

JAIN DIGEST

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SAMOVASARAN TEMPLE PALITANA INDIA

Features:

The Sixth JAINA
Convention at Stanford
Religious Pluralism
Conference at Harvard

Editor-In-Chief: Surender K. Jain
3 Ransom Rd., Athens, Ohio 45701 U.S.A.

Jain Digest

Jain Digest is a quarterly news magazine published by the **Federation of JAINA** for the international Jain community and many others who have interest in Jainism. Besides domestic and international news including achievements, awards and honors by individuals, we also publish some articles of general interest appropriate to the goal of this magazine. The directors of Jain Centers both in the United States and abroad should send their newsletters and other items of interest to the Editor as per details given below.

ISSUE	DEADLINE
January	December 1st
April	March 1st
July	June 1st
October	September 1st

Materials concerning matrimonial matters should be sent to F.J. Dalal, 9001 Goodluck Road, Lanham, MD 20704. News for the Youth Corner may be sent to Urmila Talsania, 5 Yellow Star Court, Woodridge, IL 60007 and items relating to Library and Education should be sent to Premchand Gada, 4410 Fiftieth St., Lubbock, TX 79414.

It is requested that all articles submitted be typed, of good quality. Black and white non-returnable photographs may be sent for possible publication. We will try our best to publish the materials sent, but due to space restrictions, the Editor reserves the right to edit any of the material submitted. Materials submitted will not be returned regardless of being published or not.

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JAINA is grateful for this timely and thoughtful gesture and encouragement of this cause. We hope many such contributions will be forthcoming in the future.

From The Editor...

We have just had a successful 6th JAINA convention with a theme "Extending Jain Heritage to the Next Generation." We are witnessing the birth of a new Jain world in North America. It is very young, not in its essence, but in its outer manifestation. The road to approaching our young is completely new, never been tried before. It is a beginning, a universal beginning. It is absolutely an adventure. When one is young, one dreams of miracles, one wants everything to always be luminous and beautiful. One dreams of being able to rise into the air of acting, to be setting things right when they are going wrong, healing sick society. Indeed, one has all sorts of dreams when one is young. This spirit needs to be encouraged because it is what one should rely on. Tendency of doing nothing or pessimism, saying that is is merely a dream and not a reality may be avoided. We may tell them yes, it is what we must try to realize and not only is it possible, it is certain. This is what should guide us in the direction of true reality. Congratulations to all our youths for showing a great promise through their participation in the activities of the JAINA. We are moving ahead united.

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I would like to thank Professor P.B. Bhattacharya and Steve Jain, Athens, Ohio, for their help in proof-reading and Hope Tyburk, Publishing Editor, for a beautiful job.

Surender K . Jain

Vantage Point

What a great summer



Sulekh C. Jain

Sulekh C. Jain

President of JAINA Federation

Summer of 1991 will be a memorable one for the Jain community as well as in the history of evolution of Jainism in North America. Many significant events took place during the past few months that reinforce the sense of unity, dynamism, progress and of being a Jain. In retrospect, Jains in North America are not only establishing their roots and identity but are also taking positive steps, not only, to maintain but also to enhance their cultural and religious heritage.

I name just a few of the events and significant achievements. These include:

1. Celebration of Sixth JAINA Conventions in San Francisco
2. Inauguration and *Pratishtha* of *Teerth Siddhachalam*
3. *Pratishtha* of Jain deities at Kansas City, KS and Augusta, GA
4. Significant progress in the building of new temples at Chicago and Detroit
5. Visit of a contingent of Jain youths from U.K. for the first time as part of our youth exchange program
6. Visit to North American Jain Centers by a large number of *Sadhus, Sadhavis, Bhattarakas, Samanis*, Scholars, *Pandits*, Ambassadors, Singers, Jain leaders from several parts of the world including India, U.K. Singapore and East Africa
7. Premier release of a video movie on *Bhagwan Mahavir* by

Institute of Jainology (U.K.)

8. Release of several excellent books, videos and audio cassettes on Jainism

9. Significant progress in the preparation of comprehensive directory of Jains in North America by Jain Center of Greater Boston

10. Celebration of *Paryushan* and *Daslakshan* in a grand scale with lots of *Tapasyas, Poojas*, and religious discourses throughout U.S.A. and Canada

11. Tenth Anniversary celebration of the establishment of Jain Temple in Boston

12. A 3 day workshop at Harvard University on *pluralism* and minority religions in U.S.A. Federation of JAINA was invited to participate in this workshop

Specifically, the two events, the sixth JAINA convention in July and *Praishtha Mohotsav* in *Siddachalam* in August were eye openers. This is when the Jain community came together not only in large numbers but with unity, vision, dedication and commitment. At both places, the attendance was in several thousand. Jains came not only from the Jain Centers and states in North America but overseas too. At both places, members of the *Chaturvidh Sangh* shared ideas and discussed issues facing the community. The Jain Center of Northern California did a super job in organizing and holding a super convention in a super setting and climate with a great theme: "Extending Jain Heritage to the Next Generation".

The Indian community and press from San Francisco Bay area commented that JAINA convention was one of the best and well organized conventions.

Those who attended noticed and appreciated that the convention was planned and organized by the youths. It was by far the largest assembly of our Jain youths in North America. Many hundred youths participated. Most of the programs were by and for youths. Their presence and active participation was most visible. There were open and free

debates and discussions, exhibition of Jain books and painting, booths by various Jain Centers and plenty of very nice religious cultural programs. For the first time JAINA recognized several progressive Jain youth leaders for promoting Jainism in North America. Many people rightly called this convention a youth convention.

Jain Center of Northern California deserves our appreciation and applause for making this happen. Thank you California and San Francisco.

The nine day *Pratishtha* Ceremony of *Teerth Siddachalam* was another significant milestone in our short but colorful history. We saw the largest gathering of Jains outside India. It was a sight to be seen, to remember and to enjoy. Finally, our dream became a reality. Let us all visit this *Teerth* for prayers and spiritual uplifting.

The next seventh JAINA convention will be hosted by the *Hindu-Jain Temple Sangh* in Pittsburgh, PA in July 1993. JAINA and Jain Community will also be participating in first century celebration of First World Parliament of Religions in Chicago. In 1893 first Jain *Shree Virchand Raghavji Gandhi* came to U.S.A. to attend and address this parliament.

As you can see much is happening in the Jain World in North America. We all should be rightly proud of these achievements. I feel, our march has just begun. Let us participate and keep marching.

At this Sixth JAINA Convention, a new executive committee was elected. You have again placed your faith and trust in me to serve you for two more years. I and the new executive committee ask for your support, help, guidance, understanding and tolerance. I also take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to the members and chairpersons of several committees, individuals and others who served and shared in this evolution of Jainism in North America.

JAIJINENDRA

Center continues to educate Jains

Since 1985 the **Jain Center of Northern California** has been conducting pathshalas in both San Jose and Fremont locations. Children ages 6 through 18 have taken advantage of these pathshalas. Material has been selected from Jain Bal Bodh Pathmala, Jain Study Circular and other books. In addition a trip to Los Angeles Jain Bhavan has been organized in the past for children.

Central Ohio gives their first program

On June 30, 1991 the **Jain Center Of Central Ohio** presented it's very first program and it was a great success. Over forty Jains and their friends participated in Samayik. On July 21, 1991 the center had its monthly gathering, over thirty-five Jains and their friends participated. On October 20, 1991 forty-five members of the center visited the **Pittsburgh Hindu-Jain Temple**.

Pittsburgh will host 93' JAINA Convention

The Seventh JAINA Convention will be hosted at the **Pittsburgh Hindu-Jain Temple** in the first week of July 1993. For information contact: Vinod Doshi (412) 856-9235.

Doctor donates life saving machine

During his recent visit to India, Dr. Dhiraj Shah of Buffalo, NY, attended a medical camp for women in Bombay, organized by Shree Bidada Sarvodaya Trust. He realized the need for a mammography x-ray machine and immediately pledged to donate one. The machine will be sent to India through Share and Care Foundation.

Vidyalaya Alumni Association formed

An alumni association of the former students of the Mahavir JAINA Vidyalaya has just been formed. The officers are Anop Vora, president; Navin Dedhia, vice president; Rajni Shah, secretary; and Kanti Mepani, treasurer. The objective of this association is to help the needy and further the cause of the Jain community as a whole. A directory of all of the past Vidyalaya students residing outside India is being prepared. If you have not responded before, please call Anop Vora (716) 473-9290 or write: 1 Robin Dr., Rochester, NY 14618.

Jain scholars lecture at Washington Society

The **Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington** held two programs. First, Sunandaben gave lectures on Jainism in Gujrati, in September. Later that month, Pandit Dhirajlalji Mehta, a Jain scholar, held a camp-type program, where he gave a series of lectures to teach the basic principles of Jainism.

Ohio recognizes Asian Indians as minority

The Governor of Ohio, George Voinovich has stated that Ohio is now ready to comply with Federal regulations. The Federal definition of minorities includes the Asian Indian Americans. In this context Ohio is accepting application for certification as minority business enterprise from Asian Indians. Applications should be sent to: Department of Administrative services Equal Employment Opportunity 65 East State St., #202 Columbus, OH 43266-0408. For additional information contact: Dr. T. Salgia (217) 223-7735

Many Jains actively participate in program

The **Jain Center of St. Louis** had a

program which was attended by over one-hundred people including youths. This program was held at Washington University in cooperation with the Hindu Temple. It consisted of Manglacharan and song by Mrs. Anita Jain; she was accompanied by a local artist Sarad Sathe. An address was given by Ambassador, N.P. Jain about the Jain Convention Theme "Extending Jain Heritage to the Next Generation" and the current situation in India.

Governor spoke at JAINA EXEC. meeting

Governor, Jerry Brown spoke at the **Hindu-Jain Temple in Pittsburgh** at the meeting of the JAINA on September 29, 1991. "It seems that honesty has become outlawed," he said. This was his campaign to awaken the society from its wall made of cynicism and complacency. He believes each one of us has the power to keep the peace of our environment and the five vows of the Jainism Code throughout our lives.

Mahavir Swamy Murti Pratistha Mahotsav

The **Hindu Temple Society of Augusta, GA** celebrated the installation of Lord Mahavir Murti under the guidance of Acharya Shri Sushil Kumarji, from Siddhachalam Ashram, NJ, on September 28. He was accompanied by Muni Amerendrajji, Pandit Khemchandji, Vidhicharak Vinod Shah and singer Ghanshyam Joshi.

Detroit invites everyone to ceremony

The **Jain Center of Greater Detroit** will be holding a Bhoomi Poojan ceremony (the consecration of the land). This ceremony will be followed by Swami Vatsalya. Everyone is invited to join them on November 30, 1991. For additional information please contact Bharat Tolia (313) 681-5474, Jayant Shah

(313) 649-0981, Nalin Shah (313) 689-8296, or Kirit Shah (313) 851-0883

Father

Age 4: My Dad can do anything.
Age 7: My Dad knows a lot, a whole lot.
Age 8: My Father doesn't know quite everything.
Age 12: Oh, well, naturally Father doesn't know that either.
Age 14: Father? Hopelessly old-fashioned.
Age 21: Oh, that man is out of date. What did you expect.
Age 25: He knows a little bit about it, but not much.
Age 30: Maybe we ought to find out what Dad thinks.
Age 35: A little patience. Let's get Dad's assessment before we do anything.
Age 50: I wonder what Dad would have thought about that. He was pretty smart.
Age 60: My Dad knew absolutely everything!
Age 65: I'd give anything if Dad were here so that I could talk this over with him. I really miss that man.

Courtesy of Dr. Duli C. Jain

Sunday gatherings at Tulsa educate Jains

The **Tulsa Jain Sangh** has a gathering, the first Sunday every month, for Bhakti. During the Bhakti they

have prayer, Aarti, religious discussion and guest speakers. Every other Sunday they have Jain Pathshala for the youth

International News

Acknowledgement to the JAINA cause

Mr. Rajiv P. Jain of South Extension II, Delhi has contributed various colorful banners including : Navkarmantra's banners, banners of Federation, Jai Jinendra banners with logo and podium banners. We appreciate his generous contributions.

Jain book to be re-published

Jwala Malini Trust will republish Reality. This book will allow Jains to re-educate their community on the various aspects of the Jain religion and philosophy. Jwala Malini Trust would like to request

that all philanthropists contribute to their efforts. For information call (806) 793-8555.

Jain Vishwa Bharati at Ladnun Rajasthan declared a university

Over the past twenty years JVB has become a major center of study and research for Jain scholars. This center provides over 25,000 selected classical books and 5,000 ancient manuscripts. Its research center has done extensive work in translating and writing critical notes on Jain Agamas and ancient Jain scripture Ayaro. The Central Government of India declared it a university. This is the first in the world dedicated to the research on Jainism and ancient Jain scriptures.

Donation is greatly appreciated

Mr and Mrs. Yash K. Jain of Ashok Vihar III, Delhi contributed to the labor and mailing expenses of the January 1991 issue of the *Jain Digest* within India. We appreciate their gesture and hope that others will continue to donate as well.

Jain appointed to high court in Delhi

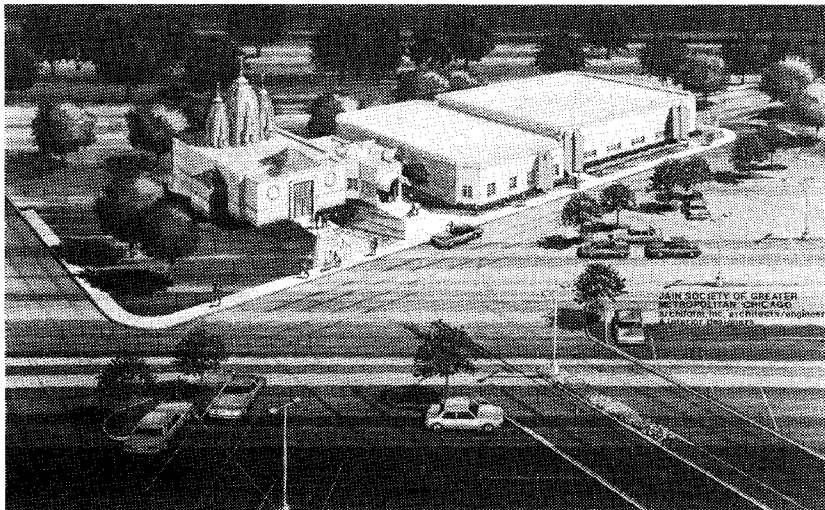
Justice D.K. Jain was recently appointed as a Delhi High Court Judge. He had been a practicing advocate. D.K. Jain comes from the Amritsar District.

Statue guarded after bomb threats received

The 1,000 year old Monolith statue of Bhagwan Bahubali in Sravanabelagola was guarded after police received threats that the 57 foot statue was to be blown up. Visitors were banned from visiting the statue and investigation was conducted. Allegedly the threats were from the Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

Chicago Temple construction underway

The **Jain Society of Chicago** has undertaken the project of temple construction. The cost of the temple is approximately 2.2 million, excluding the cost of the land which has already been paid for. Donations for this project have been pledged in the amount of 1.4 million and contracts worth 1.7 million have been awarded. The temple is expected to be completely enclosed in November.



Second ICPNA conference held

The second International Conference of Peace and Non-Violent Action was held at Rajsamand-Udaipur from February 17-21, 1991. At the conference a declaration was adopted, regarding peace and non-violent action. The declaration requested different organizations of the world to adopt the idea of non-violence in both the family as well as in social context.

Acharya Shree Vijay Ramchandra Surishar passed away



On August 9, 1991 Acharya Shree Vijay Ramchandra Surisharji passed away. He was a spiritual guide for millions of Jains and Non-Jains alike. He guided the Jains of India for many years. He ordained 900 Sadhus and Sadhvis in his lifetime, probably more than any other modern day Acharya. The cremation was held August 9th, on the banks of the river Sabarmati, and was attended by millions of his followers. A permanent memorial will be built in his memory.

Jain sculptures found in Rajasthan

About forty sculptures dating from the 9th to 16th centuries were

recently discovered in a survey of antiques in the Bhilwara district of Rajasthan. These sculptures include Surya, Kuber, Varaha, and Laxmi-Narayana, representing Jain and Hindu faiths.

Jaisalmer JAINA Bhandara manuscript

The well known Jaina Bhandara of the Jain Temple at Jaisalmer contains one of the oldest collections of manuscripts of Jain history. It will be made available to researchers of the faith. For more information contact: Shri Joharimal Parekh, Serva Mandir Ravati, Soorsagar, Jodpur-342024 (India).

Research center begins projects

Sharadaben Chimanbhai Educational Research center has started three major projects. In order to facilitate research on Agam Granthas, all 70,000 shlokas from all forty-five agamas have been entered in the computer. The Jain reference Library has acquired about 10,000 articles in various languages from all over the world. The center has decided to publish an authoritative history of the last 2,500 years of Sramana Culture. The well known historian, Dr. Madhusudan Dhaky has agreed to provide services for this project.

Jain Museum is being planned

Plans are well in hand for setting up a Museum of Jainism on the ground floor of the Jain Center in Leicester. This will not only be a major tourist attraction, but the means of spreading knowledge and understanding of Jain faith and the principals of Jainism to a wider audience. The Jain Center is

a part of the projected Castle Heritage Park. This will also benefit the people of Leicester.

All India summer school was held

The all India summer school in Prakrit language and literature was held by the Bhogilal Leherchand Institute of Indology. Though the activities of this institute do include all branches of Indological studies, special emphasis is given to the Prakrit and Jain studies.

This year the program was refined through extensive planning. The main goals were to keep the link between the participants alive so that it is possible for the Institute to maintain a community setting and to cast a net so that scholars who are interested in the knowledge of the Prakrit are able to gain from this endeavor. The following members of the teaching faculties conducted the lectures: Pt. D.D. Malvania, Shri Jitendra B. Shah, Dr. Sagarmal Jain, Dr. Raja Ram Jain, Dr. Bhagchandra Jain, Dr. K.R. Chandra, Dr. Damodar Shastri, Dr. Ram Sajiwan Shukla, Dr. Prem Shingh, Dr. P.S. Jain, Dr. Phool Chand Jain and Shri Dinanath Sharma.

Feature Articles

Religious Pluralism Conference was held at Harvard University

A conference exploring the new diversity of religions was held at Harvard University October 4-5, 1991. The conference invited people of leadership from Hindu, Sikh, Jain

and Buddhist religious traditions. This conference explored the religious traditions of Asia and the Middle East, and how they have become an important part of America's Pluralism in the past 25 years.

Special guests at this program were Dr. Havanpola Ratnasara, founder and executive president of the American Buddhist Congress and president for the Sangha Council of Los Angeles; Dr. Sulekh Jain, president of the Federation of Jain Association in North America, (JAINA); Dr. Muzammil Siddiqi, director of the Islamic society of Orange County, Los Angeles; Mr. Gurinder Singh Mann, visiting assistant professor of Sikh Studies at Columbia University; Mrs. Rajshri Gopal, charter member of Sri Venkateswara Temple. Dr. Jagat P. Jain, another JAINA representative also attended. The project was aimed at better understanding the changing American religious demography, to study the religious communities and to explore possible ramifications of this new plurality.

Thank you note from the President

Jaijinendra:

I have been planning to write this letter but have not been able to find the appropriate words to thank your Jain Center and all of it's members and committees. During and after the convention I talked to many of the attendees about their assessment of the Sixth JAINA Convention and there was only one response- SUPERB.

Your Jain Center did much more than you planned and promised. You really set a trend and an example for quite some time. It was a milestone in the history of Jainism in

North America. Attendees from overseas conveyed the same thing. All the arrangements, programs, decorations, facilities, exhibition, cultural programs, food, lodging, transportation and souvenirs were excellent. It was a great convention.

You people worked hard and many, many long hours. You saw the results and we all saw the results. JAINA and the Jain community are grateful to your Jain Center for this great effort and achievement.

On my behalf, JAINA Board of Directors and many Jain Centers, I extend our sincere thanks for a job very well done. We hope that your Jain center in the future will undertake other activities of significance for the entire community too .

Thankingly,
Sulekh C. Jain
President, JAINA

Thank you for attending the convention

Jaijinendra:

The 6th Biennial National Convention of the Federation of the Jain Associations In North America, which was held at Stanford, Califor-

nia from July 4-6, 1991, was a great success judging from the comments of the attendees and the level of participation. We estimated that more than 3,500 people attended the convention over the three day period. The youth participation (approximately 1,000) in the convention was heartening to us all and helped promote the convention theme of "Extending Jain Heritage to the Next Generation"

On behalf of the Jain Center of Northern California and the convention committee we thank you for your participation in the convention. We deeply appreciate your taking the time from your busy schedule to participate in the Convention.

This convention has opened new frontiers for the Jain Community in North America with active participation in ecology and non-violence. Let us hope that the community will continue to spread the message of Bhagwan Mahavir on Ahimsa, compassion, and non-acquisitiveness to the American community. We hope that you will continue to support the efforts of JAINA and the Jain Center of Northern California in the future.

Sincerely,
Girish Shah, CA

We will miss you!

*In Memory of Mrs.
Nihalo Devi Jain
Mother of Sher Singh
(Agra), Vir Singh (Cincinnati), Pratap Singh
(New York) Bhupat
Singh (Kanpur) Rani
Mehta (Detroit).*

* A Paid Advertisement



Bhattarak Shree Charukeertiji lectures at North Texas

Compiled and translated by
Ravindra K. Jain of Bedford, TX
Last August the Jain Society of
North Texas had the privilege of
having Bhattarak Shree
Charukeertiji of Moodbidri, give six
lectures to a well attended gathering
of Jains. Each lecture was spiritu-
ally stimulating and was received
with great enthusiasm. Bhattarakji
communicated the message in a
very simple language using histori-
cal events and illustrations as
examples, which made it easy to
grasp even difficult concepts.
Summarized are the highlights of
his lecture series.

* Jainism propagates
uthanvad (progression) rather than
avtarvad (descention or incarna-
tion). Anyone can reach salvation- a
state where there is neither grief nor
joy, also called moksha, by accu-
mulating good deeds. Everyone is
accountable for his actions. We
can't just cast off our sins by taking
a bath in the river Ganges or by
confession in a church. A believer
in Jainism prays to his Jina
Bhagwan "may I be blessed with
the characteristics as You possess,"
a prayer which is unique to Jainism.

* We should lead our lives
to avoid greed, attachment, anger,

envy, stealing, violence, lies and
materialism. But if one does some-
thing wrong inadvertently, one
should repent and promise not to
repeat the same. Repentance of ones
wrongs is called pratikraman.

* Six duties recommended
for everyone are prayer to Jina
Bhagwan, prayer to Gurus,
swadhaya, self control, tap (pen-
ance), and charity. One of the
methods of tap is upvas. Upvas
means fasting. But if one cannot
fast for a whole day, one should eat
only one time which is called
ekashana. Even if that is difficult,
one should do anything however
small, which will promote disci-
pline and self-control. For example
one may eat food without salt for a
day or may not eat products which
are sweet. The message is that
whether it is big or small, do
according to your capacity and not
to show off or to copy others.

* Another aspect of Jain
religion which is unique is
anekantvad. It encourages multi-
opinions rather than one single
interpretation.

* Three jewels of Jainism as
described by Bhattarakji are
samayak darshan (belief), samayak
gyan (knowledge) and samayak

charitar (character). To attain
salvation, one has to possess all the
three. Samayak means yatharath
(of right kind).

* The credit of saving Jain
literature goes to Acharya
Dharsenacharya. In his cave named
Chandergufa in Gimar, Gujarat, he
realized, 2000 years ago, that if the
knowledge of Jain religion is not
put into writing, this religion will
disappear from the face of the earth.
The work of writing the summary
of Dawadshank was completed by
Bhootbali and Pushadant. This
original work is on 10,000 pages of
palmayra tree leaves and is still
maintained in Moodbidri, near
Bangalore.

* In brief, it was empha-
sized that despite the busy sched-
ules and other responsibilities, one
should find time to pray daily by
reciting the navkar mantra. And
praying does not mean just moving
the beads of mala. Prayer should
lead to purification of mind, body,
and speech. In other words, we
should detach ourselves from the
world around us for that short
period and try to concentrate on
Jina Bhagwan. Audio tapes of these
lectures can be obtained by calling
Atul Khara at (214) 618-3470.

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Pratishtha at Siddachalam



Acharya Shree Sushil Kumarji founded the organization known as International Mahavir Jain Mission with the objective of preserving Indian tradition and culture and providing "sanskara" to the younger generation of Jains and Hindus settled out of India.

He had a dream to build a teerth in America where people could feel the spiritual environment, where people could improve their inner selves. "Siddhachalam," he said, "teerth is going to serve everyone having faith in the philosophy of non-violence and vegetarianism, hence it must play a role in bringing all of the sects together." That happened during the Mahotsav. The Pramukh Swamy Shree of Swami Narayan Hindu sect came with a group of monks to bless the temples.

In this Siddhachalam pilgrimage one can have darshan of Moolnayak Bhagwan Adinath, Parshavanath, Chandraprabhu, Mahavir Swamy, Bahubali, Manidhari Dada Jinchandraji, Padmavati Chakreshwari, Nakoda Bhairavji, Manibhadraji Ambicaji, Saraswati and others. The images

of all of these gods and goddesses are placed in the temples.

Participants from various countries attended many kinds of poojas. They also donated generously to the charity fund of Siddachalam. These poojas were performed according to sacred Jain scriptures and instructions. Prominent members of the Jain community honored the celebration with their valuable contributions and ideas. Narendra Parson, Suresh Lodha, Mahendra Singh Daga of California, Nagin Bhai Doshi, C.T. Doshi of Singapore, Jagdish Jain of London, Sulekh Jain, Jagat Prasad Jain of JAINA, Rupendra Bhansali of Israel, Kamal Surana, K.C. Bhaiji, A.K. Nahar, Surendra Singhvi, Lalchand Munot, Hastimal Munot of Hyderabad, Kanti Parikh of Delhi were among them.

Between August 9-11 Siddhachakra, and Adhar abhishek poojas were performed. Also the Jain soical leaders spoke on social issues in the neatly organized World Jain Conference. A number of resolutions were adopted in the three day Jain Conference. It was decided to appeal to various Airlines for introducing the Jain vegetarian meals in

the flights. Many steps to propagate non-violence and support the efforts of Acharya Sushil Kumarji were also taken.

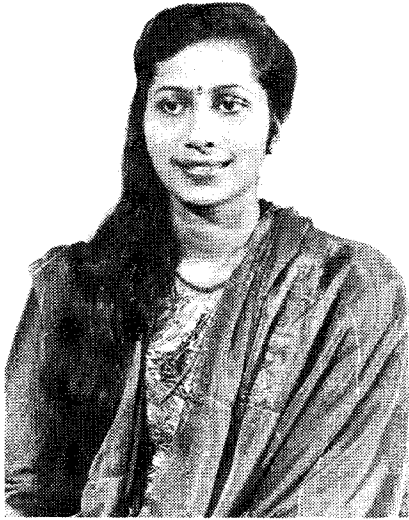
For the first time in the history of Jainism, Acharyas and monks of different sects advocated for a non-sectarian society and the unity of the Jains all over the world. A future plan of establishing an Ahimsa University was also approved by the Jain Congress.

Shree Sushil Kumarji addressed the gathering and pleaded for unity among all the Jains. He said that he would work all of his life for the propagation of non-violence and vegetarianism along with the philosophy of the multiplicity of the truth. He expressed his concern for the needy and deprived people of the society and vowed to help them. Protection of the animals, trees and all forms of life was the need of the day. He declared that Jainism will be propagated with a scientific approach as in the institution known as Gnan Vihar.

The concluding day of the Pratishtha Mahotsav was the day of farewell to many guests. Guruji sent his blessings and prasadam to the neighbors who appreciated the gesture.

The fortnight long celebration was completed with the active support of hundreds of volunteers. They cooked, served food and managed the teerth for thousands of people. Acharya Sushil Kumarji has achieved the goal of building a teerth where all sects meet each other with love and affection. He has shown the path of Universal brotherhood, love and truth.

Meenakshi Jain undertook Deeksha



Miss Meenakshi Jain, a young talented girl of twenty-six years of age, comes from a well-educated and established family from Delhi. On October 23, 1991 she undertook Deeksha at Veerayatan (Rajgir) as a disciple of Acharya Shree Chandanaji.

Meenakshi graduated with a degree in computer science from Delhi University. For the last five years she has been the main administrator for all the social and religious activities in Veerayatan. During that brief period she has studied Jainism in depth with an analytical comparative study of different religions. Meenakshi, a thinker as well as an orator, has, with her revered guru, travelled widely with a well-planned aim of producing religious awakening amongst the younger generation. She is the first Jain girl who has renounced the material world after having secured higher academic qualifications. Thousands attended the beautiful ceremony. Dr. Sulekh Jain, president of JAINA was among the many dignitaries that attended. This event is symbolic of how far Jainism has come. Be sure to look for another news brief in the next issue of the *Jain Digest*.

Scholars Visitation Program

by Nirmal Dosi and Vimal Begwani

Scholars visitation program is one of the most important activities undertaken by JAINA. Under this program, JAINA invites a highly talented select group of scholars from India on a lecture tour of North America. This activity is coordinated by a committee of three people. The committee sets strict guide lines which are then passed onto the potential scholars and also published in the Jain Digest. The committee collects a list of potential scholars every year and makes the final selection. In cooperation from various centers, the committee makes the final schedule for these scholars.

This year JAINA invited nine scholars: Bhattarak Shree Charukeertiji and Davendra Keertiji, Samnis Madhur Pajnaaji and Mangal Prajnaaji, former UN ambassador Mr. N.P. Jain, All India Radio singer Mrs. Anita Jain, Sadhvis Yashaji and Subhamji, and Kumari Manglamji. Most scholars participated in the sixth JAINA convention from July 4-6 in San Francisco.

We are very pleased to note that like last year, this year's scholars-visitation program was immensely beneficial to all the member organizations and to all the Jains living in North America. During the last four months, scholars covered every corner of this continent, visited more than twenty centers and delivered Lord Mahavir's message of Ahimsa, aprigraha and *anekant*.

Samanis

This was the second North America tour for Samani Madhur Prajnaaji and the first for Samani Mangal Prajnaaji. During the four month journey, Samanis visited Jain

centers at San Francisco, Los Angeles, Orlando, Atlanta, Houston, Dallas, Toronto, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Chicago, New Orleans, New York, and Cherry Hill, New Jersey. All together they visited more than fifteen Jain centers in the USA and Canada. During the last four months Samanis have been delivering discourses on Jainism almost every day, some of them at various Jain Centers and some of them at informal gatherings. We can say Samanis have been delivering Lord Mahavir's message from house to house.

Samanis introduced

Preksha-Dhyan (a form of meditation) at each center. Due to popular demand Samani had all day *Preksha-Dhyan* programs at several centers.

Many member organizations have expressed great interest in programs for young people and children. At each center, Samani had several programs specially for children.

They gave lectures on basic Jain principles and explained use of meditation in religion.

Bhattarak Shree Charukeertiji

Just like last year, Shree Bhattarakji visited and delivered a sermon at every corner of the continent. During the last four months Bhattarakji visited Jain centers at San Francisco, Los Angeles, Detroit, Cincinnati, Orlando, Atlanta, Houston, Dallas, Toronto, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Chicago, New York, Caldwell New Jersey, and Cherry Hill. At each center Bhattarakji propounded the preaching of *Tatvartha Sutra* and answered some of the most touchy questions facing Jains in this country. Bhattarakji performed *Santi Puja* at most of the centers he visited.

Bhattarak Shree Davendra Keerti

Bhattarak Shree Davendrakeertiji was instrumental and the leader in performing *Pujajs* in *Pratishtha Mahaotshav* in Siddhachalam. Bhattarak also had a very special program and delivered lectures to Jains of the USA and United Kingdom, at Jain Center of America in New York City. He also visited Jain centers at Chicago, Detroit, Orlando and Toronto.

Dr. N.P Jain & Mrs. Anita Jain:

Mrs Anita Jain primed the JAINA convention and *Pratishtha Mahaotshav* by her *Manglacharan*.. Mr. N.P. Jain lectured on non-violence, *aprigraha* and *anekant*

Mr. N.P. Jain and Mrs. Anita Jain traveled together and visited Jain centers at San Francisco, Cincinnati, Orlando, Atlanta, Houston, Dallas, St. Louis, Chicago, and New York. We hope that Mrs. Anita Jain's melodious voice will encourage our young generation to take on the singing of *bhajans*.

Sadhvis Yashaji and Subhamji

Sadhvis Yashaji and Subhamji were very generous and kind hearted toward the Jain community of the USA and Canada. They preached the basis of *Das Dharm* and effects of *Adharm* (attachment, anger, etc.) They celebrated *Paryushan* at Jain Center of America at New York City. Kumari Mangalam's melodious voice and Yashaji's and Subhamji's scholarly preaching have touched everybody's heart and soul.

Pratishtha Mahaotshav

It should be noted the JAINA took great pains and made tremendous effort in scheduling all the scholars visiting North America to help celebrate *Pratishtha Mahaotshav* at Siddhachalam. Scholars also took great pain to take time out of their busy schedule and

travel thousands of miles to participate in the celebration. Many thanks must go to Samanis Madhur Prajnaji, Mangal Prajnaji, Bhattarak Charukeertiji, Davendra Keertiji, Mrs. Anita Jain, and all JAINA volunteers who made this program successful.

Summary

Overall this year's program was immensely successful. Hard work and generosity shown by the scholars and their hosts can't be described in words. Full cooperation from all the centers contributed greatly to the success of this program. Help of all the scholars, all the Jain centers, and all the volunteer hosts made it possible to spread the words of Lord Mahavir in this part of the world. We want to thank all the scholars, all the centers and all the volunteer hosts. With your cooperation we will be able to promote Jain philosophy throughout this continent and hope to do so in the future also.

Feedback

Finally, around the end of the year, the scholar visitation committee evaluates the success of each program by talking to various centers and asking each center to fill out a feedback form for each scholar who visited their center. This feedback information is used for updating the JAINA guidelines, restructuring the scholars visitation program, and selecting scholars for the next year's programs.

Excerpts from "Healing a Wounded World"

by Joan Connell
San Jose, Mercury News Religion & Ethics Editor
July 13, 1991

They consider themselves the world's first ecologists, the

original pro-lifers, people dedicated to the principle that human conduct must be guided by self-restraint, compassion and reverence for all forms of life. They are Jains, members of India's oldest and least understood religion.

Traditionally, the world's 10 million Jains have kept their non-violent philosophy to themselves. Now they are ready to share it in hopes of healing a wounded world.

"The planet is on the brink of ecological disaster; the world has become a spiritual slum," said N.P. Jain a prominent Indian scholar and diplomat who was keynote speaker at a Stanford University conference that drew more than 3,500 participants last weekend - the largest Jain gathering held outside India.

"Up to now, Jainism has been confined to the borders of India, but the torch has been lit in the West," Jain told the gathering, which was sponsored by the Jain Association of North America, which claims 40,000 members in United States and Canada.

"We must be interfaith catalysts in the world community," added L.M. Singhvi, an eminent jurist and human rights activist who is India's ambassador to the United Kingdom. "We must promote the science and technology of non-violence. We must engage in peaceful campaigns for ecology and against intolerance. Ours is an ancient belief, but it is also a religion for tomorrow and the day after tomorrow."

Singhvi is author of the "Jain Declaration on Nature," a statement on Jain beliefs and ecology that was presented last October to Britain's Prince Philip,

who heads the Worldwide Fund for Nature. Singhvi's declaration marked Jainism's formal entry in an interfaith effort by Jews, Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and Bahais to provide a spiritual dimension to the environmental movement.

Jain (pronounced "Jane") philosophy is widely misunderstood in the West, where it has been characterized as a sub-sect of Buddhism or Hinduism. In fact, Jainism predates both religions, with roots reaching to the ninth century B.C. The word Jain means "follower of the Jinas," human teachers who periodically appear throughout history to preach an unchanging message of non-violence, compassion and self-restraint. The most recent of those teachers, Mahavir, was a contemporary of the Buddha and lived in Northern India in about 500 B.C.

Jains worship no deity and seek no converts. They focus instead on the transformation of the individual soul from bondage to bliss through self-discipline, meditation - and above all - the practice of non-violence.

Respect for all organisms

In Jain belief, all organisms - from the smallest amoeba to the most highly evolved human - possess a soul that has a right to evolve undisturbed over many lifetimes on its journey to spiritual perfection.

Jains are strict vegetarians who consume neither meat, fish nor eggs. They are ardent pacifists.

A guiding principle is to inflict as little harm as possible. Jains do not wear leather, for

instance and avoid silk because hundreds of silkworms die to make the cloth. Women avoid wearing pearls because they are taken from living oysters. Jains generally wear cotton or synthetics.

Jainism is a non-hierarchical religion, whose monks and nuns are considered to play an equal role with the laymen and women who support them. Jains reject the Hindu caste system that permeates Indian society, and they insist on equality of the sexes.

The five vows

The Jain code of conduct requires five vows of its adherents:

- * To practice non-violence in thought, word and deed.

- * To seek and speak the truth.

- * To be honest and never take anything by force or theft.

- * To practice self-restraint and chastity.

- * To practice non-acquisitiveness

Death with support

Death is another issue in which Jains have a different point of view. In the West, death is regarded as an unwelcome experience, but often in Jainism when a person becomes old or infirm, a vow to refuse all food and drink is often taken under the guidance of a monk. In that way death is a willful action undertaken with the support of the family and the religious community.

Though their numbers are small in India - less than 2 percent of the total population - Jains wield considerable political, social and economic clout. Prag-

matic and well-educated city dweller, Jains tend to be doctors, lawyers, educators, scientist or merchants. Many of the local Jains attending the Stanford conference were book publishers, engineers and Silicon Valley entrepreneurs.

"The honesty of Jain business people is legendary. So is their genius for making a profit and so is their charity," says Giresh Shah. By some estimates, Shah says Jains generate one-half of India's gross national income and finance one-third of its charities for hospitals, kitchens to feed the hungry, shelters for sick and abandoned animals.

"We are well-to-do in part because we are pragmatists and in part because of our philosophy, which accommodates a multiplicity of viewpoints," he says. "We live and let live, always with compassion."

Western influence

But living and letting live is not easy in the modern world for Jains or anyone else. One of the prime concerns expressed at the three-day Stanford conference was how emigrant Jains living in the West pass their heritage on to their children, who have been born and bred in a culture where vegetarianism must compete with McDonald's and taco Bell, where worth is measured by possession, and where self-expression is more highly valued than self-restraint. One of the biggest issues is intermarriage with Non-Jains something that parents oppose, but that assimilated sons and daughters consider part of their American heritage.

"Sometimes it's hard. You want to go along with what your friends are doing," says 14-

year-old Laju Shah of Hayward. "And a lot of us think our parents should loosen up and allow us to

adapt on issues like dating. But that kind of thing takes time. I

think that ultimately you can be Jain and be an American, too."

Sixth Biennial JAINA Convention was a great success

On July 4, 1991 nearly 3,500 Jains from North America and around the world gathered at the sixth biennial JAINA Convention. This was the largest one ever held outside of India.

The primary focus of this event was a contemporary theme "Extending Jain Heritage to the Next Generation." The Jain message itself as professed by Vardahaman Mahavir hinges on the basic philosophy of reverence for life (ahimsa), non-possessiveness (aparigraha) and tapas (self-control).

Jainism prescribes a simple path to happiness, where one must not injure living beings, not be greedy and must try to control one's passions and desires.

The convention brought home the conviction that Jainism is a very unique philosophy of life, a unique religion with a code of conduct, which offers to the world a philosophy which may yet provide a basis for informed and enlightened action on the ecological front.

Some of the pleas to consider Jainism as a way of life, because it is as relevant today as they were 2,500 years ago, were given by High Commissioner, L.M. Singhvi; environmentalist, Michael Tobias; former governor, Jerry Brown; Ambassador, N.P.



Jain and UC Berkeley student, Rakesh Bhandari.

Many strategies were suggested, for example, making yearly visits to India, or living in India for extended periods of time to learn what the real culture is like, visiting Jain pilgrimage centers, taking part in local Jain events, going to patshalas and forming youth groups.

The 1991 JAINA award was given to Dr. Prem Gada who established a library of Jain books and audiovisual material in Lub-

bock, TX. Three special awards were presented for contributions to Jainism to Michael Tobias, Padmanabh Jaini and John Cort.

The youth was a main focal point of this JAINA

convention, with more than 600 youths taking part in the event, representing one of the largest gatherings of Jain youths outside of India. Jain youth leaders were clear about their vision of the future. For them the journey had only begun. They saw the convention as

being the start of the quest to secure Jainism for future generations and in doing so they gave assurance that Jainism would not dissolve in the great American melting pot. If Jains all over the world continue to strive to "Extend the Jain Heritage to the Next Generation" in their lives and through their endeavors like the JAINA Convention the future will take care of itself.

Calendar of Events

November 30, 1991, 9:00 -Bhoomi Pooja ceremony at the Jain Society of Greater Detroit

December 29, 1992 to January 11, 1993- World Vegetarian Congress., at Delhi/Madras.

July 1993- The Seventh JAINA Convention at the Pittsburgh Hindu-Jain Temple.

Matrimonials

Rules for Matrimonial Advertisements

Please address all matrimonial matters to F.J. Dalal, 9001 Goodluck Rd., Lanham, MD 20806; phone (301) 577-5215. The following rules may kindly be observed:

Those individuals wishing to register with Marriage Information Services (MIS)

1. MIS has two forms - 'Personal Data' and 'Additional Information', which must be filed completely by those who intend to register. The registrant must mail 2 completed forms with a check of \$15.00 payable to F.J. Dalal, and enclose a latest photo duly signed by the candidate at the back for MIS filing.

2. MIS will draft an ad for registrants for publishing in *Jain Digest*. Registrants may want to draft the ad themselves which may not be more than 30 words. MIS reserves the right to edit such ads.

3. All of the responses to MIS ads must be put in a closed, stamped envelope with a return address and the MIS reference number at the bottom left corner. Space for the address of the registrant must be kept blank. This envelope should be put in a bigger envelope with the return address and be mailed to F.J. Dalal.

4. On receipt of the above, MIS will put the address on the inner envelope and mail it to the candidate. MIS will not be responsible for responses which do not follow the above procedure.

Other individuals who do not register with MIS should draft their own ad for publication in the *Jain Digest*. Please send your ad along with a check for \$15.00. The editor reserves the right to edit the ad for space considerations.

MALE

AM17: Gujarati Jain parents invite correspondence for their civil engineer son aged 24, 5'11" U.S. citizen, from graduate girls 21, 5'4", fair complexion, with Indian cultural values. The Marriage could be fixed either at Chicago or Bombay. Call (708) 966-5564.

AM25: Gujarati Jain Parents invite correspondence from cultured, attractive girls 25-30 for handsome, well settled businessman son, 5'9", vegetarian. Call (805) 543-4232.

AM26: Gujarati Jain professional well settled in Toronto, age 26, 5'7", invites correspondence from graduate girls with photo and biodata to: Jayesh Gohel, 25 Point Dr., Mill Pond Acres, Lewes, DE 19958

M007: Gujarati Jain vegetarian parents invite correspondence from educated girls for their son M.D. age 27, 5'7", 160 lbs. Currently doing residency in pediatrics. Call (219) 923-0691

M065: Gujarati Jain, vegetarian boy, 5'9", born Nov. 65, attractive, aggressive, optimistic, Electrical Engineer, professionally employed in the largest computer corp., permanent resident, well-connected family, invites responses from graduate girls.

M071: Gujarati Jain, vegetarian boy from NJ, 5'11", 140 lbs., born Aug. 67, M.S. (Engg.), invites responses from professional girls.

M073: Gujarati vegetarian Jain boy from NJ, 5'6", 130 lbs., born Mar. 67, B.S. (Pharm.), well employed, invites responses from professional girls.

M074: Visiting Kutchi Jain from Dubai, B. Com, 5'6", 165 lbs., born May 62, in business, invites responses from vegetarian resident/citizen girls.

M078: Vegetarian Gujarati Jain boy from IL, 5'10", 155 lbs., born May 66, B.S. (Elec. Eng.), invites responses from professional girls.

M081: Hindi speaking vegetarian doctor boy from MO, 5'0", 110 lbs., born Mar. 65, from family of doctors, invites responses from professional girls.

M083: Jain vegetarian boy from NYC, 5'10", 155 lbs., born April 64, invites responses from suitable girls.

M085: Gujarati Jain boy from IN, 5'9", 128 lbs., born Mar 63, M.S. (Engg.), employed, on H-1 visa, invites responses from graduate girls.

M087: Gujarati vegetarian Jain doctor, 5'9", 145 lbs., born Feb 54, on H-1 visa, never married, invites responses from graduate girls between age 25 and 30. Send photo and biodata to: Gohil, 2107 Kemper Dr., League city, TX 77573.

M088 Gujarati vegetarian Jain, 5'7", 130 lbs., born Sep. 66, very well employed, on H-1 visa, M.B.A. (MIS), bright, sharp, invites responses from professional girls.

M090: Gujarati Jain vegetarian issueless divorcee, U.S. citizen from

CA, 5'5", 170 lbs., born Dec. 59, B.Com., doing business, invites responses from compatible graduate girls.

M093: Ambitious Gujarati Jain from business family in India, 5'10", 126 lbs., born July 68., B.E.(Civil), seeks responses from graduate vegetarian girls. Contact: Alepsh Shah, Navliwala Bldg., Station Rd., Anand, Gujrat 388001. Phone 25327.

M094: Gujarati Jain vegetarian from CA, 5'8", 170 lbs., born Dec. 64, M.S. (Comp. & Elec. Eng.), on H-1 visa, seeks responses from professional girls.

M097: Gujarati Jain vegetarian from NY, 5'8", 160 lbs., born Apr. 46, B.Sc. (1966), M.S. (incomp.), seeks responses from compatible girls.

M100: Gujarati Jain parents invite correspondence from cultured, attractive girl 25-30 for handsome, well settled vegetarian businessman son, 5'9", born Sep.56. Call (805) 543-4232.

M102: Gujarati Jain vegetarian from VA, 5'11", 125 lbs., born Dec. 66, B.Com., D.B.M., recently arrived in u.S.A. as immigrant, seeks responses from suitable girls.

M103: Gujarati Jain vegetarian from VA, 5'11", 115 lbs., born Jan. 65, B.Sc and Comp. languages, recently arrived in U.S.A. as immigrant, invites responses from suitable girls.

M105: Gujarati vegetarian Jain from Ca, 5'3", 110 lbs., born Sep. 65, M.S. (Comp. Engg.), on F-1 student visa seeks responses from compatible graduate girls.

M106: Gujarati Jain vegetarian Doctor of Medicine from India, 5'10" 140 lbs., born May 64, seeks responses from resident/citizen professional girls. Contact: Sanjay Shah, 5 Avenue Park Society, Nawa

wadaj Road, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India. 380013. Phone 482877.

M107: Young Hindi vegetarian businessman from India, 5'10", 154 lbs., born June 64, M.Com., seeks responses from resident/citizen professional girls. Contact: Rajeev Jain, WZ101, Meenakshi Garden, Tilak Nagar, Shivaji Marg, New Delhi 110018, India. Phone: 91-11-504966.

M109: Handsome young Gujarati vegetarian businessman from CA, 5'8", 140 lbs., born Jan. 65, B. Com. seeks responses from suitable graduate girls.

M111: Kannada vegetarian Jain from CA, 5'11", 160 lbs., born Jan. 59, B.E., H-1 visa, seeks responses from suitable graduate girls.

M113: Gujarati vegetarian doctor from Baroda, Gujarrat, India, 5'8", 120 lbs., born April 68, M.B.B.S., doing internship, seeks responses from resident graduate girls.

M117: Gujarati vegetarian from NJ, 5'6", 165 lbs., born Nov. 59, in business, seeks responses from suitable girls.

M118: Well connected Gujarati vegetarian boy from NJ, 6'2", 160 lbs., born Nov.. 64, M.S. (Elec. Engg.), on H-1 visa, seeks responses from resident graduate girls.

M119: North Indian parents invite correspondence from professionally oriented girls with blend of East/ West culture for vegetarian, non-smoking/drinking M.S. (Chem. Eng.), son born Aug 65, expecting green card soon.

M120: Gujarati Jain parents invite responses for handsome graduate engineer son, born Nov. 64, 5'6", 125 lbs., from family loving well educated girls with photo. Contact:

Shah, 1409 Risingwind Ct., Silver Spring, MD 20905. (301) 384-1746.

M121: Gujarati vegetarian doctor from CO, 5'11", 160 lbs., born Oct. 59, divorcee, invites responses from suitable girls.

M123: Gujarati vegetarian boy from CA, 5'7", 148 lbs., born May 65, M.S. (Chem.Eng.), F-1 visa, seeks responses from resident professional girls.

M125: Gujarati vegetarian boy from NJ, 6'0", 160 lbs., born Aug 65, M.S. (Envir.Eng.), HIB visa, seeks responses from resident professional girls.

: 44 year old, 5'7", Issueless Divorcee from a brief early marriage, Business graduate, practising Business Consultant, Jain Activist with family's involvement in Jain Society for several generations, widely traveled North America and Europe. Strict vegetarian and non-drinker, believing in family values - wishing to share life with a vegetarian lady and willing relocate, invites correspondence with bio-data and returnable recent photographs. Post Box 3585 New Delhi-110024, India.

FEMALE:

AF21: North Indian Jain parents invite correspondence from well settled North America raised professionals for North American raised daughter 28, 5'4", B. Sc Computer Science.

AF22: Jain parents invite correspondence for their US born gentle and intelligent 21 yrs.. daughter, fair complexion, 5'3", B.S. (MIS) from Virginia Tech. Prabhat Jain, 5292 Peregrine Crest, Roanoke, VA, 24014. (703) 989-5059.

AF23: Parents of Jain girl, born Aug. 64, B.Sc Bio-Technology invite

responses from vegetarian Hindi speaking Jain professionals. Call (604) 321-2929.

AF24: Correspondence invited for 24 year 5'5" Gujarati Jain vegetarian girl, M.D. 6/91, from professional Gujarati boys brought up in USA. Send photo and biodata to: N. Shah, 1438 Share Ave., Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

F067: Correspondence invited for Gujarati Jain sister, born Nov. 64, Doctor of Chiropractic, doing internship, 5'3", attractive, fair and intelligent, from postgraduate professionals. Send biodata with photo to P.O. Box 530974, Miami, FL 33153. (305) 751-7009.

F070: Kannada speaking vegetarian Jain girl from NYC, 5'2", 107 lbs., born Aug 68, MS in Comp. Sc. 6/91, invites responses from vegetarian professionals.

F072: North Indian Jain Girl from NYC, 5'2", 116 lbs., born Nov. 69, from a business family, invites responses from green card holders or citizens.

F075: Parents of a 22 year old daughter invite matrimonial correspondence. Presently, she is in her first year of law school in Wash. D.C. She is attractive, slim and brought up in America. Her father is a practicing physician in the Wash. Metro Area.

F076: Kutchi Gujarati sister from CT invites responses for her sister from a reputed family, in Bombay, awaiting her green card, 5'3", 100 lbs., born Feb. 59, B.Sc, from well settled vegetarian Jains

F077: Gujarati Jain vegetarian divorcee girl from well settled family in NY, 5'3", 110 lbs., born May 54, B.S. (Chem.) attractive, young

looking, having steady job, invites responses from compatible professionals or businessmen.

F079: Gujarati Jain vegetarian girl from CA, 5'0", 106 lbs., born Apr. 62, B.S. (Acctg.), invites responses from settled graduates.

F080: Vegetarian first year resident doctor girl from Hindi speaking family of MO, 5'3", 105 lbs., born Sep. 66, Invites responses from professionals.

F082 Gujarati vegetarian divorcee lady with two daughters, from IL, 5'2", 125 lbs., born Aug. 43, M.S. (Econ.), invites responses from compatible well established gentlemen.

F084: Hindi speaking innocent divorcee girl from CA, 5'3" born Jan. 58 B.S., invites responses from professionals.

F086: Doctor sister from NY invites responses from professional resident/citizens for Gujarati Jain vegetarian M.B.B.S. girl from Ahmedabad, 5'2" 106 lbs., born May 67, from family of doctors.

F089: Gujarati Jain girl from NY, 5'4", 120 lbs, born Aug. 64 B.S. (Bus.), invites responses from vegetarian professional

F091: Hindi speaking Oswal vegetarian Jain girl from M.P., India, 5'4" 106 lbs., born Nov. 67, M.A., doing Ph.D., seeks responses from professionals.

F092: Gujarati vegetarian Jain girl from NC, 5'1", 105 lbs., born Oct. 65, B.S. (Bus. & Acct.), invites responses from professionals.

F096: Brother from NY, invites correspondence for sister, 21, 5'5". 115 lbs., B. Com., will be pursuing

M.B.A., Perm. resident, from vegetarian Kutchi Visa Oswal Jain graduates.

F098: Hindi vegetarian citizen girl from IL, 5'4", 122 lbs., born Aug. 68, B.S., doing M.B.A., working, invites responses from resident professional.

F101: Gujarati vegetarian resident high school graduate girl from DE, 5'3", 110 lbs., born Feb. 65, working, invites responses from suitable candidates.

F104: Gujarati vegetarian girl from CA, 5'5", 118 lbs., born Sept. 61, never married, B.S. (U.K.), working family business, invites responses from settled residents.

F108: Gujarati vegetarian citizen girl from NY, 5'1", 108 lbs., born Aug 65, M.S. (Elec. Engg.) well employed seeks responses from qualified professionals only.

F110: Gujarati vegetarian visitor from CA, 5'6", 105 lbs., born May 61, B Sc. (Phys.), seeks responses from settled resident graduates.

F112: Vegetarian first year intern doctor girl from PA, 5'4", 130 lbs., born Sep 67, brought up in USA seeks responses from medical doctors only.

F114: Sister from PA, invites responses from settled professionals for girl well employed in CA, 5'4", 105 lbs., born July 64, M.S. (TV Broadcasting).

F115 Gujarati parents from PA, invite responses from well qualified professionals only, for their vegetarian daughter employed in NYC, 5'5", 110 lbs., born May 65, B.S. (Bus.).

F116: Gujarati vegetarian doctor girl from U.K., 5'2". 115 lbs., born Nov

63, M.B.B.S. (1986), D.Ch. (1990) D.R.C.O.G. (Dip. Royal Coll. of Obst. & Gyn., (1991), invites responses from well settled professionals only. Call: U.K. (081) 940-8588

F122: Hindi vegetarian citizen girl from PA, 5'3", 115 lbs., born July 67, M.B.A. (Bus.), invites responses from well qualified professionals only.

F124: Well settled Gujarati vegetarian professional divorcee from CA, 5'0", 90 lbs., born Jan. 45, M.S. (Physics) invites responses from suitable qualified professional.

F126: Gujarati vegetarian girl from NJ, 5'3", 100 lbs., born June 60, B.Sc (Phys. Ther.) invites responses from settled graduates.

F127: Gujarati vegetarian girl from GA, 5'6", 130 lbs born July 60, B.Sc (Occ. Ther.) invites responses from settled professionals.

F128: Gujarati vegetarian girl from NY, 4'10", 95 lbs., born Oct. 68, B.S. (Engg.) invites responses from professionals only

F129: Hindi vegetarian doctor girl doing residency in Radiation Oncology, from very well settled family in OH, 5'4" born Nov. 64, invites responses from U.S. resident physicians.

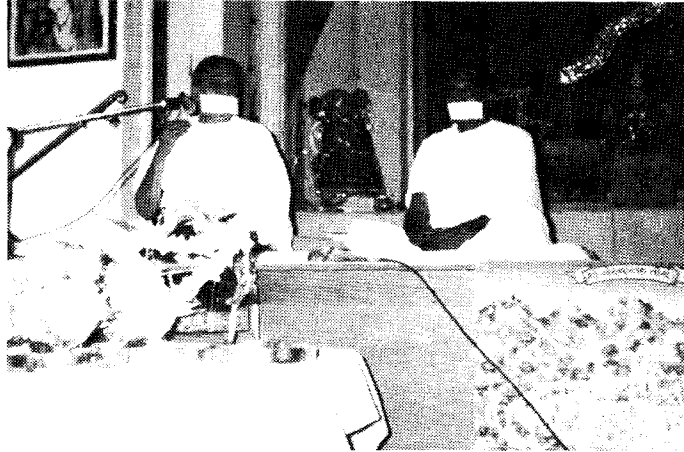
F130: Gujarati vegetarian girl from NJ, 5'3", 100 lbs., born Oct. 62, B.Sc. (Zoology), invites responses from suitable graduates.

: Jain Parents invite correspondence from U.S. educated physicians for smart, fair, U.S. Citizen, physician (M.D.), doing residency in radiation oncology, 27 years old, 5'3 1/2". Send biodata 9831 Tall Timber, Cincinnati, OH 45241, Phone: (513) 777-1554.

: Jain Parents invite correspondence for beautiful daughter, 26 yrs, 5'4", Grew up in USA. speaks, reads and writes Hindi. Vegetarian - please reply: P.O. Box 519, Sandy Hook, CT 06482

: Matrimonial correspondence invited for 46 year old female, professional, Jain, green card holder. Please send biodata with photograph to S. Shah, 2175 Cedar Ave, apt 4 F, Bronx, NY 10468.

Paryushan and Daslakshan



Paryushan can literally be translated as "coming together from all directions." This symbolizes growth and transformation. The purpose of life according to the Jain teaching is to realize oneself, to experience wholeness, peace and reverence for life.

Jains call the festival of Paryushan the festival of the soul. When we forgive we become one with the light of our soul. Without forgiveness, each of us like a lamp whose inner flame cannot penetrate the fine particles of soot, our light can die away. When we wash away these grains of anger and resentment with forgiveness, the radiant soul within can shine forth its rays of joy and peace.

The Paryushan and Daslakshan were celebrated all over the country with great enthusiasm.

The Jain Center of America had Sadhavi Subhamji, Sadhavi Yashaji and Kumari Mangalam to provide their spiritual leadership for the

program and deliver Vyakhyan-Mala. There was a youth program every day during the festival.

The Jain Center of Buffalo conducted most of their ceremony in English. Moushi Jain, who was recognized for outstanding leadership in the Jain Youth activities, at the JAINA convention was recognized before the local community

The Jain Center of British Columbia and Seattle jointly celebrated Paryushan and Daslakshan on September 22, at Seattle. Anand Jain of Vancouver participated in Sidhha Chakra Puja Vidhan held for four days at the Jain temple of Toronto.

Congratulations to Smt Sushila Ben Bhagat for completing eight days of fast

The Jain Center of Central Florida *Congratulations to Rita S.*

Parikh of Merit Island, FL for completing 36 Upvas and eight Basna

The Jain Center of Central Ohio celebrated their very first Paryushan ever in Columbus; September 5th-12th. R.K. Jain, a retired I AS officer, and practitioner of Jain principals, from Rajasthan, India was with them during the festival.

The Jain Society of Chicago Seven hundred families participated in the religious festival. The society was blessed with the presence of Samanis Madhu Prajnaji, Mangal Prajnaji and Professor Malookchand Shah all providing wonderfully enlightening discourses on Jainism. Many individuals, including youth did Tapasyas. The youths also participated throughout. 150 youths conducted a Pratikraman in English for the third consecutive year.

The Jain Center of Cincinnati-Dayton had daily services from September 4th-12th. The Daslakshan was held on September 22nd. The program included bhajans, pravachan by Shree Charukeertiji.

The Jain Center of Greater Cleveland celebrated the Paryushan Festival September 5th-11th. They also celebrated Pratikraman on the 12th and Dashlakshan Snatra Puja on the 22nd.

The Jain Community of Pittsburgh celebrated Paryushan which included Snatra-Puja and Swapna ceremony. Discussions were held every night on different topics of

Jainism including the Kalpastura. On the last day, Samvatsari Pratikraman was performed at the Hindu-Jain Temple.

The Jain Center of Northern California celebrated between September 5th and 14th. The occasion was blessed by the visit of Muni Shri Roopchandraj Maharaj and Manakji Maharaj giving a variety of discourses throughout the ten days.

Congratulations to Rashmiben Shah, for completing a Varshi Tap (alternate day fasting for one year); Kanchnben Sheth for completing one time eating for the past eighteen months and Meenaben Mehta for completing an eight day fast during Paryushan.

The Jain Center of North Carolina celebrated the festival from August 31st through September 7th. Shree Dhirajlal Panditji visited the center. He explained the complete summary of Jainism. Audio and visual tapes are available upon request.

Congratulations to Chetna Fofaria, for fasting sixteen days; Jita Shah, 8 days fasting; Lalit Banker 7 days fasting.

The Jain Society of North Texas celebrated Paryushan September 5th-20th. The distinguished speakers included Bhattarak Shree Charukeertiji, Samani Madhu Prajnaji and Ambassador N.P. Jain, during July and August.

The Jain Center of Southern California had Pandit Shree Dhirajlal Mehta from India for the festival: September 5th through the 12th. He delivered Kalpastura Vachan and other Pravachanas. A

number of young children did Tapasya.

The Jain Center of Greater St. Louis celebrated the festival for eight days, September 5th-12th, under the spiritual guidance of Bhattarak Charukeertiji of Moodbidri. He preached the teachings of Mahavir, the Tatvaarthsutra and the five principles of Jainism.

The Jain Society of Toronto had daily pratikraman at the center followed by religious discourses given by Professor Dharendra Fielia from the University of Bombay. The Tapasvi Bahuman was performed on Sunday September 15th followed by a Swamivatsalya Bhojan donated by Smita and Anil Vora. There were numerous Tapasyas ranging from Akasna to nine upvas.

Congratulations to Smita Anil Vora and Kishori Ashwin Vora on nine day fasts; Smita Vinod Pansar, Smita Milan Shah, Pallavi Lalit Mehta and Pushpaben Hirabhai Patel on eight days of fasting.

Tulsa Jain Sangh also celebrated the Paryushan festival. *Congratulations to Rasilaben Patel for 8 days of Upvas and to others who did other tapasyas.*

The Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington were very pleased to have Shree Kiranbhai Parekh, from India during their festival. Shree Kiranbhai has in-depth knowledge of Jainism and was an excellent orator. The celebrations began September 5th and ended the 13th.

Letters to The Editor

Youth exchanges may prove helpful

Dear Editor:

A youth exchange program is a very good way for Jains to unite and share. We have so much to learn from each other. It is a way of showing young people what it means to be Jain. It does not need to be conducted internationally, as the youth exchange last July. In fact, since North America is so vast, there is a large scope for a successful youth exchange. There are Jain centers in most areas and can, through working together, coordinate a two week program. If these are well conducted, we need not worry about the future of the Jain community. It will be in safe hands.

Atul Shah
London, UK

Digest sparks matrimonial bonds

Dear Editor:

I am very pleased to inform you that marriage of my youngest son Mukesh Kumar Jain M.D. with Rachana Jain M.D. daughter of Vijjinder Kumar and Rekha Jain of Staten Island, NY., was celebrated recently.

I would like to acknowledge that this was made possible by the *Jain Digest*. The response to this ad was beyond my expectation. There were about thirty parents who responded to our matrimonial ad. I think that the *Jain Digest* is doing a service as a source of information to the whole Jain community residing

abroad and especially in the United States.

As this magazine is doing an excellent service, I would like to encourage everyone to fully support its various endeavors.

Vidya Sagar and Kamla Jain
Williamville, NY

JAINA Convention: a colorful gathering

Dear Editor:

As America prepared for a night of Independence Day firecrackers, the Jain Center of Northern California launched a colorful, Sixth Bicentennial JAINA Convention at Stanford University. The three day celebration began on July 4, 1991 and lasted until July 6th. Revolving around the theme: "Extending Jain Heritage to the Next Generation," the program included a spectrum of events.

Controversial panel discussions between youth, adults, and the audience instigated question and sparked discourse.

These discussions dealt directly with the Western World and generation conflicts. The convention focussed on the Jain youth, the agenda overflowed with activities for the young Jains. Although different people will mark different sections as the high points, most agree that woven through the three days was a spirit of discourse and direction.

Ushma Shah

The convention was a landmark for Jains

Dear Editor:

Like thousands of Jains we also attended the JAINA Convention. First, the Jain Center of Northern California deserves a standing ovation for a job well done. We would like to express our deep sense of gratitude and thankfulness for

their tremendous effort and dedication.

This was a landmark event for all Jains. A broad participation from all over the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, India and elsewhere, made it a milestone. The convention recognized that we all want to be together as a community.

Jains are volunteers, hence, we need to get involved in any or as many organizations that will perpetuate the Jain values among ourselves and others. This would also mean giving something back to our newly adopted community while fulfilling the sense of duty.

Padam S. Dhakad
Vienna, Va 22181

Youths grow from convention experience

Dear Editor:

I along with many other youths were fortunate to be able to go to the JAINA Convention. There were many things at the convention that I liked. One of the most important things was that there were a lot of youths in attendance and many youth activities. Most of these activities were organized by youths. The youths were also very active throughout the entire convention. Lastly, the fact that it was held at Stanford University, a beautiful campus also added to the convention.

Sumeet Jain
Buffalo, NY

Give freely, with a kind heart

Dear Editor:

Politics have never been the exclusive province for presidents,

governors, mayors, lawyers, etc.. Politics have been the base of our philosophy, the guiding light of our souls. The Federation of the Jain Associations in North America has flourished with a taste of success and has grown into an impending power. It has become the last piece to the puzzle which shall one day unite all Jains. Jainism, though opinionated, has become one of the purest and compassionate religions through preaching of non-violence. One may say that Jains are timid and shy, the truth is that Jains are full of kind hearts. Our Lord Mahavir has taught us the value of life which many tend to never understand.

Politics, that one word which humans will always involve themselves in. Throughout the United States one sees a candidate slander another just for a job and some recognition. Is this right? Are we just hungry wolves waiting to become famous? JAINA is a proud organization which is of great standing, yet, as always, some politics exist. One's efforts should come from the heart not through force or some other reason. Though I know JAINA will ensue to an apex, would simply and earnestly appeal to all to give from the heart. We must all give freely and try to eliminate the biases that exist.

Steve Jain
Athens, OH

Youth Column

Young Jains of America

By Dr. Urmila Talsania

Young Jains of America is a socio-cultural organization under the umbrella of the Federation of the JAINA to give young Jains the opportunity for leadership and responsibility, for the purpose of better communication and co-ordination. It is divided into six regions with

two coordinators for each region.

These regions are MID-WEST: Chicago, Louisville (KY), Lansing, Detroit, Minnesota, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Central Ohio, Toledo, Milwaukee, and Pittsburgh (coordinators -Amar Salgia (217) 223-7735 and Rajeev Shah (314) 227-6144). NORTH ATLANTIC: Connecticut, Boston, Cherry Hill (NJ), Berlin (NJ), Essex Fells (NJ), Long Island (NY), Elmhurst (NY), Allentown (PA), Harrisburg (PA), Washington. (coordinators -Sarita Gandhi (617) 324-0393 and Raj Shah (201) 731-2821). NORTHEAST: Albany, Buffalo, Grand Island (NY), Elmira (NY), Rochester, Syracuse, Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal (coordinators - Sumeet Jain (716) 688-0104 and Kulin Mehta (416) 626-1227). SOUTH: Southern Louisiana, Tulsa, North Texas, Houston, Lubbock (TX) (coordinators - Ashish Vaidya (713) 498-8416 and Zubin Mehta (214) 490-7829). SOUTHEAST: Charlotte, Garner (NC), Greenville (SC), Huntsville (AL), Atlanta, Daytona Beach, Fort Meyers, Orlando, Southern Florida, Germantown (TN). (coordinators - Nirav Shah (919) 933-2823 and Sanjay Parekh (404) 955-7337). WEST: Phoenix, Southern California, San Diego, Northern California, Alberta, British Columbia, Los Angeles. (coordinators -Suketu Kandhar (714) 894-2930 and Tushar shah (408) 281-1688.

JAIN YOUTH EXCHANGE

by Atul Shah, London UK

Young people are increasingly moving away from religion. In order to encourage them, a special youth exchange was organized for the first time, involving youths from the United Kingdom and the United States and Canada.

Last July, Jains in North America were the host to nineteen youths from the UK Jain community who visited New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington Buffalo, Toronto and of course the JAINA convention at Stanford University. At each city, the local youths collected them from the airports, took them to their homes, and went sightseeing with them. In addition, the UK youths had prepared a variety show comprising two plays, dances and slide show depicting Jains in the UK and the youth activities. This was presented at all the Jain centers. Furthermore, the youths also launched their first publication entitled "Experiments with Jainism", a set of techniques of putting ancient Jain principles into practice in the western world.

JUST SAY NO

by Nealesh Dhiraj Shah
135 Morningside Dr.
Grand Island, NY 14072



Youth receiving Awards at Convention

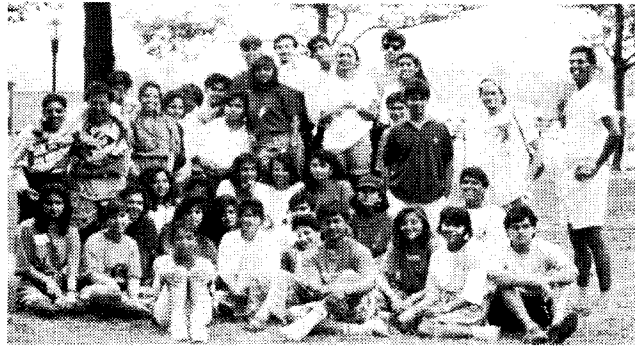
Now here's a message for all you people sittin' down.
It's about a disease that's spreadin' through our town.
It ain't a sickness, but it's just as bad.
It frustrates us all, and it makes me mad.
It's spreadin' very quickly through our great nation.
It follows us everywhere, even on vacation.
DRUGS is the topic that I'm talkin' about.
"JUST SAY NO" are the words you gotta shout.

So as you take a walk, someone asks if you want cocaine?
Answer without hesitation that you ain't insane.
'Cause when you're asked that question, use your head.
'Cause if you don't you'll soon be dead.

Library and Education

A Case Study of the Jains

Mr. Sivaram Srikanth, Assistant Director of Memorial Auditorium, Ohio University is working on his Ph.D. dissertation Ohio University, on the topic entitled Communication and Cultural Identity in the Diasporas: A Case Study of the



Youths from UK at Conventio

Now how many kids die of drugs each year?
That's a figure that I just don't know.
I wish they'd get their brains in gear.
And when asked that question, "JUST SAY NO".

Now God gave us this body, and he meant us to use it.
So don't take steroids and don't abuse it.
Crack, Marijuana or cocaine; doesn't matter what type.
None of them do you any good, so

don't listen to the hype.
The hype you hear in the streets, the word from your peers
If the word includes drugs, it ain't fit for your ears.

So I want you all to get your facts straight.
Drugs are illegal in each and every state.
So come on everybody and listen to my plea,
When walkin' through the streets just stay drug free!

Jains in North America. You should be receiving a questionnaire which he may need for his work. Please look for it and give your time to return it.

Curriculum outlines on Pathshala are finished

by Dr. Prem Gada
Malook Chand R. Shah and R.K.

Jain have finished the curriculum outlines for Jain Pathshala. This will be presented during the forthcoming seminar for teachers in Jainism in New York. The seminar will take place on December 21-22, 1991. Those who are interested in teaching please contact Dr. Prem Gada (806) 794-4777, Dr. Niranjana Shah (708) 635-7780, or Dr. Urmila Talsania (708) 969-8845.

Asha will never be forgotten

Asha Jaini died in a tragic accident in July of 1991. Asha's parents immigrated to the United States from their native India and settled in California.

Asha graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1980 with a degree in social welfare and went on to earn a law degree from Ameri-

can University in 1984. Asha chose a life dedicated to public service, to express her concern for people and issues of social justice by working for the welfare of those less fortunate.

Asha Jaini was 32 years of age. she was a gifted, talented person. We will miss her greatly. Our hearts go out to her family and loved ones.



Jain Digest

Dear Jain Digest Reader,

It is our intention to expand the *Jain Digest* in every way...including advertising support.

The *Jain Digest* serves thousands of Jain families and is an outstanding medium for the Jain community. It is also an excellent source of advertising for businesses and service companies.

We need your support both in the form of donation and volunteer help in making JAINA activities succeed. With your help we will keep moving forward

Please make your tax deductible check payable to the Federation of JAINA.

All of your donations to JAINA/Jain Digests/JAINA Library or other projects are used 100% for these projects. No portion of your donation is used for the salary, remuneration, food or travel expenses, etc. of any of the committee members. All work is voluntary.

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President of JAINA

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JAINA Convention 1991 - Video Tape Order Form

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Single Tape:	\$20/Tape (for USA & Canada- NTSC) \$40/Tape (for elsewhere- PAL)		
Full set (17 tapes):	\$255/set (for USA & Canada- NTSC); \$510/set (for elsewhere- PAL).		
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	<u>NTSC/PAL</u>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Overview (Two Hour Summary) of the Convention (One Tape)	\$ 20/ 40		
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<input type="checkbox"/> July 5 Cultural Program (One Tape)	\$ 20/ 40		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Full Set (17 Tapes)	\$255/510		
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