

JAIN DIGEST

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FEDERATION OF THE JAIN ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

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Seventh JAINA Biennial Convention,
Pittsburg, PA
July 2 - 4, 1993

Celebrating The 100th
Anniversary of Jainism
In North America
See pages 23-28

Federation of JAINA established 1981



Live and let live

Editor-In-Chief; Surender K. Jain
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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 interests in Jainism. Besides domestic and international news, including achievements, awards, and honors received 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 the details given below:

ISSUE

January
April
July
October

DEADLINE

November 25th
March 1st
May 21st
August 21st

Materials concerning matrimonial matters should be sent to F.J. Dalal, 9001 Goodluck Road, Lanham, MD 20706. News for the Youth Corner may be sent to Urmila Talsania, 5 Yellow Star Court, Woodridge, IL 60517, and items relating to Library and Education should be sent to Premchand Gada, 4410 Fiftieth Street, Lubbock, TX 79414.

It is requested that all articles submitted be typed and of good quality. If you are able to send information on a 3.5" computer disk in ASCII format, please do so. Black and white, nonreturnable 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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Cherry Hill (NJ)
Chicago
Cincinnati/Dayton
Cleveland
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Jain Meditation Center

Mahavir Jain Mission
Montreal

Ottawa
Toronto
Vancouver

IF YOU BELIEVE the Jain Digest is serving our community, please send your annual donation: Each page costs \$250 to produce. We need your support in the form of an individual donation, or sponsorship of the whole issue by groups or businesses. See page 22 for details.

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From The Editor

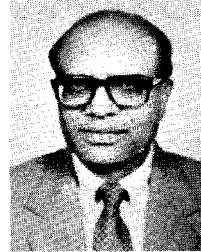
I have received both letters and phone calls about having some well-defined code of conduct for our monks and spiritual leaders who come here in North America.

It seems to me that the Jain community should give a serious thought to this. We have heard some problems and unless we all speak with one voice, these problems will not disappear. It is easy to nip anything initially than let it grow and face bigger consequences. I thought this letter would encourage our readers to give their thought to this matter and send me their ideas which may be published in the forthcoming issues.

Jaijinendra
Surender K. Jain
Editor-In-Chief

Vantage Point

Will Jainism survive in North America Part II



Sulekh C. Jain, President of JAINA

In the October 1992 issue of *Jain Digest*, I gave an account of how two of our Jain youths view the state of affairs and their natural concerns about the survival of Jainism in North America. After listening, during a frank and open dialogue, this is what I told them.

In my opinion, the glass is not half empty. In fact, it is more than half full. Jainism will not only sur-

vive in North America but also will grow and prosper. During the next several decades, Jains here (youth and others) will exert a strong influence in its reform (of practices and traditions and not of philosophy and principles), non-sectarianism, broader and forward looking outlook and its globalization.

I believe that, although we older Jains have long kept the plant of Jainism in the dark and in a small, narrow and confining pot, our youths will take this plant out into fresh air and sunlight and plant it in soil so that it can grow into a big and beautiful tree.

The reasons for my optimism are:

Infrastructure

We, the first generation Jains, did not forget our responsibilities. During the last 25 years or so we have established a strong infrastructure that we all can be proud of. Now there is a Jain organization or a group in practically every major city in North America. Twelve years ago we created a national organization (Federation of JAINA) which now represents nearly all the Jains. More than 20 places of worship with Jain deities have been established. At least four Pratishthas are being planned in this year alone. Several more Jain temples are being constructed or designed. Suitable, appropriate, easy to read and understand educational and pooja materials have been made available and several more are in progress. Several videos and audios are now available. A couple of libraries (especially JAINA Library, Lubbock, Texas) are ready to serve the needs of the community.

We now celebrate our holy festivals on a very regular basis. Many of our rituals, places of worship and publications are non-sectarian. JAINA conventions and other such functions have become gathering places for all Jains to meet, debate and discuss issues. Participation in inter-faith movements, visits and availability of Jain scholars, pub-

Continued on page 22

News and Announcements

Jain Studies Chair at University of Toronto

by S.K. Jain, *Covenor, Jain Studies Program, Toronto*

A Jain Studies Fund has been established at the University of Toronto to promote research, lectures and courses on Jainism.

The University of Toronto is a major educational institution of Central Canada for Indian studies. The Centre for South Asian Studies co-ordinates or cross-lists several courses on Indian religions at the University of Toronto. However, no course on Jain studies has been offered at Toronto or at any other Canadian university so far.

It is hoped that with the funds deposited in the Jain Studies Fund, the University of Toronto will be able to hire a Jain specialist, who can offer a full course on Jain studies in not too distant a future (a single-term course is scheduled for 1993).

The ultimate objective of the Jain Studies Fund is to finance a Chair of Jain Studies, offering a range of courses on Jain art, literature, religion and philosophy at the University of Toronto. It is a very costly proposition. Roughly one-half million dollars are required to sponsor an academic Chair at a Canadian university. At least one-half of this amount must be raised by the community sponsoring the Chair. The rest of the amount can be procured by making grant applications to the federal and provincial governments. The federal government has given matching grants in the past, dollar for dollar, to help establish and maintain such Chairs, e.g., the one established at the University of British Columbia for Sikh Studies.

Ten percent of the required amount (i.e., approximately \$25,000) has already been deposited with the

University of Toronto for Jain Studies.

Further information regarding the Jain Studies Fund may be obtained by contacting Dr. A. Wagle, Director, Centre for South Asian studies, University of Toronto, Sydney Smith Hall, Toronto, M5S 1S1 (Tel: 416-978-4294).

Jain Art Exhibition

First Major Exhibition to be held in U.S.A.

by Drs. Pratapditya Pal & Siddharth Bhansali, *Indian & Southeast Asian Art, Los Angeles, CA*

Despite the comparatively small size of the community, Jains have proved significant patrons of religious and cultural institutions throughout history, responsible, for instance, for some of India's most magnificent temples. Nonetheless, past Western exhibitions and surveys of Indian art have devoted less emphasis to Jain art than to that of Hindu and Buddhist cultures, ignoring Jainism as a distinct tradition. In order to redress the imbalance as well as provide the public with a comprehensive introduction to the essentials of the Jain faith and its art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art is developing a special traveling exhibition The Peaceful Conquerors: Jain Art from India. Scheduled to open at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in October 1994, the exhibition will travel to the Kimball Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas, the New Orleans Museum of Art, and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

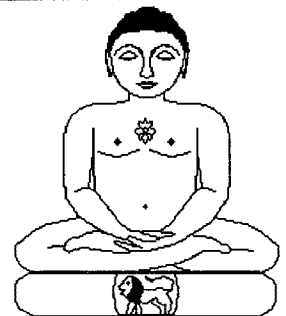
As its primary goal, the exhibition will expose broad audiences to the art and significant role of the Jain tradition within India's cultural history. Composed of approximately 150 works of art drawn from North American, European and Indian collections, the exhibition will provide a chronological presentation of the history and the essential characteristics of Jain art, which spans a period of more than two-thousand

years. It will be the most extensive presentation of Jain art ever assembled, including sculptures of metal and stone, paintings on palm leaf, paper and cloth, textiles, ritual objects, and historical photographs. To accompany the exhibition, a fully illustrated catalogue is also planned which will serve as an important resource on the culture and religious arts of the Jains.

In addition to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's curators of Indian art, Pratapditya Pal, Janice Leoshko and Stephen Markel, noted scholars such as Shridhar Andhare, Director of the Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute Museum at Ahmedabad, Sadashiv Gorakshakar, Director of the Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay and John Guy, Deputy Keeper of Indian Art, Victoria and Albert Museum, will contribute to the exhibition and catalogue. Padmanabh Jaini, Professor of Religion at the University of California at Berkeley, John Cort, Professor of Religion at Denison University, and the Jainologist M.A. Dhaky of the American Institute of Indian Studies, Varanasi, will also be involved.

For further information regarding the show, contact Dr. Siddharth Bhansali, 2633 Napoleon Ave., Suite 500, New Orleans, LA 70115, (504) 861-9351.

Lord Mahavir



भगवान महावीर

This picture was drawn by Achla Agarwal of Shreveport, LA on a personal computer.

Southern Region Youth Conference: A Success

by Pavan Zaveri, Dallas, Texas

During Thanksgiving weekend, about 60 youths from the South Region met in Dallas, Texas to discuss various issues of global, national, and local concern. Groups present included Houston, Lubbock, Amarillo, Austin, San Antonio, Memphis, Phoenix, and the host, Dallas-Ft. Worth. Beginning Thursday evening and continuing through Sunday morning, the Jain Youth Group of North Texas had organized a busy, involved schedule. The main discussions considered animal testing and dissection, stress and relaxation, faith and beliefs, and technology today. Using guest speakers and parents, each proved to be successful. In addition, some other activities were Jain Win, Lose, or Draw; Current Even Skits; a Social, and an impressive "Jain Earth Summit." Creative ideas to solve world environ-



Participants in the Southern Region Youth Conference

mental problems spilled forth in the "Summit" producing several practical solutions. A dedicated effort by the Jain Society and Youth Group of North Texas provided a fruitful weekend for many youths. Ages twelve and up gave different per-

spectives on society today in the discussions. Expanding our principles of Jainism to the everyday world was the basis for this first-ever conference, and it proved to be well liked by most. Another product of this conference is the increased youth interaction across state borders as youth groups and people meet. Many thanks are due for all involved and we hope to see more such regional meetings soon everywhere.

First ever Chaturmas in North America

Today our modern lifestyle is driven by stress, lack of peace and physical and mental disorders. We get few chances to listen from Jain mendicants for a day to few days. After this there is a void of a good length of time in North America. Due to lack of continuity we rarely get a chance to change our lifestyles from the fast pace.

If we get an opportunity to learn about Jainism for a significant period of time from the same group of Jain mendicants and get inspired to put some of the learning into practice we can find solutions to our day-to-day problems. Not only solutions, but to take our lives to another higher

level.

Shri Haribhai Shah, now President of Jain Center of Northern California, determined that an organiza-



Participants in the Northern California Chaturmas

tion of a Chaturmas (four months of religious discourse) is the answer.

At Shri Haribhai's request, Shri Acharya Tulsi positively accepted

Harish Jain receives highest award

Editor's Note: This article was excerpted from *India Abroad*, Nov. 20, 1992.

Dr. Harish Jain, President IMJM-Canada and JAINA director, McMaster University professor of human resources and labor relations, has been honored for "exemplary leadership" in promoting greater equality and understanding among people.

In 1979, Jain made a series of recommendations to trade unions, employers and the government in his book, *Disadvantage Groups on the Labour Market and Measures to Assist Them*. The book was based on investigations in six countries and their governments' measures to insure equality and representation in the workforce.

Jain has also received an award for his work in race relations from the Ontario government in 1987.

the invitation and sent two samans: Shri Sthitprajnaji and Shri Shrutprajnaji for the Chaturmas in Northern California. The two samans have in-depth knowledge of Jainism Preksha Dhyana meditation techniques the philosophy of Anuvrata and Jivan Vigyan (science of living).

The samans arrived in San Francisco on July 2nd of 1992. This was the beginning of the historic event - first ever Chaturmas in North America. Three dimensional program anuvrata (minor vows pertaining to common people) Preksha Dhyana (meditation of perception) and Jivan Vigyan (science of living) was carried out by them.

Immediately after arrival in Bay Area and under their holy guidance many programs and activities

continued on page 16

About the newly established Jain Society of Middle Tennessee

On April 12, 1992, in the presence of Dr. Sulekh Jain, President of JAINA, the auspicious day of Mahaveer Jayanti, the Jain Society of Middle Tennessee (JSOMT) was founded in Clarksville, TN. The attendance, including children was a modest 45-50 people. JSOMT enrolled as a member of JAINA. A youth group was also formed.

The first official get-together of the Jain society of Middle Tennessee took place in Cedar Hill Park, Nashville. A number of families attended from the Nashville/Clarksville area.

JSOMT enthusiastically participated in the Paryushan Parv ceremonies, which were organized in Clarksville, TN.

On August 28th, there was the Fourteen Swapna ceremonies hosted by the Shah families at their Days Inn motel. Coincidentally, fourteen families were present, allowing each family to lower one Swapna.

There was the Samvatsari Pratikaman held on August 31, with about 30 people attending.

On September 6, a Swamivatsalya was hosted at the Mehta residence, the host and hostess, Mr. Pravin Mehta and Mrs. Madhu Mehta had done "Atthai," which was a fast held for eight days.

On November 22, a puja was held at Days Inn, Clarksville, hosted by the Shah family. About 40 people attended.

Alumni reunion raises \$34,000 for education

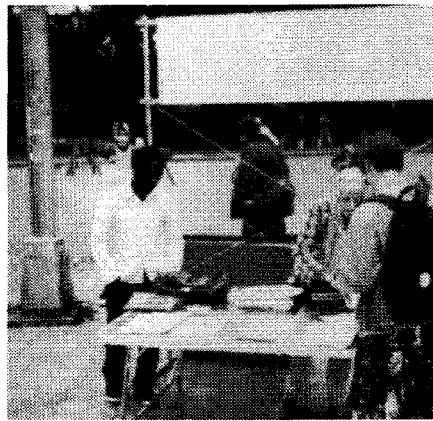
Reported by Anop Vora, Rochester, NY

IAAMJV (International Alumni Association of Shri Mahavira Jain Vidyalaya) celebrated a Platinum Jubilee reunion at Chicago on October 31. It was attended by about 40 alumni families who donated \$34,000 to the association. Rajni Shah, Devendra Shah, Kishor Shah, Mahasukh Shah,

JMIC celebrates Ahimsa Day



Left To Right: Subodh, Mamata, Selwyn, Ashik of JMIC



JMIC's Ahimsa Day booth

Jain Meditation International Center took part in the acclaimed celebration of Ahimsa Day on Sunday, October 4, by setting up a booth in New York City at Fifth Avenue and 60th Street in the Central Park entrance areas.

People were made aware of the meaning of Ahimsa and of the need of all humanity to uphold Reverence for Life of all living beings.

and Samprati Shah were some of the organizers of the reunion.

The association has raised \$142,000 since its inception just over a year ago. Any one interested in supporting the cause of education through IAAMJV is urged to contact Anop R. Vora, President (716) 473-9290 or Ramesh P. Shah (216) 444-4596 for further details.

St. Louis celebrates Mahavir Nirvana Day, Parshvanath Jayanti

Jain Center of Greater St. Louis celebrated Mahavir Nirvana Day on November 15 with Shri Balbhadraji. There was an informal get together on the previous day specially dedicated to the youth. Speaking on the occasion, Balbhadraji explained the five great principles that are as important as our hands. Looking to the open palm, the thumb represents ATMA, the second finger represents AHIMSA, the third finger represents ANEKANTVAD, the fourth finger represents APARIGRAHA and the fifth finger represents ACTION (Karma). Through meditation we can penetrate deeper, assimilate these principles and make them part of our lives. The main program started with Bhajans followed by talk by Balbhadraji.

The Center also celebrated the birth of Bhagwan Parshvanath, the 23rd Tirthankar, on December 13, 1992.

Parshvanath was born at Varanasi in 877 B.C., almost 250 years preceding Mahavira. The parents of Mahavira followed the teachings of Parshvanath. After practising severe austerities for a time, he attained the supreme knowledge (Kaivalya) in a forest outside the city of Ahichhatra (Bareilly district of UP) at a very young age. He then devoted the remaining 70 years of his life towards preaching and service of suffering humanity. He revived the teachings of earlier Tirthankars in a very forceful manner. His main contribution to Jainism are the four vows—AHIMSA (Non-violence), SATYA (Truth), ASTEYA (Non-stealing) and APARIGRAHA (Non-possessiveness). These with BRAHAMCHARYA (Purity of body and mind) introduced later by Mahavira form the five great vows (Mahavrata) of Jainism.

Bhagwan Parshvanath passed into Nirvana at Mt. Sammedachala (Parshvanath Hill in Bihar) in 777 B.C.

Jain Center of Greater Boston

**New Exec. Committee,
Dinner for homeless,
pathshala news**

Jain Center of Greater Boston appointed their new executive committee at the Paryushana function in September. The committee will serve for a two year term. The members are: President - Mukund N. Mehta; Vice-President - Surendra R. Shah; Secretary/Treasurer - Bharat N. Shah; Director, Building Op. - Ratan Singhavi; Members - Neela S. Shah, Harendra Shah, Pradip P. Gosalia, Rasik H. Vagadia and Sunita D. Gandhi.

The Center also arranged for a vegetarian dinner for about 400 homeless people in the Boston area on September 27, 1992. The event was organized in commemoration

*Donations were so great
the Center was able to
purchase sweat-shirts for
85 homeless women.*

of World Ahimsa Day which was on October 4th. The food was prepared by 24 volunteer families and brought to Pine Street Inn, a non-profit organization serving homeless people in the Boston area.

There was also a need to raise a sum of money to meet the expenses for the dinner. Donations were so great that the Center was also able to purchase sweat-shirts for 85 homeless women.

For the past 10 years, the Jain Center of Greater Boston has been conducting pathshala. Two sessions were held this year, and attendance in the second session more than doubled that which was in the first session. All children who attended pathshala in 1991-92 were awarded cash prizes depending on their total point score.

Metropolitan Washington Society

**Nav Smaran, Ahimsa Day,
New pooja**

Nav Smaran (reciting of nine Stotras) was performed on Mahavir Nirvan day, October 25. About 100 persons, including children, participated.

As is done every year, Thanksgiving Day marked Ahimsa Day for JSMW. This year's program started with a kick-off meeting on Experiment on Ahimsa. Over 20 persons volunteered to participate in this experiment. They practiced one particular aspect of Ahimsa for one to three weeks.

Over 30 persons performed Ayambil. A new pooja, Nav Pad Puja, was performed. Over 150 persons attended the day's program.

Central Ohio elects exec. committee

Jain Center of Central Ohio has elected the following persons to the Executive Committee for 1993: President - Jitendra Shah; Vice President - Sailesh Parikh; Program Chairperson - Asis Jain; General Secretary - Urimish Mehta; Treasurer - Paresh Shah; Education Chairperson - Jayesh Desai; Social Chairperson - Narendra Shah.

The new Executive committee will appoint the council members and the advisors for the new year during their first meeting in January 1993.

Tulsa Jain Sangh

**Elects officers, Donates to
dispensary in India and
Holds camp**

Tulsa Jain Sangh, Tulsa, OK, announces the newly elected officers for the year Sept. 1992 to 1993. They are: President - Mukesh J. Shah; Vice President - Yogini R. Shah; Treasurer/Secretary - Kanti J. Shah.

Also, Tulsa Jain Sangh donated \$5,000 to build a small dispensary in Tithal, Gujarat, India. This was initiated by Triputi Bandhu. The dispensary was opened for the public on Nov. 6, 1992.

A camp was held during 1992 under the direction of Shri Kirtichandraji and Shri Jinchandraji. Ninety-two persons joined from the states of Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Texas.

Jain Society of Houston

**Swamivatsalya celebration,
Youth help homeless, and
other news**

The Jain Society of Houston celebrated Swamivatsalya program on Sept. 27. Acharya Sushilkumar graced the occasion. Twenty adult tapasvis and 60 children tapasvis were honored. Children presented a number of cultural program items including a dance drama of "Nem - Rajul".

A used clothes drive was held during Paryushan Parva. Clothes were sent to India through Share and Care.

As a part of the Ahimsa day celebration, an essay competition was held. The first prize winner in the 13-15 age group was Ulka Shah. Sameer Mehta was the first prize winner in the 16-21 age group.

On Ahimsa Day the Jain Fellowship (youth group), along with JSH, sponsored and served vegetarian meals at two homeless shelters.

The Jain Fellowship also attended a three day convention of Jain youths in Dallas, Texas during the Thanksgiving weekend.

Jain Study Center of North Carolina

**Election, Address change,
Ahimsa Day, Camp**

The following members have been elected to the executive committee for the 1993 year. The elec-

tion was held on Dec. 13, 1992. President - Pravin Shah; Vice President/ Treasurer - Jagdish Shah; Secretary - Kamlesh Shah; Member - Nisha Padia, Ramesh Fofaria.

The Jain Study Center's permanent address is changed to: Jain Study Center of North Carolina (Raleigh), 401 Farmstead Dr., Cary, NC 27515-6531. Tel./ Fax: (919) 469-0956; Hindu/Jain Temple: (919) 481-2574; Jain Bulletin Board: (919) 469-0207

Ahimsa Day was observed on Oct. 4, 1992 by distributing food and clothing to the needy and homeless people in the area.

Jain Camp was organized from Oct. 9, 1992 through Oct. 11, 1992 at Umstead Park, Raleigh, NC. About 70 people attended the camp. Jain religious discourses, meditation, entertainment and games were features of the camp.

Commemorative Postal Stamp for Virchand R. Gandhi

Federation of JAINA, Institute of Jainology (U.K.) and many Jain organizations in India and overseas have written to the Indian Post & Telegraph Board to issue a commemorative postal stamp to honor a renowned Jain scholar, Virchand R. Gandhi, who in 1893 (100 years ago) came to Chicago to attend the first Parliament of World's Religions. This is being followed in Delhi by Sahu Rajiv P. Jain who is actively engaged in JAINA activities as our liaison. JAINA is indeed highly grateful to him.

News Update...

Jains now have a computer bulletin board system that will promote the Jain religion education among youths and adults in North America. See page 11 for details.

JAINA'S Constitution Amended

After extensive debate and hard work on the part of the constitution committee, the amended constitution of JAINA has been approved by affirmative vote by its directors. More than forty Jain center/societies and about fifty directors have voted to approve the constitution which was recommended by the Constitution and Executive Committees of JAINA. Under the new constitution, North America has been divided into six regions, and each region should have the opportunity to elect one Vice President. The new constitution also has By-Laws which provide clear directions as how to conduct certain business of JAINA.

As a part of the amended constitution, the JAINA Charitable Trust has been established. The Trust will be autonomous in its operations, but its objectives will be controlled by the provisions of these by-laws. The purpose of the JAINA Charitable Trust is to raise funds for various activities of JAINA.

The JAINA Executive Committee wishes to thank all members of the Constitution Committee, especially Dr. Jagmohan Humar of Ottawa, Canada, who chaired the Committee and diligently prepared the final document. A copy of the constitution is available through the director of each Jain center/society who served on the JAINA Board of Directors.

JSMW VP dies unexpectedly

Mr. Ramnikbhai Sanghvi, Vice President of the Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington, died suddenly of a massive heart attack on Sept. 6, 1992. He was a pioneer of the Society and served as a vice president for the past 10 years.

Ramnikbhai made a tremendous contribution to JSMW and his absence will be deeply felt.



Jains Meet In Bhopal

Editor's Note: This article is excerpted from India Abroad, Dec. 4, 1992.

Sahu Ramesh Chandra Jain, the newly elected president of the Akhil Bharatiyaa Digamber Jain Parishad, called upon members of the Jain community to promote vegetarianism and to work for protection of the environment.

Speaking at the national convention of the parishad in Bhopal, he said the organization was committed to work for the unity of society, removing social evils and developing religious faith among young people.

"We should be proud about our past and at the same time we must work for progress in the future," he said, declaring that the present world was becoming more materialistic. "We cannot ignore humanism and still achieve our goal," he asserted.

He said world peace could be maintained by following the ideals of Lord Mahavir. On behalf of JAINA, JAINA President Sulekh Jain sent congratulations to Sahu Jain on his election.

Jain Society of Alberta to hold Pratishtha ceremony

The Jain Society of Alberta will have the Pratishtha ceremony for building Mahavir Temple on April 4 which will coincide with Mahavir Jayanti. The Society celebrated the birth anniversary of Lord Parsanathji on December 19, 1992 with a two hour puja, lectures and priti bhojan that was attended by nearly 300 people.

JAINA wishes to congratulate the members of the Society for undertaking this project even with a small group of Jain families. Contri-

Continued on page 8

Jain Center Profile

Jain Center of Cincinnati and Dayton

by Dr. Surendra Singhvi, Cincinnati, Ohio

The Beginning

A handful of Jain families celebrated Mahavir Jayanti and Samvatsari Pratikraman programs in Dayton, Ohio during 1970-77. This is the time period when Gurudev Chitrabhanu (1970) and Acharya Sushil Muni (1975) came to the U.S. to promote Jainism. In order to invite spiritual leaders and celebrate Jain festivals, the Jain community of Cincinnati and Dayton founded a Jain Center in 1978 with initial membership consisting of 20 families. The first president of the center was Dr. Surendra Singhvi, who drafted the center's constitution. The first Vice President was Mrs. Vina Shah, who organized the swapna-diwas/ghee boli in 1979. The first treasurer was Mr. Pravin C. Shah who got the tax exempt status from the IRS. The first secretary was Vijay Bimawala who published bi-monthly newsletters and prepared the first 12-page membership directory in 1981. It should be noted that our center, which serves the tri-state (Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana) area is one of the first few Jain Centers established in North America.

Center's Objectives

The center's objectives are to: (a) promote Jain religion's doctrines and beliefs; (b) provide academic, cultural and intellectual interchanges with the Jain community; and (c) celebrate auspicious Jain events and festivals.

Major Activities

To achieve these objectives, the center generally organizes the following activities during a typical year: (1) Organize monthly programs which include prayers, discussions, youth activities and lectures; (2) Organize samayik program on the first

Sunday of each month; (3) Celebrate Mahavir Jayanti in Spring; (4) Conduct or participate in youth camps in Summer; (5) Organize an annual picnic in Summer; (6) Celebrate Paryushan/Daslaxna festival in August/September; (7) Organize Ahimsa Day on first Sunday in October and participate in community projects; (8) Celebrate Mahavir Nirvana (Diwali) Day in October/November; (9) Celebrate Parshvanath Jayanti in December/January; (10) Encourage youth members to write essays on Jainism; (11) Invite distinguished speakers; (12) Provide Jain literature to interested persons.

A lot of members practice penances (tapascharya) during Paryushan. Mr. and Mrs. Ramanbhai Shah observed "Varshitap" during 1990-1991. Numerous adult and youth members have fasted for continuous eight days since the early 1980s.

Guest Speakers

For the last 6 years, the center has invited speakers during Paryushan/Daslaxana. These speakers include Shri Bhattarakji (Moodbidri), Amarendra Muni, Atul Shah (now a Jain monk), Acharya Chandanaji, Sadhvi Vibhaji, Kumari Meenaxi (now a Jain Sadhvi), Pundit Naresh Doshi and Professor Pratap Tolia.

Other speakers who visited our center since 1979 include Acharya Sushil Muni, Gurudev Chitrabhanu, Shri Balbhadra, Dr. Hukamchand Bharill, Sadhvi Madhusmita, Sadhvi Jayasmita, Prof. Malook Shah, Mr. R.K. Jain, Shri Dhirubhai, Samani Madhu Pragna and others.

Center's Organization

At the Mahavir Jayanti program each year, the General Body consisting of all adult members (18 years and over) elects a 9-member Executive Committee which consists of the following positions for the 1992-93 year: President - Mr. Chandu

Shah; Vice President - Dr. Alka Shah; Secretary - Mr. Navin Rambhia; Treasurer - Mrs. Vina Jhaveri; V.P. Youth - Mrs. Surbhi Shah; V.P. Education - Mrs. Jiten Sheth; V.P. Food Planning - Mrs. Manjula Shah; V.P. Membership - Mrs. Ila Punatar; V.P. Temple - Mr. Pravin C. Shah.

The Executive Committee appoints committees for special projects such as temple construction, fund raising and constitution revision. Mr. Chandu Shah has been preceded by nine presidents: Dr. Surendra Singhvi, Mr. Ravi Bafana, Mr. Prem Jain, Mr. Dinesh Punatar, Mr. Niranjana Shah, Dr. Sulekh Jain, Mr. Damaroo Shah, Mr. Rajnikant Shah and Dr. Vinod Jain. During 1992, the center was incorporated in Ohio.

Youth Participation

Every month, the center organizes at least one program for youth members with adults or separately. A number of youth members have been participating in the essay contest organized annually by Boston Jain Center. Mr. Sandeep Punatar's essay, "Message of Bhagwan Mahavir for the 21st Century", won the first place in 1991. Reshma Shah (18 years) observed eight continuous fasts in 1991. Mitesh Shah (17 years) and Nirali Shah (14 years) observed eight continuous fasts in 1992. A number of youths have attended summer camps organized by the Federation of JAINA, Siddhachalam and local Jain Center. A lot of youths participate in English Pratikraman on the Samvatsari Day. Haren Punatar and Mihir Parekh visited JAINA Library in Texas during the summer of 1992 to learn about Jainism.

Center's Membership

The center has more than 110 family members or about 300 voting members. About 80 families out of 110 are life members. Membership is open to all persons interested in

Jain Center Profile - con't

Jainism. Regular annual membership dues are \$11 per family and life membership dues are \$151 per family.

A membership directory is regularly updated and published by the center. Bhajans and prayers are now excluded from the latest directory published in the summer of 1992, and are published in a separate booklet.

Universal Appeal

The center appeals to all interested people to provide financial contribution to complete the temple project in Cincinnati-Dayton. The tax-exempt contribution for the project would help promote Jainism in the community. Please send your checks payable to Jain Center of Cincinnati & Dayton to Mr. Chandu Shah, 7810 Albritton Place, Cincinnati, Ohio 45069 (Tel: 513-779-2013).

During 1991, some of our members established a new Jain Center in Columbus and serve the Jain community in Central Ohio.

Participation in JAINA

The center joined the Federation of JAINA in 1983. The members have attended the biennial convention in Detroit, Chicago, Toronto and San Francisco. Dr. and Mrs. Varia, members of the local center, provided the financial support for the English Pratikraman booklet published by the Federation in 1992. Mr. Pravin M. Shah and his family provided the financial support for "Jain Declaration on Nature," a booklet published by JAINA in 1991.

Dr. Sulekh Jain, JAINA's president since 1989, Mr. Pramod Jhaveri and Dr. Surendra Singhvi of Cincinnati & Dayton center are members of Jain Digest Executive Advisory Board. Miss Reshma Shah, a youth member of the center, was given a special recognition by the Federation at the 6th convention in San

Francisco in 1991.

Dr. Singhvi was the treasurer of JAINA for two years (1987-1989), and the first chairman of Ahimsa Day Committee established by JAINA in 1991. The editor of the *Jain Digest*, Dr. Surender Jain, is a life member of our center.

Place of worship

Considering the growing activities of the center, the General Body has decided to build a new place of worship (temple) between Cincinnati and Dayton. On October 4, 1992, the Ahimsa Day, under the

spiritual leadership of Acharya Sushil Muni, the center purchased an 11-acre land to build the first Jain temple in Southwest Ohio. The site is only 3 miles away from Interstate 75, which would allow the travelers to stop at the temple for prayers and meditation. The center plans to complete the phase one of building construction by 1994, which would require an additional \$300,000.

In conclusion

This is the 14th year of the center's existence. Throughout this period, we have maintained unity among all Jains and cooperation with other religions in this area. Our youths, now 14 years older than at the time of the center's establishment, are actively participating in the center's activities. The temple project is our new challenge for the next several years.



International News

Continued from page 6

contributions to support the building of the temple may be sent to: Jasvant Mehta, c/o Jain Society of Alberta, 2136-104 B St., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6J 5G8.

Support Tulsi Niketan

A model student hostel in Udaipur

The Tulsi Niketan Samiti, a non-profit Jain organization dedicated to the cause of education, has established a 48 room plus support facility hostel at Udaipur in Rajasthan, India. Currently, the hostel provides accommodation to 96 out-of-town students. Udaipur is an educational town, the home of the Sukhadia University, Medical College, College of Technology, Agricultural Engineering and many other institutions of higher education.

The students are admitted on merit and there is a strict code of conduct (no smoking and no non-vegetarian meals, etc.) and religious atmosphere.

The current accommodation is not enough and there is a long waiting list. The Samiti has now planned a further addition of 48 rooms (for post-graduate students) at a cost of \$50,000. The Samiti (a registered society in India) has appealed for donations for this worthy cause.

Please send your donations to Prof. B.L. Dhakar, President, Tulsi Niketan Samiti, 71-J Bhupalpura, Udaipur 313001, India.

Kenneth Oldfield passes away

Kenneth Oldfield, Member of Anekant International Committee

and lecturer in Religious Studies at West London Institute of Higher Education passed away in early June, 1992. Born in Yorkshire just after WW II, he was an ardent admirer of Jainism. After graduating from the university, he was posted to India to teach in a village school in Rajasthan where he came in contact with Jainism for the first time and developed unique affection towards it which remained till the end of his life.

He authored the book, *Jainism: The path of Purity and Peace*, which was sent to each school in the UK as a handbook for teachers to serve as a guide to the teaching of Jainism.

From The Young Indian Vegetarians, U.K.

Vegetaria France, Mahavir Ballet, Vegetarians in Portugal

The Young Indian Vegetarians, U.K. announced the formation of a new vegetarian society, **Vegetaria France**. The society was formed on July 14, 1992. Devi Schneider has been chosen president of the society. Committee Members are: Miss Simone Korchin, Miss Maria M. Mingant, Mr. Kegham Sahaguian, Mrs. Lekha Shah, and David Whiting.

For those who may visit Paris and would like to meet members of Vegetaria France may contact: Devi Schneider, 140 Bld. Voltaire, 75011 Paris, France. Tel: (1) 43-79-50-24.

In other news, Mahavir Ballet was performed to a full house at Fairfield Halls on June 7, 1992. Thanks are due to Jain Samaj Europe for bringing such a superb ballet to London – especially because it had such a strong vegetarian message.

In Lisbon, Portugal, the number of people interested in the Vegetarian Club of Lisbon is increasing all the time. Shri Mahendrabhai from Lisbon says that the 'Sakoni' vegetarian restaurant is so successful that the current sitting capacity of 40 seats is being increased to 80.

Centennial Celebrations The Parliament of the World's Religions At Chicago, Illinois, USA August 28th to September 5, 1993

Introduction

100 YEARS AGO - 1893

The parliament of the world's religions was held at Chicago in 1893 as a part of World's Columbian Exposition. It was the first meeting of the representatives of the major religions in the history of the world. About four hundred persons spoke about their faiths to audiences of four thousand or more. The parliament marked the beginning of interfaith dialogue in the modern world. Jainism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Zoroastrianism trace their beginnings in the west to their participation in the parliament. Hundred years ago the Parliament was more of a familiarization and introduction of religions.

The Jain Representation

A Jain Acharya, Shri Vijayanandsuri (popularly known as Atmaramji) was invited to attend the parliament to represent the Jains. The rules of the conduct of Sadhus prevented the Acharya from going to Chicago. He deputed Shri Virchand Raghavji Gandhi (VRG) to fulfil the mission. VRG was the first honorary secretary of Jain Association of India. He travelled by boat with Swami Vivekanandji and others. VRG gave several lectures on Jainism at various cities in the USA after the conference.

100 YEARS AFTER - 1993

The centennial Parliament is scheduled for nine days from August 28 to Sept. 5, 1993. It will bring together leaders and representatives of the World's faiths, experts on economic, social, scientific, environmental and political issues, and spiritual pilgrims from all over the globe. The centennial celebrations in 1993 will be a historic event.

Participation by the Jains

Three important events are to take place in Chicago in 1993 and it

should be a pride for all the Jains in the world and in particular for the Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago and the Federation of Jain Associations in North America. These are: (1) Pratishtha Mahotsav of the Jain Derasar in Chicago, June 1993; (2) Centennial celebrations of the Parliament of World's Religions held in 1893; (3) Launching of the first book of Jain scriptures "Tattvaratha Sutra."

Jain programs at the Parliament include an exhibition that will include: duratran slides with lights and mounted on frames; models of Jain Derasar, an idol of Mahavira, miniature sizes of Jain monks; models of Sametshikhar, Palitana, Girnar, Bahubaliji, Jalmandir, etc.; Tatva charts; Jain Agams and manuscripts; paintings; and Virchand Raghavji material.

Other programs include: audio/visual show on mahavira, and films on Ahimsa and Jainism; slide shows on Jain artifacts; publication of selected books and speeches of VRG; participation in opening, planary and closing sessions, demonstration with banners, red turbans and silver kalash on head; launching of Tattvaratha Sutra; speeches, seminars, workshops on Ahimsa, Anekantvad, vegetarianism, environment, meditatio, etc.; Jain ritual ceremonies at Jain Derasar, Chicago; youth participation; publication of *Jainism At A Glance* for mass distribution; and others (all suggestions welcome).

Many Jain authors, monks, religious heads, etc. will be attending the Parliament. Acharya Sushil Kumar Ji, Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanu Ji, Bhattarak-Charukeerthi Ji, Devendra Keerthi Ji, Pujya Dr. Atmanand Soni Ji and other scholars and academicians will present their views on various aspects of Jainism along with reli-

The Parliament activities for the JAINS are being coordinated by the following persons: Dr. T.J. Salgia and Dr. Rashmi Gardi (USA), Dr. Kumarpal Desai, Mr. C.N. Sanghavi and Sahu R.P. Jain (India), Mr. Somchand Shah (Kenya) and Mr. Nemu Chandaria and Mr. Bipin Mehta (U.K.).

For further information, please contact or write to Federation of JAINA, Committee on Parliament of the World's Religions, 2829 Cabot Road, Quincy, IL 62301, USA. Tel: (217) 223-7735.

Note: All interested people are encouraged to register as early as possible. Send the registration form along with appropriate amount of check payable to JAINA at the above address. Upon receipt of your registration and check, you will receive a confirmation.

**1993 Parliament of The World's Religions
Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.
August 28 - September 4, 1992
Registration Form**

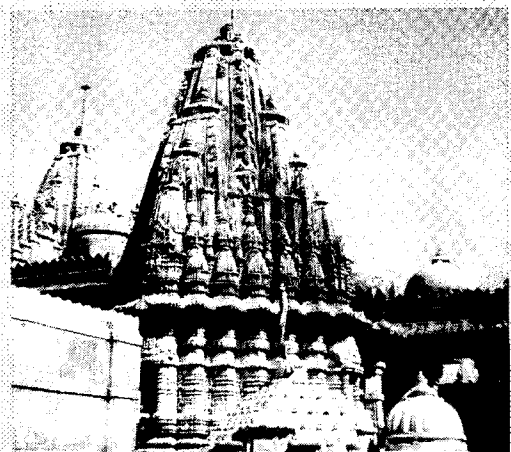
NAME (Underline family name) _____		
How name should appear on registration badge? _____		
ORGANIZATION (If any) _____		
ADDRESS _____		
CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____	POSTAL CODE _____
COUNTRY _____		
PHONE (Include area codes, etc.) _____		HALF-PRICE REGISTRATION FOR YOUTH <input type="checkbox"/> Check here if this person is a minor (under age
FAX (Optional) _____	18) accompanied by an adult. Age: _____ years	Name of adult: _____

- Full Registration Fee = US \$ 200 before June 1, 1993; US \$350 after June 1, 1993
- Family Registration = US \$ 350 before June 1, 1993; US \$500 after June 1, 1993
- Three-day Registration = US \$ 200 (has certain restrictions)
- One-day Registration = US \$75
- A limited number of half-price registrations will be available to persons without income.

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A Major Achievement Computer-based Jain Education Bulletin Board

by Prvain Shah, Raleigh, N.C.

Jain Study Center of North Carolina and JAINA Federation has established a computer based Jain Bulletin Board System (BBS) to promote the Jain Religion education among youths and adults of North America.

A computer based Bulletin Board system allows people anywhere in the world to use their computer at home or office to access information stored in a remote computer by using a modem attached to their computer. A modem is a simple equipment connected to a computer which uses the telephone line (just like a fax machine) to communicate with the remote computer.

The first phase of Jain BBS will be completed and operational by February 15, 1993. The BBS will be available for access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The telephone number to access the BBS is (919) 469-0207.

The access to Jain BBS is absolutely free of charge. The only cost involved is the cost of the phone-call (if long distance) for dialing into the BBS.

The information available in the Jain BBS can be copied onto your computer, printed on your printer, and distributed freely for non-commercial purposes.

The Jain education bulletin board is planned to have the following information: (1) A course on Fundamentals of Jainism for youths and adults. This course will include, among other things, concept of gods in Jain religion, metaphysics of Jainism, Jain ethics, history of Jainism, Jain sacred literature (Agam and Non-Agam), Jain geography, Jain sects and many other topics; (2) A list of commonly asked questions and answers on Jainism; (3) Scholarly articles covering all aspects of modern time issues such as ecology, animal cruelty, vegetarianism, population growth, violence, abortion, role of women in society, etc.; (4) Jain rituals (Samayak,

Pratikaman, Puja, etc.). This includes step-by-step procedures for the performance of many rituals and their meanings; (5) Life of all Tirthankaras, and other monks and scholars; (6) Collection of Jain moral stories; (7) Collection of Stavans and Bhajans; (8) Information on Jain temples and pilgrimage places within and outside India; (9) Essays written by youths of North America; (10) Articles on comparative studies of other religions; (11) Rare authentic books on Jainism. (Entire books will be available on-line); (12) A catalogue of Jain books, and magazines consisting of information such as Title, Author, Translator, Publisher, Language, etc.; (13) Jain calendar; (14) A catalogue of audio and video cassettes; (15) Listing of Jain societies and temples outside India; (16) List of scholars and summaries of their works; and (17) A dictionary of Jain words and phrases.

This is the most ambitious project Jain Study Center of North Carolina has launched. All of the above information may not be available on February 15, 1993. However, a course on the fundamentals of Jainism will be available on line. The other information will be made available soon.

Currently, the entire BBS will have all the material in English. In the future, we will include materials of different Indian languages such as Hindi, Gujarati, Ardhamagdi, etc.

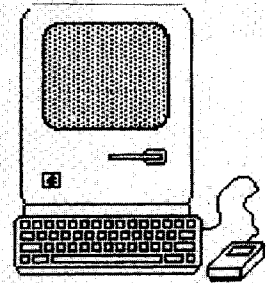
The Jain BBS committee would welcome any material on Jainism that you would like to be included in the BBS. The sky is the limit. We could use your help in the areas of data collection and management, computer data entry, editing the articles (spell and grammar checking), etc.

If you have any suggestions, any questions or to get further information on the Jain BBS, please contact any of the committee members.

Jain Education Bulletin Board (BBS) Committee: Pravin Shah, Chairman and General Editor, (919) 469-0956; Kamlesh Shah, System Manager, (919) 571-1077; Mahesh Varia, Member, (919) 929-6726; Pratysh Mehta, Member, (919) 467-2078.

How To Connect To JAINA BBS

There are only three requirements for connection to the JAINA BBS: (1) Any type of computer at home or office; (2) A telephone; and (3) A modem. This is a simple piece of equipment that allows connection between the computer and the telephone



line. A simple modem may be purchased for about \$70 and usually comes with software and instructions.

Once you have the modem set up, dial (919) 469-0207 from your computer according to your modem software instructions.

When you are connected successfully to the JAINA BBS, press the ENTER or RETURN key 3 to 4 times. You will get a screen that welcomes you to the JAINA BBS as a new user and has instructions about how to get your log-in name or number.

After you are registered, you will see a menu screen of available choices. Follow instructions on the screen to guide you through the available information.

To sign off the JAINA BBS, press the CONTROL and "C" keys and then the LogOff key "0".

Both adults and youth should find the JAINA BBS easy to use in a short time.

Mahavir Jayanti – April 4, 1993

Mahavir (Maha = great, vir = power) was born in Magadha, Bihar to king Siddhartha and his queen Trishala. When Mahavir was to be born, mother Trishala saw fourteen dreams including an elephant, moon, sun and other auspicious beings. The king got the dreams analyzed and proclaimed that the queen was to deliver a son who will enlighten the whole universe.

The king named his son Mahavir Vardhaman. Mahavir had



Lord Mahavir

a lot of wealth and was living in prosperity but his mind was not involved in worldly pleasures. He soon left his kingly palace for the jungle to renunciate the worldly pleasures and did mediation and tapa for many years before attaining Kevala Gyana (full knowledge).

The Mahavir Jayanti celebrations will take place in all

the Jain centers in the first week of April.

Award-winning film now available on video in Europe

The award-winning film by Michael Tobias, "Ahimsa - Nonviolence," is now available in a most attractive international home video PAL and SEACAM VHS cassette version at a very inexpensive price.

This film, originally made for Public Broadcasting (PBS) in the US, offers a comprehensive one-hour portrayal of the Jain religion, its philosophies, many of its major Acharyas, rituals, art, customs, business practices, law, politics and temple pilgrimage sites.

All those interested should write to the distributor directly, the address being: World Media Sales, Mr. Ger Visser, Doetinchempad 27, 1324 JW Almere, The Netherlands. Tel: 1-31-3240-35034/FAX: 1-31-3240-30066.

Important Dates Of Jain Calendar 1993

☪
Mahavir Jayant
April 4

Paryushana and Das
Laxana
Sept. 12 - Sept. 29

Mahavir Nirvan
Nov. 13



Youth Corner

Indebtedness

from Preksha, July - October, 1992

An old man was working in a garden. His wrinkled face and body and three deep lines on his forehead indicated his age. A young man, careless and wanton was passing by. He stopped and asked the old man, "Aye! old guy, what are you doing." "I am planting mangoes," answered the old man. The young man questioned, "Of whose use will these mangoes be? You will die of old age? Who will eat these Mangoes? Why are you uselessly toiling?" The old man answered politely, "Young man! Think for a while. Had my ancestors thought like you, how could I have enjoyed mangoes today. This entire mango garden in front of us full of mangoes is self-explanatory of the story of toilings of those ancestors."

The young man felt ashamed, bowed to the feet of the old man and went away.

Those who become conscious of their responsibility towards the community never think in selfish terms. Rather, they feel indebted to the community in which they live in, because they are conscious of the innumerable efforts of thousands who have contributed their share for the well being and smooth running of the community and the fruits they enjoy as a result of those efforts.

Youth Corner News

Youth camp, Debate on animal rights, Diwali

•The Jain Center of Southern California organized a Religious Winter Camp on Dec. 26 to Dec. 29, 1992 for the children of age 8 to 16 at a mountain resort in Lake Arrowhead, California. Forty five children attended the camp.

The subjects were Preksha Dhayan, Namokar Mantra, Mahavir Bhagwan, and Jain scripture. The Preksha Dhayan was practiced via video tape made by the Jain Center of Northern California during the visit of Samanji. The Namokar Mantra, Bhagwan Mahavir and Jain scripture were prepared by Niranjana Sheth from San Diego. Tests were given at the end of the session. The winners were: Jain Scriptures - Payal Sheth, Ankur Shah, Mona Vedecha; Bhagwan Mahavir - Mansi Shah, Shaival Shah, Natasha Gandhi, Julie Shah, Premal Doshi; Maha Mantra - Bansari Shah, Rahul Shah, Paras Shah.

Several people including Girish and Pravina Shah, Kishor Parekh, Kishor and Kavita Sanghavi, Kirit and Ragini Shah, and Dhiren Mehta contributed in various ways towards the camp's success.

•Niralii Shah and Soha Shah of the Youth Club of the Jain Center of Cincinnati-Dayton, inform us that a debate on animal rights was held December 20, 1992.

The Youth Club is also planning to perform a game show at the JAANA Convention. Dayton is doing the questions for the Jeopardy-like "Karma Game," and Cincinnati is doing the props.

•The youth leaders of the Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago conducted religious classes that involved discussions about Mahavir Nirvan and Diwali during December 1992. They learned the Mahavir Nirvan symbolizes the time when Mahavir Bhagwan left the mortal

body and attained salvation, or Moksha, at Pavapuri in the state of Bihar, India. This is celebrated as the Festival of Lights which is called Diwali.

Can a person be a Jain in the Western World?

From Jai Jinendra, Jain Society of Houston, TX. Written by Ashok Shingavi

It may be easy to be a Jain on Sunday morning or during Paryushan. The music, the lecture, the people, the food and the temple is nice. The problem is not with Sunday or Holy days but what happens on other days? Translating the Jain way of life in the Western World is difficult. It requires a person to be of great faith in the market place.

Unfortunately, Jains no longer look at our religion for its values. The new religion is Wall Street, Hollywood and Madison Avenue (advertising). The best intentions from Sunday resolutions are frequently overlooked by secular values and peer pressure.

There is a new religion emerging in the US and Western World. With the help of television, it is exported to the Third World. It is very powerful, capturing the attention of everyone. It is very commercial, bringing people of all faiths – even atheist – together in a common bond, worshiping the same ideals. It is difficult to find a person not impacted by this religion or whose life is not controlled by it. It possesses the greatest force in the history of the world.

The new religion is consumerism. A person is no longer seen as a great "Atma" but seen primarily as a consumer and heavy consumption is viewed as key to social well-being. Wealth become a function of sales, which are increased to an extent that people can be induced to buy new goods. To provide such inducement, business sponsors a gigantic advertising industry, which in turn dominates journalism and communica-

tions. The desire for pleasure, comfort, humor and excitement is continually escalated...while the entertainment industries and business grow even more fiercely competitive, alcoholism, drug abuse and obsessive sex proliferate in large sectors of the Western society.

The world as we know it

The buzz words of worldly success – have precious little to do with spiritual growth. In today's world, even Jains have made getting richer respectable – they think that getting richer is a result of their faith in Arihant – a blessing of Mahavir. Bigger houses, bigger cars, better neighborhoods, richer clothes are all signs of Demi God blessing those who believe, they say.

Salvation through consumption

The advertising Gurus always preach us about what we need. Everything we read, hear, touch is a constant reminder that there is something missing in our lives. These great Gurus convince us that there is a defect in our life. Something went wrong with mankind and the human body. Simply buy it and it will be redeemed. They believe that the more they consume, the better they are. The human body is bad, but don't worry, the advertisers will correct it. Take for example hair. What am I going to do with my hair? And hair is always in the wrong places and we should remove it. There is a possibility that if we save all money spent on hair and use it on those in need, we could almost eliminate poverty.

Dirty mouth

We are reminded that we have bad breath as we are getting up. But the advertising world would save us. But the problem is making the decision about which product to buy. All energies go into constant decisions made about what to buy. If that is not bad enough, we have to face "improved," new" things. Imagine using second rated stuff for years.

Style

There are more than hair and bad breath. The style! The mortal

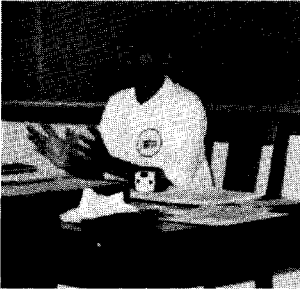
sin of modern life is not being in style. This is an unpardonable sin. This is the greatest force in modern society. People will do anything to be in style. Being out of style is a fate worse than contracting horrible disease. This creates tons of used clothes and is quite expensive.

Raising teen-agers

How difficult it is for a person who tries to live a Jain life today and who is raising teen-agers. Their friends may reject them because they don't have brand name clothes. How can a parent respond to a teenager's anguish and peer pressure and live according to Jain values?

Please think and let us know how you are dealing with this dilemma in your daily life.

Chaturmas from page 3



Saman Shritprajna

took place such as Preksha Dhyana - train the trainer program camps lectures to the Jain community visits to various local universities and other organizations.

Preksha Dhyana Training

Preksha Dhyana improves and enhances physical social, mental, emotional, intellectual occupational and spiritual health. By regular practice one can open the door of moksha.

To learn the best meditation technique as many as 29 persons including 3 youths signed up for the train-the-trainer course. The training course of Preksha Dhyana was first ever offered outside India.

The course was very detailed with the objective that they will be able to train other people. The samans taught theoretical practical

and scientific aspects of Preksha Dhyana. They explained the relationship between Preksha Dhyana and Jain philosophy.

There were experiences of curing asthma problems, high blood pressure, chronic headache, constipation, and quitting bad habits (e.g. eating excessive amount of sweets).

Lectures to Jain Community

There were over 60 lectures conducted by Saman Shri Shrutprajnaji. The topics covered a wide range of spectrum: from food awareness to how to prevent and cure heart disease; from anuvrata (minor vows pertaining to common persons) to science of living about Jain philosophy from how to cure stress to how to achieve moksha and from accu-pressure to Preksha Dhyana and many topics pertaining to daily life.

The saman is a lively orator. He mixed his lectures with humor, appropriate examples and great simplicity, provided scientific basis, and used a great deal of Jain philosophy that appeals to one's common sense.

Lectures to Outside

Organizations

Saman Shri Shritprajnaji conducted several lectures at various universities and organizations where the audience was essentially consisted of non-Jains and Americans. Samanji gave lectures on Ahimsa (non-violence), Preksha Dhyana, science of living and Jainism exceeding expectation of the listeners and the organizers.

Camps

There were two camps organized. A youth camp for three days had about 45 youths and 35 adults. The camp not only had the samans but it also had Bruce Constain (Balabhadra, a Jain Scholar with a doctorate in Jainism from Toronto, Canada). The second camp had about 70 adults. This camp was completely devoted to Preksha Dhyana because of the samanjis' inspiring, dynamic, upbeat, scientific and simple method of teaching, interacting and demonstrating of Preksha Dhyana tech-

niques.

Shri Kiranbhai Parekh Visits

For about a month, Shri Kiranbhai Parekh, a well-known Jain scholar, conducted convincing lectures on various topics. About 35 to 40 youths regularly attended his lectures.

His way of informing his teaching style and his vast knowledge inspired many youths to look beyond the surface of Jainism and dig deeper into its science.

Chaturmas Purnahuti (Completion) Program

His holiness Acharyashri Tulsi kindly sent his best wishes and blessings for the completion of the Chaturmas program. Shri Sulekh Jain, President of JAINA, and Dr. Manibhai Mehta, Vice President of JAINA, were present in addition to about 400 community members at the Chaturmas Purnahuti Program.

Samanjis had a three-dimensional objective to initialize Anuvrata Movement: Preksha Dhyana and the science of living (Jivan Vigyan) per the Jain doctrine during the Chaturmas in Bay Area. It turned out to be a multi-dimensional success. The Chaturmas provided continuous opportunity to learn to understand to practice and to realize the benefits of Jainism. All community members came together worked together with great enthusiasm to assure the success of the first ever Chaturmas in North America.

It was a phenomenal success.

A new, positive movement and beginning took place, and a new environment was created. Many felt that a void of satsang (presence of Guru), sant vani (holy teaching of Guru), Guru-margdarshana (guidance of Guru) and Jain education was generously filled by the samans during the Chaturmas.

Any Jain Centers can obtain more information about this Chaturmas event from Shri Harilal Shah at (510) 487-9380.



Matrimonials

Rules for Matrimonial Advertisements:

Please address all matrimonial matters to F. J. Dalal, 9001 Goodluck Road, Lanham, MD 20706; Phone: (301) 577-5215. The following guidelines must be observed:

I. Those who wish to register with Marriage Information Service (MIS):

1. MIS has two forms - 'Personal Data' and 'Additional Information' which must be filled out completely by the candidate. The registrant must mail the two completed forms with a check of \$ 15.00 payable to F. J. Dalal and enclose a recent photo duly signed by the candidate on the back.

2. MIS will draft an ad for the registrant for publishing once in the Jain Digest. Registrants may wish to draft the ads themselves, which may be no more than 30 words. MIS reserves the right to edit such ads.

3. Responses to MIS ads with the bio-data and a picture must be put in a sealed, stamped envelop with the candidate's return address on the top left corner, and the MIS reference number at the bottom left corner. Space for the address must be kept blank. This envelope, then, should be put in a larger envelope with the candidate's return address on the top left corner 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.

5. MIS will not be responsible for responses which do not follow the above procedure.

II. Those who do not wish to register with MIS, should draft their own ad, with address and/or phone number, which may be no more than 30 words, for publication in the Jain Digest. Please send your ad, along

with a check for \$ 15.00 to F. J. Dalal. MIS reserves the right to edit these ads.

MALE

AM2S: Well established parents invite responses for handsome dynamic son 29, 5'8", with Law degree and holding Calif. Real Estate, General Contractor, and Stock broker Licenses, from beautiful, well educated girls with Indian values from respectable families. Call: (714) 992-2300.

AM55: Gujarati parents invite for their son, B.E.(Comp.), 6'1", born Dec. 68, in Ahmedabad, desires to study M.S. in U.S.A., a citizen girl. Please send Photo and bio-data to: K.L.Shah, 321 Fair Mount Ave., # 24, Jersey City, NJ 07306. Call: (201) 333-0425.

AM58: Gujarati divorcee from CA, 5' 11 1/2", 190 lbs., 46, double M.S.(Electronics and Op-Research), well employed as a Research Engineer, seeks responses from good-looking, sincere, graduate women. Call: (408) 945-1849.

M215: Gujarati B. Tech. (Electronics), Computer Support Specialist, born Oct. 64, 5'4", 128 lbs., settled in Ottawa, Canada, willing to move to U.S.A., seeks suitable vegetarian girl. Call: (416) 447-7710.

M226: Gujarati divorcee from NY, 5'11", 151 lbs., born Feb. 63, B.Sc., Dip.in Microwave, in business, seeks responses from suitable resident girls. Call: (516) 775-6821.

M228: Gujarati vegetarian from TX, 6'0"1, 165 lbs., born May 66, B.A.(Econ.), doing M.S., employed, seeks responses from suitable girls. Call: (214) 644-1233.

M231: Gujarati vegetarian from CA, 5'9", 130 lbs., born Jan. 65, B.S. (Ind. Engg.), employed, seeks responses from suitable girls. Call: (510) 523-0899.

M232: Gujarati vegetarian from TX, 5'6", 142 lbs., born Sep. 59, M.S.E.E., well employed, seeks responses from suitable educated girls. Call: (713) 498-1023.

M237: Gujarati parents invite responses with returnable photo from professional vegetarian girls for handsome, social son, 24, 6'0", completing M.D. in May 1994.

M238: Gujarati vegetarian from NJ, parents in Muscat, Oman, 5'11", 160 lbs., born Oct. 62, M.S.(Civil Engg.), H-1 visa, well employed, seeks responses from educated resident girls. Call: (201) 944-6119.

M240: Gujarati parents invite responses from pretty professional females, for U.S. citizen son, born June 62, 5'7", 150 lbs., handsome, well settled, BSEE, MSEE(93). Call: Dr. Shah, (609) 275-0129 after 7 p.m.

M242: Gujarati vegetarian from NY, 5'6", 155 lbs., born Oct. 61, M.B.A.(Finance), employed, seeks responses from educated girls. Call: (914) 736-0464.

M243: Gujarati son working in family business, from IL, 5'10", 160 lbs., born Dec. 60, B.S.(Finance), doing C.P.A., seeks responses from graduate vegetarian girls. Call: (708) 724-5376.

M244: US raised Gujarati vegetarian, born May 65, 6'1", 175 lbs., Athletic & social, active in community organizations, well employed Elec. Eng., double Masters, pursuing Ph.D., seeks responses from caring, educated females. Call: (301) 577-5215.

M246: Gujarati vegetarian from TX, 5'5 1/2", 120 lbs., born Sep. 64 in Ethiopia, F-I visa, Dip.(Civ.Engg.), doing B.S.(Comp.), seeks responses from suitable resident girls. Call: (412) 349-4361.

FEMALE

AF56: Gujarati parents invite responses for their US born, 22, 5'4", MSEE (Aug.93), beautiful, intelligent and caring daughter with blend of East/ West, from educated US raised boys. Call: (913) 681-3633.

AF57: An outgoing versatile Gujarati citizen female, 38, from PA, Registered Medical Technician and a nursing student seeks responses from educated males. Call: (717) 323-1533.

F043: Gujarati vegetarian girl from MD, born April 63, 5'0", 95 lbs., B.Sc.(Chem.), well employed, seeks responses from suitable well settled boys. Call: (410) 536-0162.

F055: Gujarati vegetarian girl from NY, 5'1", 126 lbs., born Oct. 67, B.S.(Econ.), employed, seeks responses from US raised well settled boys. Call: (516) 741-9269.

F126: Gujarati vegetarian girl from NJ, 5'3", 100 lbs., born June 60, B.Sc. (Physio-Therapy), seeks responses from educated settled boys. Call: (201) 659-5742.

F130: Gujarati girl from NJ, 5'3", 100 lbs., born Oct. 62, B.Sc. (Zoology), seeks responses from vegetarian graduate boys. Call: (201) 689-5742.

F173: A physician responses from vegetarians, under 27, professionals, for his beautiful, charming, U.S. graduate daughter, 23, 5'2 1/2", 100 lbs., with biodata and returnable photo.

F219: Hindi speaking vegetarian girl from Canada, 5'7", 125 lbs., born Sep. 68, Industrial Engr., seeks responses from professionals. Call: (416) 447-1650.

F225: Correspondence is invited for a beautiful girl, 5'9", 20, doing Pre-Med, from a well edu-

cated and respectable family. Professionals preferred. P.O.Box 61831, Virginia Beach, VA 23462.

F227: Gujarati vegetarian girl from MI, 5'3", 100 lbs., born March '65, M.B.A. (Finance), employed, H-1 visa, seeks responses from resident educated boys. Call: (313) 471-2751.

F229: Gujarati parents invite responses from well-educated vegetarian boys for their cultured, slim, attractive daughter, B.Pharm.(1993), Canadian citizen 22, 5'5". Send biodata with photo.

F230: Gujarati vegetarian divorcee from NY, 5'4", 120 lbs., born Nov. 68, Dip. in Comp. Bus., employed, seeks responses from suitable settled persons. Call: (718) 343-3709.

F233: Kutchi vegetarian from NC, 5'4", 135 lbs., born July 66, B.S.(Chem.), well employed, seeks responses from educated boys. Call: (919) 380-7341.

F234: Gujarati parents invite responses for their vegetarian good looking daughter, B.A.(Chem.), 5'2", 120 lbs., born May 70, from educated settled boys.

F235: Gujarati vegetarian from SC, 4'11", 120 lbs., born Nov. 71, B.S.(Bus.) 1993, invites responses from educated boys. Call: (803) 726-5511.

F236: Gujarati vegetarian divorcee, Canadian citizen, 5'2", 125 lbs., born Nov. 61, seeks responses from suitable settled persons.

F239: Gujarati parents from MI, invite responses for their daughter, 5'5", 105 lbs., born Dec. 68, M.B.B.S. 1992, doing Internship upto July 1993 in India, from resident professionals. Call: (517) 394-2316.

F241: Gujarati vegetarian from MO, 5'10", 130 lbs., born June 70,

M.D.(June 94), seeks responses from doctors. Call: (314) 341-2497.

F245: Gujarati Dentist brother from FL, invites responses, for never married, very attractive, vegetarian sister, 5'5", 125 lbs., born Feb. 60, visiting from Tanzania, holding responsible position there, from well settled resident males. Call: (407) 444-0438.

•••• Jain parents invite correspondence from highly educated, pure-vegetarian professionals for their US-educated physician daughter doing residency, 28 years old, 5'3", fair, US citizen. Send bio-data to 9831 Tall Timber, Cincinnati, OH 45241 or call (513) 777-1554.

NOTES: Please read the following carefully:

1. All those MIS registrants, who wish to get *Jain Digest*, please contact Dr. S.K. Jain, Editor, directly at 3 Ransom Rd., Athens, OH 45701, U.S.A. (614) 592-1660.

2. All checks regarding 'Matrimonial' in *Jain Digest* must be written in favor of 'F.J. Dalal' only. Please do not write anything else on the check.

3. MIS registered candidates, who are planning to visit India, UK, etc. in search of a match, are requested to contact F.J. Dalal, sufficiently in advance, if they wish to consider MIS registered candidates there. 4. Effective January 93 issue of the *Jain Digest*, all MIS/ matrimonial ads will give telephone numbers of the candidates. Those who do not want their telephone numbers to appear in the ad, must advise F.J. Dalal.

5. **Seventh JAINA Convention:** MIS is planning a full fledged program of 'Get-together' of young adult candidates and an 'International Seminar on Marriage' in Pittsburgh, PA during July 2-4, 1993. In this connection, we welcome your

useful suggestions in writing. Please make sure to attend this convention with copies of your well drafted biodata and good full figure picture, and do not miss a great opportunity.

6. Communication, Bio-Data and a Picture: I have been observing that many parents and/or candidates do not prepare themselves, by clearly talking over the matrimonial matters within the family, and by drafting a good biodata and having a good full figure picture ready. In the absence of these very useful basic prerequisites, many a well intentioned efforts and time, of all concerned, get wasted.

7. Judgment and Decision: I have also been observing that a number of parents and/or candidates receiving large number of responses, sit on them, waiting for something (?) to happen. I can not understand this 'do nothing' approach. People should be in a position to rate the responses against their realistic expectations, in a reasonable time of not more than 30 days and decide finally, one way or the other. I fear that an unduly long wait in a false hope, may affect them adversely and hurt them in the long run. Does this mean that people need counselling? I feel, we better seek and/or provide this urgently needed service of 'Family Counseling'.

8. Even now, many candidates and/or parents, do not care to inform MIS when their matrimonials get settled. When shall we learn to be courteous to call or drop a line and encourage voluntary community service work?

9. Married/Engaged: M003, F035, M036, M078, F122, & F178.

Let us proudly say our Temples in North America are non-sectarian.

—Dr. Mahendra Pandya, Staten Island, NY



Yes, Jainism will survive in North America and all over the world

Dear Editor:

Reading our president's present put-up problem in the October 1992 issue of *Jain Digest*, I have to assure you that the future of Jainism is nicely encouraged as I could see everywhere in North America and Canada.

Here, amongst the Christian culture, Jains have cultivated the ancient Indian culture. We should observe the slow but steady progress in this direction. The active leaders have now reached old age and they feel afraid of what will happen now. Jainism is a religion that considers quality and not quantity.

There is one lion in the jungle. Faith may be in few but it is firm. It is all of our elders' duty to see that this is an ultimate truth.

Youths are to handle and expand these activities. Let us all decide immediately to call them for early discussions and know their problems. When we have built up such a solid unity for several years, how can it vanish? Problems will be solved by putting more and more effort as per demands.

The International Mahavir Jain Mission, JAINA and several Jain centers and societies have been founded are active. The generation gap is always there, but can be bridged when unity prevails. Jainam Jayate Shashnam.

Kanti Salot
Jain-Sangh Navrangpura, Ahmedabad

Let the light of Jainism shine

Dear Editor:

Although Americans take pride in being a "melting pot," this does not mean that each ethnic group should lose its identity. The reason that America is so wonderful is that we consist of so many nationalities, and our culture has the decided advantage of adopting the best of each nationality that arrives on our shores.

Each nationality or religion should have pride in its own customs, and take pleasure out of sharing them with others.

Jains are, to me, the most special people to arrive in America. No other group in the world has this history of concern for our planet and for the others with whom we share it. Not only has learning about what the term "Jain" stood for, made me wish that I had grown up a Jain, but it has even made me like my own name (no small task, having grown up with "plain Jayn" as a taunt rather than an appellation).

But, there are two concerns that I have, making me wish that the Jains were more prone to hold onto their tenable position in one respect, and less prone in regard to another.

I am envious of those who grew up with a religion whose concepts are those that the rest of us are having to learn as adults, viz., respect for the earth and its other inhabitants. "Animal rights" is basically a new theory to the rest of us; I was 38 years old before I even heard the term. By then, it is true, I had been a vegetarian for almost ten years, but it was without any support group whatsoever. Jains have this sociality as a distinct advantage.

Jains can and do, by example, show other alternatives to exploitative life-styles. Sometimes, however, perhaps, in an effort to blend in, you give in. One example that comes to mind is dissection in the schools.

Many non-Jain kids have re-

fused to dissect animals; this has caused laws to be passed in some states mandating that students not be penalized for not wanting to be a part of this killing. So it is to my horror to learn that some Jain children actually participate in this abomination, proven to be unnecessary.

I know how seductive the allure is of doing what others are doing, but again, America gains its strength from learning from others. We need you to be the examples for the rest of us if we have a chance for alleviating the institutionalized suffering of animals in this country.

The cultural heritage, however, that I wish Jains were not so stringent about is the refusal to give up dairy products.

I understand that dairy is part of the diet in India, but to continue to support America's insidious veal industry (by buying the milk meant for these calves), with the justification that dairy products in India are not cruel lacks the intellectual contemplation that I see my Jain friends persisting in, in so many other facets. Dairy cows also lead ghastly existences here, and often end up as the "downed cows" that every once in a while are shown, in our media, being tortured.

The defense of this in a local stockyard when a cruelty case went to trial? That this is standard treatment for these animals, therefore acceptable.

But acceptable to whom?

Jainism is defined, in Webster's, as a 6th century religion where "the respect for the lives of animals is carried to great lengths." I am envious of this beautiful heritage. Many of us look to you as our mentors. We look to you to set examples, whether it be to refuse to wear products that caused animal suffering, or not eating something that tastes good that caused animal pain.

We hope you won't let us, or the animal, down.

Jayn Meinhardt
Cincinnati, Ohio

Conduct of Sadhus

Dear Editor:

It is very sad to say that many of the sadhus who are coming to America are collecting money in the name of religious activities. When they are here, in several instances, they have insisted that when invited to a host's house, money should be donated to their cause. They are invited here to preach Jainism. I do not see any of the discipline involved with being a sadhu carried out when they come here. We cannot give this type of an example to our future generation. Therefore, I request very strongly that JAINA should reconsider inviting any sadhu of this nature.

Pradhuman S. Zaveri
Dallas, Texas

Money and power lead to corruption

Dear Editor:

Stories are afloat that some Jain monks and nuns here on a visit to North America are soliciting funds for the trusts under their direct or indirect control by exerting undue pressure. This goes against the conduct prescribed for monks and nuns by Jainism.

Some will naively argue that what is wrong if they are doing social activities? One should realize that money and power lead to corruption. Jainism has therefore prescribed that if one wants to be a monk or nun, he or she should renounce personal ties with worldly affairs and take five major vows. If one wants to be a social cum religious worker, he or she should discard the dress of a Jain monk or a nun. To do otherwise is a pure deception and fraud. Mahatma Gandhi never wore the dress of a Hindu monk nor proclaimed himself as a Hindu monk.

If we condone such activities under the garb of courtesy or false

respect, one lapse will lead to another and turn into a roller coaster with ultimate collapse of the institution of Jain monkhood. This will do irreparable harm to the cause of Jainism.

I therefore suggest that JAINA should come out with a Code of Conduct for Jain monks and nuns in North America in the coming convention.

Pravinchandra Khandheria,
Jain Center of West Texas

Swiss cheese uses no animal derivatives

Editor's Note: This letter is a reply to Mr. C. Mehta's, of Parsippany, New Jersey, request about animal derivatives in Kraft Swiss cheese.

Thank you for your additional comments and the support of your community in asking us to consider using synthetic, rather than animal, enzymes in our cheesemaking.

As you know from your research and our previous response, the use of enzymes derived from the growth of pure cultures of certain molds, called microbial rennets, are a more recent development in cheesemaking. They are commonly used for the production of certain types of cheese and contain no animal derivatives. Kraft Swiss cheese produced in the United States is made with microbial rennet and contains no animal derivatives. Our research scientists and food technologists are working on the further development of these cultures for exclusive use, and to some day entirely replace animal rennet.

We appreciate your further contact with us, and have forwarded your concerns as expressed in the letter and through the supporting signatures, to our product developers. We will certainly continue to work towards this endeavor.

Jane Venters
Consumer Representative
Kraft Consumer Response Center

World Community Service of JAINA "JAINA restores hope for millions"

by Dhiraj H. Shah, M.D., Chariman of W.C.S.

September 28, 1991 marked a turning point in the short history of JAINA when the Board of Directors decided to establish the World Community Service Committee in a meeting at the Hindu-Jain Temple in Pittsburgh, PA.

With the help of your financial support and tireless volunteer efforts, we have grown from a small committee to a major foundation. In the words of Michael Tobias, "AN INTERNATIONAL MAHAVIR RED CROSS" with widely recognized accomplishments.

"Project Hope" was the first project of the year and was requested by then Indian Vice President, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma (now President of India) and Mr. Mafatlal Mehta, founder of Diwaliben Mohanlal Mehta Charitable Trust. Three-thousand blankets were provided to earthquake victims of Uttarkashi, U.P. Funds were also provided to five Panjarapoles (Gaushala) in the drought stricken State of Gujarat. One-thousand cattle were saved from perishing by providing shelter, fodder and water. "Project Hope was funded on \$18,500.

"Project Bahubali" was the next project. Bahubali Vidhyapeed, Bahubali, near Kolhapur, needed a Jeep for their medical and educational activities. The project was financed by a generous donation from Dr. Mahendra and Mrs. Asha Pandya of Staten Island, NY.

Our volunteers, Mrs. Anita Shangvi of West Palm Beach, FL and Laxmikant Shah of Miami, FL, provided assistance to the victims of Hurricane Andrew in Miami, FL.

Then we embarked on the very

ambitious "Project MAP" (Medical Aid to the Poor) to provide medical aid to the poor of India. We sponsored the nineteenth Eye, Dental, Medical and Surgical camp that was organized by Shri Bidada Sarvodaya Trust, an institution recognized by



Bachubhai, Chairman of Bidada Sarvodaya Trust accepting \$40,000 from JAINA. Seated Left to Right: Vijay Chheda (Los Angeles, CA), Four Trustees of Bidada Sarvodaya Trust, Bachubhai Rambhia (standing), Jehan Daruwala, Dr. Dhiraj Shah (Buffalo, NY) Tansukh Maru (Hazlet, NJ) and three Trustees of Bidada Sarvodaya Trust.

the Medical Community throughout the world.

"Project MAP" was approved by the members of the World Community Service on June 15, 1992. The cost of "Project MAP" was expected to be more than \$75,000 and would provide care to 20,000 patients. The camp was held from Dec. 24, 1992 to Jan. 7, 1993 at Bidada-Kutch in the State of Gujarat, India.

Dr. Manibhai Mehta, Ramesh A. Shah, Popot Savla and Rashmikant Shah from the Jain Center of California, Lax and Damayanti Jain of India, Shri S.S. Jain Foundation in Canada, and many others raised funds from their local Jain societies. A grand total of \$86,000 was received.

The activities of JAINA have been applauded by the Indian Union Health Minister, Mr. M.L. Fotedar, the Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. Shivraj Patil and Mr. Charles Mast, Consul General of

U.S.A. at Bombay.

JAINA and its activities were published in many newspapers and interviews with members of JAINA were also published. Many newspapers wrote articles praising JAINA's activities. All of this has helped JAINA to promote Lord Mahavir's principles of Ahimsa and Anekantavada to millions.

Many doctors and volunteers from North America and Bombay came to Bidada Medical Camp at their own expense to help the needy people. Dr. B.S. Bohra and his wife Dr. L.B. Bohra, Meena, Naveen and Lisa Bohra (Detroit, MI), Hemlata Gogri, Nikhil Gogri, Sonal and

William Strasser (all from Oakdale, CT), Dr. Kirit and Vibhuti Gosalia (Glendale, AZ), Dr. Chandravadan and Miss Seema Haria (Strongsville, OH), Dr. Vijay K. Jain (Westchester, OH), Dr. Shantilal Kemia (Westfield, MA), Tansukh Maru (Hazlet, NJ), Vijay Chheda (Tustin, CA), Navin Gangar (Los Angeles, CA), Mrs. Rasika Gala (Racine, WI), Dr. Pravin Mehta, Dr. Malini Mehta, Miss Sharmila Mehta (all from Buffalo, NY), Dr. Manibhai Mehta and Mrs. Savita M. Mehta (Los Angeles, CA), Jayantilal Sanghvi (Naples, FL), Popat Salva (Pasadena, CA), Ramesh and Prafulla Shah (Diamond Bar, CA) and Dr. Dhiraj Shah (Buffalo, NY) participated actively in the activities of the camp. The camp was inaugurated by Mafatkaka and Dr. Manibhai Mehta, Vice President of JAINA, lit the Mangal Deep. The entire function was presided over by Dr. Dhiraj Shah, Chairman of the World Community Service of JAINA.

Overall, 20,000 patients were examined and 1,000 operations were performed at the camp.

While the Bidada Camp was being inaugurated on Dec. 24, 1992, another medical camp, organized and financed by Rashmikant N. Shah of P.V. Estates, CA, a member of the World Community Service of JAINA, had already begun on Dec.

Continued on page 21

Sorry for the quality of the pictures.

The originals were not as clear as we would like to have for better reproduction.

World Community Service of JAINA



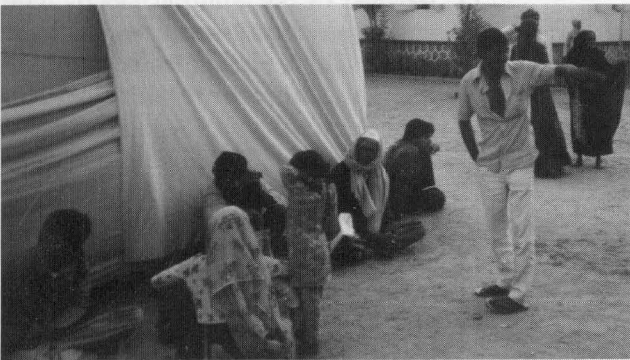
JAINA Delegation with Union Health Minister Mr. M.L. Fotedar in New Delhi. Left to Right: Sharmila Mehta and Dr. Malini Mehta (Buffalo, NY), Mr. Jain, Mr. R.P. Jain, Health Minister, M.L. Fotedar, Dr. Dhiraj Shah (Buffalo, NY), Dr. Pravin Mehta, (Buffalo, NY), Dr. & Mrs. Vijay Kumar (Buffalo, NY).



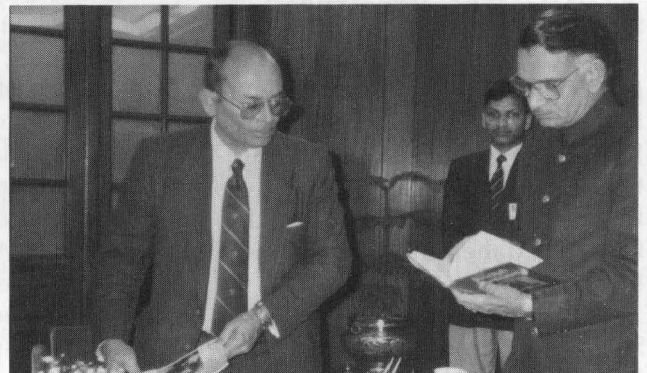
JAINA being felicitated by many Jain Institutions in Bombay. Left to Right: Sumatibhai Mehta, Khushalbhai Nagarsheth, Dr. Dhiraj Shah (Buffalo, NY), VasANJI Lakhamsi Shah and Jayantilal P. Sanghvi (Naples, FL).



JAINA being felicitated by Federation of Panjarapoles (Gaushalas). From Left to Right: Jayantilal Sanghvi, (Naples, FL), Mrs. Savita M. Mehta, Dr. Manibhai B. Mehta (Los Angeles, CA), Dr. Dhiraj Shah, (Buffalo, NY), and Mr. Jumakhlal Mehta, President of Federation of Panjarapoles.



Makeshift hospital and patients waiting in line for their turn.



Dr. Dhiraj Shah (Buffalo, NY), presenting Speaker some books on Jain literature and information about Bidada Medical Camp.



JAINA Delegation with Mr. Shivraj Patil, Speaker of the House of Commons, in the Speaker's Chamber at Parliament House in New Delhi.

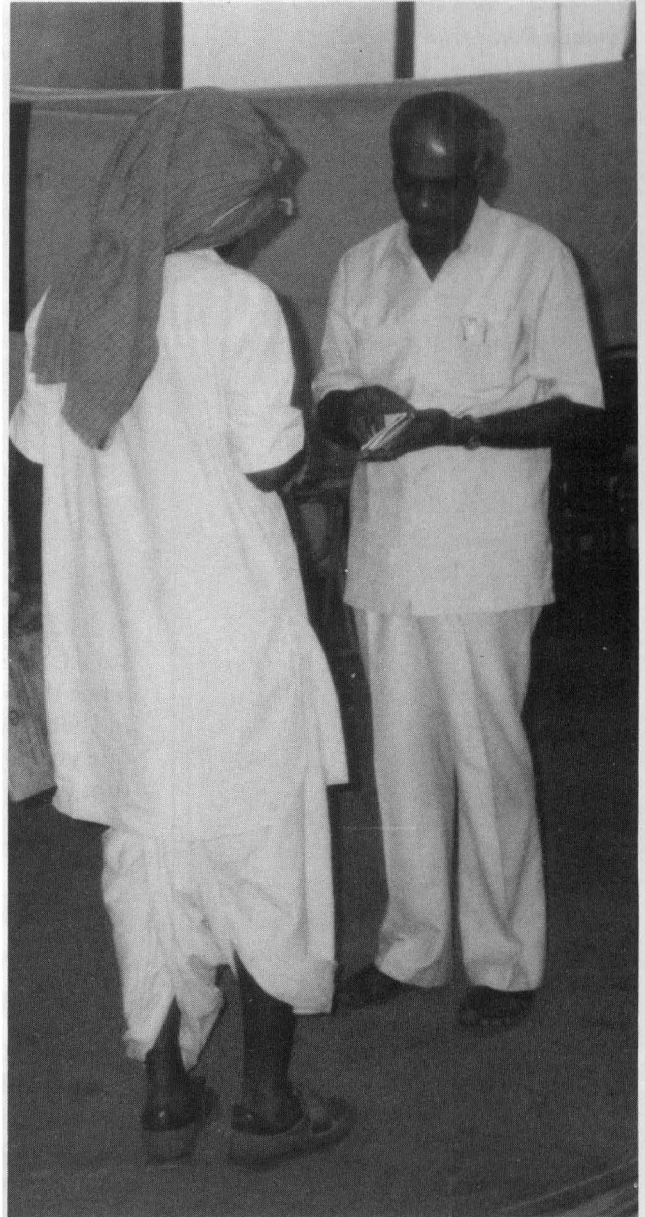
Left to Right: Dr. Jagat Jain, Dr. Pravin Mehta, Dr. Dhiraj Shah (all from Buffalo, NY), Speaker's Secretary (standing), speaker Shivraj Patil, Mr. R.P. Jain and Dr. Vijay Kumar (Buffalo, NY).



Prafulla and Ramesh Shah of Diamond Bar, CA, bringing smiles to the faces of rheumatic heart disease patients.



Makeshift hospital and cardiology patients waiting for their turn.



Bachubbhai Rambhia, Chairman of Bidada Sarvodaya Trust, guiding an elderly patient.

Continued from page 19

23, 1992 at Bamora Sagar District, M.P. It is expected that 6,000 patients were examined at this camp, at no cost to the patients.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve alongside all of those who helped for the sake of the poor, needy sick and indigent people of the world. God bless you for sharing the spirit of brotherhood and love.

Vantage Point from page 1

lication of several Jain magazines, (e.g. *Jain Digest* and *Jain Study Circular*, etc.) and start or beginning of Jain studies at several universities in the U.S. and Canada are bringing new awareness within the Jain community.

Youth Activities

Not only the first generation of Jains are active in this movement, but many of our youths, too, are devoting energies. Examples are the establishment of Jain youth groups in many Jain centers, a national organization – Young Jains of America (YJA), several regular publications by youths, youth camps and get togethers, etc. Our youths are participating more and more in Jain programs, doing Tapasyas (fasts) during Paryushan and doing creative writing. Last year, two of our youths Tej and Tarang Sheth from Toronto co-authored an excellent book "The Case for Vegetarianism." Several youths from Houston, Dallas, Cincinnati and Dayton spent two weeks at the JAINA Library in Lubbock, Texas to prepare Jain educational materials using computers. We all were delighted to see the participation of a large number of youths, their hard work, depth of knowledge and dedication at the last JAINA Convention at Stanford. Vegetarian meals are now easily available at many of the college campuses and I have personally been told that these Jain youths are now exerting strong and positive influence in changing the food habits (no more serving of alcoholic drinks at parties) of their parents and elders.

New Initiatives and Starts

To bring our Jain youths into the main stream of the community, following new initiatives and stars are showing some good results: Ahimsa Day celebrations; Experiments on Ahimsa and Jain practices; Ecology and environment protection movements; World Community Service and Project MAP (Medical Aid for the Poor); Youth essay competi-

tions; JAINA and other recognition awards for the youths; Electronic Bulletin Boards; Youth Corner in the *Jain Digest*; Separate youth directory (this is being planned.); Separate youth convention – JAINA Executive decided on such a concept. It was proposed that a regular youth convention (like JAINA Convention) should take place in even-numbered years (1994, 1996, 1998, etc.); Marriage Information Service; Participation in U.S. political process as believers in non-violence; Strong and visible participation in all JAINA conventions; Regular seminars and planned discussions on issues affecting our youths.

I hope you share my optimism. Much is happening. Our youths are smart, intelligent and very capable. Since the first generation did not fail in their duties and responsibilities, our youths will not either. The future of Jainism in North America is very bright indeed.

Jai Jinendra.

Three Months Scholarship Available for Jain Scholar

Dr. Crawford has informed JAINA that he would like a Jain Scholar from India to come for a research project in Hawaii. The subject of research should have some relationship between Jainism and Hawaii or Western Hemisphere. The University of Hawaii will scrutinize the scholar and the accepted scholar will be paid air fair to Hawaii and lodging and boarding for three months. Interested scholars should contact:

Prof. Cronwell Crawford, Ph.D. Center for South Asian Studies, School of Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 1890 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822. Tel: (808) 956-2677, Fax: (808) 956-2682 or

JAINA Education Committee, Dr. Premchand Gada, 4410 50th Street, Lubbock, TX 79414. Tel: (806) 793-8555, Fax: (806) 793-0753

Donors (this issue)

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Special thanks to Dr. Mahendra and Asha Pandya of Staten Island, NY for their continuous efforts in collecting donations for *Jain Digest*. The individual names will graciously be acknowledged in the next issue.

- ☐ Patronizing Donor - \$201
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Athens, Ohio 45701

YOUR CONTRIBUTION
IS TAX-DEDUCTIBLE
IN THE USA.
Thank you.

Dr. Mahendra & Asha Pandyas have sponsored a JAINA fellowship award for a Ph.D. student at Ohio University, Athens who is completing his dissertation on the cultural identity of the Jains in North America.

7TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION 1993 • PITTSBURGH, PA • USA



JAINISM : PAST • PRESENT • FUTURE

Give freely, with a kind heart

preparation of comprehensive directory of Jains in North America by Jain Center of Greater Boston

Outstanding Jain Community Committee

Jain Center of America, Texas youth group organized

Sangh from Northern New Jersey visits Boston Jain Center

Rajgiri witnessed historic Deeksha

Jain Yoga Houston Jain Center Library has opened

JAINA Convention: a colorful gathering

The Jain Center of Central Ohio: Snatra Acharya Shree Sushil Pooja

Kumarji founded the organization known as International Mahavir teacher in Singapore

JAINA Executive meeting success

Mahavir Swamy Murti

Navakar Manu Jaap chanting a Lubbock

Medieval Jainism. Culture and Environment.

Translation of Tatvartha Sutra

Vegetarianism in U.K. is on the rise

Governor, Jerry Brown spoke at the Hindu-Jain Temple in Pittsburgh

Pratishtha Jain Museum

An alumni association of the former students of the Mahavir JAINA Vidyalaya has just been formed. The officers are Anop Vora, South London Jain Temple installed in

Texas youth group organized



Hosted by

**Hindu-Jain Temple of Pittsburgh
and
Jain Society of Pittsburgh**

**JULY 2, 3, 4, 1993
EXPO MART • MONROEVILLE, PA**

Medical basis of vegetarianism

Inauguration and Pratishtha of Teerth Siddhachalam

Medieval Jainism: Culture and Environment.

Essay Competition Bhoomi Poojan at Detroit planned

The federation of JAINA has established committees Young Jains of America that more than 28,000 adults are turning vegetarian every week in U.K.

Sangh from Boston visits Siddhachalam

Matrimonials

Jain Center of America hosts education conference

HINDU JAIN TEMPLE TO HOST CONVENTION IN 1993

Houston Jain Society

donates to the needy

Paryushan

SEVENTH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION NEWS

Jain Center of Greater Boston to present "Jain Experience"

Exhibition at JAINA Convention

by Dilip Gandhi, Boston, MA

The theme and the name of the exhibition is "**Jain Experience**". The visitors, both Jains & non-Jains to this exhibition will feel Jainism through **seeing it, listening to it and learning about it**. I have been appointed the chairperson to co-ordinate & implement this project and I am very excited about this great project. Once again, we have an excellent opportunity to contribute our resources and talents for presenting different aspects of Jainism to Jains and non-Jains throughout USA and Canada.

To that end, we have formed an Exhibition Committee and are moving ahead with the plans and projects to be done. ***This is a project that will require help and efforts from many.*** I would like to hear from people who could help in the following areas:

- Paint large pictures
- Frame pictures, photos, etc.
- Handy with setting up exhibits
- Work as tour guides at the exhibitions
- Work as volunteers at the exhibitions
- Help set up audio systems at each exhibit
- Help in lighting set up at each exhibit
- To get items from India
- Loan any very old Jain Scriptures/Books or items you may have

Please contact any of the committee members or give me a call at (508) 872-6979. The committee members are: Vinay Jain, Surendra Shah, Rasik Vagadia, Sunita Gandhi, Neela Shah, and Sarita Gandhi.

"The Jain Experience"

**Boston Jain Center
planning a unique
exhibition**

Jain Center of Greater Boston is working to present a unique exhibition appropriately titled "Jain Experience" at the JAINA convention from July 2-4, 1993, in Pittsburgh.

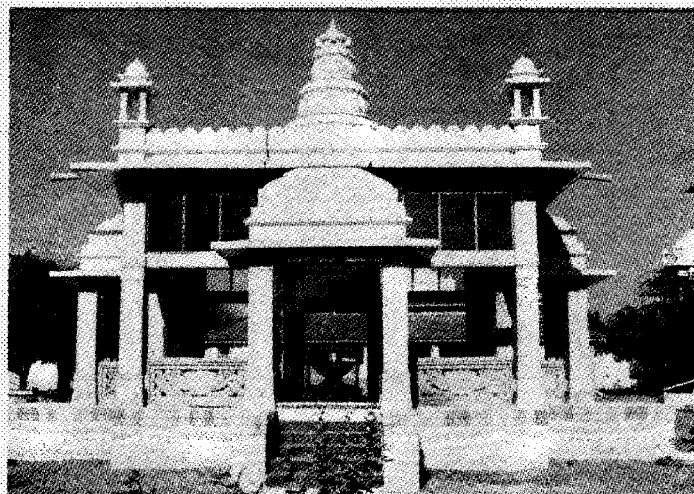
JAINA requests other Jain centers and societies in North America to take a clue from Boston Jain Center's example and soon decide to plan exhibitions, cultural programs, seminars, show and tell and other meaningful activities. JAINA is planning to give an award to the best exhibition display.

Change Notice

**JAINA Essay Competition
for High School and College
Students**

The submission date has been postponed by two months. **The essays are now due April 1, 1993.** Eligibility and other detail appeared in the October 1992 Issue of *Jain Digest* on pages 7 & 8. Contact Shantilal Mohnot, 1016 Summer Ridge Dr., Murrysville, PA 15668. Tel: (412) 325-2058

***This Space has been
generously donated by
Dallas -Fortworth
Jains. JAINA is grate-
ful for this gesture.***



JAINA Executive Committee Elections – Nominations Invited

The JAINA Executive Committee elections will be held at the next JAINA Convention in Pittsburgh, July 2-4, 1993. The positions open are that of the President, First Vice President, six Regional Vice Presidents (one from each region: Canada, West U.S., Southwest U.S., Southeast U.S., Midwest U.S. and Northeast U.S.), Secretary and Treasurer. The term is for two years.

To be eligible, a candidate must be a practicing Jain, of good moral character and a director of JAINA (to be appointed by a member Jain center or society) at the time of the convention. Nominations for the JAINA Executive Committee should be sent to Chairman of JAINA Nomination/Election Committee, Dr. Vinay K. Jain, 83 Fuller Brook Rd., Wellesley, MA 02181. Tel: (617) 237-5997; FAX: (617) 235-2531)

The Jain Faith

by P.K. Jain (Kasaliwal), Ontario
Canada

Origin

Jain comes from the Sanskrit word Jina, "one who has conquered his/her inner enemies" of anger, greed, ego and deceit and implies conquest over all pain and bondage of birth and death. Jains believe their religion to be one of the world's oldest, predating Hinduism and handed down from the remote past by a series of enlightened sages and teachers called Tirthankaras.

The 24th and last Tirthankara, Lord Mahavira, was born in 599 B.C. in Bihar, India. He brought together in a systematic form Jain beliefs and philosophy. Mahavira was an elder contemporary of Buddha. At the age of 30, he gave up his family and possessions, even his clothes and lived for 12 years as a wandering ascetic, fasting, doing penance and practicing deep meditation. He is

Seventh Biennial JAINA Convention Celebrating Centennial Anniversary of Jainism in the U.S. July 2-4, 1993

Site: Expo-Mart, Monroeville, PA

Theme: Jainism: Past, Present, and Future

If you plan to volunteer or seek information related to the convention, please contact:

Vinod Doshi, 140 Penn Lear Dr., Monroeville, PA 15146, (412) 856-9235, or Dr. Surendra K. Sethi, Program Committee Chair, 230 S. Washington St., Butler, PA 16001, (412) 282-2995, or FAX to (412) 282-3336.

**See following pages for more details.
All are cordially invited.**

then said to have reached enlightenment and until his death in 527 B.C. he spread the message of Jinas, founded an order of monks and nuns and laid the foundation of modern-day Jainism.

Scriptures

Jainism's beliefs, principles and philosophy expounded by Lord Mahavira were preserved orally until being written down about 800 years after his death. Many of them are now preserved in India.

God

Jains believe in God, but not in the sense of a creator. They believe that God is neither the creator nor the destroyer of the universe. He is merely a silent observer and omniscient. They believe that every individual soul is potentially god and this is the state of the soul which has attained Nirvana. Everybody can attain Godhood by making supreme efforts in the right direction. The emphasis is on the individual's action to attain Moksha (Salvation).

Major Beliefs

Ahimsa, non violence and non-injury towards all living-beings, is

the cornerstone of Jainism and strict vegetarianism is an integral part of this principle. Jains believe in reincarnation based on cause and effect (law of karma). The salvation is to be attained by one's own efforts. All souls are alike. None is superior or inferior. A Jain's main aim in this life is to strive for the liberation of the soul from the cycle of death and rebirth and the achievement of nirvana, a state of eternal bliss and knowledge.

Jainism's three guiding lights are the "three jewels": right faith, right knowledge and right conduct. Living by these three principles, Jains try not to harm any living creature, to be absolutely truthful, not steal, to be chaste in thought and deed and to practice non-attachment to the world by strict limitation of possessions.

Adherents

Estimates range from 7 to 10 million. Although there are pockets of Jains scattered around the world, the vast majority of them are in India. The Jain temples are among the most beautifully constructed in India.

7th Biennial Jaina Convention 1993 • Pittsburgh, PA • USA “Federation of Jain Associations in North America”

SPONSOR

The Federation of Jain Associations in North America

HOST

The Hindu Jain Temple of Pittsburgh & The Jain Society of Pittsburgh, PA

DATE

July 2, 3, 4, 1993

THEME

Jainism • Past • Present • Future

ACTIVITIES

Panel discussions, lectures, exhibitions, workshops, debates (youth),
and cultural programs

VISITORS

Various Dignitaries, Monks, scholars, young and adult Jains from around
the world are expected to attend.

GOALS

- Interaction between the Jain Communities
- Awakening of youth to gain a better understanding of the Jain religion
 - To fulfill the demands of future Jain Communities
 - Spreading the principles of Jainism
 - Promoting a Jain way of life in modern times
- An understanding of the history to the future of Jainism

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Jaina Convention will be an excellent opportunity for the youths to
gain an understanding and an appreciation for the Jain religion and culture.

The 3-day conference will be an event where youths can actively
participate in discussions, debates, and workshops.



Your involvement is encouraged through program participation, attendance,
and financial support by becoming one of the following sponsors:

- ☐ *Corporate Sponsor **\$15,000
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- ☐ *Sponsor*10,000
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- ☐ *Sponsoring Jain Center ****

* *One full-color-page ad plus booth*

** *One full-page ad plus booth*

*** *Each Jain Center can collect good wish donations from local members
and a full page or a 1/2 page devoted to the sponsoring center on a group
basis with the center's well wishers' names to be published in the souvenir.*

I would like to actively participate and support the convention by sponsoring
the above marked activities. You will find the check enclosed.

Sponsor's Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Make checks payable to and send to:

THE JAIN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH
230 S. WASHINGTON ST. • BUTLER, PA 16001 • USA
TELEPHONE: (412) 282-2995 • FAX: (412) 282-3336

For further information, please call:

SURENDRA SETHI (412) 282-2995
VINOD DOSHI (412) 856-9235
BHUPENDRA KAMDAR (412) 457-8124
MAHENDRA SHAH (412) 457-8029

Tear along dotted line & mail it with your check in the enclosed envelope

**7TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION 1993
PITTSBURGH, PA USA**

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TRAVEL	RAMESH JAIN	412-774-8333

FOR ANY OTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: 412-282-2995

JAIN SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH HAS APPOINTED MIDWEST TRAVEL KING AS
OFFICIAL TRAVEL AGENCY FOR THE JAINA CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN
PITTSBURGH, PA. ON JULY 2ND, 3RD, AND 4TH, 1993.

**JAINA CONVENTION TRAVEL AGENT
MIDWEST TRAVEL KING
218 WASHINGTON STREET
WAUKEGAN, IL 60085**

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PLEASE MAKE YOUR TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND PURCHASE AIR TICKETS FROM "MIDWEST TRAVEL KING". ALL PROFITS WILL BE DONATED TO THE "JAINA CONVENTION."

GROUP TOURS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED TO SEE VARIOUS SIGHT SEEING PLACES LIKE NIAGRA FALLS, WASHINGTON, D.C., NEW YORK CITY, ORLANDO, LAS VEGAS, GRAND CANYON, ETC. PLEASE CONTACT "MIDWEST TRAVEL KING."

Late News

by Prabodh Vaidya, Chicago

Jain Center of Metropolitan Chicago is having Pratishtha Mahaotsav on June 27 with ceremonies to begin on June 24 and continuing until June 28.

The Society cordially invites all Jains to participate in the ceremonies.

Appeal for Donation: The Jain Society of Chicago appeals to all Jain

families for donations. Outstanding pledges and anticipated income from Pratishtha Mahaotsav is projected to be \$500,000. An additional \$750,000 is needed to complete the project.

If each family receiving the *Jain Digest* donates \$120, the Chicago temple will have all the money before Pratishtha. For additional information, please call Prabodh Vaidya (708) 985-9144.

Shree Bidada

Sarvodaya Trust

Sent through Dr. Dhiraj Shah

There were 19,645 patients examined in the Medical Camp for 23 categories including polio, heart, cancer, eyes and dental.

Out of these, 224 were referred to Bombay for major surgeries.

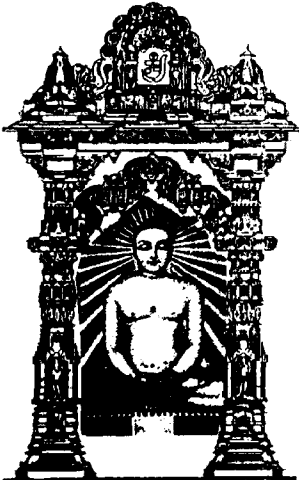
With best compliments to JAINA

**Dr. Navin C. Mehta,
M.B.B.S., M.D., P.C.**

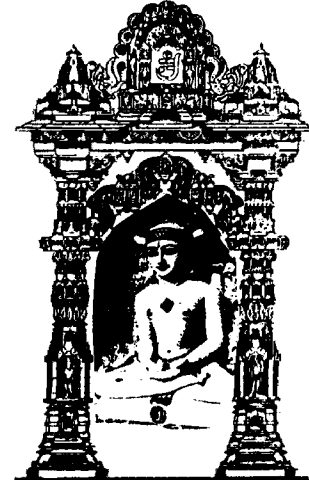
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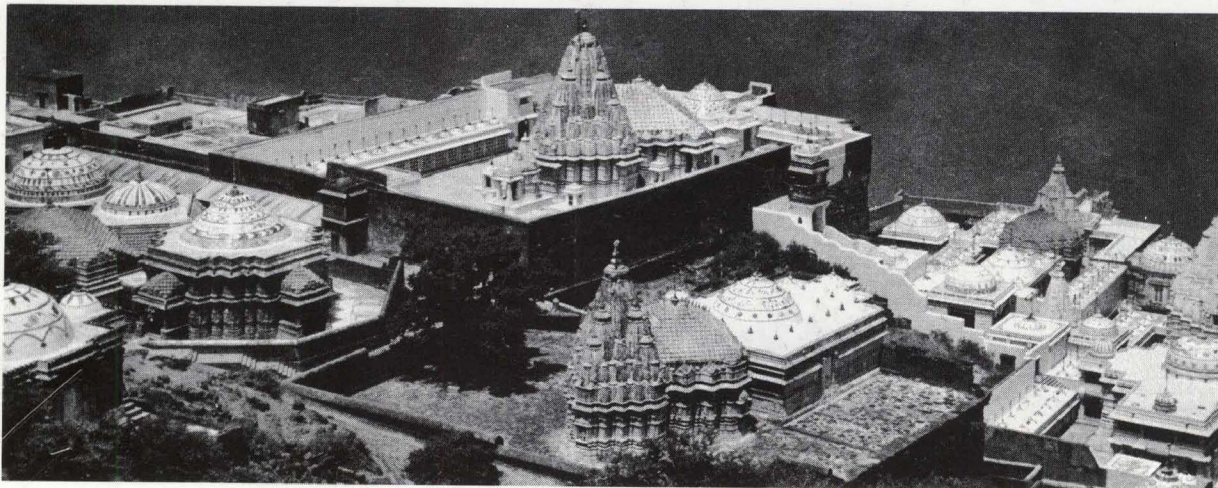
Tirthankar Mahavir



Tirthankar Parsavnath

Jain temple format

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