. Royster



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Sr. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Philosopher, writer
President of India (1962-67)
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STATUE OF LORD ADINATH CONSECRATED AT NANDINI,MAHARASHTRA

Nandini,MR. Nandini,a town near Kolhapur in Maharashtra,has been rejuvenated and recorded again with further Jain sanctity and history under the able direction of Pontiff Sri Jinasena Bhattarak of Nandini Jain Mutt. The statue of Lord Adinath,31' colossal feat in granite from Karnatak,was sculptured over a period of two years by A.P.Patroti plus 20 artisans. The consecration celebrations of the statue began on Jan.22,1988 in Nandini. A huge and extensive procession of the Lord led by ladies in their colourful attires,pandits reciting Agamic scriptures and 3 elephants having sacred urns-kalash on their backs was a spectacular sight and sound. Jain priests performed rituals and rites for a week,and the final ceremony was highlighted with the consecration of the statue of Lord Adinath.

Many thousands from far and near participated in the ceremonies.

J.P.JAVALI FROM KARNATAKA FIRST JAIN ELECTED TO RAJYA SABHA

Delhi. Mr Jaya Kumar Padmanabh Javali,a leading political activist and a well known businessman from northern Karnataka,has been elected to the Rajya Sabha from Hubli constituency. He is the first Jain from Karnataka to the upper level of Parliment of India.

The 57-year old Javali represents Janata Party. He is the director of Canara Bank and has played an important role in the establishment of Jainology dept. in University of Karnatak,Dharwar,India.

ACHARYA KUNTU SAGAR MUNI SANGHA ARRIVES AT VEERAYATAN,BIHAR

Veerayatan,BI. Acharya Kuntu Sagar with his 40-member Muni Sangha arrived at Veerayatan on March 25,1988. The Kuntu Sagar Sangha consists of 24 monks,4 kshullaks,3 kshullakis,6 celebrates and 3 arjikes.

The Sangha visited Veerayatan,the Jain holy place established by Upadhyay Amar Muni to reverberate the site where Lord Mahavir undertook penance and preaching. Amar Muni had Agamic thought discussions with the Sangha on various subjects. And the Sangha visited Brahmi Museum,where miniature depiction of the life history of Rishab,Neminath,Parshvanath,Mahavir and Bahubali have been exhibited. The Veerayatan Eye Clinic demonstrated Jaina social pursuits and its importance.

JAIN LECTURES AT U OF MADRAS,INDIA

Madras,TN. The Jainology dept. of Madras university,although young,its vibrancy and vigour have been made felt through its academic advances and progress. An extensive lecture series on Jain Religion was organised by the faculty on each Sunday beginning 31 January to 3rd April,1988.

The topics covered are: Jain Philosophy by A.J.Appavu,A study of Jivaka Chintamani by Dr Sunanda Devi,Kunda Kunda Treatise by Dr N.Vasupal,A study on Syadvad by Dr M.D.Vasantraj,Ahimsa in Jainism



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PROF.P.N.PADMANABHIAH BEST TEACHER OF INDIA IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Delhi. Prof.P.N.Padmanabhiiah, B.E (Mech), B.E (Elect) and a distinguished engineering technocrat, academician, from Karnataka has been honoured with **Best Technical Teacher of India Award** for the year 1988.

During the 17th Annual Meeting of Indian Society of Technical Education, held in Delhi, Prof.Padmanabhiiah was conferred with the award in recognition of his services and contribution in the technical education field of India.

Prof.Padmanabhiiah, who served as deputy director, Technical Education, govt. of Karnataka, is now the Principal of J.C.Polytechnic, Bangalore.

ACHARYA CHANDANA IN NEPAL

Kathmandu, Nepal. The conference of Hindu Parishat of Nepal specially invited Acharya Chandana of Veerayatan to represent Jain Religion at the conference held at Khatmandu on March 28, 1988.

Addressing the conference, which was attended by the king and queen of Nepal, Acharya recalled that Nepal was a place for many saints in pursuit of their salvation, and it is also sacred for Jain religion to the fact that 14th Shruta Kevali Jain Acharya Badrabahu performed penances and meditation.

On March 31, the Jain community of Nepal celebrated Mahavir Jayanti, and the President of Jain samaj, Jyoti Kumar Begani welcomed Acharya Chandana. Many dignitaries including Dil Bahadur, Minister of supplies, Nepal and Indian High Commissioner attended the function.

CORONATION OF NEW BHATTARAK to KARKAL JAIN MUTT

Karkal, KA. Kshullak sri Ajit Sagar Varni, born on 18 June 1943, was coronated the Pontiff of Karkala Jain Mutt on 21 February 1988. The Pontif of the Mutt is known by the name Lalitkirti Bhattarak.

The Karkal Mutt was established in the year 1501, about 484 years ago, and it is located in the coastal region of western Karnataka.

THE YOUNG INDIAN VEGETARIANS PARTICIPATE AT LONDON VEGETARIANS

London, UK. On Sunday 5 March, the YIV was invited by London Vegetarians at the International Quaker Center. YIV arranged lecture and vegetarian meal. The Quaker members were fascinated to learn about vegetarianism in Indian traditions such as championed by Jain Religion.

KARKALA JAIN MUTT, KARNATAKA, INDIA AN HISTORICAL REPORT

The word, "Bhattaraka", in India's oldest language, Prakrit, refers to one who is a celebate, amassed vast knowledge of Agama, its meaningful essence, and the ecclesiastic chief of the regional or local Jain Mutt that officiates and administers the governing traditions of Jain Religion and its followers known as **shravakas**.

There are many Jain Mutts in India, and the important ones, in the present, are at Sravanabelagola, Humcha, Moodabidri, Simhana Gadde, Karkala, Kolhapur, Nandini and Jina Kanchi. Kolhapur and Nandini are in Maharashtra state; Jina Kanchi is in Tamil Nadu state and the rest are all located in Karnataka state.

The Karkala Mutt, located in the town of Karkala in the western coastal district of Karnataka, has a long history of its inception and it dates back to several centuries. The Bhattarak of Karkala Mutt is always named **Lalitkirti**.

The ruler of Karkala area during the 15th century was **Bhairava**. He was Jain, and he decided to establish a Jain Mutt in his kingdom for the propagation of the Faith. The epigraphy, on the right side of the statue of Lord Bahubali in Karkala, records that Bhairava's son Veera Pandya (1420-1450) erected Bahubali statue under the order of his Guru, Bhattarak Lalitkirti, on **virodhi krutu phalgunu shu/12 in 1352, shalivahana saka corresponding to A.D. 1432**.

The Karkala Mutt was established in 1504, about 484 years ago and since then its influence on religious and social developments are vast and varied. The famous poet from Karkala, Jain monk Kalyanakirti wrote few literary master pieces during 1440-1460 at Lord Anant Chaityalaya in Karkala and he mentions that he was a disciple of Lalitkirti Bhattaraka. The Lalitkirti Bhattarak of 1600 wrote an extensive commentary on Jaina Maha Purana and dedicated to Charukirti Bhattarak of Moodabidri Mutt. This work is now housed in Rama Rani Jain Research Institute at Moodabidri. There are many records about Lalitkirti Bhattarakas from 12th century onwards. Important ones are:

- 1 - Chandranath Chaityalaya in Kalasa of the 12th century records about Lalitkirti Bhattarak.
- 2 - The inscription of 14th century at Neminath Chaityalaya, Gerusoppe records that Banga King, Kaviraya installed metallic statue of Lord Bahubali at the behest of Lalitkirti Bhattarak.
- 3 - Lord Neminath Chaityalaya in Karkala in 1475 records that Lalitkirti Bhattarak constructed the main gallery.
- 4 - Inscription of 1545 at kere temple records that Shantikirti, disciple of Lalitkirti Bhattarak, influenced shravakas to donate generously to the temple.

- based on articles by Dr P.N. Narasimha Murthy & Umanath Shenoy in Gommatavani fortnightly.

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