

Magazine of Federation of Jain Associations in North America

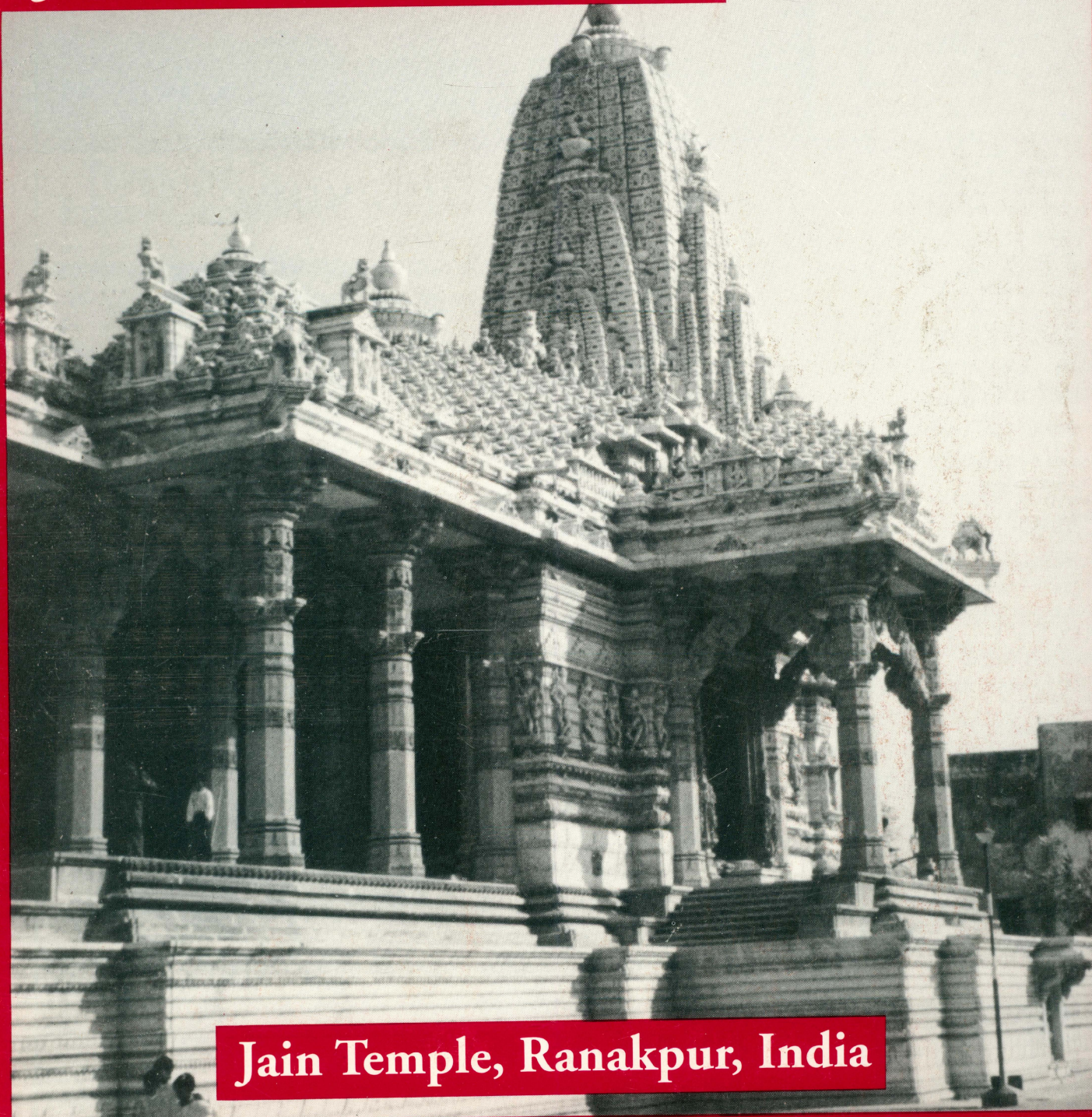
JAINA
Convention
Toronto
July 4-6, 1997

JAIN DIGEST

MARCH 1997

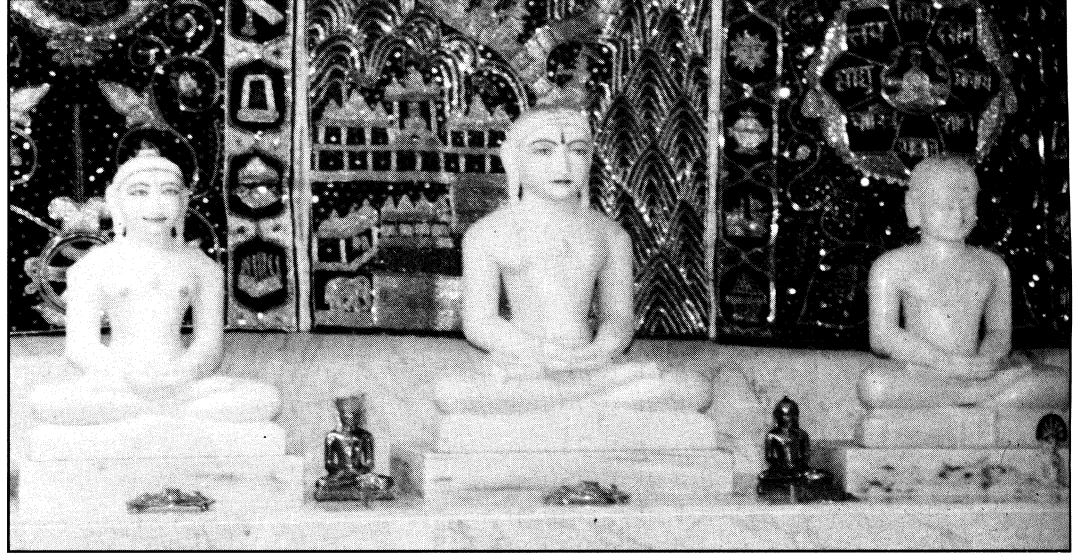
VOLUME 13

NUMBER 1



Jain Temple, Ranakpur, India

JAIN TEMPLE, WASHINGTON, DC



JAI JINENDRA

अहे! 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 धरुं? 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.

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From the Editor's desk

The majestic temple of Ranakpur on the cover, represents many of the artistically appealing and religiously inspiring Jain Temples all over India. These temples have stood the test of time and have provided a focal point for socio-religious activities.

History tells us that many of these temples began because of a small gathering of individuals who came together with a divine inspiration. They devoted their lives and everything they had to shape a dream for the benefit of the society. In turn, we must support and recognize the volunteers and the venerable institutions we have established that help maintain our proud heritage for the coming generations.

For many of us, a trip to India includes a visit to one of these famous temples. In our mind we begin to think about the planning, logistics, and money that might have gone in to building these awe inspiring temples. We can compare this to our own experience in North America where

Continued on page 3

President's Message

Following a very successful YJA Convention in San Francisco, I am pleased to invite you to the upcoming 9th Biennial JAINA Convention which will be held in Toronto, Canada, from July 4 - 6, 1997. The theme of the 1997 convention "Jainism in Practice" will address the challenges of how the unique scientific principles of Jainism can be practiced in our daily lives.

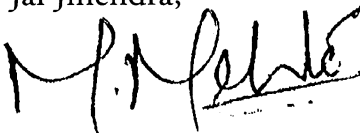
The Jain Society of Toronto and JAINA are hosting the convention in the beautiful and vibrant city of Toronto. A wonderful schedule of seminars, workshops, religious activities, entertainment events, and an interfaith meeting will address the interests of young people, adults, women and senior citizens. Our Marriage Information Service will organize a get together for the eligible young adults. Convention events will be held at the International Plaza Hotel and the Congress Center which offer large exhibition halls, children's play area, pool and many other amenities. The hotel is a five minute drive from the airport and about a fifteen minute drive from the Jain Temple.

Toronto is a popular tourist site and is accessible from many Jain Centers in the U.S.A. and Canada. Niagara Falls, a major tourist attraction, is only an hour and a half drive from Toronto. Visitors from all over the world are expected to attend this event. If you are planning to attend, please register early to facilitate planning.

During the past 18 months, JAINA has made a great deal progress in uniting all Jain centers. Our World Community Service has helped many needy people in India and has been granted exempt status by USAid and the Government of India so it can send humanitarian aid to any country without a long approval process.

Your support and donations are always needed so that JAINA can continue its religious, educational and humanitarian activities. I appeal to you to fill out the envelope in the center of this issue and include your generous donations so that we can continue to promote the principles of Jainism and nurture Jain heritage for our children.

Jai Jinendra,



Manibhai Mehta

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JAIN DIGEST

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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

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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.

JAINA Ratna Award and Recognition Information

Nominations are invited for the JAINA Ratna Award and Recognition for outstanding contributions in promoting Jainism in North America. The award recipient will be honored at the 9th JAINA Convention this July 4 - 6, 1997 in Toronto, Canada. To qualify for the award or recognition, the nominee must meet the following criteria:

- reside in the U.S. or Canada.
- be a householder (*shravak* - *shravika*)
or be a young Jain, 16 years old or older.
- follow Jain principles in belief and practice.
- contribute to the promotion of Jainism by one or more of the following:
 - . publishing articles.
 - . lecturing.
 - . teaching.
 - . performing community service
for example: fund raising, establishing a Jain Library, editing a Jain magazine, organizing youth camps.
 - . establishing and/or serving a Jain organization(s) and/or organizing conferences locally, regionally, nationally, or internationally.
 - . participating in lectures, discussions and/or presentations.
 - . promoting Jain principles of caring by caring for the needy in the community.
 - . establishing contact between Jains in North America and the World.
- to be eligible for this award or recognition the individual must have provided an outstanding service to the Jain community in the U. S. or Canada.

There is only one JAINA Ratna Award and few Recognition Awards. Nominations may be made on an individual or group basis. Please post this information in your center. We have ex-

tended the due date for nominations to April 21, 1997. In order to be considered, all nominations must be post marked no later than April 21, 1997 and mailed to: Hansa Varia, Chairperson, Award Committee, 1114 Midway Drive, Richardson, TX 75081.

Treasurer's Comments

We all like to receive the Jain Digest regularly. It is our joint duty to support it financially. It is our national news bulletin. As mentioned in previous reports, JAINA is in urgent need of general funds. The publishing of the Jain Digest comes from the General Fund.

You can support us by advertising your business/organization in the high quality, prestigious publication that reaches into the homes of over 8,000 families across North America and Canada.

The following rates apply when considering and advertisement in the Jain Digest.

- Full page - 1 year or 4 issues \$1,400
- Full page - single issue \$ 400
- Half page - 1 year or 4 issues \$ 800
- Half page - single issue \$ 250

Please send your check, payable to JAINA, and your advertisement information/material or camera ready document to: Kamlesh Shah, Treasurer, 11409 Berland Place, Germantown, MD 20876, phone: 301/353-0481 fax: 301/916-4446.

9th Biennial JAINA Convention

Funds for our upcoming convention in Toronto have started to come in. JAINA would like to thank Kasturbai Shah and his family of Scarborough, Ontario, Canada for the very generous donation of \$25,000.

This donation will help set the pace for donations to follow and certainly help to make this year's convention a tremendous success.

From the Editor's Desk, continued from page 1

communities of Jains have come together to build Jain or Hindu-Jain temples. It appears to me that, because of the broad based support we have built, we may be in the process of democratizing the religion and committing ourselves to more respectable behavior.

However, the meager response we received to more than 7,500 envelopes that were included in the centerfold of our previous issue has been very perplexing.

In all, we received less than 50 envelopes, 11 were Life Memberships and were 30 address changes. We certainly appreciate those of you who responded in both cases.

However, the total count of 41 can hardly pay for the additional expense of including this easy to mail envelope. So we are going to try again. We know that the Jain Community can do better than that!

I hope that many, many of you will become Life Members and support the Jain Digest.

Jai Jinendra.

Harshad Shah

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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*.

Hira Ratan Manek from Calicut, India will be in the United States in June, 1997. Hirabhai is a member of the Jain Social Group and the Solar Energy Society of India. He speaks on Jainism and Solar Energy in English, Hindi, Gujarati, and Kutchi. For more information about his visit please contact: C. J. Lalka, 525 Forest Drive, Sanford, NC, 27330-3307 or call 919/776-9091 or Fax: 919/776-3071.

Jain Tirth Darshan Diary, 1997 in English is being released on Mahavir Jayanti, April, 1997. A subscription to this unique collection of photographs with descriptions of 150 places is available at the pre-publication price (through April 15, 1997) of only \$3.00 US. You may send your checks and requests to: Diary House, 277 Mehandri Ka Chowk, Ramganj Bazar, Jaipur - 3, India.

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

Shwetambar and Digambar idols are available for sale from the Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago. For more information concerning these idols please contact the President of the Society, 435 N. Rt. 59, Bartlett IL, 60103.

Shrimad Rajchandraji's works *Chha Padno Patra*, *Apurva Avasar* and *Kshamapana* are now available in English. For more information concerning these works please contact: Manubhai Doshi, 931 Goldenrod Lane, Lake Forest, IL 60045, or call 847/735-0120.

The Jain Youth Association of New York, Gaurav Kopadia, 67 Nassau Drive, Great Neck, NY 10021, phone/fax 516/829-3316. If any young person wishes to find out more about the activities of this group, please contact the address above.

The Vegetarian Resource Group is sponsoring an essay contest for students 18 and under. Entrants should write a 2 - 3 page essay on any aspect of vegetarianism or veganism. Among the many reasons for being a vegetarian are beliefs about ethics, culture, health, aesthetics, religion world peace, economics, world hunger, and the environment. Categories are: ages 8 and under, 9 - 13, and 14 - 18. Entrants should base their paper on interviews, research, and/or personal opinion. All essays become the property of The Vegetarian Group. Submissions should be postmarked by May 1, 1997 and be sent to: The Vegetarian Resource Group, P.O. Box 1463 Baltimore, MD 21203. To receive more information about the essay contest or lesson plans on vegetarianism send a self-addressed stamped envelope with two first class stamps to the address above or call 410/366-VEGE or contact them at their Web site address: <http://envirolink.org/arrs/VRG/home.html>

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*

*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 Publishing Editor, see address on page 2.*

REGIONAL NEWS

CANADA

Mahendra Mehta

Regional Editor

The Jain Society of Alberta

Mahavir Jayanti will be celebrated at the Jain/Hindu Temple on St. Albert Trail and will be followed by Priti Bhojan. For further information, please call Jashvantbhai Mehta.

The President of Jain Society of Alberta and the JAINA Director for Alberta is actively encouraging all the Jains in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan to register early for the 9th Biennial JAINA Convention and some 30 families are expected to attend.

The Jain Society of Toronto

Toronto is going to be the venue for the 9th Biennial JAINA Convention. The preparations have already started under the leadership of Sobhagya Khamesra our president. Committees have been organized to oversee, programming, fund-raising, souvenir magazine publication, cultural activities, art and exhibition, hotel accommodation and of course the food.

The younger Jains have organized themselves into a formidable group and already chalked out a comprehensive educational, social and cultural program for themselves. The ladies have shown tremendous enthusiasm by launching an arts project, 'Jain quilt' making, cultural programs and many more.

Over 5,000 people are expected in Toronto for the convention and at the latest count, 75% of the rooms at the conventional hotel are already booked. The Delta Hotel next door is now selected to take the overflow. For more information, call the president or any convention committee member. Detailed information can be found on pages 13 - 18.

The pratishtha for relocation of pratimaji in the new gabhara extension was performed on January 5, 1997 under the

direction of Dharamchand Shastriji. Over 300 members attended the function starting with a flag hoisting, ghata yatra, vedi suddhi, pooja, shanti holm and abhishek.

The Diwali program was held at Martin Grove Collegiate in November, 1996 and over 800 Jains attended. Young Jains from 6-26 years in age entertained an appreciative audience with music, garba, dances, skits, and a fashion parade. The day concluded with a dinner that was gastronomical delight.

The Toronto Jain Society now has two pathshalas the East and West. The indefatigable husband and wife team of Arvind and Meenaben Shah is now augmented by arrival of Bruce Costain (Balbhadra) and the pathshala is becoming more popular than ever. Bruce Costain has already trained the first generation of young pathshala teachers.

The Annual General Meeting was held on March 23, 1997.

Roop Lal Jain Memorial Lecture was held on March 22, 1997 at University of Toronto was delivered by Paul Dundas.

MIDWEST

Manubhai Doshi

Regional Editor

The Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago

Acharya Chandanashri of Viraytan, India visited Chicago in September, 1996 with two of her pupils. Their talks were arranged at the Jain Center.

Paryushan Parva was celebrated in September, 1996 in the presence of Rajendra Shah. There were daily talks and Bhanvan. The Swapna ceremony was organized and Samvatsari Pratikraman was performed. The Center was crowded to the capacity on both occasions. Daslakshan Parva was celebrated for 10 days in the presence of Paramatma Bharril.

As usual, many members observed austerities on the occasion of Paryushan. Thirty-three persons including youngsters fasted for eight days or more. About 100 persons observed some form of fasting during Paryushan.

The Council for Parliament of World Religions organized a day long conference for spiritual leaders in October, 1996. Uttam Jain and Manubhai Doshi, were invited to participate on behalf of the Jain community.

The centenary celebration of the *Atma Siddhi Shashtra* was organized in October, 1996 in conjunction with the installation of an idol of Shrimadrajchendra.

A Jain bowl was organized on the occasion of Mahavir Nirvan day in November, 1996. There were three groups of students who competed. It was a thrilling experience for everyone.

A general body meeting of the Society passed a new constitution on December 15 1996.

435 North Route #59
Bartlett, IL 60103
708/969-8845

The Jain Center of Cincinnati-Dayton

The Center elected the following member to its Executive Committee: Mahesh Shah, President; Ashwin Parekh, Vice president; Dilip Punatar, Secretary; Hemant Jain, Treasurer; Jwala Prasad, Education; Swati Jhaveri, Food; Kirtan Patel, Facilities; Ila Punater, Membership; Jigna Shah, Youth; and Surendra Singhvi and Chandu Shah were reappointed as JAINA Directors.

A course on Jainism was offered at the University of Dayton that was taught by Surendra Singhvi, Sulekh Jain and Jwala Prasad. Ten students who were not Jain took the course. The Center is proud of them and their teachers for such a fine accomplishment.

The total membership has grown from 20 families in 1987 to 145 families today.

The center has its own temple on eleven acres of land in Middletown, Ohio with easy access from Interstate 75.

The Jain Society of Greater Detroit

The Jain Society of Greater Detroit celebrated Paryushan Parva in September, 1996.

The temple project is moving right along, with the completion of the first floor. We expect to complete the first phase of the project shortly.

The Jain Center of St. Louis

The Jain Center of St. Louis has introduced a welcome and worthwhile way of awarding the right to perform the Fourteen-Dream-Ceremony; instead of resorting to the traditional Gheeboli, the members were invited to give advance written commitment to fast, performing Samayika, or maintaining total silence. The highest bidder had the right to garland the token, and yet recognition was given to each and every bidder.

The Center's 10th Anniversary and Mahavir Nirvan day were celebrated on November 16, 1996. The program included a skit, recognition of our young people, annual report and election of the Executive Committee. Kirit Shah is our new President.

SOUTHEAST

Pravin Mehta
Regional Editor

The Jain Society of Atlanta

The Society has bought approximately four acres of land in Norcross, Georgia for a future building. Jagdish and Madhuben Sheth have contributed \$80,000 which will cover about half the cost of the land. They have also pledged an additional \$80,000 for the building.

Elections were held last month, and Deepak Shah was elected President; Indira Bhavsar, Vice-president; Raju Shah, Secretary; and Shirish Ghandi, Treasurer.

For more information about the Jain Society of Atlanta please contact:

Deepak Shah
P.O. Box 15126
Atlanta, GA 30333
770/552-2507

The Jacksonville Jain Center

For more information about the Jacksonville Jain Center please contact Upendra Sheth, 1832 St. Lawrence Way, Jacksonville, Florida 32223, 904/262-3473.

The Jain Study Group of Charlotte

For more information about the Jain Study Group of Charlotte please contact Vijay Doshi at 704/844-8120.

The Jain Center of Middle Tennessee

For more information about the Jain Center of Middle Tennessee please contact Pravin Mehta, 2273 Dewitt Drive, Clarksville, Tennessee 37043, 615/648-9535.

SOUTHWEST

Jadavji Kenia
Regional Editor

The Jain Society of North Texas

The Jain Society of North Texas celebrated Diwali on November 10, 1996 at the Jain Center in Richardson, TX. The youngest children from Jain classes recited Namokar Mantra and sang. Next group of children performed Mahavir Pooja, reciting Slokas and explaining the meaning of the rituals they performed. The Jain Youth Group members presented a skit about the difference between Jain and Hindu Diwali including Mahavir Nirvana celebration by Indra of the Devlok. They also presented a segment on general Jain rituals. Between Diwali and Christmas, JYG members collected about 400 pounds of vegetarian canned food and donated it to the needy.

The Society will celebrate Mahavir Jayanti and Ahimsa Day with the help of Gurudev Chitrabhanuji on April 19-20, 1997. This visit is of extra importance because it is a part of the "Freedom 50," a celebration of 50 years of India's independence is planned by India Association of North Texas throughout 1997.

538 Appolo Drive
Richardson, TX
972/867-6255

The Jain Society of Houston

The new Board of Trustees are K.T. Shah, Mukesh Gandhi, Suresh Ghelani, Pallaviben Mehta, Ramesh Shah and Ashok Shingavi. Our new Executive Committee is Navin Shah - President, Narendra Shah - Vice president, Kishor Shah - Secretary, Hasmukh Shah - Treasurer, Vinod Bilakhia, Suresh Chokshi, Dinesh Lakhia, Vikram Mehta, Sudhaben Parekh, Jagrutiben Shah, Jitendra Shah and Vipin Vaidya.

Just like a PTA meeting, an open house was held this past year that was well attended by young people, parents and teachers. Our pathshala program is gathering new momentum under the guidance of Ujwalaben Shingavi and Pallaviben Mehta. We are getting help from new teachers and the program is becoming more structured.

Rae Sikora from the American Anti-Vivisection Society conducted an interesting and interactive seminar on animal compassion and environment. The seminar was an eye opener.

During the 1996 Shekhar Chandra Jain, Dhirajlal Mehta, Saman Shrutpragna and Saman Ashwinipragna visited our center and held discourses. Our Jain Fellowship, organized a drive for used clothes and articles for the needy as a part of this year's Ahimsa Day celebration.

Gurudev Chitrabhanuji visited the Society in October, 1996, his visit was coordinated through JAINA to help celebrate his 75th birthday and the Silver Anniversary of his arrival in North America. His lectures were part of the program which also included Snatra Pooja, and Sangh Jaman. Navin Shah, President of JSH, Kishor Doshi and Ramanik Velani praised Chitrabhanuji's achievements, career, service to the Jain community and his contribution to Jain causes.

The first anniversary of the temple Pratishtha was celebrated in November, 1996.

The 1996 South Regional Convention where over 200 people gathered at the Jain Center in November, 1996 to discuss and learn about Jainism, was hosted by Jain Fellowship of Houston with the help of volunteers of all ages. The convention's theme "Days of Our Lives: Modernizing Jainism" described the goals of the lectures and discussions programmed for the convention. The conference reviewed modern issues with a Jain outlook, instead of simply presenting Jain ideology and concepts. It addressed issues that affect people in their day-to-day life. The participants took home information to help them transform their daily habits to be more Ahimsak, more healthy and more Jain.

The participants debated topics such as environmentally-friendly habits, animal rights awareness, Jain history and issues that confront the Jain the community, ritual vs. philosophy, abortion and Jain participation in the political arena. A conference culminated in a lively garba-rass.

The members of the Asia Society of Texas visited our center on Saturday, January 18, 1997 as a part of their program to bring greater understanding among Asian organizations. The program included a lecture on understanding of Jainism, the history of the Jain Society of Houston, a visit to the temple, an exhibition of Jain artifacts/pictures/books and cultural program by youngsters.

3905 Arc Street
Houston, TX 77063
713/879-9457

The Jain Center of Greater Phoenix

The Center had Dharmalabh from Mumukshu Sudhaben Sheth visiting from Agaas, India and Subhashbhai Sheth from Vankaner, India after the auspicious Paryushan Parva of 1996.

Works by Shrimad Raj Chandra were part of the celebration of the Greater Phoenix Jain Mumukshus in the Indo-cultural religious center during the fourth quarter of 1996.

In February, 1997 our young people and adults held a camp in Payson, Arizona.

WEST

Chandrakant Parekh

Regional Editor

The Jain Center of Southern California

The new members elected to the Board of Directors include: Shashikant Jogani, Gordhan Patel, Kanti Shah, Prafula Shah, Viren Shah, Devika Udani, and Vipin Vadecha. In addition, Virendra Shah, President; Sumati Shah, Vice President; Ramesh Khandhar, Secretary; Harshad Kothari, Treasurer; Hemendra Shah, Public Relations; and Shailesh Shah, Yogesh Shah, and Harshida Vasa, Directors, will continue to serve the second year of their term of appointment.

Nearly 70 children, ranging in age from 8 to 16 years, and ten adult volunteers including three teachers, Ramesh Khamdhar, Yogesh Shah and Dipika Shah,

last day, the students were required to take a test in order to assess their understanding. There were consistently good test scores confirming our youngsters ability to concentrate, learn, understand, and benefit from a peaceful environment devoid of distractions like television, the phone and interruptions of family and friends. Following the success and popularity of this camp, the coordinators are thinking about organizing a similar one this summer.

The Jain community of San Fernando Valley organized a Panch Kalyanak Mahotsav at the Valley Hindu Temple located at 18700 Roscoe Boulevard, Northridge, California 91325, Telephone: 818/772-7736. The Prathishtha Mahotsav program, celebrated from December 19 - 22, 1996 included a variety of religious ceremonies leading to the prathistha of the murtis.

A record number of children are enrolled in pathshala and the religious classes for the adults have also grown in popularity. Children and adults participated in a shibir organized on January 26, 1997. Children, ranging in age from 8 to 16, were divided by age groups into three classes to



Jain Center of Southern California, JCYC Winter Camp '96, in the San Jacinto Mountain

participated in the Jain Center Youth Council's (JCYC) winter camp held from December 27-30, 1996 at Pine Spring Ranch in Riverside County. The curriculum for the camp included prayers, yoga and meditation, learning to understanding of Samyak Darshan, Samyak-Gyan, and Samyak-Charitra, and a review of a variety of articles on Jain religion, worship, ethics, practice, beliefs and discrepancies. On the

learn about the Nav Tarva in English. The adult session, was conducted in Gujarati by Girishbhai Shah and explored the topic of "Punya and Pap." A set of vu-graphs prepared by Sushma Parekh were of great help in providing a step-by-step explanation of the subject matter.

The JAINA Executive Committee met at the Center in February, 1997. Following a review and discussion of the status of

the various subcommittees, the focus of the meeting was to help formulate a program for the upcoming 9th JAINA Convention which will be held July 4 - 6, 1997, in Toronto, Canada.

In a townhall-type meeting held in February, 1997 members had an opportunity to meet the JAINA Executive Committee members and ask questions about the JAINA's activities and the upcoming convention. Everyone benefited from the frank discussion and exchange of ideas.

**8072 Commonwealth Avenue
P. O. Box 549, Buena Park, CA 90621
714/670-0890**

The Jain Center of Greater Sacramento

The Center was established in July, 1995 and is located at 1205 Merkeley Avenue, West Sacramento. It is actively supported, by the member families who enthusiastically participate in all the activities. Recently Samaniji Mudit Pragyaji and Samaniji Malli Pragyaji visited the center in January, 1997. Their visit was very beneficial for the everyone. They delivered pravachan everyday 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. Yoga classes were organized with about 100 members attending these sessions. There are plans to keep the center open everyday. Please contact Jagdish Shah at 916/685-4716 or Naresh Jain at 916/488-2601 for more information.

**5239 Fair Oaks Boulevard
Carmichael, CA 95608
916/488-2601**

The Jain Society of San Diego

Following the successful Pratishtha of Adinath and Mahavir Bhagawan at Shri Mandir, the Society is looking forward to move into a temple of their own. The society has adopted a new constitution and has submitted an application to incorpo-



JCYC Winter Camp '96, children in religious classes

rate and apply for a tax-exempt status. In addition to an Executive Committee, a Trustee Committee has been formed for long term planning.

The new Executive Committee is: Rohak Vora, President; Lalit Dugad, Secretary; Asha Kucheria, Treasurer; and Harshad Shah and Prabodh Vora, Activities Coordinator. The new Trustee Committee includes: Rohit Saraiya, Chairman; Sonal Sheth, Secretary General; and Manoj Maniar, Controller

Everyone is invited to attend our regular bhavna program every second Friday of the month at the Shri Mandir. Pathshala is conducted at the home of Kokila Doshi. Please contact: Rohak Vora at 619/484-2143 or Kokila Doshi at 619/679-7645 for more information.

**9185 Westvale Road
San Diego, CA 92129
619/484-2143**

The Jain Center of Northern California

The highlight of the year was an extremely successful Young Jains of America (YJA) Convention organized from July 4 - 7, 1996. More than 600 young people participated. The event was hosted and organized by the young people from Northern California in cooperation with the national YJA committee. Gurudev Chitrabhanuji provided the inspirational strength for the convention. Several scholars including: Houston Smith, Pravin Shah, and

John Robins addressed the convention. A variety of cultural, social, religious, and spiritual activities were scheduled over the three days. All the participants had an excellent and memorable time.

A variety of programs were organized throughout the year which included Mahavir Jayanti, Paryushan Parva, Daslakshana Parva, Samwatsari and Mahavir Nirvana, in addition to monthly bhavna, regularly scheduled youth

classes, prekshadhyan classes, and Namokar Mantra Jap.

Several eminent leaders and scholars visited the center and included Jin Chandraji Maharaj, Mahasati Chandanaji, Bhattarakji, Shekhar Chand Jain, Pundit Dhirajlal Shah, Sudhaben Sheth, Pravin Doshi, and Saman Shrutpragna and Saman Ashwinipragna.

A site for the Jain Bhawan is being acquired in the city of Milpitas which is located about 50 miles south of San Francisco between Fremont and San Jose. The plan is to construct a temple and a community center approximately 17,000 square feet. The temple complex will include an all-sect temple, a Sadguru Bhakti Room and several meditation rooms and a community center which will include a large auditorium, kitchen, dining room, library, audio-video room, classrooms, visitor rooms, and offices.

Construction is scheduled to begin in April, 1997 with a cost estimated to be \$3,000,000 of which approximately \$1,300,000 has been raised so far. The fund raising activities were begun July, 1996 with an inspiring sermon from Jin Chandraji Maharaj. Support is needed from all the friends living in the San Francisco Bay Area and living outside the Bay area to help us build a beautiful Jain Bhawan. For more information please contact: Praveen Jain at 408/559-6987.

AFFILIATE NEWS

International Mahavir Jain Mission, Siddachalam, 65
Mud Pond Road, Blairstown, NJ 07825, Phone: 908/362-9793, or
Fax: 908/362-9649, or e-mail Siddachalam@cpatch.com and now
on the World Wide Web. Now that spring is upon us Siddachalam
invites all Jains to come and use the facility, which has had its request
approved by the local municipality to rebuild the kitchen facility.
Your tax deductible donations to this Tirth are always welcome.

The Jain Meditation International Center, Box 244,
Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023-0244, Phone and Fax: 212/
362-6483. Gurudev Chitrabhanuji will be returning from India in
the first week of April. Please note that there is a new location for the
7:20 P.M. Wednesday meetings in Manhattan. The new location is
T R S Professionals - 11th Floor, 44 East 32nd Street, between Park
and Madison, phone: 212/362-6483

Chitrababhanuji's Schedule

April	19 - Dallas, TX: Jain Society, 214/867-6255
	21 - Houston, TX: Jain Society, 713/840-1222
	26 - Columbus, OH: Jain Center, 614/899-2678
	27 - Cincinnati, OH: Jain Center, 513/836-8080
May	10 - Columbia, SC: Jain Center, 803/749-6751
	17 - Pittsburgh, PA: Jain Center, 412/283-8822
	24 - Long Island, NY: Jain Center, 516/921-9648
	26 - Wappingers, NY: Jain-Hindu Samaj Temple 914/226-6016
	31 - Whitmore, MI: 313/449-2101

In June he will be in Singapore returning for JAINA's
convention in Toronto in July.

Attention All JAINA Members

General Donations and Advertisements
are being accepted for the

4th Edition of the Jain Directory of North America

Please complete this form and send it to:

The Jain Center of Greater Boston

26 Humbolt Avenue

Burlington, MA 01803

for more information please call:

Anil Shah at 617/272-3666, Vasant Gandhi at 617/324-0393

or Rakesh Kamdar at 617/662-6055.

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Vegging Out!

You want to be a what? both of my parents exclaimed at once. They set down their forks and almost in unison as their jaws dropped.

"A vegetarian. I want to be a vegetarian," I repeated calmly. Then came the onslaught of questions, warnings and predictions."

"What on earth are you thinking?"

"You'll never get enough nutrients."

"This won't last more than a week. Remember when you wanted to be a ballerina?"

My mother declared I couldn't stay away from meat forever. My father swore I'd be in the hospital from malnutrition.

I decided to become vegetarian when I saw a TV program that shocked me. It was a story about factory farms - a term used to describe the setting in which animals are raised for food.

Most people don't think about where their food comes from. They think of beef or chicken as something akin to broccoli or pasta: just another item on their dinner plate. Unfortunately, chickens and cows don't grow in gardens.

Many animals are raised in confinement, and are kept indoors most of the time except for the trip from the factory farm to the slaughterhouse. Birds are raised in cages that are very crowded. The crowded, stressed birds are debeaked with a hot blade to prevent

them from pecking each other to death.

When I decided to go meatless I got a lot of hassle, but it has been worth it. I have learned to be an individual, no longer concerned about wearing the exact same shirt or having the exact same haircut or chewing the same kind of gum as my classmates. Being a vegetarian has washed away the camouflage. I wasn't the same anymore, and I found out how much better it was.

I started to think a lot about how great it would be to have a club at school for vegetarians and animal rights advocates. So I started "RAVE" - "Rights of Animals for a Vegetarian Earth." Through RAVE I have met other vegetarians my own age and found out I was not alone in my quest.

Becoming a vegetarian has certainly changed my life. Some of my friends roll their eyes and call me "picky" when I don't want my pizza with pepperoni and everyone else does. But none of this matters because I know I have made the right choice.

Lindsay Starr Muscato, has been a vegetarian for a year and is a junior at Clarence Senior High School, Clarence, NY you may write to her about RAVE at: Clarence Senior High School, 9625 Main Street, Clarence, NY 14031. This article was adapted from a article she wrote for the NeXt section of The Buffalo News, December 3, 1996.

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.

268 - Shashi and Renuka Jogani, CA
269 - Priti and Jitandra Tolia, NY
270 - D. C. and Nirmala Monhot, LA
271 - Shashi Sheth, WA
272 - Vijay and Pratibha Vakharia, PA
273 - Gordhan and Saroj Patel, CA
274 - Dev and Madhu Bhandari, TX

275 - Mayank S. Shah, FL
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281 - Munish K. Jain, CA

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284 - Rasiklal and Lilaben Shah, IL
285 - Pravin and Madhu Mehta, TN
286 - Rohak and Swati Vora, CA
287 - Subhash and Sudha Jain,
Ontario, Canada

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.**

Alma Gene Puckett - \$10.00
Tersuo Osora, CA - \$4.00
Mamta Yala, NY - \$25.00

Amolak Jain, VA - \$25.00
Ravindra and Shaila Shah, NY - \$25.00

Geeta and Jatin Shah, GA - \$11.25
MSI - \$160.00

A glimpse of our Agams

Agam is the term used for the authorized texts of Tirthankars' teaching. Lord Mahavir's teachings were compiled by Ganadhars in 12 parts, these were known as Angas. The Sanskrit word for 12 is Dwadash. Therefore those 12 Angas were collectively known as Dwadashangi.

Agams in the Shwetambar Tradition

Of the 12 Angas, the last one, known as Drashtivad has been lost to us for more than 2,000 years. Thus at this present time we only know the following 11 Angas.

Acharang Sutra - is the first and foremost Agam and deals with the code of conduct for spiritual aspirants, particularly for monks and nuns. It covers Lord Mahavir's life during the period of renouncement.

Sutrakrutang - deals with different ideologies, Karma, salvation and other aspects of special importance to the spiritual aspirants.

Sthanang Sutra - deals with various aspects of Jainism, classifying them into ten categories.

Samavayang Sutra - has a pattern similar to the Sthanang. But the classification extends to more than ten categories.

Vyakhyaprajnapiti - is also known as Bhagavati Sutra and deals with thousands of questions pertaining to the spiritual as well as temporal aspects of life raised by Gautamswami and others, with responses to these questions by Lord Mahavir.

Jnatadharmakathang - conveys various aspects of Jainism in the form of stories. The story of Draupadi and the well known story of four daughters-in-law are in this book.

Upasakdashang - describes the lives of Anand, Kamdev and eight other laymen who adopt and rigorously practiced the code for house holders or Shravaks as laid down by Lord Mahavir.

Antakritdashang - describes the lives of ten entities who ended the life cycle and attained liberation.

Anuttaraupapatik - describes the lives of the entities who attained the highest heaven and are destined to attain liberation in the next life.

Prashna Vyakaran - describes violence and other defilements as sources of asrav and narrates how the major five restraints result in Samvar or prevention of Karmas.

Vipak Sutra - depicts the consequences of Karmas that the soul has to bear at the time of fructification of Karmas.

Eighty-four Sutras were compiled including the 11 Angas, however many of them have been lost. Currently only forty-five are available to us. Although those who follow the Sthanakwasi tradition consider only thirty-two of them. Aside from above mentioned 11 Angas, the following Sutras are most prominent.

Dashvaikalik Sutra - presents the code of conduct for monks as prepared by Shayambhavswami for his son Manak by extracting the essence of Purvas.

Uttaradhyayan Sutra - which is the compilation of the last sermon of Lord Mahavir that he gave during his two days' fast and is widely studied by scholars. It deals with many aspects of Jainism and contains many illustrative stories.

Avashyak Sutra - with the six avashyaks or the daily essentials of Samayika, Devvandan, Guruvandan, Pratikraman, Kausagga and Pachchakhan.

Dashashrutskandha - deals with different Jain rituals. Its 9th Chapter is the well known Kalpasutra.

Agams as per Digambar Tradition

All of the twelve original Angas have been lost. The books written by Kundkundacharya and other well known acharyas constitute the main agams. The most prominent of them are:

Pravachansar - which covers the principal teaching of the Lords. It emphasizes right knowledge, known as Samyagjnan.

Samaysar - is the most well known and well read agam. It emphasizes right perception, known as Samyagdarshan.

Niyamsar - deals with the right conduct known, as Samyakcharitra.

Panchastikay - deals with the original of the six substances, the soul, the lifeless atom, pudgal, the ether like substance useful for making movement, another ether like substance useful in stability, space, and time. The first five are categorized as Astikay and are collectively known as Pnachastikay.

Shravakachar - lays down the code of conduct for laymen and covers twelve types of restraints for the laymen.

Aptamimansa - is a detailed discussion about the nature of the soul and its salvation.

Tattvarthasutra - deals with the important aspects of Jainism. Being equally acceptable to Digambers and Shwetambers it is very widely studied and discussed.

Sarvarthasiddhi - detailed commentary of Tattvarthasutra and elaborates all aspects of the Tattvarthasutra.

Atma Siddhi Shastra was written by Shrimad Rajchandra one evening in 1896. It is the poetic version of his well known letter of six fundamentals. It covers everything that a spiritual aspirant needs to know and is widely studied by Jains and others. It is a work meant for self-realization and if regularly chanted is known to have miraculous impact. By covering the essence of all the scriptures within the 142 stanzas, Shrimad has virtually contained the ocean in a bowl.

by Manubhai Doshi

INVITATION

Dear Friends:

Jai Jinendra! On behalf of JAINA and the Jain Society of Toronto, we are very pleased to invite you to the 9th Biennial JAINA Convention which will be held from July 4 - 6, 1997 in Toronto, Canada. The theme of this year's Convention, **Jainism in Practice . . . the New Age**, is guaranteed to bring us all together for celebration of Jain religion, art and culture.

Panel discussions, presentations by scholars, video and slide presentations and exhibitions will focus on this theme. JAINA '97 promises to be a wonderful gathering for the Jain community of North America. It will offer opportunities for our young adults to experience a new level of kinship, and for the first time, we are planning an event for Jain businessmen to meet other Jain businessmen.

To make sure that your visit is very pleasant and memorable, we would like to plan this event with you in mind. Please help us by registering for the Convention by April 30, 1997 and take advantage of the Early Bird Special we are offering.

Because the entire event is being funded by your registration fees, advertisements and donations, we strongly encourage you to register early, advertise in our souvenir magazine and make as large a contribution to our effort as you possibly can.

Come to Toronto this coming summer with your family, friends and share in the excitement of this great event.

Most sincerely,

Sobhagya S. Khamesra
Convenor
905/274-6464

Manibhai Mehta
President, JAINA
714/898-3156

Coordinators
Moti Champsee
905/475-4000

Gyan Chand Jain
416/447-1650

Dinesh Jain
905/569-3058

Bipin Khimasia
416/321-8977

Mahendra Mehta
416/241-2044

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416/665-7884

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The Souvenir Magazine will be 8 1/2" x 11". Your camera ready artwork must be provided for a color advertisements. Please contact: Lata Champsee, e-mail manish@ionsys.com or call: 905/475-4000 or fax: 905/475-8800.

JAINA Liaison Committee

Anoop Vora, Convenor 716/473-9290
Kamlesh Shah, Convenor 301/353-0481

Bipin Parikh 847/699-1294
Dilip Shah 215/561-0581
Jagat Jain 716/688-0104
Jagat Mehta (Rochester) 716/383-1212
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Manoj Dharamshi 703/620-9837
Pravin Shah 919/469-0956
Prem Jain 510/770-0503
Saurabh Dalal 301/577-5215

YJA representatives: Raju Shah 203/436-1338
Ravi Gada 512/708-1098

GENERAL PROGRAM

Some of the seminars, panel discussions, lectures, video and slide presentations on aspects of "Jainism in Practice" will be:

- Jain Philosophy
- Jain principles in daily life
- The Future of Jainism in North America
- Cultural Program- dance, drama and skits from Jain history
- Vegetarianism and its growing popularity
- Yoga and meditation classes
- A Businessmen's get-together
- Jain Art and Exhibition

For further information call:

Mahendra Mehta 416/241-2044
S. Khamesra 416/368-1682
Ashwin Vora 416/283-8846

INVITED SPEAKERS and GUESTS

Keynote Speaker

His Excellency L. M. Singhvi,
Indian High Commissioner in the U.K.

Speakers and Guests

Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, Acharya Chandnaji
Munishri Kirtichandraji, Jinchandraji,
Sadhvi Subhamji, Vibhaji, Shilapiji
Bhattarak Devendrakirti, Charukeerti
Sunandaben Vohra, Deo Karnahan,
Balbhadraji, Swami Sarvagataananda,
Father Massey Lombardini, Bhikshuni Tenzin Kalzang,
Rabbi Ronald Weiss, Rev. John Marc Laporte,
Sheikh Faisal Abdul Razak
Mafatlal M. Mehta, Sagarmal Jain
Shekherchand Jain, Kumarpal Desai
Hukumchand Bharill, Dhirubhai Mehta,
P. C. and Renu Jain, P. Jaini, Dr. Hegade,
Joseph O'Connell, Irene Upenikas,
Tom Harpur, T. Sher Singh,
Anita Yazedi, John Robbins,
Richard Cohen, Peter Kent, Haroun Siddiqui
and many others

YOUTH PROGRAM

The 9th Biennial JAINA Convention will address religious, social and cultural topics relevant to today's young people living in North America. There will be panel discussions, seminars and hands on workshops. Here is a sampling of our events:

Thursday, July 3rd

- Icebreaker get-together

Friday, July 4th

- Jain education, rituals and philosophy
- Environment and activism in Jainism
- Business ethics
- Networking sessions
- Toronto Harbor cruise
- Dandia-Raas for all ages

Saturday, July 5th

- Modern sciences and Jainism
- A case against milk
- Cultural program
- Dance for all ages

Sunday, July 6th

- Health and diet
- Cooking seminar
- Farewell get-together

For more information: check out the YJA Website at: www.yale.edu/yja or, Anish Makim at his e-mail address: maki2660@machl.wlu.ca or, Nancy Jain 416/447-1223 or her e-mail at: nancy.jain@ca.eyi.com

CONVENTION SITE

JAINA '97 Convention will be held at the
International Plaza Hotel

655 Dixon Road, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M9W 1J4

For reservations call: 1-800-668-3656

Please request Special Youth wing for young people

Special Room rates for JAINA '97 delegates are:

\$79 Canadian per night (single or double)

\$89 Canadian per night (triple or quad)

CULTURAL PROGRAM, JULY 5, 1997

"Jainism in Practice. . .the New Age" is the theme of this year's convention.

The Cultural Program Committee is looking for groups to perform.

The committee will endeavor to accommodate your event as long as it reflects the theme of the convention.

- Stand up Comedy • Raas 1 item only, please • Skit or play on Jainism • Rajasthani Garba •
- Vegan Fashion Show • Dance Drama • or any other related item •

- Each item should be a maximum of 8 minutes.
- Skits, dance dramas and fashion show should be a maximum of 15 minutes.
- The Cultural Program will be 2 1/2 hours in total. Therefore, there will be a limit of two items per city.
- All entries will be approved and judged by a panel.
- The deadline to confirm your entry is April 15, 1997

Please submit the details of your proposed cultural item or a video of a previous performance, if possible to: Ashwin Vora, 43 Whiteway Court, Scarborough, Ontario, M1B 5L9, Canada - phone/fax 416-283-8846.

ESSAY WRITING

Young people are encouraged to submit an essay on **Jainism in Practice. . .the New Age**, the theme of this year's convention. The deadline for all entries is April 30, 1997. Entries should be sent to: Harish C. Jain, 67 Flatt Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario, L8P 4N2, Canada - phone: 905/525-5651, or to his e-mail address at: JAINHAR@MCMASTER.CA - Selected essays from each group will be published in the convention's souvenir magazine. Group 1: Grades 9-12, a minimum of 1,000 words, Group 2: College aged young adults, a minimum of 2,000 words.

NEWSLETTER COMPETITION

Entries are invited from all Jain organizations for the newsletter competition. For the competition, please select a newsletter that has been published within the last six months. Only one entry is allowed per organization. The newsletter will be judged for its content, presentation and effectiveness in promoting Jainism. The deadline for submitting newsletters May 16, 1997. All entries should be mailed to: Harish C. Jain, 67 Flatt Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario, L8P 4N2, Canada, phone : 905/525-5651, or to his e-mail address at: JAINHAR@MCMASTER.CA

JAIN YOUTH ACADEMIC BOWL

Back by popular demand, will be the 3rd Jain Academic Bowl. All Jain young people are invited to participate in this event. The rules for the competition are: each team must consist of four members; the maximum age of any team member is 21. For those centers with a serious interest in participating in this event an information packet, registration form, requirements, and sample questions is available. The official registration must be completely filled out in order to confirm your registration. Details are available by contacting: Saurabh Dalal, 9001 Good Luck Rd., Lanham, MD 20706, phone: 301/577-5215 or e-mail dalal@kcilink.com or Tejas Doshi, 301/840-9352 or e-mail tkdoshi@glue.umd.edu

HIGHLIGHTS OF TORONTO

Toronto is Canada's most cosmopolitan, vibrant and exciting city. Winning the United Nation's survey Second-Best City to live in, in the world.

NIAGARA FALLS - the eighth wonder of the world. Only 90 miles away with world class hotels and a new casino.

C. N. TOWER - the world's tallest tower with an observation deck and a revolving restaurant.

SKYDOME - the home of Toronto Blue Jays, Raptors and Argonauts indoor sports arena with retractable roof.

ONTARIO PLACE - a family entertainment complex built on three man made islands, with a 80' screen IMAX theatre.

DOWNTOWN TORONTO - roam on Yonge Street humming with activities day and night.

EATON CENTRE - in the heart of downtown a glass domed mall that stretches an entire city block. 300 + shops.

CASA LOMA, CITY HALL, HARBOUR FRONT, CANADA'S WONDERLAND, CENTRE ISLAND and many other attractions.

GERRARD INDIA BAZAAR - an Indian Bazaar with 100 shops, boutique and restaurants to please everyone.

TEMPLES GALORE - Toronto has probably the largest number of Hindu Temples in North America. In addition, to a Jain Temple there is a Sanatan Mandir with a magnificent statue of Lord Mahavira, Vishnu Mandir, Hindu Temple, Vaishnu- devi Temple, Vedic Cultural Center, Vedanta Society Center, and Tagore Center.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Special convention discount rates are available through JAYA TRAVEL AND TOURS. So please make your travel and ticket purchase arrangements through,

JAYA TRAVEL AND TOURS
24100 Southfield Rd, Suite 388
Southfield, MI 48075
phone: 810/559-5292 or 1-800/545-7788
Fax: 810/559-2076

Mumbai office:
Rizvi House
34 Hill Road
Bandra West, Mumbai 400050, India
phone: 6423031 or 6420402

ATTENTION ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

WE WANT YOU! If any of you are interested in organizing one of the following sessions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact: Paulomi Gudka at her e-mail address p.gudka@utoronto.ca or phone: 416/299-3627, or Fax: 416/299-9999.

- Jain Education in North America
- Jain Theory of Karma
- Arranged or Interracial, Marriage and Dating
- Sexism in Jainism
- Relevance of Jain Rituals
- Case Against Milk
- Environment and Jain Principles
- Health and Diet
- Cooking Seminar: Macaroni and Beyond
- *Business Ethics Seminar*
- Historical Aspects of Jainism
- Jain Applications
- Activism in Jainism
- Modern Science and Jainism
- The Relationship between Jain Practice
Traditional Beliefs and Modern Science
- Jainism as a Spiritual Philosophy vs.
Jainism as a Religion
- Anekantvad situations
- Break throughs in non-traditional careers

*"Forgiveness is the key that unlocks the door of
resentment and the handcuffs of hate.
It is a power that breaks the chains of bitterness
and the shackles of selfishness."*

*"Truth is something which must be known
with the mind,
accepted with the heart and enacted in life."*

REGISTRATION FORM

9th Biennial JAINA Convention
July, 4 - 6, 1997
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Name _____
Profession _____ Business _____
Spouse _____
Profession _____ Business _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: () _____ Business () _____
Fax: () _____ E-mail _____

Names of children/young adults who will be attending the convention:

1 _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Education _____
2 _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Education _____
3 _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Education _____
Other members _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Education _____

Arrival Date _____ Arrival Time _____ Departure Date _____ Departure Time _____

I will be willing to help with _____ during/ before the convention.

Your registration fee includes all convention facilities, most meals and snacks and souvenir magazine.

	Early Bird Special	After May 1st
Family of 4	\$100 US	\$125 US
Family of 3	\$100 US	\$125 US
Additional family member	\$ 25 US	\$ 25 US
Couple	\$ 75 US	\$100 US
Single	\$ 50 US	\$ 50 US

All the organizers, officers, employees, volunteers and agents of JAINA '97 Convention shall not be responsible for any claims and costs arising from any injury, loss or damage, however caused.

Enclosed please find my:

Registration fee _____

Sponsorship/Donation _____

Advertisement Charges _____

Total amount enclosed _____

Please mail your check payable to:

JAINA
P. O. Box 310
19-2555 Victoria Park Avenue
Scarborough, Ontario, M1T 1A3
Canada
phone: 416/493-1666

Upon receipt of your completed Registration Form and payment, a confirmation letter will be mailed to you with a schedule of events.

YOUNG ADULTS, over 21

The JAINA Convention will be held from July 4 - 6, 1997. One of the many events which will be organized for the young adult attendees is a Personal Networking Session. In order for this to be an effective, enjoyable event, we need information from you. This session will be geared for young adults.

- I would be interested in attending a Personal Networking Session yes no (circle one)
- My reason(s) for attending this kind of session is:
 - _____ to meet new people
 - _____ to make a career or professional contacts
 - _____ to meet a potential life partner
 - _____ other _____

To organize a session that best suits your needs, please fill out the following information.

Name: _____

Last First

Address: _____

Gender: male female Date of Birth: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Education: Degree _____ Profession: _____

Marital Status: single married. If married indicate the name of your spouse: _____

Please indicate your permanent address/family address is different from above:

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Please indicate the type of session you would like to see happen:

- ☐ an non-structured social gathering
- ☐ a round robin meeting
- ☐ giving each person a chance to do a self-introduction
- ☐ other suggestions: _____

We will determine the type of session by your response. Please return this form by April 15, 1997. We will contact you with detailed information in May. Send all forms to: JAINA Youth Social Committee, Bhadra Kothari, 3956 Glamis Court, Mississauga, Ontario, L5L 3N5, Canada 905-820-0659 or send them by the YJA web site at: www.yale.edu/yja

Young Minds

Federation of Jain Associations in North America
A Non-Profit Tax Exempt Religious Organization. IRS Code Section 501 (c)(3) EI #54-1280028
yja@joyce.eng.yale.edu • <http://www.yale.edu/yja>

JAINA '97 Hits Toronto

JAINA '97 promises to be an entirely new experience for young people. The upcoming JAINA conference, will be held in Toronto, Canada from July 4th-7th, will feature a variety of youth activities that promises to make it an enlightening experience for those in attendance. The conference is important to Jain youths in North America, since it presents the opportunity for sharpening religious and cultural awareness.

Preparations for the conference are under way in Toronto. Several events are planned for young people during the three days in July. The events encompass the many different areas of interest; social, academic, religious and cultural. Planning within these categories is focused so that young people will develop new friendships, and further their understanding of the Jain religion. Events already being planned strictly for young peoples include a social night (boat cruise, or dinner and dance), a raas-garba, discussion groups, guest speakers, and hands on cooking and meditation sessions.

These events be great fun, and they will provide an outstanding opportunity for young people from all over North America to meet each other and make lasting friendships. The discussion groups will provide the chance to look at controversial topics from a Jain perspective; issues such as hypocrisies in Jainism, Jainism and business ethics, East meets West (a cultural clash). These discussion groups will provide insight into the uniqueness of Jainism. They will provide a forum for young people to talk openly about their feelings towards Jainism, without adult pressures.

JAINA '97 will be an exciting and invigorating experience for everyone. We encourage you to come and take advantage of the vast efforts being made to have a spectacular conference for everyone. Youth registration forms will be arriving in the mail and at your Jain Centers. Registration for young people is free, provided that their families have registered. Hope to see you in July!!!

YJA Accepting Bids for '98 YJA Convention

Once again it is time to prepare for the Young Jains of America Biennial Convention 1998. YJA is looking for enthusiastic and vibrant cities to bid to host the 1998 Young Jains of America Convention. The YJA Convention '98 will be held from July 2 - 5, 1998.

The Invitation to Bid will be available to interested cities by March 1, 1997. Bids must be received by YJA executive board members no later than August 1, 1997. Attention to detail and professionalism in the completed applications will be key in the selection of the convention city. After careful review by the YJA Executive Board members, the most eligible city will be announced September 30, 1997.

There are stringent guidelines and prerequisites for hosting the Convention '98 which YJA will provide. High standards and a strong work ethic are necessities for the host Convention Committee. Detailed guidelines for various aspects of hosting the Convention (i.e., programming, site, finances, registration, public relations) are addressed.

Policies and the relationship between the Convention Committee and the YJA Executive Board are described in the bid application. These points should be thoroughly read by every city interested in submitting a bid application.

Convention '94 and '96 host cities were quite impressive and with YJA produced a highly educational and enjoyable experiences for all participants attending. The past two YJA Conventions have been huge successes and YJA expects nothing less for the 1998 Convention .

Upon receiving the bid applications, the YJA Executive Board will review each application. The city will be evaluated on a point scale system in the areas of youth support, budget, site, adult support, and additional information. Therefore each city will not be competing against each other, but rather attempting to score the highest number of points possible. The YJA Executive Board looks forward to seeing several high caliber bid applications. Please feel free to call anyone on the YJA Executive Board with your questions and concerns.

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.

YJA Holds Executive Board Meeting

YJA held an executive board meeting in Dallas, Texas the weekend of January 31, 1997. In addition to meeting new faces and seeing old friends, the thirteen board members succeeded in having a productive meeting, resulting in new projects and the enhancement of old ideas.

YJA has taken on another worthwhile project; the sale of keychains depicting the Jain Om symbol. In addition, the board is selling books in English that detail Jain philosophy. These books and videos depicting cruelty to sacred animals will be available at the JAINA convention this summer in Toronto.

YJA continues its Foster Focus and People to People program through which cities either take on local service projects or involve their community as an aide to the national organization. New ideas for Foster Focus projects have been developed, including the encouragement of school boards to include a vegetarian meal plan, creating local speaker sessions about animal rights, and institute a pen pal system across North America.

The executive board held elections. The following officers were elected: Ravi Gada and Raju Shah, Co-chairs; Jill Shah, Finance; Anish Sheth, Fundraising; Kavita Jhaveri, Events; Gaurav Kapadia, Public Relations; Dina Mehta, Records; Shilpa Shah, Membership.

Lastly, YJA has formulated the bid application for cities interested in hosting YJA's biennial convention during the summer of 1998. If interested, please contact any of the board members. Hope to see everybody at the JAINA convention this summer in Toronto!

Young Jains Honor Gurudev Chitrabhanuji

Gurudev Chitrabhanuji has spent his life spreading Jainism around the world. He has always paid special attention to bringing Jain Philosophy to young people in a way that they can grasp. Therefore, the Jain Youth Association of New York (JYA) chose the 25th Anniversary of Gurudev Chitrabhanuji's arrival in America to be the most appropriate time to recognize his contribution in educating today's youth. They decided to hold an essay competition by focusing on his book. The competition Gurudev Chitrabhanuji: Jain Wisdom for the Youth.

The adult advisors of JYA, Panna Shah and Chhaya Kapadia formulated the essay rules and criteria with the help of Balbhadra Bruce Costain who has a doctorate degree in Jainism and has practiced Jainism for many years. JAINA president Manibhai Mehta enthusiastically made it an JAINA event. Panna Shah and Devendra Peer sponsored this event.

The guidelines for this contest were very demanding. They required the contestants to enhance their knowledge about Gurudev Chitrabhanuji's influence in the United States. The contestants were required to read several of Gurudev Chitrabhanuji's books, and then write a formal paper on them.

The competition was open to all throughout the USA. While essay writing is a tough challenge, several motivated youth enthusiastically took part in this event. The competition was judged by Balbhadra Bruce Costain, Neela Shah and Girish B. Shah. The winners will be awarded their prizes at the JAINA convention in July '97.

JAINA '97

Essay Competition Winners

If you would like to volunteers, facilitate discussion groups, or be an academic panel members, or if your youth community would like to hold an event in Toronto (i.e. discussion, art show, cultural program), please contact:

E-Mail: <oznog@pathcom.com>

or Mail to: Hemant Shah
28 Carmel Ct.
North York, ON
M2M 4B4
Canada

If you have internet access, please visit the JAINA '97 website at:
www.yja.edu/yja/events/convention/97convention.html

Ages 7-10

1st Place - Jimit Shah
2nd Place - Ashnoo Nanavati

Ages 11-14

1st Place - Kanan Kapadia
2nd Place - Shalin Shah
3rd Place - Amit Shah & Ridhi Shah

Ages 15-18

1st Place - Saumil Mukhatyar
2nd Place - Gaurav Kapadia
3rd Place - Sapan Mukhatyar

Mid-Atlantic Region Holds First Meeting

On November 23, 1996 the first meeting of the Young Jains of the Mid-Atlantic took place in Long Island, NY. This group, named MAR (Mid-Atlantic Region), is a group whose birth was the result of the need to unify the Jain youth of the region, is under the auspices of the Young Jains of America. At this first exciting meeting ideas were exchanged amongst the attendees and concrete goals were set.

Three major means by which MAR will go about its mission to unify and motivate Jain youth in the Mid-Atlantic Region are via the publication of a regional newsletter, a Web Page, and the organizing of a regional convention some time in 1997. In addition to carrying information about Jain activities and announcements in the region, the newsletter, will also be a collection of editorial essays on contemporary topic such as the death penalty.

The creation of a Web Page will allow us to take advantage of an inexpensive and efficient way of transmitting information to our members; the internet. With a growing number of our members having access to the internet, it would be advantageous to all of us if we took advantage of this innovative medium.

The MAR regional convention is a major undertaking and will allow young people to interact with their fellow Jain youth on a regional level, thereby strengthening the existing network. This is an exciting time for the Jain youth of the Mid-Atlantic Region and we would love for everyone to get involved!

With many lofty goals set, MAR needs the support of the youth in the region in order to make these goals come to life. Getting involved with an organization such as MAR will allow you to develop many transferable skills, such as leadership and organizational skills. You will also have the satisfaction of helping your community grow, and you will make many long lasting bonds of friendship with young Jains in your region.

If you are interested in getting involved with YJA leadership on the regional or local levels, please contact one of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinators.

Gaurav Kapadia:(516) 829-3316
Anish Sheth:(401) 863-4987

Foster Focus

Foster Focus is a project that was established in 1995. This project was set up to foster and nourish local youth groups nationwide, increase networking and interaction among Jain youth nationwide, and prepare and develop the Jain leaders of tomorrow.

This Year there are several projects that will be undertaken:

- University of Illinois - is setting up a nationwide display of youth presentations at the JAINA convention in Toronto. They are also making a Young Jains of America quilt.
- We are setting up Pen pals across the country. This is a program where anyone can write their interests and hobbies and then we will match you up with a pen pal. You will write to this person up until the JAINA Convention in Toronto you will meet them.
- Oklahoma City - will be collecting pictures from all the center across the nation and creating a Scrapbook. Tulsa will be fostering them in this task since they have put one together before.
- We are trying to find a city that can make decorative cards or postcards for certain Jain holidays.

There is another division under Foster Focus called People to People. People to People is geared towards small centers that are willing to help out the community by making a project and presenting it to their local society. This helps get the youth together and working on a common project to help the community and also help them become motivated as a center.

There are 4-cities participated right now in this project:

- The Jain Youth Group of British Columbia, Toledo and Columbus - which will bake cookies and bring gifts to a nursing home.
 - Seattle - Collected gifts during Christmas and donated them to the local shelter.
- San Francisco - will also be participating in this project at a later date.

If you or your youth group would like to participate in any of these activities, or have any questions, please contact:

Kavita Jhaveri:(513) 984-1477

YJA Executive Board

Chairpersons

Ravi Gada
Raju Shah

Regional Coordinators

Mid Atlantic
Gaurav Kapadia
(516) 829-3316
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moshmtree@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu

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Shilpa Shah
(770) 498-7548
shahshilpa@aol.com

West
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(213) 937-4153
kjain@troygould.com

Mamta Jain
(714) 633-3609
mamtaj@aol.com

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Raju Shah
(203) 436-1338
shah@zoo.cs.yale.edu

Jill Shah
(918) 251-3597
jill-shah@utulsa.edu

Anish Makim
(519) 884-6449
maki2660@mach1.wlu.ca

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

Regional



Updates

Jain Group of Montgomery

The Jain Youth participated in their annual Diwali Show. Several young people took part in musical songs and dances. They also held a night of music and bhajans shared by everyone.

Jain Society of Southern Florida

The youth group of South Florida has started a project in which they are raising money for an organization called Children International. This organization helps provide schooling for children in third world nations, including India. They have raised over \$700, which will go to help school and clothe needy children in Calcutta. For Christmas, they conducted a toy drive for a handicapped children's home and visited the shelter to play with the children.

NORTHEAST

Jain Society of Toronto

The youth of Toronto are quite busy planning various youth activities for the upcoming JAINA convention. Balbadhraj is teaching a Pathshala class every other Sunday to young people ages six through twenty-five.

Montreal

The main event going on in Montreal is that they are preparing an event or ceremony that will be filmed for TV in Quebec. Radio Canada, is going to film a segment on Jainism.

MID-ATLANTIC

Jain Center of Connecticut-Brookfield

The Jain youth are busy trying to strengthen their youth organization and plan many activities for the future. Currently, they are working on improving their Pathshala classes. For more information contact Neemit Shah: 203/375-1699.

Jain Group of Central Jersey and The Jain Youth Association New York

The youth of the New Jersey and New York area came together and held a charity fund-raiser/party last November for their local groups. The party turned out to be a huge success. About 200 young people attended.

Jain Center of Metro Washington

The Washington area youth have been holding biweekly Pathshala classes, geared toward young people between the ages of 8 and 21. For more information contact Archana Shah.

Jain Center of Allentown:

The Jain youth performed dances in the Center's Diwali program. The youth put on the show in conjunction with other Hindu and Sikh young people who all share the same religious center. The Jain youth have also been taking an active role in monthly poojas.

Jain Center of Greater Boston

The youth have been tirelessly working on a petition to McDonald's, Inc. in effort to get an increase in vegetarian selections on the menu. The initiators of this petition are scheduled to meet with the Chairman of McDonald's, Inc. this summer. Pathshala classes, levels 1-4, are being conducted on a regular basis with the youngest children showing great eagerness to learn about Jainism. Other projects that the very active youth of Greater Boston have undertaken include the publishing of a Jain directory and the construction of a Greater Boston Jain youth home page.

SOUTH

Jain Society of Houston

Over 200 people gathered at the Jain Center of Houston this Thanksgiving holiday to discuss and learn about Jainism. The convention's theme, Days of Our Lives: Modernizing Jainism, describes the goals of the lectures and discussions programmed for the convention. Instead of simply presenting Jain ideology and concepts, the convention reviewed modern issues with a Jain outlook. The convention addressed issues that affect people in their day-to-day life. The participants took home information to help transform their daily habits to be more ahimsik, more healthy and more Jain.

Jain Society of North Texas

The group organized a news show with anchors Manish Mehta and Mehul Shah telling the entire audience various stories. There was a lecture by a Jain dignitary, thirteen year old Sudeep Shah, explaining the significance of Diwali. Other stories explained the historical celebration of Diwali and the difference of Diwali in Jainism and Hinduism. The group began classes the first weekend in January.

Regional



Updates

MIDWEST

Jain Center of Cincinnati-Dayton

Last Christmas the youth put together a party for the youth with a D.J. and food and drinks. In February they conducted a pooja in english. In March they are planning to have a formal Dinner that they will cook as a fund-raiser for future activities.

Jain Center of St. Louis, MI

The Jain Center of St. Louis has recently started an official pathshala class that has been going well. For Nirvana Day they put together a skit about the Jain Karma Theory.

Jain Society of Greater Detroit

JOY (Jain Organization of Youth) now has a total of 75 active youth members. They had a General Body Meeting where they went bowling and then discussed tentative events for the upcoming months.

Jain Center of Minnesota

The Jain Center of Minnesota celebrated Ahimsa Day on September. 29, 1996. Amit Shah and Moan Shah spoke to an audience of over two hundred people about how we can practice nonviolence in our lives.

Jain Center of Chicago

The Jain Center of Chicago has begun plans for a Fun/Health Fair in May.

WEST

Jain Center of Southern California

Jain Association of Young Adults (JAYA) just held a party to raise funds for their youth group. Over 100 people were in attendance at the dinner and dance event. In addition, young Jains are coordinating a program for Mahavir Jayanti.

Jain Center of Northern California

The next big program will be Mahavir Jayanti, where young people will be presenting skits and dancing to bhajans. In addition, every week meditation classes are held for the youth.

Jain Youth Group of Las Vegas

During Christmas time, the Jain community organized a food and clothing drive. The entire community actively participated in raising large amounts of clothes and food, which was donated to the Boys and Girls Club of America.

Jain Group of Seattle

The Jain youth group of Seattle had each family bring one wrapped gift to be donated to an orphanage and canned food to be donated to a shelter for Christmas.

SOUTHEAST

Jain Study Group of Charlotte

The Jains of Charlotte have been having their monthly meetings, including a Children's program, which is dedicated to younger children. In February, they held a gathering and discussed Jainism with Pravin Shah from Raleigh, NC.

Jain Society of Fort Meyers

Smeet Mehta has started Pathshala classes in neighboring cities for children from the ages of 4-12. Traveling from West Palm Beach to Orlando, Smeet teaches these young people basic mantras and Jain principals and stories.

Jain Society of Greater Atlanta

The Atlanta Jain youth participated in the annual United Indian Students Association Diwali Program. Pathshala classes, taught by Virbala Jain, are going strong .

YJA KEYCHAINS

YJA has printed keychains depicting the Jain Om. These Keychains are a great way to show your support for YJA. If you would like to Purchase them, or sell them in your area, please contact your Regional Coordinator.

Call For Papers

Young Jains of America is looking for articles for it next Young Minds. It is our goal to incorporate articles that are more pertinent to the implication of Jainism in our lives. We would also like to incorporate Jain views on controversial topics. If you would like to contribute an article please contact Gaurav Kapadia: GauravK@aol.com, or Mamta Jain: Mamtaj@aol.com

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

yja-excom-list@pantheon.yale.edu
This will go to the Executive Board of YJA

yja-ad-list@pantheon.yale.edu
Will go to YJA's Advisory Board

yja-cc-list@pantheon.yale.edu
Will go to the Co-Chairs of YJA

yja-gc-list@pantheon.yale.edu
Will go 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-we-list@pantheon.yale.edu
yja-so-list@pantheon.yale.edu

This will go to the Regional Coordinators and Local Representatives of the specified regions

Young Jains of America Membership Form

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.

If you would like to become a member of YJA, please fill out the following form and send it to:
Shilpa Shah at 2708 Tree Mountain Pkwy. Stone Mountain, GA 30083, USA.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Init: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone:() - E-mail: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Local Jain Center: _____

Educational/Professional Information:

Check One: ☐ High-School ☐ Undergraduate College ☐ Post-Graduate College ☐ Working

School Name: _____ Class Of (mm/yy): _____ Area of Study: _____

Employer/Company: _____ Position: _____

Optional:

If you wish to make a donation, please include check payable to YJA: ☐ \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ other \$ _____

Please check if applicable: ☐ I do not want any of this information published by YJA in any manner.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

MATRIMONIALS

Hasmukh Shab, Associate Editor

MALE

M533: Gujarati parents invite responses for US born, vegetarian, very handsome, talented son, October '71, 6'2", 155 lbs, B.S. (Molec Biology), M.B.A. '97, from cultured, educated girls having strong family values. Call: 414/351-3815.

M534: Alliance invited for intelligent, handsome, vegetarian boy, born May, '70, 5'5", 150 lbs, M. S. 2nd yr. D.M.D. student, D.M.D. '99, from cultured, well educated professional girls. Call: 860/232-6207.

M535: Responses invited for professional vegetarian, handsome, Gujarati Jain, Divorcee (no issue), born January, '61, 5'6", 140 lbs, M.S. (Comp Sc), owns software consulting firm, from cultured, educated, vegetarian match. Please send biodata/returnable photo. Call: 203/775-1906.

M538: Gujarati parents invite responses for their handsome, talented, vegetarian, ambitious, professional, US citizen son, born May, '69, 5'4", 130 lbs, M.S. (EE) well employed in NJ, enjoys travelling, sports, from suitable match. Call: 516/248-8265.

M539: Responses invited for handsome, vegetarian boy, born December, '68, 5'7", 140 lbs, M.D. (Bombay University), from cultured educated girls. He is currently in Mumbai (Bombay), India and willing to settle in North America. Call: 416/699-9213.

M540: Hindi speaking parents invite proposals for their handsome, vegetarian, intelligent, son, born August, '67, 5'8", 156 lbs, M.D. (surgery), doing residency, from cultured professional girls, preferably M.D. Call: 705/474-5259.

AM186: Uncle invites responses for handsome, fair, intelligent, Gujarati nephew in Washington, DC, born June, '68, 5'6", 140 lbs, B.A., M.B.A. (Intl Fin), Economic consultant to world bank, from cultured, professional girls. Call: 304/255-1641.

AM187: Jain parents invite responses for their very handsome, vegetarian, US raised son, born February, '72, 6'0", M.D. '97, from beautiful, vegetarian, pretty, well educated girls. Call: 612/559-1061.

AM188: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for their handsome, son, born June, '70, 5'11", Canadian trained M.D., currently doing residency. Please send biodata/returnable photo. Call: 905/646-2304.

M01D: Alliance invited for accomplished, handsome, vegetarian, Computer-Professional son, early 30's, from compatible girls between 27-32 age, 5'2" to 5'7". Call: 905/828-6976.

M02D: Gujarati parents invite responses for their very handsome, fair, talented, vegetarian, active son, born January, '70, 5'11", 145 lbs, M.B.A. graduate, well employed, from cultured, beautiful, educated girls. Call: 615/9535.

M03D: Marwari parents invite responses from Marwari, Hindi, Gujarati Jain vegetarian good natured girls, for their handsome, athletic, intelligent, US born son, October, '73, 6'3", 165 lbs, M.D. '97. Call: 816/333-7717.

FEMALE

F324: Gujarati surgeon invites correspondence from highly educated professionals for his daughter, born November, '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.

F536: Gujarati physician parents from California, invite correspondence from professional boys, preferably M.D. or dentist, for their beautiful, slim, talented, US raised, vegetarian daughter, born January, '70, 5'7", 130 lbs, M.D., doing residency. Call: 213/258-3528.

F537: Alliance invited for Gujarati, pretty, intelligent, good looking, slim, vegetarian girl, born August, '71, 5'4", 100 lbs, M.D., employed as general practitioner, from professional, cultured boys. Call: 609/722-1982.

F358: Gujarati parents from NM, invite responses from professionals, for their attractive, intelligent, vegetarian, US born daughter, October, '71, 5'4", 125 lbs, B.A. (Eco), presently employed in NJ as an analyst. Call: 612/425-0016.

F541: Responses invited for intelligent, attractive, vegetarian, cultured, outgoing, ambitious girl, born January, '74, 4'11" 90 lbs, M.S. (Chemical Eng.), from cultured professionals. Call: 904/673-8050.

F542: Gujarati parents invite proposals with biodata/photo for their talented, artistic, well educated, cultured vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born October, '73, 5'5", B.A. from suitable match. Call: 718/897-6862.

F543: Gujarati parents invite correspondence from well educated, cultured, professionals, for their US born daughter, November '75, 5'4" 115 lbs, B.S. (Public Relations), pursuing a J.D. She visits India on a regular basis. Call: 904/673-8050.

AF171: Gujarati physician invites responses for his very beautiful, fair, talented, US raised daughter, born February, '72, 5'5", M.D. (98), from professional Gujarati boys, preferably M.D. Call: 419/868-7476.

AF189: Gujarati brother invites responses for his beautiful, slim, vegetarian sister (innocently divorced, no issue), born June, '65, 5'5", 100 lbs, B.S., well employed, from suitable cultured boys having good family values. Call: 718/997-0786.

continued on page 26

This is How It Works

Congratulations!!

JAINA would like to congratulate all couples who 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 are the qualities that make for human perfection. Our world is shrinking and we are a global village and life is not always easy. However, we can carry our philosophy and our value system that is very worth while, with us. Accept the challenge and make your choice be a worth while one.

Placing an Ad and Registration with us

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

• Fill Out

the Registration Form found on pages 27 and 28. 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 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 envelope 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.

MIS, continued from page 25

AF190: Gujarati family invites correspondence from Gujarati Jain Vegetarian professionals for their beautiful, slim, Mumbai (Bombay) born/raised, US Citizen daughter, 23, 5'0", B. S. (Computer Sc.), employed in Dallas, TX. Call: 316/683-2109.

F04D: Parents invite correspondence for slim, pretty, witty, fair, vegetarian, M.B.A. daughter, from well rounded, cultured, professionals between 27-33 and 5'7" - 5'11". Call: 905/828-6976.

F05D: Gujarati parents invite responses for their talented, fair, attractive, vegetarian daughter, B. Sc. (Micro), M. L. T., born November, '71, 5'1", from professional, intelligent, cultured, vegetarian boys. Call: 905/848-0903.

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.

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 a 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 and assist them in making a final decision.

If you wish to receive the Jain Digest, please fill out the subscription envelope that is appears in the centerfold.

Marriage Information Service
Registration Form - page 1
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) _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Are you a vegetarian? yes no Do you smoke? yes no Do you drink? yes no

Have you been married before? yes no
If yes, indicate the name of your divorced spouse. _____

What is your Visa status in the USA/Canada? _____ When did you enter the USA/Canada? _____
month/year

What languages do you speak? _____ What is your religion. _____

What languages do you read? _____

What languages do you write? _____

Education: _____
Degree Year received Major Name of University

Work experience: _____
Company's name Position Duration

Father's Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Brother(s) and/or Sister(s) _____
Name(s) Age(s) Education Occupation

Do you have other relatives living in the North America? _____
Name Relationship Occupation Address

Other relevant information(use additional paper if necessary): _____

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 - page 2
Federation of Jain Associations In North America

1. Two references who are members of the Jain Community or other Indian organizations.

A. Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Member of: _____

Organization's Name

B. Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Member of: _____

Organization's Name

2. Indicate your personal preference of these criteria for the match.

Age: Between the ages of _____ and _____ or open.

Height: Between the height of _____ and _____ or open.

Weight: Between the weight of _____ and _____ or open.

Education: Bachelor _____ Masters Degree _____ Other _____

Major: _____

Vegetarian: yes no **Work experience:** yes no

Residence: (state) _____ **Visa Status:** _____

Length of time in North America: _____ years.

Language: English yes no not important, Other (specify): _____

Color of skin: light wheat open

3. Photograph: Attach a recent, full-length photograph of yourself with your name printed on the back. Please note: no photographs will be exchanged while matching is taking place.

With best compliments to JAINA

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

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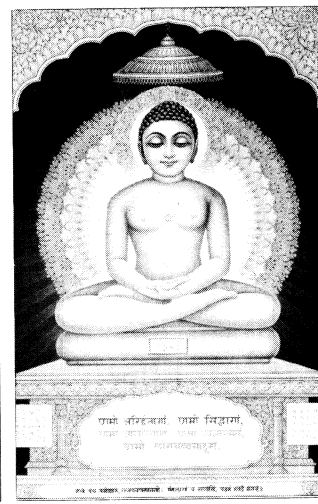
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NEW YORK CITY, NY 10003
(212) 505-9640**



Tirthankar Parsavnath

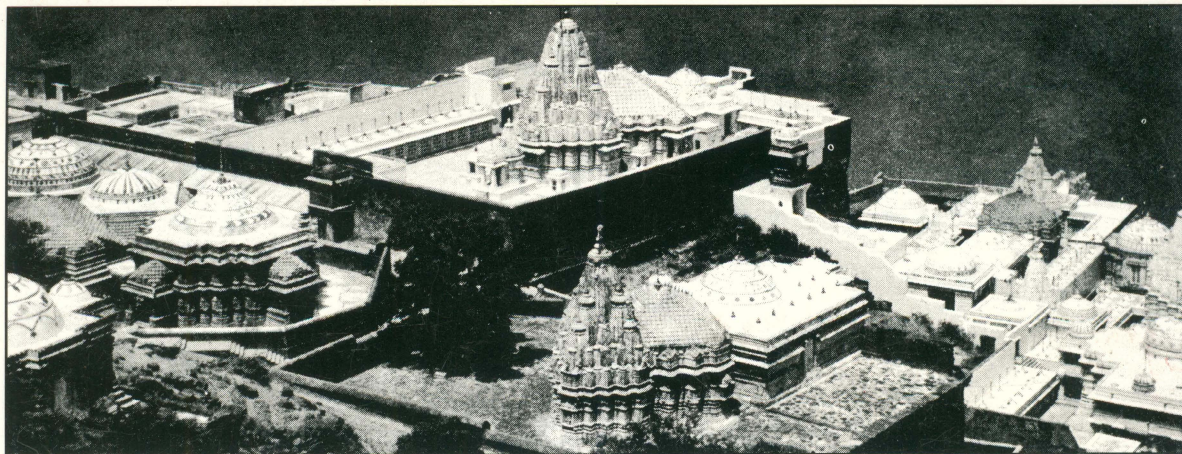


Jain temple format



Tirthankar Mahavir

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Girnar Hills Jain Temples

**24100 SOUTHFIELD ROAD
SUITE 388
SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN 48075
USA**

TELEPHONE:

(810) 559-5292 (9 to 5)

(810) 559-2076 (FAX)

1-800-545-7788

**RIZVI HOUSE
34 HILL ROAD
BANDRA (W) BOMBAY 400050
INDIA**

TELEPHONE:

6420402

6436421 (FAX)

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