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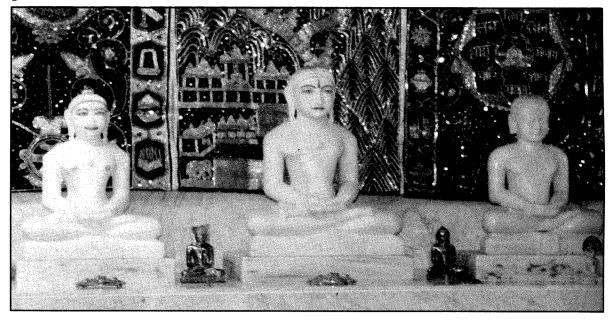
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JAIN TEMPLE, WASHINGTON, DC



JAI JINENDRA

अहो! अहो! श्री सदगुरु, करुणासिंधु अपार आ पामर पर प्रभु कर्यो, अहो! अहो! उपकार (१२४)

Thanks! the Holy True Teacher!
Unfathomable ocean of compassion;
I'm highly obliged; Oh! good Teacher,
The Pupil poor has no expression. (124)

्शुं प्रभुचरणकने घरुं? आत्माथी सह हीन, ते तो प्रभुअे आपियो, वर्तु चरणाधिन (१२५)

What should I offer to you, Lord? In soul-comparison all is trifle; The soul is gifted by the Lord, I wish to act to your oracle. (125)

- Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra, Srimad Rajchandra -

We dedicate ourselves to ceaseless efforts of Acharya Sushil Kumarji and Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, in spreading the principles of Jainism among all the Jains settled in North America.

We congratulate the Executive Committee for their devoted service to JAINA.

SHAH ASSOCIATES, M.D., P.A.

Shanti Medical Center, P.O. Box 664, Leonardtown, MD 20650 Phone: 301-475-5579 Metro 301-870-2049 Fax 301-884-7419

Jain Education International

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From the Publishing Editor

It is an honor and privilege that I was asked to write the editorial for this issue of the Jain Digest. As the roots of the Jain community go deeper into the fabric of North American culture, and the younger generation with its inquisitive mind comes of age, the theme of the 9th Biennial Convention seems fitting, Jainism in Practice. Let us make this convention a great success by contributing ideas and actively participating.

We have come to depend on the Jain Digest for bringing us Headquarters and Regional News, and the Marriage Information Service. As you might guess, it takes a great deal of voluntary effort and about \$10,000 to produce and deliver it to your door step. We need your continued financial assistance. Please fill out the envelope in the center fold which we have included for your convenience.

Nominations for individuals you feel should receive the Acharya Sushil Kumar Ji Ahimsa Award are requested. See page 3 for complete details.

The Washington Jain Center has developed a program called, "Adopt the Jain Center for a Day." This excellent program can help develop a steady income for your center.

Please ask us to publish your new electronic www address.

Jai Jinendra. John D'Arcangelo

President's Message

Paryushan and Daslakshan have passed and I want to wish the entire Jain community - Micchami Dukkadhum.

I am pleased to announce that our 9th Biennial JAINA Convention will be held in Toronto, Canada from July 4 - 6, 1997. I congratulate the Jain Society of Toronto who will be hosting this event. Plans are already in progress to have a convention that has meaningful programs for everyone. The theme of the 1997 convention will be "Jainism in Practice."

As the photograph of Lord Mahavir, on the cover of our last issue reminds us, the Jain community in North America is establishing itself as a positive religious influence throughout the United States. Recently, the Jain Society of San Diego, CA and the Sanatan Mandir in Toronto, Canada had their Pratishthas of Lord Mahavir.

The Second YJA Convention was held in San Francisco, CA last July. We are pleased to present some of those who attended, and who represent our future, on the cover of this issue. The YJA event is very important for our children. It gives them the opportunity to come together in an atmosphere that fosters a sense of community and develops a deeper understanding of Jainism and Indian culture.

Everyone benefits from JAINA. This wonderful organization helps us all in many ways, by encouraging everyone to practice what we believe in and provides opportunities which help us to make our philosophy and culture flourish. Within this context, I would like to congratulate the hard work of the Jiv Daya and Vegetarianism Committee and the Jain Society of Greater Detroit for providing the Jain families of North America with Jainism and Animal Issue, Handbook for Compassionate Living and Saman Suttam. These two very important publications are necessary and welcomed additions to our home libraries.

It is important to remember that JAINA is YOUR organization and anything you can do, to help financially with these activities for the greater good are truly appreciated. I strongly urge each and every one of you to come forward and donate generously.

I look forward to see you all in Toronto.

Jai Jinendra,

Manibhai Mehta

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Southeast FL, GA, AT, MT, LA, AK, TN, SC, NC, KY, WV

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++Associate - One director on JAINA's Board (up to 50 families)

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JAINA HEADQUARTERS

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Telephone Hours: Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM - EST

JAINA FOCUS

JAINA publishes the JAINA Focus monthly newsletter for administrative purposes. It is being sent to all member organizations and committee members of JAINA. All news items for publication in the JAINA Focus must be sent to the Editor (address below) by the 10th of each month.

Chandrakant Parekh 12914 Wolverton Lane Cerritos, CA 90701 Phone: 310/865-1679

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We encourage our readers to send their questions, comments or views on current issues or concerns facing the Jain community of North America to the Editor in Chief, Harshad Shah (address above). We endeavor to publish letters space permitting. The Jain Digest reserves the right to edit all material for clarity and/or space. The views expressed in these letters are those of the sender and do not necessarily reflect the views of JAINA. All letters must include the sender's name, address and phone number to be considered for publication.

JAIN DIGEST

Volume 12, No. 2, November, 1996

A publication of the FEDERATION OF JAIN ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

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All Editors - please submit all articles typed or on a 3.5" computer disc in MacWriteII or Word Perfect (Macintosh or IBM). The Managing Editorial Board will endeavor to publish the material sent but reserves the right to edit and/or reformat for clarity and/or space restrictions. The views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Managing Editorial Board of JAINA.

Publication Dates and Deadlines

January 15 F April 15 J

February June

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HEADQUARTERS NEWS

Executive Committee Meets

The Executive Committee held a meeting at Siddachalam on October 5 - 6, 1996. The items that were agreed upon were:

- Toronto, Canada will be the site of the 9th Biennial JAINA Convention, to be held July 4 - 6, 1997
- The JAINA Award Committee was appointed, with Hansaben Varia as Chairperson.
 - The 1993, 1994 and 1995 Audited Financial report was
- presented by Kamlesh Shah. Please see pages 4 - 5 for complete details.
- A detailed report on the Visiting Scholars Program was presented by Naresh Shah and Nirmal Doshi.
- · The trustees of Siddachalam and JAINA's Executive Committee met for candid and frank discussions on upgrading the facility, establishing better communication between the two groups and how to better utilize the Tirth by all Jains of North America.



JAINA's Executive Committee Meets members of the Jain Society of Toronto, Canada

Acharya Sushil Kumar Ji Ahimsa Award

The Acharya Sushil Kumar Ji Ahimsa Award will be presented at the 1997 convention. The Award Committee will select the recipient out of a nomination pool received by the Chairperson, Manoj Dharamsi, 11820 Triple Crown Road, Reston VA 22091-3014 on or before Monday, January 27, 1997.

> The Award Committee reserves the right not to recommend a recipient for this award if none of the nominees are suitable. A candidate may be nominated by a person or organization. Current members of JAINA's Executive Committee are ineligible. In granting this award, the following criteria will be used, the Committee will:

- present the Award to an individual not an institution.
- · only accept nominations from persons actually living in North America for persons ac-

9th Biennial JAINA Convention

The Jain Society of Toronto and JAINA are happy to announce that the 9th Biennial Convention will be held from Friday, July 4 through July 6, 1997 at the International Plaza Hotel, Toronto, Canada. The Theme of the convention is "Jainism in Practice." Please mark you calendar now, and plan to attend.

To ensure that all Jain Centers in North America have an opportunity to make this convention meaningful and successful, JAINA is requesting that each center president contact one of the following persons with thoughts, ideas and suggestions for the convention. To help the planners please let them know approximately how many people from your area will be attending. Please contact: JAINA Coordinators - Anop Vora at 716/473-9290 or Kamlesh Shah at 301/353-0481, JAINA Headquarters at 714/ 898-3156 or Sobhagya Khamesra of the Jain Society of Toronto at 416/368-1682. JAINA would like to hear from every center by January 1, 1997.

In addition, JAINA would like to hear ideas, thoughts and suggestions from young people and youth groups in order to make the convention meaningful for all ages.

tually living in North America.

- never be given to the same person twice.
- endeavor to present the Award to a person who embodies the principles of Jainism, and has spent time and energy spreading the message of Ahimsa and the other Jain principles through lectures, teaching, articles and books.

Los Angeles Times Profiles Manibhai Mehta

The headline reads - "Doctor is devoted to the religion that inspired Gandhi" - and covers three-quarters of page B3R of the Los Angeles Times, June 24, 1996. The articles touches on cultural heritage, religious teaching, the practices of Jainism and includes an in-depth interview with Manibhai and his thoughts on vegetarianism and the place it plays in Jain philosophy. Commenting, Manibhai said, "If people believe it is going to help their own lives they'll change." If anyone is interested in reading this article it can be located through your local library by mentioning the date and page number of the Los Angeles Times.

Headquarters News continues on page 22

FINANACIAL REPORT

Audited Financial Report

Statement of Revenues Collected and Disbursed for the years 1993, 1994 and 1995.

JAINA's Audited Financial Statement for the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 is presented for your information. If you have questions or comments regarding this report you may contact: Kamlesh Shah, Treasurer - JAINA, at 301/353-0481 or Fax: 301/916/4446.

Revenues Collected	1993	1994	1995
Donations	\$ 149,773	\$ 207,424	\$ 183,454
Memberships	6,245	20,398	7,126
Interest and Dividends	1,438	1,706	3,031
Gain on Sale of Securities	-	-	2,792
Total Revenues Collected	157,456	229,528	196,403
Disbursements			
Grants and Allocations			
Vardhaman Kalyanji Trust	10,000	10,000	-
Salvation Army	682	_	-
SRI Vallabhnidhi Trust	9,660	-	-
Diwaliben Mohanlal Mehta Trust	60,000	-	-
Jain Math	2,450	1,900	-
Shree Bidada Sarvoday Trust	15,400	-	-
The Jain Society of Pittsburgh	14,119	_	-
Jain Vishva Bharati	1,553	3,510	-
Shivram Srikandath	1,000	-	_
International Mahavir Jain Mission	-	1,000	-
Lion Tarachand Bapa Hospital	-	1,650	-
Mahavir Heart Research Foundation	-	1,650	-
Institute of Jainology	-	7,500	-
American Red Cross (Niagara Falls)	_	4,000	-
Apang Manav Mandal	-	750	200
Satkrama Trust	-	750	-
Jyoti Sangh	-	750	200
Sadvuchar Parivar	-	750	200
Anjar Education Society	-	1,550	1,217
American Red Cross (Órange County)	-	500	-
Blind Men's Association	_	750	200
Virayatan Blind Hospital	-	2,336	_
Jain Society Toronto	-	1,000	-
Shri Mahavira Brahamchary Ashrama	_	-	300
The late Dilip Paresh A. S2hah Sarvajanik	-	_	1,100
Shri Kankubal Shravikashram	-	-	558
Bahubali Vidyapeeth	-	_	800
Sharda Charitable Trust	-	_	9,700
Bhartiya Jain Sangathan	-	-	33,020
Total Grants and Allocation	114,864	40,346	47,495

www.jainelibrary.org

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Grants and Allocations			
Accounting Fees	930	-	-
Bank Service Charges	198	371	1,662
Books and Periodicals	3,968	811	2,910
Business Travel	3,886	13,795	7,312
Conventions and Meetings	7,515	78,493	20,232
Commissions	-	-	392
Depreciation	260	486	486
Educational Materials	=	-	10,000
Office Expenses	-	-	213
Memberships	-	16	-
Miscellaneous	980	480	-
Postage	1,824	3,473	4,636
Printing and Publication	30,813	35,428	51,106
Promotional Events for Animal Rights	-	-	1,470
Secretaria1 Services	-	89	-
Speakers' Fees	-	-	751
Supplie	-	878	-
Telephone	5,336	5,785	10,573
Videos	4,000	730	530
Total Disbursements	174,574	181,161	159,768
Excess of Revenues over Disbursermen	t \$(17,118)	\$ 48,367	\$ 36,635
Assets			
Cash, Savings and Temporary Cash Investments	\$55,908	\$104,273	\$141,394
Fixed Assets			
Equipment	3,005	3,493	3,493
(Less) Accumulated Depreciation	(350)	(836)	(1,322)
Net Fixed Assets	2,655	2,657	<u>2,171</u>
Total Assets	\$58,563	\$106,930	\$143,565
Liabilities and Fund Balance			
Liabilities	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Fund Balance	58,563	106,930	143,565
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$58,563	\$106,930	\$143,565

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Art Institute of Chicago's Asian Art Section has a display of Jain Tirthankers that has just come to the attention of the Jain Digest staff. Such permanent exhibitions of this magnitude are rare within the US. Jains who are visiting the Chicago area might want to take advantage of this worthwhile, permanent display of such ancient idols.

Bhaktamar Stotra is available on video. It is sung by Anuradha Podwal with commentary by Harish Bhimani. The video will take you on a journey of the ancient Jain temples of India. If you would like to have this video, we request a donation in the amount of \$10.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping and handling (\$.50 for each additional tape) to: Anil R. Shah, Jain Center of Greater Boston, 26 Humbolt Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803. Or you may phone 617/272-3666. At your request, the JCGB will include a free bird feeder with each order to teach our children *Jiv Daya*.

Des Moines, Iowa is in the process of forming a Jain Society and would like to invite anyone who is interesting in participating from that part of the country. Approximately 20 families have been meeting once a month in the home of various Jains and hope to expand their membership base. For more information please contact: Hemendra Maiseri at 515/222-1964 or Niru Madia 515/267-1005.

Bird Feeders, the Jiva Daya Project of the Jain Center of Greater Boston is interested in seeing that your pathshala students receive a free bird feeder. Please send the name of your organization, the number of students, a contact person with phone number, the address to where the feeders should be sent and any comments or suggestions to: Jasvant C. Shah, Vision Computer, Inc., 84 Cambridge Street, Burlington, MA 01803. Or you may phone at 617/270-1099 or Fax to 617/273-1886.

Internet address change for the Jain Center of Southern California is JainBhavan@aol.com.

JAINA and AT & T have signed an agreement called the Association Awards Program. This is how it works. AT & T will pay JAINA 5% of the residential AT & T, direct dial, international, long-distance, per-minute usage charges, billed and collected for each registered JAINA member, who chooses AT & T as their long-distance company.

Please sign up now! Don't forget to give AT & T our account number 4 NAE 1987. If you have any questions, please call Kushal Jain at 908/949-0889

Southern California Jain community members who would like to be placed on the Jain Centers mailing list please contact: Tejas Mehta, 721 North Euclid Street, Suite 208, Anahieim, CA 92801 or E-mail, TejasMehta@aol.com or call 714/491-4000.

The Jain Youth Association of New York, Box 244, Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023-0244, Phone and Fax 212/362-6483, "a well structured organization, based on Jain principles, that helps promote creativity and cooperation among today's Jain youth," has just published and anniversary issue of their activities. If any young person wishes to find out more about this issue or the activities of this group, please contact the address above.

The University of Pennsylvania's - South Asia Regional Studies Department (SARS) has just begun a course of study on Jainism. The department is well endowed and offers joint degrees across schools such as: SARS and the Wharton School of Business or the School of Engineering. For more information concerning these studies at the undergraduate and graduate levels please contact: Richard Cohen, 205/898-7475 or David Nelson, 555 Van Pelt, 3420 Walnut Street, Philadelphia PA 19104, or E-mail nelsond@pobox.upenn.edu, or call 215/898-7460, or fax 215/898-0559.

Three Vegetarian/Vegan books/booklets are available from The Vegetarian Resource Group, "Vegan Baking and Eggless Bread Recipes," "Vegetarian Diets During Cancer Treatment" and a two paged "Guide to Fast Food." For more information please contact the Vegetarian Resource Group at, P.O. Box 1463 Baltimore, MD 21203, or call 410/366-VEGE or at their Web site address: http://envirolink.org/arrs/VRG/home.html.

Aristotle's Concept of God

God has no physical form. Thus he does not feel pain, hunger, thirst and desire. God is pure knowledge. Knowing is His one and only activity.

God possesses the knowledge of each and everything inherently and continually. He has no function except self-realization. If some other function is attributed to God, some goal or purpose, aside from Him, will have to be assumed. Thereby God will have the blemish of limitedness and finiteness in respect, Aristotle's God is similar to the God of Jains.

- Babu Gulagrai M. A.

If appropriate, the Jain Digest will be happy to publish items' or the date and name of your up-coming event.

Please submit all information to the Editor in Chief, see address on page 2.

REGIONAL NEWS

CANADA

Mahindra Mehta Regional Editor

Edmonton, AL

The members were enriched by a discourse on Ahimsa by Vimal Muniji Sunday, June 23, 1996.

The multi-faith chapel at the Royal Alexandria Hospital in Edmonton now has a pratima of Lord Mahavir and two plaques one of Namokar Mantra and an other containing an outline of Jain philosophy. The members of Jain Sangh participated in an Interfaith Prayer Service on healing at the Chapel.

Montreal, QU

The Jain Society of Montreal celebrated Paryushan Parva with Pratikraman every evening. Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated with fourteen Swapnas and Snatra Pooja. There were many tapascharyas with one fast of 8 days and one of 9 days. The young Jains organized a conference on vegetarianism and invited Dr. Mehta, from India as their guest speaker.

A Panch Tirth Yatra was organized. Shree Amrendra Muniji visited Montreal for three days and gave many discourses. Snatra Pooja is performed regularly each month.

The president of Jain Sangh of Montreal expresses Michhami Dukkadhum to all Jains.

Toronto, ON

The Toronto Jain Sangh celebrated Paryushan Parva with great devotion and tapascharyas. The Executive Committee is to be congratulated for organizing the most auspicious occasion of Jain calendar extremely well. We were very fortunate to have celebrated the eight days in the presence of Acharya Chandanaji, Sadhvijis Vibhaji and Subhamji and Mangalam.

Acharyaji gave daily discourses on many familiar topics in the morning, afternoon and after the Pratikraman. Sadhviji Subhamji took on the task of explaining each of the slokas of the ten chapters of Tattvarth Sutra. She impressed everyone with her gift of Sattavadhani Labdhi, remembering a hundred questions from the audience and answering each of them at random correctly to the satisfaction of everyone. Sadhviji Vibhaji excelled Bhaktamar Stotra, answering questions in small groups and enchanted the audience with her beautiful singing voice. Our center was humming with activity from 7:30 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.. We hope the dedication and devotion will continue.

Dhirajlal Mehta was in Toronto from August 21-28, 1996 giving a series of lectures on Tattvarth Sutra. Sagarmal Jain from Benares Hindu University came at the beginning of Daslakshan and spoke each day, on one of 10 Lakshans of the Sravak. Dr. Jain is fluent in Sanskrit, Hindi and English. This made it very easy for everyone to understand.

Acharyaji Chandanaji explained her life's work at Veerayatan in Bihar, India through pictures, videos and talks. The members of Toronto Jain Sangh contributed over \$40,000 in three days. Partial funds were used to ship two containers of hospital equipment to India which was donated by the Canadian Foundation for World Development and worth over \$200,000. It is appropriate here to mention, in true spirit of Paryushan, that the Gathani family of Toronto donated a full container of grain to Veerayatan with a promise of similar donations in the future.

The 1996 Arhum Yoga Retreat was well attended at Lorretto Centre in Niagara Falls, Ontario in June, 1996. The faculty included P. S. Jaini from California, John Mosher, Shanti Parekh and Dinesh Parekh.

The Sanatan Mandir was opened in Toronto just before Paryushan and many Jains from Metro-Toronto contributed to the financial success of this project. Among the many Hindu deities, there is a beautiful pratima of Lord Mahavir.

Gurudev Chitrabhanuji presided over 18 Abhisek and the other ceremonies. Guruji's 75th birthday was also celebrated after the ceremonies. He delivered a lecture on "Nav Tattva." Acharya Chandanaji visited the Sanatan Mandir and gave a talk on peaceful coexistence.

The Indo-Canadian Chamber of Commerce has announced Keshav Chandaria the recipient of their Humanitarian Award for 1996. Mr. Chandaria is an International Rotarian, Founder of Air India Disaster Fund and several other Canadian and International charities and is a Trustee of Toronto Jain Society.

Ajit Jain, Associate Editor of India Abroad, and member of Toronto Jain Society was awarded the President's Award by Indo-Canadian Chamber of Commerce recognizing his twenty years of service to Indo-Canadian community.

His Excellency, Dr. L. M. Singhvi, India's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom was in Calgary, AB to receive the Rotary Peace Award in presence of some 30,000 Rotarians. He is the first Indian and Jain to be honored in this way.

Dr. Singhvi who is an eminent Jain scholar, jurist and constitutional lawyer, was in Toronto to present a bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi to Roy McMurty, Chief Justice of Ontario on June 27, 1996. The bust will be permanently placed at the High Court.

Prakash Mody was awarded the Volunteer Service Award of the Government of Ontario for his work with the Ontario Multifaith Council and Interfaith Committee on Chaplaincy.

The Society was unanimously admitted as a member of the Interfaith Committee on Chaplaincy at its recent annual general meeting.

The I.M.J.M. of Canada celebrated the birthday of Acharya Sushil Kumarji on June 8, 1996. The birthday was celebrated at the University of Toronto with a lecture by Ellen Goldberg followed by devotional music by Vinodbhai Patel.

As part of the Scarborough Bicentennial there was Multifaith Celebration that

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the Jain Society of Toronto participated in with many other people: Christians, Buddhists, Muslims, Native Canadians and B'hais. We recited Namokar Mantra and gave a brief explanation of Anekantvad. Young Jains presented a dance.



Cincinnati/Dayton, OH

The center elected the following members to its Executive Committee under the leadership of Pramod Jheveri - President, Mahesh Shah - Vice President, Ravi Kothari - Secretary, Ashwin Parekh - Treasurer, Jwala Prasad - Education, Jigna Shah - Youth, Vir Singh Jain - Facilities, Ramila Shah - Food, Ila Punater - Membership. Sirendra Singhvi and Chandra Shah were reappointed as JAINA Directors.

The center celebrated Mahavir Jayanti in April and invited Shakhan Chand Jain of India to speak.

The Columbus Jain Sangh and the Detroit Jain Sangh visited the center in the summer to do pooja and exchange ideas.

NORTHEAST Vinay Vakani Regional Editor

Albany, NY

The Jain Society of Capital District (JSCD) celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on April 13, 1996 at the Hindu Temple where a murti of Lord Mahavir has been installed since May, 1993. The celebration started with Snatra Pooja followed by a cultural program and Swamivatsal. The cultural program was a recital of prayers, dances, a discussion on the use of animals for testing medicine, a drama entitled "Live and Let Live," and an Academy Bowl. About 200 area Jains attended the cultural program in which children ages 5-18 performed. A

community dinner was sponsored by Bansi and Sushila Mehta of Gloversville, NY.

Acharya Chandanaji and her disciples Subhamji and Vibhaji visited Albany for three days in July. They gave discourses and conducted prayers. A demonstration of incredible memory (*Avadhan Prayog*) by Sadhvi Subhamji dazzled the audience. People became familiar with their activities of Seva, Shiksa and Sadhana at Veerayatan in Bihar, India.

During July, five Jain young people from the JSCD attended the YJA Convention in San Francisco, CA.

Buffalo, NY

The Pratishtha at the Hindu-Jain Temple of Buffalo, NY was held on May 26, 1996. We were honored by celebrating this event in the presence of Gurudev Chitrabhanuji who performed the ceremony. Jains from all over North America and from overseas attended. The Buffalo temple is the second temple to follow JAINA's guidelines for temple installation.

The temple conveys the message of unity among the various Jain sects and the Hindu community. The temple has idols of Lord Mahavir, Lord Paraswanath and a Shila of Namokar Mantra.

Before placing the idols, there was a great procession which included many dignitaries such as our local congressman. About 2,000 people graced the occasion. Flowers were showered on the temple by helicopter.

Gurudev Chitrabhanuji was honored on his 75th birthday and for the work he has done in North American over the last 25 years.

Essex Fells, NJ

The Jain Center of New Jersey (JCNJ) celebrated the Mahavir Jayanti in April, 1996. This celebration was dedicated to late Vinodbhai C. Shah. Over 100 children participated in a variety of activities. Gurudev Chitrabhanuji graced the occasion and spoke about Vinodbhai's service to the Jain community in North America.

Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra centennial year was celebrated with Sunandaben Vohra as a guest speaker.

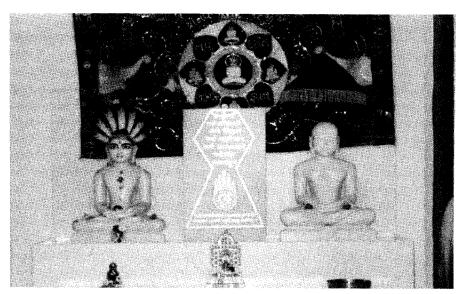
Kiranbhai Parekh gave discourses and conducted Swaddhyaya classes for four weeks in July.

About 200 Jains attended and enjoyed the picnic at Shephard Lake.

This year the Paryushan Parva was celebrated under the guidance of Shri Kirtichandraji of Triputi Bandhu. He demonstrated Yoga Sadhana and spoke on various topics related to Jainism. Over 2,200 people attended Swapna Darshan and Mahavir Jayanti celebration. There were 36 Tapasyas with one 21 day fast.

Pathshala classes run from September, to May. Over 60 children learn about Jainism in three levels of classes.

The center had the pleasure of welcoming the visits of the Montreal, Harrisburg, Washington and Samarpan Temple (Philadelphia) Jain Sanghs. All visitors to



The Jain Temple in Buffalo, NY

our temple are cordially invited for darshan and services. For more information, please call 201/226-2539 or 908/329-3236.

Philadelphia, PA

The Samarpan Temple of Philadelphia would like to honor 11 year old Sunny T. Shah who completed an 8 day fast. Sunny has been paralyzed since birth.



Sunny T. Shah

New York, NY

The Jain Center of America (JCA), New York has embarked on an ambitious project of building a new temple in the New York City area. Four acres of land in Nassau County, about 1/4 mile from the New York City-Queens border, has been purchased. This site will accommodate a temple, a school and a facility for community events. The JCA welcomes construction suggestions and financial contributions.

The JCA held the Parna Mahotsav for eleven Varshitap tapasvis on May 11, 1996. At this time, the JCA gave a tribute to Gurudev Chitrabhanuji for his continuous spiritual and inspirational guidance to the Jains of North America.

The JCA organized a Youth Camp at Siddachalam and also held a picnic in Belmont Park, NY.

The JCA celebrated Paryushan Parva and Daslakshan under the spiritual guidance of Shashikant Sheth, Vikash and Bhattarak Charikirtiji. There were 24 tapshyas of 8 days or more.

Washington, DC

Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated on March 30, 1996 with a stage program followed by Swamivatsal Bhojan. The stage program of songs, dances, Garba and skits was performed by the children. About 600 people attended this program. Ayambil was performed by 30 people in March, 1996.

Childrens' Jain class graduation ceremony was held during Mahavir Jayanti. During the course of these last ten years the Sunday classes for children have grown to five levels with an appropriate curriculum designed and implemented at each level. Over 50 students are currently registered in these classes. Five students completed the entire curriculum this year and were graduated. The graduation requirements included: completion of the course work, making two presentations in class, teaching a lower level class, writing an essay on a topic, relating that topic to the self and society and passing an oral review panel who quizzed the candidate on their knowledge of Jainism and asked them about their plans for the future.

A series of talks by Hukamchandji Bharill, Dhirajlal Mehta, Saman Shrutapragya, and Acharya Shree Chandanaji were held in June, July and August, 1996.

A picnic was held in June, 1996. An ice skating party and a trip to King's Dominion Recreation Park were arranged for the children.

A special program to honor Gurudev Chitrabhanuji was held in July, 1996. A framed citation plaque signed by all members of the Society was presented to him at that time. The plaque honored Gurudev for his work in promoting Jainism in North America over the last 25 years, and his spiritual guidance to our Society since its establishment in 1980.

Gurudev Chitrabhanuji and Pramodaben held a camp for children in July, 1996. Pravin Shah held a youth camp and an camp on Preksha Dhyan by Saman Shrutapragya was held in August, 1996. All were very well attended.

The Cherryhill Jain Sangh came to visit the Washington Temple in August, 1996. Jains from central New Jersey came in October, 1996.

Pooja programs are held each month at the center or at the homes of members. Monthly bhavana programs are held at the Jain Temple from 8:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. on the second Friday of each month.

Paryushan Parva celebration was full of religious activities, including two series of Vyakhyanmala on Kalpasutra and on Jain Tatva by Sunandaben Vohora in September, 1996. Swapna ceremony and bhavana were held on September 14, 1996 and Samvatsari Pratikraman on September 17, 1996. About 500 people participated in these activities. The children performed Pratikraman in English. Seventeen people stayed at the center during the Parva and were busy every day carrying out religious activities. Daslakshan Parva celebration on September 19-27, 1996 featured Vyakhyanmala by Pravin Doshi.

A Panch Tirth Yatra bus trip with 40 members was held in September, 1996 to visit the temples in Philadelphia, Cherryhill, North New Jersey, Siddachalam and New York. Washington Sangh was very well received by everyone.

The Society has joined with eleven Hindu temple organizations in the Washington Metropolitan area to form an Association of Hindu and Jain Temples of Metropolitan Washington. In addition to the interfaith activities, the association jointly celebrated Diwali in November, 1996 which involved about 10,000 people.

A unique new program called, "Adopt Jain Center for a Day" was recently begun to offset the annual operating expenses. Over 100 families have already pledged their support to this program. A member family adopts the Jain Center for one or more days each year to celebrate a happy occasion or to commemorate a special event, and pledges \$101 or more per year for at least the next five years. On the chosen day, the family visits the center, carries out religious activities, clean or maintain the center.

Our committee members are using Email to share information and is helping members to carry out the Society's work more efficiently. The Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington has established a Home Page on the World Wide Web our address for is:

http://www.gl.umbc.edu/~ashah3

Information available on this page includes schedules of activities, directions to the temple, phone numbers, and E-mail addresses of committee members. In addition, there are direct links to other Jain related home pages around the world.

SOUTHEAST

Pravin Mehta Regional Editor

Atlanta, GA

In addition to the events of the 1996 Olympiad, this was a very active period for the Jain Society of Atlanta. Several scholars and munis visited and gave discourses on Jain scriptures and the significance of the three jewels, samyak darshan, samyak gyan and samyak eharilra. These visitors included Bhattarak Kirtiswamiji, Dr. Bharill, two Shramanjis, Dhirajbhai Mehta and Shashikant Sheth.

The two Shramans helped celebrate Paryushan Parva. They gave lectures in Gujarati. The Shramans developed a close rapport with our young people and were very impressed with their curiosity and desire to learn more about Jainism. The young people were also impressed with their knowledge and willingness to answer all questions.

This Paryushan Parva has also been marked by Tapashchanya. Eight days of fasting were completed Jiten and Niru Shah, Raju Shah, Nilesh Chheda, Rohit Malabari, Bharati Shah, Dinesh Shah, and Ameeta Shah. Several young people did upvas and ekasanas, some took vows not to eat potatoes, onions and other under ground roots.

Activities after Paryushan did not stop. Dhirajbhai Mehta and Shantikant Sheth visited and enriched our understanding and the practices of Jainism. Sumanben Dalal, who visits here every year, has Swadhaya regularly.

Augusta, GA

The members of Augusta Jain Community continue to meet twice a month. During Paryushan we met everyday and read Kalpasutra. Sunandaben Vora and Dhirajbhai Mehta visited us for few days and gave an excellent discourse on Jainism.

The Augusta community's new temple is under construction and will be ready for Sthapana of Lord Mahavir soon.

Middle Tennessee, TN

In April, the group held Mahavir Jayanti celebrations and elections. Lalit Sheth was elected President and Pravin Mehta, Vice President and JAINA Director. We had Shekharchand Jain from Ahmedabad, India as a visiting scholar who presented a three day discourse.

At the YJA Convention in San Francisco, Mayur Mehta and Hemal Mehta represented Middle, TN. Mayur was Cochair of the event and was part of YJA's Executive Committee. He was given a recognition plaque by JAINA's President, Manibhai Mehta.

During Paryushan there were Kalpasutra readings and Pratikraman everyday. Families travelled from Virginia to participate. Three freshmen from Vanderbilt University joined the ceremonies. Children and adults fasted according to their abilities. All the Tapasi were recognized at Swamivatsal after Samvatsari Pratikraman. There was a special Shrimad Rajchandra Pratikraman at Pravin Patel's home. Samvatsari Pratikraman was performed at the home of Dipak Mehta.

SOUTHWEST

Jadavji Kenia Regional Editor

Dallas, TX

The Jain Society of North Texas has been very spiritually active during last six months with weekly Swadhyay sessions, lectures by Jain scholars and dignitaries, Tapasya during Paryushan Daslakshan and regular activities such as poojas, childrens' classes and adult discussion groups. Among the dignitaries who have visited us were Shekhar Chandra Jain in early May who spoke on Tatvas and Aatma, Dhirajlal Mehta in July spoke about Karma, Hukum Chand Bharill in July spoke on several chapters from the Moksha Marg Prakash how to obtain and retain Samyaktva. In September, Pratap Kumar Tolia emphasized Aatm-Dhyan (meditation) using Bhakti path with music. Khemchand Jain graced the group during Daslakshan with poojas and Swadhyay sessions.

In late September, Sagarmal Jain spoke on Samyak Darshan and how Samyak Gyan and Samyak Charitra are related. He also talked spoke on how Buddhist teachings and the Geeta are similar to Jain theories. Material covered in these lectures has been very helpful for our Swadhyay sessions.

We are indeed fortunate that we can broaden our knowledge of Jainism on the of a path to liberation (*Samyak Gyan*) with the help of these scholars and Swadhyay sessions.

Paryushan and Daslakshan Parva celebration began on September 10, 1996 at the Jain Center in Richardson, Texas with daily Pratikraman. Some members started their Atthai Tapa. On September 15, 1996 there was a Paryushan general meeting in which the Jain Youth Group and other children participated in the Swapna ceremony. Through our annual Ghee Boli we raised approximately \$13,000. Over 100 people attended Samvatsari Pratikraman on September 17, 1996. On September 21, 1996 there was Pratikraman in English for our young people. During Daslakshan there were poojas in the mornings and Swadhyay sessions in the evening.

Among the Tapasvis this year were: Damjibhai Shah who did 9 Upvas. Others who did Atthai including: Ashok and Usha Daftary, Gautam Daftary, Kirit and Pramila Daftary, Maniben Mehta, Bhupendra Shah, Binaben Shah, Ushaben Shah and Minita Vora. Jayshree Parekh did 6 upvas. Some of the families whose members did a major Tapasya celebrated by holding a Swamivatsal lunch. There were others who did 1 to 3 Upvas and Ekasanas Aayambils. Our congratulations to all the Tapasvis and Michhami Dukkadhum to all local members and readers of the Jain Digest everywhere.

About 10 Jain Youth Group members participated in the YJA Convention in San Francisco and once again the Jain Society of North Texas supported their trips financially. They celebrated Ahimsa Day by preparing sandwiches for the homeless.



Phoenix, AZ

Several young adults from the Greater Phoenix area attended the Second Biennial YJA Convention that was held in San Francisco, CA in July.

The Jain Center this year had Dharmalabh from Dhirajbhai Mehta, Sunandaben Vohra and Pravinbhai Doshi. Dhirajbhai spent a week with us and gave discourses on Yoga Shatak. Sunandaben spent four days and did Swadhyay on Samyaktva.

Paryushan and Daslakshan Parvas were celebrated from September 10-26, 1996 with spiritual activities. We were very fortunate to have Pravinbhai Doshi, a Jain scholar and Mumukshu from Rajkot, India with us. We had morning, afternoon and evening Swadhyay, lectures, discussion and Pratikraman during Paryushan Parva. Pravinbhai delivered the Vanchan and daily Pravachan discussion on various topics.

This year many Mumukshus including children and young adults participated in Tapasya. The following is a partial list of the individuals involved: 15 Upvas - Prem Gandhi, 10 Upvas - Ajit Shah, 8 Upvas - Asmita Kapadia (age 14), 8 Aayambils - Varsha Shah and Atul Kothari and 8 Ekasanas - Jainy Savala (age 11). Several others did 1 to 6 Upvas, Aayambils and Ekasanas. Although the of Jain community in the Phoenix area is small, the spirit for the Tapasya was very high.

Our annual Paryushan Mahavir Jayanti and the fund raising program was successfull. On Samvatsari day we had two different Pratikraman, one for the adults and one in English for the young people.



Los Angeles, CA

Paryushan Parva was celebrated from September 10 - 30, 1996 in the presence of Kumarpalbhai Desai, a well known Jain scholar from India. Kumarpalbhai read from the Kalpa Sutra and delivered lectures. The JCYC pathshala children led by Shayna Parekh and the JAYA youth group led by Neha Shah presented an outstand-



Ashok Savla

ing program of skits and dances on Jainism, including the significance of Paryushan Parva on September 15, 1996. Over 1,600 people attended Mahavir Janma Vanchan and Swapna ceremony. The samuh parna and bahuman of a record number of tapasvis were scheduled on September 22, 1996. Forty five adult tapasvis included 1 maaskhaman - 30 upvas - Ashok Savla, 1 varsitap - Hasmita Parekh, 2 with 16 upvas-Saurabh Shah and Daksha Gala, 7 with 11 upvas, 4 with 10 upvas, 6 with 9 upvas, 21 with 8 upvas (athai), and 3 with 16 to 32 ekashanas. It is very encouraging to note that the number of children who observe some form of austerities during Paryushan Parva continues to grow each year. Four children under the age of 17 years did 8 upvas (athai) and 29 others were recognized for other forms of tap.

A musical program of stavans was presented following the samuh parna. The Daslakshan Parva was celebrated in the presence of Shashikantbhai Sheth who was accompanied by 16 sadharmik mumukshu bhai. Shashikantbhai has published several books on Jainism and a magazine entitled *Atma Jagriti*.

During Paryushan Mahaparva, an appeal was relaunched to raise funds to develop additional facilities on the land adjoining the existing Jain Bhavan. A replica of the Temple at Palitana, will be integrated in this expanded facilities.

The community members responded generously for the building fund and other worth while projects such as: educational publication like *Glory of Jainism* being prepared by Kumarpalbhai Desai, the Jiv Daya and Vegetarianism Committee's, publication, *Ahimsa Resource Book*, the Share and Care used clothing drive, the Bidada Annual Medical Camp and the general fund.

The eighth anniversary of the inauguration of the Jain Bhavan and the celebration of the 25th anniversary of Chitrabhanuji's arrival in North America and his 75th Birthday were celebrated on June 30, 1996 in the presence of Gurudev Chitrabhanuji. The celebrations included a dhwaj ceremony, slide presentation, and an entertainment program that was presented by the JCYC children and JAYA youth group.

Prominent Jain scholars from India who visited the Center recently include: Dhirajlal Shah, Hukumchandji Bharil and Sunandaben Vora. Ahimsa Day was celebrated on October 20, 1996 and Centennial Year celebration of Shri Atma Sidhi Granth on October 27, 1996. The Center can be contacted by E-mail at JainBhavan@aol.com and has created a homepage which can be accessed at www.jainism.org.

Pathshala classes resumed on September 28, 1996 with a record number of children enrolled. The Jain Center Youth Council (JCYC) led by Shayna Parekh has been very active in getting the pathshala children involved in many activities which included trips to a Buddhist Temple and Knotts Berry Farm, participation in entertainment programs presented during the visit of Gurudev Chitrabhanuji and Paryushan Parva. The Jain Association of Young Adults (JAYA) led by Neha Shah is off to a great start this year by getting the young adults involved in a number of activities including beach bonfire, workshop on Philosophy of Karma led by Pravinbhai Shah, a youth forum, and participating as volunteers for serving dinner at various functions as well as the Medical Expo held at the Jain Center. The JAYA publishes a newsletter entitled The Jiva which provides news and information of interest to young people.

Sacramento, CA

The 10-day celebrations of Paryushan Parva was concluded with the dedication of the swapnas. Approximately \$6,000 was collected. Samanji Shrut Pragnaji and Samanji Anad Pragna visited Sacramento from September 28 - October 9, 1996. They stayed with families and delivered pravachan everyday for the benefit of the Jain samaj. For more information about the Jain Center of Greater Sacramento, please call Naresh Jain at 916/488-2601.

San Diego, CA

Organized over 10 years ago by 5 families, the Jain Society of San Diego today has a membership of nearly 40 families. The primary aims of the society are to provide an opportunity to learn more about Jainism as well as to pass on the religious and cultural values to our children. The members meet at each other's home on a rotating basis to sing prayers, discuss the Jain philosophy and its application in daily life, celebrate religious occasions, listen to the visiting schol-

ars and teach the fundamental principles of Jainism to our children.

The auspicious occasion of the sthapana of two murtis of Lord Adinath and Lord Mahavir was celebrated with two days of activities on September 7 - 8, 1996. The two new murtis were placed along with the murti of Lord Parshwanath at Shri Mandir located at 9474 Black Mountain Road, San Diego, CA 92126. Pre-swapna celebrations began on the evening of September 7, 1996. Kumarpalbhai Desai, the well known Jain scholar from India, talked about the importance of the Murti Swapna. That evening concluded with a bhavna program presented by Darshana Bhutta and Praveen Chaddha, two popular artists from San Francisco who have released albums of Jain stavans. On September 8, 1996 over 500 people from San Diego and Los Angeles areas participated in ceremonies including a one mile Rathyatra Yatra procession, welcoming the murtis to the mandir, the sthapana of the murtis, and Snatra pooja. The occasion concluded with a Swamivatsal lunch. The success of the murti sthapana celebrations was attributed to the dedication, enthusiasm and hard work of the entire community, the organizational skills of the subcommittees and the enthusiastic participation and support of the Jain families.



The new Jain Temple in San Diego, CA

San Francisco, CA

More than 600 young people ranging in age from 14 to 30 came to the 1996 YJA Convention last July. The manner in which the convention was organized and staged, clearly demonstrated that our young people are well prepared and eager to adopt, share and spread the teachings of Lord Mahavir. They were led by Rakesh Shah and Rish Mehta who organized the convention's programming, scheduling, food, code of conduct and fund raising. The convention provided an opportunity to address the practical aspects of leading a Jain life-style in America by offering sessions on practicing Jainism, vegetarianism, compassion, comparative religious studies and offered a future vision of the place Jainism can play in the world.

Paryushan Parva and Daslakshan Parva were celebrated in the presence of Sudhaben and Mahasati Acharya Chandanaji. Sudhaben is a well-known scholar on Atma Sidhi Shastra and the principles of Jainism. Her daily discourses attracted a large number of people from the entire community including Mumuksha Mandal. Mahasati Acharya Chandanaji, a disciple of Upaddhaya Munishri Amar Muniji Maharaj and has dedicated her entire life to spread the word of Lord Mahavir. She also manages the Virayatan campus which house a free hospital for the needy, free kitchen, ashram, and a religious sanctuary.

A record number of Tapashcharyas were observed during this auspicious occasion. Muktaben Himat Doshi observed a maas khaman (30 upvas), and Shailaben Shah observed 16 upvas. In addition, there were 8 athais (8 upvas) and several tapasavis observed one ekashana to multiple upvas. Several youngsters participated in the tapasiya some observing eight ekashanas. More than 70 tapasavis were recognized at the Kshama Vaani Parva.

The acquisition of property, located near the intersection of Freeway 680 and Calavaras Boulevard (Highway 237) in Milpitas, is well under way. Muni Jin Chandraji and Gurudev Chitrabhanuji have visited the site and offered their blessings for achieving our goal. On the 1.85 acre lot is a 19,000 square foot building and with minor modifications, the building will be ready for use. The second phase is to undertake major renovation of the structure to include a temple, dining hall, kitchen, library, swadhayay halls, class rooms and restrooms.

Cost of the project is estimated to be \$2,500,000. Approximately \$1,150,000 has been pledged already. However, in order to achieve our goal the Jain Bhawan Team is appealing to all member families in the Bay Area to pledge a minimum of \$5,000. Donations may be in the form of cash or stocks and donors are requested to check with their employers to see if they have a matching contribution program.

Volunteers are needed to assist with various aspects of this project. Please contact Praveen Jain at 408/559-6987 for further information.

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COMMITTEE NEWS

JAINA Charitable Trust

The JAINA Charitable trust wishes to extend a warm welcome to the following new trustees: Satish Mehta, NY; Mehul Shah, NY; Chandra Krishna Mehta; V. Bhandari, NJ; Madhu Jain, CA; Narendra Patru, MA; and Khushal Sancheti.

Jiv Daya and Vegetarianism

Chairperson - Narendra Shah

Did you know that all cosmetics used at the YJA Convention were vegetarian? Now use them at your home too!

Vegetarian Cosmetics and Beauty Products

We believe in Ahimsa, we want to avoid cruelty to animals, but sometimes we don't know where to begin. But it was not the case at YJA Convention. In the workshop on Ahimsak Cosmetics, we disseminated all information necessary to buy cosmetics made without any animal ingredients or without testing them on animals. And then to spark a change in life-styles, we collected and distributed many free samples.

For example, Ahimsa Natural Care, owned by two young adults who are Jain and live in Canada, sent us 250 bottles of shampoo, conditioner and moisturizer. Six years ago they were fed up with the inability to find true Jain cosmetics, so they started a line themselves. It now includes bath and *continued on page 20*

Attention All JAINA Members

General Donations and Advertisements are being accepted for the 4th Edition of the Jain Directory of North America

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Young Jains of America Holds Second Biennial Convention

oung Jains of America (YJA) in conjunction with the Jain Center of Northern California held its Second Biennial Convention from July 4-7, 1996, at the Hyatt Regency-Burlingame, California. The theme of the convention was Jainism: Integrating Philosophy and Practice. The purpose of this event was to provide youth, ages 14-30, with a unique forum to explore Jain philosophy and beliefs among a community of youth throughout the continent. The convention showcased enthusiasm from young Jains all over North America and the United Kingdom. There was an obvious display of youth seeking new friendships and a better understanding of the Jain religion and heritage.

PLANNING

Pre-planning for the convention had begun in July 19 by reviewing the applications to host the 1996 YJA Convention. Detroit, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Toronto all submitted bids which were analyzed on the basis of site, bud-

get, adult support, and local youth. San Francisco was selected as the host city in November 1995. During the next month, a 60 person convention committee was formed and formally called the San Francisco Convention Committee (SFCC). In January 1996, at the YJA Executive Board meeting in San Francisco, California, plans for public relations, fund-raising, programming, registration, scheduling, theme, accommodations, transportation, etc. were developed and discussed. From that point on, the YJA Executive Board and SFCC worked diligently together to provide a forum for youth to exchange Jain philosophy among other youth.

OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremonies were held on evening of July 4th in the Grand Ballroom, which was attended by over 600 youths and volunteers, and were indeed an auspicious occasion. The ceremonies were opened by the Namokar

(Continued on page 16)

YJA Sets Goals for Next Year

he Executive committee of the Young Jains of America have put together a schedule that will facilitate the mission of YJA:

To be recognized nationally and internationally as an umbrella youth organization for establishing a network to share Jain heritage and religion through youth. One of our main concerns for this year is to strengthen the organization at a grass roots level, which will lead to a strong continental organization of young Jains with a wide network. To accomplish this we have put together many ideas, each of which will facilitate our goals.

Membership

By increasing membership, we will be able to spread important updates and news fast and efficient. Our current membership is at around 1,600 members, by the end of this school year we would like that number raised to 2,000 and eventually to 5,000, or about one-third of all Jain youth. One of the ways we wish to do this is to combine our efforts with Boston to create one comprehensive list with updated information.

Publications

One of the easiest way to spread our Jain values and heritage in a contemporary fashion is through Young Minds. We are hoping that improving Young Minds will promote the reading and distribution of Young Minds and hence a stronger continental network. The Web page will begin to be updated, and several new ideas will be introduced.

Young Jains of America (YJA) is the umbrella youth organization of the Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA). The mission of YJA is to be recognized nationally and internationally as an umbrella youth organization for establishing a network to share Jain heritage and religion through youth.

Mantra which was beautifully done by Darshana Bhuta, Sapna Bhuta, Pravin Turakhia and Neeraj Jain. Following that, Chitrabhanuji, in his usual fashion, gave an inspiring speech. The YJA co-chairperson, Amit Shah and the Convention Committee co-chairperson, Rakesh Shah, then officially welcomed all the youths to the convention.

The youths were given a glimpse of what the convention had in store for them. Dr. Parveen Jain, the President of the Jain Center of Northern California and Dr. Manibhai Mehta, the President of JAINA welcomed all the youths. The evening was further enhanced by the speaking of Dr. V.P. Jain, a scholar in the world of Jain religion as well as other religions around the world. Dr. V.P. Jain gave a dynamic speech on the history of Jainism and how it related to youths today. Finally, Sonal Shah, the YJA Site and Public Relations Coordinator, closed the Opening Ceremonies with a wonderful tribute to Shri Chitrabhanuji for his 25 years in the United States, and his 75th birthday, and the history of JAINA.

WORKSHOPS

Participants of the convention were exposed to many facets of Jainism as well as social activities. The convention focused on the theme, Jainism: Integrating Philosophy and Practice. All participants had the opportunity to attend presentations of the guest speakers. Also participants choose six workshops out of a total of fifteen available over two days. The workshops were organized by Jain youth throughout North America and the United Kingdom

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Attendees also attended one of fourteen small group discussions (SGD) organized by various Jain youth. The SGD lasted for 90 minutes each. The topics ranged from Arranged Marriage Today: Is It For You? to Coping with Peer/Parental Pressure. In addition, Preksha Dhyan Meditation and Hatha Yoga were taught.

GUEST SPEAKERS

The YJA Convention was very fortunate to have distinguished guest speakers address the convention participants. Each offered valuable insights into the Jain religion and culture. Mr. Smith, a world-famous professor of philosophy and religious studies, spoke on the essence of human understanding, how science and religion are both essential tools for achieving true knowledge. His speech was entitled Tradition Meets Modernity.

Mr. Pravin Shah, a leading advocate for Jain youth education, offered a comprehensive analysis of Eastern and Western religions . Gurudev Chitrabhanu's presence is always a blessing to our North American Jain community. Providing an historical perspective to the convention was Dr. Richard Cohen, a distinguished professor of South Asian Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Through his discourse, Dr. Cohen offered convention participants a highly objective account of History of Jainism, from the life of Lord Mahavir to Jainism's spread to North America. And who can forget the incredible message of Mr. John Robbins, the heir to the Baskin-Robbins legacy, who gave up his father's business because it exploited animals. In a compassionate and heartwarming presentation entitled Walking the Talk, for which he received a standing ovation.

PUBLICATIONS AND EDUCA-TIONAL MATERIAL

Aside from the name badge, every participant received a souvenir convention bag. This year, in the spirit of the convention theme, Jainism: Integrating Philosophy and Practice, the reusable bag was made out of durable canvas instead of the more common plastics found in most stores. A local San Francisco couple donated their time to sew all 600 bags. The bags were imprinted with the Jain Symbol and listed the 5 Vratas or Vows of Jainism. The bags contained many donated items including more than a few cruelty-free products from the Jiv Daya Committee. Some of the other items included in the bag were a book written by Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, the convention souvenir, Reflections, a compilation of all of the workshops conducted at the convention, a small murti, a traditional mala and various accessories including pens, paper, etc.

EXHIBITS

YJA and the Jain Youth Society of Greater Atlanta (JYSGA) joined efforts to present the exhibits seen at the convention. Exhibit coordinators, Hetal Jain and Dimple Shah, worked diligently for months with Ruturaaj Kalamkar in organizing these exhibits.

Facilities

All of the attendees were assigned to spacious quadruple occupancy rooms at the Hyatt. The Hyatt facilities were enjoyed by everyone at the conven-

A Personal Reflection..

Although I could stay but one day at the YJA convention, I was very impressed with the quality of the planning and the dedication, both of the managers as well as the attendees. I had never addressed an audience so large, and yet I felt completely at home and ease with them. Their interest in and knowledge about Jain history and culture I found refreshing and quite extensive. The experience also demonstrated how successful Jain youth are in their academic and extra curricular activities, and planning and starting their careers. Many of the attendees felt comfortable coming to me to discuss further the subjects I touched upon in my lecture. I found a high degree of confidence among the youth. I wish you all well in your endeavors, and hope to see you at the next YJA convention in 1997.

Richard Cohen
Assistant Director
South Asia Regional Studies Department
University of Pennsylvania

tion, including the spacious conference rooms, the luxurious grand ballrooms, the expansive fover and the luscious green atrium which served as a respite for volunteers and participants alike from the hustle and bustle of the ever-occupied foyer

ICE BREAKERS AND SOCIAL

Icebreakers were held on Thursday evening to give people of all ages a chance to get to know one another. All participants were randomly divided up into groups of approximately 40 people. Socializing continued that

night in the atrium, marked by beautiful greenery and real banana trees. Attendees spent time getting to know one another until the early morning hours yet everyone was bursting with energy at the Raas/Garba held on Friday night. Many people dressed up in their traditional outfits making it a very colorful evening. During the

raas/garba, a Young Professional's Social was held for graduating collegiate seniors and above. The purpose of this social was to give young Jain professionals a chance to network with one another at a professional level.

A dance to western and Indian film music was scheduled for the Saturday evening. Everyone danced nonstop until 2:00 AM to the awesome sounds of Kumba. Everyone had an excellent and memorable time and felt it was appropriate to end the night with "I'll Be There For You," the theme from NBC's ever-famous TV show "Friends". These activities were just a few of the many highlights of the convention. Young Jains from all over culminated together and became one. Numerous attendees exclaimed they had never seen so many Indians in one gathering let alone so many Jains.

Sunday morning, the convention concluded with closing ceremonies, which gave all the participants an opportunity to reflect over the events of the past three days. Nikhil Shah, YJA Co-chairperson, and Rish Mehta, SFCC Cochairperson, made closing remarks thanking all of the volunteers and participants for their hard work and enthusiasm. He mentioned that the

participation at the convention shows the interest that the youth hold. And that this will ensure a bright future for Jainism. In addition, Parveen Jain, the Jain Center of Northern California President and Prem Jain both spoke on how the success of this convention is representative of Jainism in our

generation. And this will alleviate any doubt that Jainism will not survive in the West. JAINA President, Dr. Manibhai Mehta, followed by thanking the YJA/SF convention committees and handing out plaques to all of the YJA executive board members. The ceremony concluded with a slide show, which was a compilation of candid pictures taken during the convention by the photographer, Mr. Delorey. The images of the fun and exciting weekend ended the convention on high note.



Chairpersons

Ravi Gada Raju Shah

Regional Coordinators

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JAINA Youth Coordinator Pravin Mehta (615) 648-9535 mehtap@apsu01.apsu.edu

Foster Focus

"Everyone had

an excellent and

memorable time

such a success that the passing of boards carried on this event. And now our new board would like to Foster Focus are...

- To foster and nourish local youth groups
- Increase networking and interaction among Jain youth nationwide, and
- Prepare and develop Jain leaders of tomorrow.

November 1996

Jain Education International

Young Jains of America, started a pilot In the program, a local youth group will be paired program in 1995 called Foster Focus, it became with a YJA Coordinator through whom the youth group will have access to wealth of resources and ideas with which the youth group can further implement this same program. The specific goals of advance. This also insures a one-to-one relationship between the youth group and YJA. Each youth group will also adopt a national project to provide focus for the group and as a result produces a self-sufficient youth group. Some of the national based projects are a Scrapbook depicting local center projects and assemblies, an a compilation of essays, poetry or and piece of literature written by youth, also setting up drives for the needy, many other projects are being set up.

www.jainelibrary.org

Events:

At the regional level, we will encourage regional conventions/retreats as a way to bring together the youth of that region. We will use a series of Foster Focus Projects to bring together large/average sized communities of Jain youth, while implementing a new idea of People to People for smaller groups. This will promote strong local Jain organizations where none or weak organizations exist.

These projects will begin in January to be completed during a six month span and presented at the JAINA Convention in Toronto. The cities that will be participating are:

Miami - Which will create a book with essays, poems, and pieces of literature (Jain related) that the Youth have written across the country and compile them into a book. If the demand exists, we will publish the books.

Boston - Which will compile pictures for the YJA Scrapbook, to be displayed at Toronto.

University of Michigan- Which will ask different cities to create small displays about Jainism for the JAINA Convention in Toronto (similar to what Atlanta did for YJA convention).

The People to People works by targeting small cities with youth groups that are smaller then 12 people. They are assigned to put together some kind of drive. This drive has to benefit the community around them and they have to actually get together and make some type of project that will benefit their community (e.g. putting together sack lunches for the

homeless or decorating cookies for people in nursing homes). These drives should happen during the winter months. And after the drive they shall send in pictures of what and how they accomplished their task. These pictures shall be compiled into the Scrapbook.

Toledo and Minneapolis are the two current cities that will participate in this project. The deadline for additional cities is Oct 12.

YJA has created several email addresses to facilitate easier communication. They are listed below

yja-excom-list@pantheon.yale.edu Will get to the entire board.

yja-ad-list@pantheon.yale.edu Will get to YJA's Advisory board.

yja-cc-list@pantheon.yale.edu Will get to the two co-chairs of YJA

yja-gc-list@pantheon.yale.edu Will get to the general coordinators

yja-ma-list@pantheon.yale.edu yja-ne-list@pantheon.yale.edu yja-se-list@pantheon.yale.edu yja-mw-list@pantheon.yale.edu yja-w-list@pantheon.yale.edu yja-s-list@pantheon.yale.edu

These lists will go to the Regional Coordinators and Local Representatives of the specified regions.

YOUNG JAINS OF AMERICA

The mission of YJA is to be recognized nationally and internationally as an umbrella Jain youth organization for establishing a network to share Jain heritage and religion through youth. YJA currently has over 65 affiliated organizations representing 2000 Jain youths. If you would like to learn more about YJA and/or become a member, please fill out the following form and send it to:

Manish Shah at 1515 Saint Julian Street. Suvunee, GA 30174, USA.

		General Members	ship Form	
General Information:				
Last Name:		First Name:		Init:
Permanent Address:				
City:		State/Province:	Zip/Postal Code:	
Tel [Home]:()	[School/Work]:() Email:	Da	te of Birth :
Local Jain Center:	Fath	er's Name:	Mother's Name:	
Educational Information:				
Check One: School: 🚨	Elementary/High-School	ol Working: 🗖 O	ther (Please Specify): 🗖	
	Undergraduate College		(
	Post-Graduate College			
School Name:		Class Of (mm/vv):	Area of Study:	
Young Professional Infor		(** 1997.		
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City:			Zip/Postal Code:	
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Signature:			Date:	

AFFILIATE NEWS

International Mahavir Jain Mission, Siddachalam, 65 Mud Pond Road, Blairstown, NJ 07825, 908/362-9793, or Fax 908/362-9649, or E-mail Siddhachalam@cpatch.com and now on the World Wide Web. You can listen to Namokar Mantra and Manglik in Guruji's own voice by WWW.IMJM.ORG on the Internet. Siddachalam was visited by 10 monks and nuns with a dramatic increase in the number of yatris, groups and sanghs that have made a pilgrimage to this Tirth.

Extensive renovations have been planned. Three of the upper cabins have been fully renovated at a cost of \$30,000. All donation are gratefully accepted.

A 14 day pilgrimage to India with Triputi Bandhu Maharaj is being planned. He will guide the *yatra* (pilgrimage) which will visit Tithal, Palitana, Girnar, Taragaji, Abu, Ranakapur and other places. The voyage will begin on January 15, 1997 and will cost \$450 inclusive of transportation, lodging, boarding and donations to the Tirths.

Very special gratitude to Laharchandji, Pundit Mauji Ramji, Shantichandra Shah, Shravan Kumar and Mew Singh who have help made our work at Siddachalam possible. We would like to thank all of the volunteers who help made our work a success.

Jain Organization of Youth (JOY), Detroit, was formed to provide an opportunity for young people to become more involved in Jainism. JOY committees include: Neel Chokshi, President; Veeral Shah, Vice President; Rupal Shah, Secretary; Kajal Badani, Treasurer; Palak Sheth and Sonal Shah, Public Relations, and Arpita Shah, Publications Officer. One of JOY's goals is to boost the attendance of young people at the monthly Study Classes which aim to develop a deeper understanding of children, youth, and the adult. JOY members participated in a number of activities throughout the year which included bowling, Haunted Hollow, picnics, a 3-hour Navkar Jaap in memory of all the turkeys killed during Thanksgiving, fund raising events for the Salvation Army, the Temple Fund and Walk America. A debate on three topics Jain Rituals Versus Beliefs, How do we compromise our Jain values in the Western World? and Legal Violence: Death Penalty, Abortion, and Assisted Suicide, provided an excellent opportunity to discuss and gain insight in such challenging subjects.

Jain Social Group, Los Angeles, c/o Dhiren Metha, President, 4980 Ariano Dr. Cypress, CA 90630, 714/826-3579 and the Jain Center of Southern California jointly organized the Sixth Annual Medical Expo at the Jain Bhavan in May, 1996. More than 200 people took advantage of this event by consulting over 30 medical specialists representing different medical fields. Onsite and offsite services were provided. The JAYA young people acted as volunteers throughout the day assisting patients and doctors.

About 175 members and guests participated in the Labor Day outing organized by the Jain Social Group at Lake Isabella.

Jain Study Circle, Inc. 99-11 60 Avenue #3D, Flushing, NY 11368-4436, held its Annual Meeting on May 5, 1995 at Vinay K. and Vimala V. Vakani's residence in Oradell, NJ. After completing necessary Annual Meeting related deliberations which included reading of the financial statement, there was a lively discussion on the main topic of the meeting - Prayers: A Jain Concept.

Jain Study Circle conducts Quarterly Meetings in the New York metropolitan area. On August 4, 1996 our Quarterly Meeting was held at the home of Anand and Ratna Nahar. The topic for discussion was Samyag Charitra (Rational Conduct).

At these meetings no one gives discourse or lecture, but each participant is encouraged to express his or her own thoughts on the topic of discussion. Any one interested in attending these meetings, please call: Harshad Doshi at 718/961-7408.

The Jain Meditation International Center, Box 244, Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023-0244, Phone and Fax: 212/362-6483. Gurudev Chitrabhanuji will be in India from October 20, 1996 through April 12, 1997.

Concept of God in Jainism

Jainism believes that the Universe and all its substances or entities are eternal. It has no beginning or end with respect to time. The Universe runs on its own by its own cosmic laws. All substances change or modify their forms continuously. Nothing can be destroyed or created in the Universe. There is no need of some one to create or manage the affairs of the Universe. Hence, Jainism does not believe in God as a creator, survivor and destroyer of the Universe.

However, Jainism does believe in God, not as a creator, but as a perfect being. When a person destroys all his karma, he becomes omniscient and omnipotent. He is a liberated soul. He lives in the perfect blissful state of Moksha. This living being is a God of the Jain religion. Every living being has the potential to become a God. Hence Jains do not have one God, but Gods are innumerable and their number is continuously increasing as more living beings attain liberation. Source Unknown

Committee News, continued from page 14 shower gels, and liquid hand soaps. Now they are about to add massage oils, baby products and toothpaste. After success in Canada, they are ready to introduce their products to U.S. market. They have made us a special offer-we can order any five products for only \$15, post paid. Please call 416/667-1363 for more information.

Other who contributed were: Auromere Ayurvedic sent 620 sample size tubes of toothpastes; Beauty Without Cruelty sent 800 foil samples of face scrubs and 600 foils of hand and body lotion; Clearly Natural sent 600 full size bars of bath soap; Jason Natural Cosmetics sent 252 sample size liquid soap bottles; John Paul Mitchell Systems sent 600 sample of shampoo; and Tom's of Maine sent 648 samples of toothpaste. We appreciate all the samples.

Except for the Ahimsa brand, all other products are readily available in most health food stores. Please look them up in your local yellow pages.

Get started today! Go vegetarian!!

A Vegetarian Bus Driver Refuses to promote Burgers

The case goes to court! Bruce Anderson, a vegan bus driver in Costa Mea, California, has taken an ethical stand with his employer, the Orange County Transportation Authority. He has been suspended without pay for refusing to hand out free hamburger coupons to passengers. Bruce is glad about one thing: "What I did probably saved at least half a cow." Ava Park, founder of Orange County People for Animals, a local animal rights group, denounced the county decision, as "completely out of bounds." Anderson is one of 2,300 member of this group. Anderson's supervisor gave him the coupons to hand out, offering a free hamburger at a restaurant as a part of a promotion to get more people to ride the bus. Anderson told his supervisor, "I don't eat dead cows, and no one else needs to, either." A half an hour later, Anderson was replaced and suspended.

People for Animals and Anderson have challenged the decision in court, invoking the First Amendment and Civil Rights, because he has been a vegan for more than two years. All animals thank Bruce Anderson.

The New Federal Guidelines support Vegetarianism

Finally we are right! As a result of hundreds of studies and recommendations of many expert panels, finally the federal government has endorsed vegetarian diets! The new "Dietary Guidelines for Americans" now contain two key provisions:

Choose a diet with: plenty of grain products, vegetables and fruits and one that is low in fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol.

These guidelines have been published by the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services and the Department of Agriculture since 1980. They enjoy a key role of providing the basis for the federal nutrition program and nutritional education policies. The days are not too far, when the school lunches include a few vegetarian dishes.

These guidelines explain that grain products, vegetables, and fruits contain vitamins, carbohydrates, fiber, and other substances important for good health and that consumption of these foods is associated with a substantially lower risk for many chronic diseases,

including heart disease, stroke, and cancer.

On the other hand, consumption of saturated fat and cholesterol, only contained in animal products, has been linked conclusively with elevated risk of these diseases that cripple and kill 1.6 million Americans annually.

Naan at Punjabi Restaurants

It may be made with eggs! Check it out, before placing your order. According to our survey, many Punjabi restaurants put eggs in naans.

How is Gelatin Made?

The American Heritage Dictionary defines *Gelatin* as: a colorless or slightly yellow, transparent, brittle protein formed by boiling specially prepared skin, bones, and connective tissue of animals. It is used in jell-o, marshmallow, most typical ice cream, and may drug capsules.



Courtesy - PETA (People for Ethical Treatment of Anima)

Temple Guidelines

Chairperson - Mahendra Pandya

The Temple Guidelines Committee takes pleasure in announcing that the second temple has been consecrated according to JAINA guidelines. It was inaugurated in Buffalo, NY on May 26, 1996. Pratimas of Lord Mahavir, Lord Parswanath and a Namokar Mantra Shila were provided by the Committee with the donations from the community. The Committee would like to thank all donors.

World Community Service

Dhiraj Shah - Chair

During this period one container of used clothing was sent to India for distribution among the poor. It will be distributed by the Diwaliben M. Mehta Charitable Trust in Mumbai. The cost of shipping was provided by Bhadresh Dhila of Silversprings, MD. JAINA wishes to thank him for his sponsorship of this worth while project.

JANUSMAND ANNAL ISSUES

Handbook for Compassionate Living

DID YOU READ THIS BOOK?

We mailed this book out in September, to all the recipients of Jain Digest. It covers many issues related to how a compassionate Jain could live his/her life, so as to cause the least harm to these innocent creatures around us.

It starts with a chapter on "Fundamental Principles", in a question and answer format, revolving around our philosophy, vegetarianism, what we wear, our education and medicine, and our entertainment. Then it moves focus to vegetarianism resources, support on internet, new ingredients, eating at restaurants, recipes, and the Jain Food Pyramid. Then it discusses the issues on silk, animal testing, alcohol, Jain health plan, environment and ecology. And finally there is a good shopping guide for cruelty-free products.

SOME REVIEWS

Received 1996 Handbook. Very good work. - Deepak Gandhi, New York, NY Keep up the good work. Can you send me 50 copies to distribute here? -Laxmichand Gogri, Bellevue, WA

I applaud your hard work. This magazine is much needed. - Jayn Meinhart, Cincinnati, OH

With a mere glance I realized how great of a publication it is. Can you send three additional copies to pass around to my friends, interested in Jainism and Animal Issues? - Puja Parakh, Canton, MI

Congratulations for putting together the book. It is highly readable, very practical, and above all, very informative and useful. - Chandrakant Parekh, Cerritos, CA

Very informative issue - I really appreciate it. My kids also read and they learned a lot of information - like our little bible. Please mail me two more copies. -Kaushika Patel, Garden City Park, NY

I appreciate your efforts for Jainism and issues. - Anish Sanghvi, Columbus, OH We liked your book very much. We will distribute it within the St. Louis community so that others may become aware of the many subjects you have written

The Handbook on Jainism and Animal Issues is well researched and comprehensive. - Bindi Shah, El Cerrito, CA

about. - Shah Family, St. Louis, MO

Excellent job! Flawlessly written and put together. Let us show it to several people so that everyone knows how things are manufactured, etc. I was very impressed! Good job, you guys! - Jill Shah, Tulsa, OK

Truly beautiful and comprehensive publication with a wealth of excellent material! There is so much love and work that went into it, which shows on every page. -Joanne Stepaniak, Swissvale, PA

Deep appreciation for the monumental tome, with evidence of monumental time and effort spent and put into it. Loving blessings. - Pujyashri Chitrabhanuji / Mamta Yagalla, New York, NY

Please support us with tax-deductible donations.

WANT EXTRA COPIES?

Cost, including postage: \$ 15 for 5 copies; \$10 additional 5 copies.

Please send your checks for donation or extra copies to:

"Jiv Daya & Vegetarianism Committee" C/O. Narendra B. Sheth 9133 Mesa Woods Avenue San Diego, CA 92126

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Donors of \$500 or more

Bhupatray & Kusumben Sheth, Rajkot, India Anop & Renuka Vora, Rochester, NY Jain Society of Pittsburgh, PA

Donors of \$200 or more

Sunil & Sharmila Dharod, Richardson, TX Laxmichand Gogri & Sonal Strasser, Bellevue, WA Sulekh & Ravi Jain, Cincinnati, OH Narendra & Charu Maniar, Atlanta, GA Manibhai & Savitaben Mehta, Cypress, CA Chandulal & Ranjan Morbia, Windsor, ONT Pradip J. Morbia, Port Arthur, TX Girish & Pravina Shah, Diamond Bar, CA Nilesh & Ahilia Shah, Laguna Hills, CA Hare & Sheth, Atlanta, GA Narendra & Sonal Sheth, San Diego, CA Jyotsana Thakkar, Irvine, CA Jain Study Center of North Carolina, Raleigh

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REFLECTIONS FROM PUNDIT NEHRU

ainism is an integral part of ancient Indian culture. So the perspective observations contained in the following article relate to the present state of the Jain system as well. We should appreciate the relevance of these valuable ideas presented by Pandit Nehru... - D. C. J.

"India must break with much of her past and not allow it to dominate the present. Our lives are encumbered with the dead wood of this past; all that is dead and served its purpose has to go. But that does not mean a break with, or forgetting of, the vital and life-giving in that past. We can for get the ideals that have moved our race, the dreams of the Indian people through the ages, the wisdom of the ancients, the buoyant energy and love of life and nature of our forefathers, their spirit of curiosity and mental adventure, the daring of their thoughts, their splendid achievements in literature, art, culture, their love of truth and beauty and freedom, the basic values that they set up, their understanding of life's mysterious ways, their toleration of other ways that theirs, their capacity to absorb other peoples and their cultural achievements, synthesized them and developed a varied and mixed culture; nor can we forget the myriad experiences which have built up our ancient race and lie embedded in our subconscious minds. We will never forget them or take pride in that noble heritage of ours. If India forgets them she will no longer remain India and much that has made her our joy and pride will cease to be.

It is not this that we have to break with, but the dust and dirt of ages that have covered her up and hidden her inner beauty and significance, the excrescences and abortions that have twisted and petrified her spirit, set it in rigid frames, and stunted her growth. We have cut away these excrescences and remember afresh the core of that ancient wisdom and adapt it to our present circumstances. We have to get out of our traditional ways of thought and living which, for all the good may have done in the past age, and there was

much good in them, have creased to have significance today. We have to make our own all the achievements of the human race and join up with others in the exciting adventure of Man. More exciting today perhaps that in earlier ages, realizing that this has ceased to be governed by national boundaries or old divisions and is common to the race of man everywhere. We have to revive the passion for truth and beauty and freedom which gives meaning to life, and develop afresh that dynamic outlook and spirit of adventure which distinguish those of our race who, in ages past, built our house on these strong and enduring foundations. Old as we are memories stretch back to the early dawn of human history and endeavor, we have to grow young again, in tune with our present time, with the irrepressible spirit and joy of youth in the present and its faith in the future.

Truth as the ultimate reality, if such there is, must be eternal, imperishable, unchanging. But that infinite, eternal, and unchanging truth cannot apprehend in its fullness by the finite mind of man, which can only grasp, at most, some small aspect of it limited by time and space, and by the state of development of that mind and the prevailing ideology of the period. As the mind develops and enlarges its scope, as ideologies change and new symbols are used to express the truth, new aspects of it come to light, though the core of it remains the same. And so, truth has ever to be sought, renewed, reshaped and developed so that, as understood by man, it may keep in line with the growth of his thought and the development of human life. Only then does it become a living truth for humanity, supplying the essential need for which it craves, and offering guidance in the present and for the future." . . .

Excerpts from an article published in the Jain Study Circle - Vol. 16, No. 2, April, 1995, entitled - Religion, Philosophy, and Science - Quotations from *Discovery of India* by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Headquarters News, continued from page 3

Saman Suttam

The project of reprinting the "Saman Suttam" has been completed with the help of the Jain Society of Greater Detroit and many other generous benefactors. As of this printing, the book has reached almost all of the Jain members throughout the United States. However, there are some obstacles to overcome before we can distribute the book in Canada. If there are suggestions as to how to accomplish this please contact Bharat Tolia at 810/681-5474.

Bharat Tolia would like to thank the members of the Jain Society of Greater Detroit for helping to defray the cost of sending this volume to every Jain household in the US. It is his hope that it will serve as an inspiration to everyone

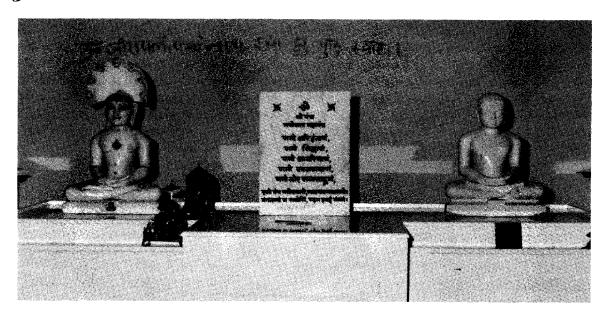
Special Thanks

JAINA would like to acknowledge the help of 16 year old, Amar Patel for his continued help in keeping our mailing list up to date. Amar is an 11th grader at the Cerritos High School in La Mirada, CA. This is a tedious task and JAINA wants to express deep gratitude for his continued effort.



Amar Patel

JAIN TEMPLE, DALLAS, TEXAS



JAI JINENDRA

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UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL

HISTORY OF JAIN CENTERS IN NORTH AMERICA

n February 1979, a group of 10 families started meeting every month to study and discuss principles of Jainism and teach them to their children, to sing Jain devotional songs, and to discuss the meaning of the songs. Due to increased response to these activities a meeting of all area Jains was called in March of 1980 to discuss the establishment of a formal organization. The meeting resulted in the establishment of the Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington (JSMW). A constitution was ratified and the IRS nonprofit permit was obtained in 1980. The temple facilities were inaugurated in 1989. From an initial membership of 25 families, the Society has grown to over 330 families with 282 life members.

The Society has been a pioneer in a number of activities that have been adopted by other centers. In 1981, the JSMW held the first Jain camp in North America which was attended by Gurudev Chitrabhanuji. The first bus trip to visit Siddachalam was arranged in 1985 and Acharya Sushil Kumarji always spoke about the JSMW who began this tradition and urged other Jain Centers to do the same. The annual Panch Tirth Yatra, a bus trip to 5 Jain temples, was started in 1986. This was the first of its kind in North America. In 1986, the JSMW started the celebration of Ahimsa Day which is now being observed nationwide through JAINA. In 1987, a religious musical drama Chandanbala was performed by children for the first time in North America. Other pioneering activities included religious knowledge competitions like the academic bowl.

Over the past 16 years, the number of activities being held at the center has increased. These activities include religious classes for adults and children, bhavana and pooja programs, celebration of auspicious days, Ahimsa Day, New Year's Day, camps for children, young people and adults, Panch Tirth Yatra, discussion sessions and social programs like picnics.

Jain classes have been held from the beginning. However, for the past 11 years, regular educational classes with a fixed curriculum are held on alternate Sundays for children and adults. The classes for children are divided into five groups levels according to age, with an appropriate curriculum designed and implemented at each level. Recently, a graduation ceremony was held for children who completed the entire curriculum and passed a written and oral examination. These children now teach the lower level classes. A Parent Teachers Association was formed to increase the participation of the teachers and the parents in our children's education.

Camps for adults and children have been held every year. These camps include discourses, meditation-yoga sessions, discussion groups, crafts, and group games. Jain scholars are invited to conduct these sessions. These well organized events have been attended by a large number of participants, from our local and as far away as California, Utah, Dakota, Texas, Ohio, West Virginia, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Lectures and videos on vegetarianism shown during the camp to motivated all who attend to become vegetarian.

In addition to children's camps and religious classes, children and young adults have arranged a number of other activities including: "Jeopardy" and "It's Academic" type games covering a wide range of questions about Jainism; "Show and Tell" programs where children explain a particular aspect of Jainism with the help of drawings, pictures or posters and participate in the professional staging of the musical dramas.

At the JAINA convention in 1993, the young adults and children of Washington arranged the "Jain Academic Bowl" competition between various Jain centers and staged the musical drama "Shripal-Mayana."

Mahavir Jayanti is celebrated with a speech and/or a stage program by the children. Paryushan Parva and Das Laxan Parva are celebrated with 2 to 3 pravachans every day by a Muni or Jain scholar. The some members will stay at the Jain Center through the Paryushan Parva and carry out various religious activities. Swapna Ceremony is celebrated with Swapna Gheeboli and the carrying of Swapnas to the beats of drums and music as traditionally done in India. Samvatsari Pratikraman is performed by all adults, and a Pratikraman in English is also done for those who only understand English.

Discourse and lecture programs of Jain munis and visiting scholars are arranged throughout the year. These are held as a weekly series on a particular topic, or series of meditation and yoga sessions.

Ahimsa Day is celebrated on the Thanksgiving Day by performing Samuha Ayambil, arranging lectures on vegetarianism, and inviting other local vegetarian organizations to join us. Samuha Ayambil is also performed in April and October. Bhavana programs are held on second Friday of every month. Pooja programs are held regularly at the Center or at the sponsor's home. In addition to our religious programs, we have many social programs which are held to bring all members, adults as well as children, together. These programs include: an annual picnic, skiing trips, roller skating, group games, visits to a recreational or informative places, to name a few. Sessions are also held to gather information from experts on nonreligious topics of general interest.

The JSMW reached a major milestone in March of 1989, when it bought 4.35 acres of land. The work was completed in record time and the inauguration of the Center and the Pratishtha Mahotsav of the Jain temple was performed in August of that same year. The Pratishtha was performed in the presence of Chaturvidh Sangh including 7 Sadhus and 2 Sadhvis. The spiritual leaders who were present included: Acharya Sushil Kumarji, Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, Bandhu Triputi (Munishree Munivijayji, Keertichandraji, and Jinchandraji), Charukeerti Bhattarakji, Amarendra Muniji, and Sadhvi Madhusmitaji and Jaysmitaji. The temple has two Shwetambar and 1 Digambar idols with Shantinath Bhagwan as the Moolnayak. The 4200 sq. ft. building includes a large hall, classrooms, library and rooms for accommodating of visiting munis and scholars.

The Center is located at 1021 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, Maryland.

The JSMW keeps members informed of its activities by regular mailings to all its members and other Jain Centers. The monthly Jain Instructional News published by our Society containing Jain articles and information items. It was praised by Pravin Shah, the organizer of JAINA's Bulletin Board Service (BBS) and was put into the BBS. The Members' Directories published every 3-4 years provides a detailed listing of all members, and also contains information on various Jain organizations in North America and plus directions to Jain temples. The JSMW has kept contact with other Jain centers by keeping them on the mailing list.

The JSMW has taken a leading role in the formation of JAINA. After its establishment in May, 1983, Manoj Dharamsi, the President of the JSMW was unanimously elected as the first president of JAINA. The JSMW continues to play a very active role in JAINA.

Recently we begun a unique new program called "Adopt Jain Center for a Day." This program, encourages member families to adopt the Jain Center for one or more days each year to celebrate a happy occasion or to commemorate a special event, and pledge a donation of \$101 or more per year for that day. On the adoption day, the family is encouraged to visit the Center and carry out religious activities, clean or do maintenance work at the Center. The annual donations received are used as operating expenses.

During Acharya Chandanaji's visit in 1993, the JSMW was successful in raising over \$28,000 for the charitable hospital at Veerayatan Ashram in Bihar, India. It also produced a professional

audio cassette of devotional songs by Kumari Mangalam from Veerayatan, so that the hospital can generate revenue by selling it in India. The JSMW, with other local Indian associations has taken an active part in the "Food for Homeless" program and other community outreach community activities.

The JSMW has taken a leading role in forming an "Association of Hindu and Jain Temples of Washington Metropolitan" which comprises the JSMW and 11 Hindu temple organizations. This association is a member of the local interfaith organization and plays an active role in these types activities. In addition, the association celebrates Diwali on a grand scale with participation of some 10,000 people.

The JSMW has established a Home Page on the World Wide Web, the address for this page is,

http://www.gl.umbc.edu/~ashah3

Available on this page is general information about the Society's activities, directions to the temple, and pertinent phone numbers and e-mail addresses of the committee members. In addition, are the links to other Jainism related home pages across the world. All committee members are currently using the e-mail to effectively communicate with each other. This is helping members carry out the Society's work more efficiently.

Our goal is to preserve and promote deeper understanding of our rich Indian Jain heritage by passing it on to the younger generation. We provide a sense of belonging to a community that is close with a rich heritage and culture. For more information, please call 301/236-4466 for a recorded message or contact the Manoj Dharamsi at 703/620-9837, Ashok Shah at 301/598-3049, or Manu Shah at 410/551-8324.

With Best Wishes to the Jain Digest from

Pankaj and Jayshree Dalal Dallas, Texas

JAIN DIGEST LIFE MEMBERS

A donation of \$101 or the equivalent will make you and your family Life Members of the Jain Digest.

Below is a listing of the newest members of the "A Million by the Millennium" Project.

254 - Jitendra and Saroj Dholakia, Cerritos, CA

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Each of your dollars counts towards bringing the Jain Digest to your door step!!

GENERAL FUND

The Jain Digest and JAINA would like to thank each and everyone of the following people for their generosity in helping to make us successful.

Simmone Shah, CA - \$11*

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ton, NY - \$20

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Sudhir and Sohini Shah, - \$11

Anand and Anupa Lalit Shah, - \$20

Lee-ila Traders, - \$11

* indicates donations for 1995 - 1996

HAPPY OCCASIONS

Chirag Shah, 8 years old, piloted his single engined, 100 HP, Cessna aircraft from John Wayne Airport in California to La Guardia Airport in New York. -\$50

MATRIMONI ALS

Hasmukh Shah, Associate Editor

MALE

M088: Alliance invited for brilliant, handsome, Gujarati, vegetarian boy, born Sept. '66, 5'6", 135 lbs, MBA from Virginia Tech, well employed, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 504/733-7667.

M237: Gujarati parents invite responses for their very handsome, US born son, April, '68, 6'0", M.D., currently doing residency. Please send returnable photo with bio-data.

M286: Gujarati parents invite responses for their handsome, talented, vegetarian, US citizen son, born Sept. '68, 5'10", 130 lbs, B.S. (EE), well employed, from educated cultured girls in USA or India. Call: 919/967-6270.

M332: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, vegetarian, US citizen son, born Jan. '71, 5'10", 165 lbs, B.S. (Comp Sc.), well employed, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 201/659-2181.

M346: Gujarati parents invite responses for US born, vegetarian, very handsome son, Feb. '70, 5'11", 175 lbs, B.S. (Biology), pursuing MBA, well employed, from cultured, educated, pretty girls. Call: 908/367-4022.

M448: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, ambitious, US raised son, born Nov. '70, 6'1", BBA (Fin), considering MBA in near future, well employed, from pretty, educated, cultured girls. Call: 302/234-1915.

M489: Gujarati parents invite responses for their US born, very handsome, fair, talented, vegetarian son, March, '71, 5'9", 150 lbs, M.S. (Comp Sc.) (Cornell Un), Computer Consultant, from pretty, cultured, educated girls. Call: 410/771-0251 or fax biodata to 410/561-1150

M500: Alliance invited for Gujarati, handsome, fair, vegetarian boy, born July, '71, 6'0", 145 lbs, B. Sc., employed, from pretty, educated, cultured girls. Call: 703/440-5146.

M501: Alliance invited for Gujarati, handsome, vegetarian, talented, US born boy, June, '70, 5'5", 120lbs, BBA (Fin), well employed, from cultured, well educated girls raised in USA. Call: 419/841-8985.

M502: Responses invited for Gujarati, vegetarian, handsome, intelligent, US citizen boy, born, Nov. '70, 5'7", 145 lbs, B.S. (EE), well employed, from educated, cultured girls. Call: 408/774-9831.

M504: Parents invite responses from Marwari, Hindi or Jain vegetarian, tall, pretty, professional, girls for their handsome, athletic, intelligent, well employed, Chem. Engineer son, Dec. '69, 6'0", 190 lbs. Please send biodata and photo. Call: 915/694-9348.

M505: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, vegetarian, non smoker, smart son, born June, '68, 5'6", 155 lbs, M. Com. (Accts), employed, from suitable match. Call: 414/614-4610.

M506: Jain parents invite responses for their US raised, vegetarian, good looking, highly accomplished, never married son, born Sept 60, 5'6" 140 lbs, D.O. (Medicine), finishing residency by Sept. '96, pretty, open minded, US raised, well educated girls. Call: 901/587-2153.

M507: Responses invited for vegetarian, handsome, Gujarati boy born Feb. '70, 5'8", 140lbs, B.Com., Dip. Comp., employed in NJ, from suitable match Call: 609/768-5353.

M508: Gujarati Jain physician invite responses for his handsome, vegetarian, US raised son, born Dec. '66, 5'10", 145 lbs, J.D. Harvard Law School, highly accomplished, from US raised well educated girls.

M510: Alliance invited for Gujarati, intelligent, vegetarian, good looking boy, born Dec. '71, 5'5", 125 lbs, M.S. (EE), well employed as Design Engr, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 909/606-9951 or 861-6335.

M514: Responses invited for Gujarati, vegetarian, good looking boy, born Oct. '71, 5'9", 130 lbs, B.S. (Textile Chem.), employed, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 847/426-1088.

M522: Gujarati parents invite responses for their US citizen son, born Aug. '70, 5'6", M.D., doing residency, from cultured, vegetarian, pretty, educated girls. Please send biodata with photo. Call: 714/551-0998 or Fax: 714/786-0695.

M523: Alliance invited for Jain, vegetarian, athletic, handsome boy, born Oct. '67, 5'8", 165 lbs, M.S. (Comp. Sc.), well employed as Project Manager, from cultured, educated, girls. Call: 414/355-9454.

M524: Responses invited for very fair, very handsome, Gujarati, vegetarian boy, born May. '69, 5'8", 143 lbs, B.S.(EE), well employed, currently in India and wishes to settle in USA, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 214/680-1509.

M525: Alliance invited for Gujarati, talented, vegetarian, good looking boy, born Aug. '73, 5'9", 168 lbs, M. S.Comp Sc., pursuing MBA, well employed,

M526: Gujarati parents invite responses for their, vegetarian, handsome, smart, US citizen son, born Nov. '71, 6'1", B.S. (Pharmacy), from educated, cultured girls. Call: 908/755-5377.

M527: Responses invited for Gujarati, vegetarian, smart boy, born Feb. '68, 5'6", 135 lbs, MBBS, worked as lecturer in Medical college, Currently in USA, from educated, cultured girls. Call: 713/977-8377.

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M528: Gujarati parents invite responses for their handsome, intelligent, vegetarian son, born March, '75, 5'7", 182 lbs, B.S. ('97) Aero and Astro, Stanford Un, hearing impaired, from suitable match. Call: 206/776-8748.

M529: Hindi Oswal parents invite responses for handsome, US born son, Aug. '72, 5'10", 145 lbs, M.D. ('97), from beautiful, educated, vegetarian, cultured girls. Please send biodata and returnable photo. Call: 713/565-3104.

M532: Gujarati parents invite responses for their US citizen, vegetarian son, born April, '72, 5'3", 110 lbs, B.S., employed with State Dept. as Instructor, from suitable match. He is totally blind, but totally independent. Call: 703/569-9074.

AM104: Gujarati parents invite responses from well educated, slender, pretty, vegetarian, cultured girls for their very handsome, athletic, US citizen son with myriad interests, born June, '68, 5'7", 140 lbs, M.D. 1st year resident. Call: 815/937-5714.

AM124: Exceptionally handsome, fair, genius, 6'1", 27, athletic, J.D. (Law) + MBA, in International Business of Entertainment Law in Beverly Hills, from a prestigious, educated, cultured, very wealthy Gujarati family, seeks compatible girls. Call: 714/544-5005.

AM173: Responses invited for Indian born, US citizen, settled in US for 29 years, born March, '44, 5'7", 140 lbs, Engineer and Comp. Professional, divorce in process, grown up children, from suitable match.

AM174: Alliance invited for handsome, vegetarian, accomplished, talented, Gujarati boy with wide interests, born Jan. '63, 5'11", 172 lbs, M.S., M.B.A. (never married), well employed. Call: 317/495-8268 or 607/772-9276.

AM177: Oswal Jain family invite alliance from cultured, well educated, charming girls, for their handsome, vegetarian, outgoing US raised son, born Aug. '70, 5'9", 155 lbs, pursuing Ph.D./MBA. Call: 301/916-5145.

AM178: Gujarati parents invite responses for their handsome, vegetarian, son, born, July 71, 5'11", 160 lbs, B. S., Ph.D. (finishing shortly) from pretty girls with blend of East and West.

AM179: 26 years old, founder/owner of multi-million dollars international electronics co., very handsome, extremely light skinned, athletic, 6'1", MSEE, son of wealthy, cultured Gujarati family, seeks compatible girls. Call: 714/544-5005.

AM182: Gujarati parents invite responses for their handsome, intelligent, aspiring, vegetarian son, born Nov. '71, 5'6", 140 lbs, B.S. (Comp Eng), MBA, well employed, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 305/595-3833.

AM184: Alliance invited for very handsome, fair, talented, Gujarati, vegetarian boy, born Oct. '65, 5'8", B.S., well employed, from suitable match. Please call: 423/559-9410.

AM185: Gujarati Jain parents invite responses for their handsome, fair, US born son, June, '73, 5'10", 155 lbs, B.S. (Biology), pursuing further study, well employed. Please send returnable photo with biodata. Call: 614/864-4581.

FEMALE

F216: Alliance invited from professional, cultured boys for very beautiful, slim, attractive, talented, vegetarian girl, born April, '71, 5'2", 100lbs, M.D., well positioned at Bombay Hospital in India and wishes to settle in USA. Call: 408/447-3863 or 510/651-7989.

F258: Gujarati parents invite correspondence from professional boys, from cultured families, for their slim, very beautiful, fair, US born daughter, Aug. '71, 5'6", B.S. (Business), pursuing MBA. Please send returnable photo and biodata.

F267: Parents invite responses for their attractive, cultured, vegetarian daughter, born Jan. '70, 5'5", 110 lbs, B.A. (Econ), well employed, from well educated Kutchi-Gujarati professionals.

F293: Gujarati parents invite responses for their beautiful, fair, slim, vegetarian, cultured, US citizen daughter, born Feb. '73, 5'4", 120lbs, B.S.(Chem. Eng.), well employed, from well educated, cultured boys. Call: 201/861-9592.

F324: Gujarati Surgeon invite correspondence from highly educated professionals for his daughter, born Nov. '70, 5'2", slim, fair, beautiful, intelligent and well versed with Indian culture, M. S. (Economy) from very prestigious school. She visits India on regular basis. Call: 301/983-8597.

F326: Responses invited for charming, very good looking, vegetarian, financially independent, US citizen female, born March, '59,5'1", B.S., well employed/settled. (widowed since 11/92, one son age 16) from kind hearted, suitable match, having Indian values. Call: 714/779-2653.

F337: M.D., completed, 3 year Internal Medicine residency, born Jan. '70, 5'4", 110 lbs, pretty, slim, vegetarian daughter with Indian values. Parents invite responses from Marwari, Hindi, Gujarati professionals. Call: 816/333-7717.

F348: Gujarati parents invite responses from professionals for their attractive, vegetarian, US born daughter, Jan. '70, 5'3", graduated from medical school, D.O., doing rsidenecy in Family Practice (1st year). Call: 713/565-5399.

F373: Responses invited for intelligent, attractive, outgoing, ambitious girl, born Oct. '67, 5'3", 105 lbs, MBA, from professional males with a sense of humor and progressive Indian values. Please send biodata/returnable photo.

F424: Parents invite responses for their very attractive, US born daughter, Oct. '71, 5'4", 105 lbs, M.D. first year resident, from professional boys, preferably M.D. Please send bio-data and returnable photo. Call: 205/979-0641.

F428: Responses invited for Gujarati, pretty, vegetarian, cultured girl, born April, '69, 5'4", 125 lbs, M.D., 1st year resident, from professional boys, preferably M.D. Call: 215/564-1914 or 516/869-8555.

F447: Jain parents invite responses for their exceptionally beautiful, talented daughter, US born, July, '74, 5'5", M.D. ('98), from professional handsome boys. Please send biodata with returnable photo. Call: 810/651-1299.

F476: Gujarati parents invite responses from well educated professionals, for their pretty US born/raised daughter, Aug. '71, 5'4", 105 lbs, M.D. ('96), with East/West blend and strong family values. Please send returnable photo with biodata.

F497: Alliance invited by Gujarati family for their good looking, vegetarian daughter, born Sept. '63, 5'2", 105 lbs, B. Com. LL.B., Intern with law office, from suitable cultured, educated match.

F498: Gujarati parents invite responses for their cultured, attractive, smart, vegetarian daughter, born Dec. '72, 5'1", 103 lbs, B.S. (Biology), employed, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 510/713-8519.

F499: Gujarati parents invite responses for their pretty, smart, intelligent, US born/raised daughter, Aug. '70, 5'1", 100 lbs, B.S. (Indl. Eng.), well employed, from educated, cultured boys. Call: 847/310-0552.

F503: Jain parents invite responses for their pretty, attractive, slim, intelligent daughter, born July, '71, 5'5", 115 lbs, C.G.A. (3rd year), well employed, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 416/281-1817.

F509: Parents invite responses with biodata for vegetarian, beautiful, bright, caring daughter, born Oct. '69, 5'3", M.D. 3rd year resident, from professional boys, preferrably M.D. Call: 214/234-6506.

F511: Gujarati parents invite bio-data and photo from handsome and cultured professionals, for their charming, slim, beautiful, talented, US citizen daughter, born Nov. '72, 5'3", 102 lbs, pursuing degree in Biology. Call: 714/509-6716.

F512: Gujarati parents invite responses for their vegetarian, cultured daughter, born Oct. '73, 5'5", 145 lbs, B. Com., employed, from suitable match. Call: 718/962-2754.

F513: Alliance invited for beautiful, charming, vegetarian, talented, US born/raised girl from Jain Oswal family, born Sept. '71, 5'4", 110 lbs, B.S., pursuing M.S., well employed, from well educated, cultured boys. Call: 803/662-7892.

F515: Jain parents invite proposals with bio-data/photo, for their beautiful, slim, fair, talented, Canada born and Canadian citizen daughter, March, '75, 5'6", 105 lbs, B.S. (Pharmacy), keen to study and settle in USA. Please call 01191-731-491720 or Fax: 435590, address: 46 Padmavati Colony, Indore 452001, India.

F516: Responses invited for good looking, charming, Gujarati, vegetarian girl, born Oct. '59, 5'6", 150 lbs, (never married), B.Sc. (Physical Therapy), employed, from suitable match. Call: 714-669-9300.

F517: Responses invited for Gujarati, vegetarian, beautiful, highly talented girl, born Nov. '73, 5'6", 122 lbs, B.S., Post Graduate in Mass Comm., employed, from cultured, educated boys. She is currently in India and willing to settle in USA. Call: 810/352-7946 or in India call: 01191-33-2422846.

F518: Gujarati parents invite responses from cultured, educated boys, for their pretty, talented, active, US raised daughter, born March, '71, 5'5", 115 lbs, B.S. (Business), well employed. Call: 412/733-0045.

F519: Alliance invited for Gujarati, good looking, well educated, vegetarian girl, born Nov 64, 5'3", M.S., employed, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 416/494-5436.

F520: Gujarati parents invite alliance for their very attractive, intelligent, US raised daughter, born July, '72, 5'3", 115 lbs, B.S., well employed, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 412/733-0045.

F521: Alliance invited for pretty, intelligent, vegetarian, Gujarati girl, born Nov. '71, 5'2", 90 lbs, M.S. (MIS), Call: 914/472-0564.

F530: Responses invited for beautiful, slim, Gujarati, vegetarian girl, born March, '76, 5'4", 100 lbs, B.S. (microbiology), from cultured, educated boys. She is currently in India and willing to settle in USA. Call: 847/895-1304 or in India call: 692-26103.

F531: Gujarati parents invite responses for their pretty, talented, vegetarian daughter, born July, '71, 5'4", 110 lbs, M.S. (London School of Economy), from cultured, educated boys. Living in U.K. and willing to settle in USA. In UK phone or fax at: 01923-840204.

AF074: Gujarati parents from IL invite responses from professional boys, for their US raised, exceptionally beautiful, slim, very attractive, fair, talented daughter, born Jan. '71, 5'5", B.S. (Chemistry), well employed. Call: 815/937-5714.

AF121: Are you exceptionally handsome, fair, tall, highly educated, from very cultured family? A wealthy Gujarati family has exceptionally beautiful, very light skinned, 23, 5'7", MS, intelligent, highly family oriented, virtuous daughter, exceptional in every way. Call: 714/544-5005.

AF129: Gujarati parents invite responses for their beautiful, fair, talented, vegetarian daughter, born April, '69, M.D., doing residency, from professional boys, preferably M.D. Call: 410/882-9697.

AF172: Responses invited from cultured, educated, professionals ages 25-29, for daughter 25, 5'3", Dentist (DMD '97) from US University, Jain background, slim, good looking, artistic, expressive and outgoing personality. Please contact with biodata/photo. Call: 905/475-9285.

AF175: Gujarati family looking for compatible match for their US raised, vegetarian, good looking daughter, born Dec. '68, 5'3", M.D., from boys preferably M.D. Please reply with bio-data and photo.

AF176: Responses invited for vegetarian, good looking, intelligent Gujaratigirl, born, June, '71, 5'3", 108 lbs, MBA, doing software development, excellent family background. Currently in Bombay and willing to settle in USA. Please call: 303/791-2883.

AF180: Sisters invite responses for pretty, attractive, talented, vegetarian sister, born Dec. '66, 5'6", 138 lbs, B.S. (Economics), well employed, currently in USA and wishes to settle in USA. Call: 301/890-5129 or 718/897-0399.

MIS continues on page 30

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This is How It Works

Congratulations!!

JAINA would like to congratulate all those couples have come together with the help of the services of the MIS. JAINA wishes to thank them for their generous donation.

Guidelines to all perspective participants

Be positive, constructive, creative and friendly!

No match is going to be 'perfect.' Complement and support each other practicing respect, sharing, acquire knowledge and maintaining your uniqueness while keeping an open mind. These things do make for human perfection. Our world is shrinking and we are becoming a global village and life is not always easy. However, we can carry with us our philosophy and our value system that is worth while. Accept the challenge and make your choice a worth while one.

Placing an Ad and Registration with the MIS

Anyone wishing to place an ad and register with the MIS - Marriage Information Service - must follow these step-bystep instructions **carefully**.

• Fill Out

the Registration Form found on pages 21 and 22. The registrant must fill out this form. **Do not leave anything blank.**

Mail

- the completed form,
- a check in the amount of \$25.00 payable to: Hasmukh M. Shah, *LEAVE THE "MEMO" OR "FOR" LINE BLANK*,
- and a recent, full-length photo of yourself with your name printed on the back.

To: Hasmukh M. Shah 8721 Scrimshaw Drive

New Port Richey, FL 34653 Phone: 813/376-7989

Upon receipt of this information the MIS will draft an ad for you and it will appear in the Jain Digest - *only once*.

Placing an Ad Only

If you **do not** wish to register with the MIS and wish to draft an ad yourself, you may do so in **30 words or less**. Remember, that the MIS reserves the right to edit all such ads.

As a rule, all MIS ads include the phone number of the registrant. However, if you do not wish to publish your phone number, you must be specifically notify Hasmukh M. Shah.

Responding to an Ad

All those wishing to respond to an ad must follow these step-by-step instructions. Place your bio-data and a recent photograph of yourself in a sealed, stamped envelop with your return address in the upper left-hand corner and the MIS ad reference number in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope.

NOTE: leave space on the envelope for an address.

Place this envelope in another envelope with your return address in the upper left-hand corner and mail it to Hasmukh M. Shah. See address above.

MIS, continued from page 29.

AF181: Gujarati parents invite responses for their pretty, US citizen daughter, born July, '72, 5'2", 108 lbs, studying M.D. (1st year student), from professional boys, preferably M.D. Call: 410/750-9502.

AF183: Uncle invite correspondence from educated, Gujarati boys, for beautiful, intelligent, vegetarian niece, 24, 5'2", Regd. Pharmacist. Please call: 718/279-0140.

Upon receipt of these responses the MIS will place the ad holders address on the inner envelope and mail it.

Remember, MIS is not responsible for responses that do not conform to these instructions.

Please notify the MIS

Please notify the MIS when an engagement or marriage has been announced. This helps us to know if this community service is working to help maintain our traditions.

Please note that if a successful alliance has taken place, both parties will agree to donate what ever amount they wish to JAINA to help defray the cost of publication.

Important Considerations

It is important to remember that the MIS is a non-for-profit, voluntary community service. The MIS and JAINA assume no responsibility or liability for the accuracy or authenticity of the information furnished in the ads or any consequences resulting thereof. The entire responsibility rests with the candidates themselves.

All information furnished to the MIS is confidential. Only those who are sincerely interested in looking for a Jain life partner should send the Registration Form. While matching, photographs will not be passed on to the candidates by the MIS.

Parents/guardians should communicate with the candidate before placing ad with the MIS and assist them in making a final decision.

If you wish to receive the Jain Digest, please fill out the subscription form envelop that is appears in the middle of this issue.

Marriage Information Service Registration Form Federation of Jain Associations In North America

A/C/F/M

Send this completed form, a check in the amount of \$25.00 and a recent, full-length photograph of yourself with your name printed on the back to: Hasmukh M. Shah, 8721 Scrimshaw Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34653.

Name: (Please Print)					
1	Last	First		Middle	
Address:Street	City		St	ate	Zip
	SA)		31	att	Σip
Phone: ()		Fax: ()		
Date of Birth:	Height:		Weight:		
Are you a vegetarian? yes no l	Oo you smoke? yes no	Do yo	u drink? y	es no	
Have you been married before? ye If yes, indicate the name of your d					Borton
What is your Visa status in the US	A/Canada?	When	did you ent	er the USA/Ca	nada?
					month/year
What languages do you speak?	What	is your re	ligion		
What languages do you read? —	***				
What languages do you write? —			w		
Education:			***		
	ear received	Major	N	ame of University	
Work experience:					-
Company's 1	name	Position		Duration	
Father's Name:		Occup	ation:		
Mother's Name:	AT	Occup	ation: —		
Brother(s) and/or Sister(s)			Time -		
1	Name(s) Age(s)		Education	Occupation	n
Do you have other relatives living	in the North America?	Name	Relationship	Occupatio	n Address
Other relevant information(use ad	ditional paper if necess:			- compation	1 2000000
, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	F -F) / ·			
Candidate's signature:				— Date: -	

The MIS and JAINA assume no liability or responsibility for the accuracy or authenticity of the information herein, nor the consequences resulting thereof.

Marriage Information Service Registration Form Federation of Jain Associations In North America

	Address:	•
	Phone:	
	Member	of:
		Organization's Name
B.	Name:	
	Address	S:
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	Membe	r of:
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With best compliments to JAINA

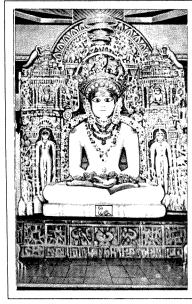
Dr. Navin C. Mehta, M.B.B.S., M.D., P.C.

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HEAD & NECK
FACIAL PLASTIC &
RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGEON

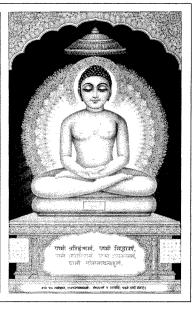
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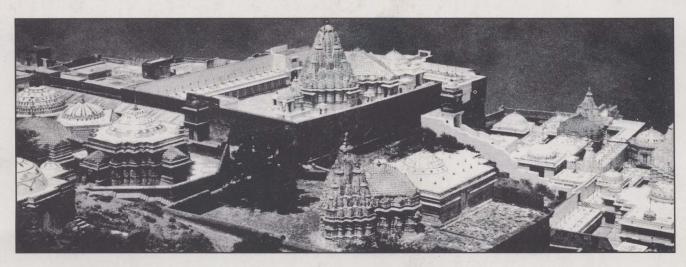




Tirthankar Parsavnath

Tirthankar Mahavir

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TELEPHONE: 6420402

6436421 (FAX)

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