

The Magazine of the Federation of Jain Associations in North America

JAIN DIGEST

SUMMER 1998

VOLUME 14, NO. 2



Temples *in the* Making



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PAGE 15: Pathshala Teachers' Conference a Grand Success!

Detroit Pratishtha: June 27 — July 6, 1998
VJA Convention: Houston, TX — July 2-5, 1998

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URGENT APPEAL TO ALL JAINS

News of the devastating cyclone that hit Kutch and Saurashtra must have reached you by now. This is the time for all of us, the steadfast followers of "JIVDAYA" to rush to the aid of our brothers that are facing starvation, shortage of drinking water and threats of epidemics like Cholera.

World Community Service of JAINA, a service arm of federation of JAINA has launched 'Cyclone Relief Fund' to raise funds to help the victims of midnight cyclone that ripped through the coastal towns on June 8 killing more than 1,000 people, injuring thousands and leaving hundred thousand homeless. Final toll may exceed 5,000 according to Mr. Suresh Shah, editor of "Kutch Mitra" newspaper.

The calamity unexpectedly and without warning from meteorologists struck in the form of 120Km (75 mph) winds that caused torrential rains, uprooted electric poles and flooded highways. Most of the casualties of the storm were salt workers or employees of the port at Kandala, 330 miles northwest of Bombay. The government based its death toll on the number of bodies recovered. But thousands of migrant workers were working at the salt pans when cyclone struck. 25-foot tidal wave hit the coast smashing mud-and-thatch huts, blowing away aluminum roofs and made drinking water unsafe. Price of bottled water rose from 10 to 50 Rupees in a region where most workers earn less than 40 Rupees a day. More than 7,000 people are being treated in hospitals for dehydration and other ailments, including injuries from collapsing trees, electricity poles, walls and tin sheets ripped off from roofs.

The survivors in relief camps urgently need the basic necessities like water, food, clothes, shelter and medical supplies. JAINA is working with Bidda Sarvodaya Trust and Saurashtra Nidhi Relief fund to assist the victims. Co-Chairman of World Community Service, Mr. Prakash Mehta has already left for India immediately to assess the damage and needs first hand. JAINA's used clothes warehouse in Bombay is arranging shipment of used clothes to affected area. W.C.S. of JAINA has contributed \$1,000 as well as \$500 each from President of JAINA, Dr. Dhiraj Shah, Secretary of JAINA Dilip V. Shah, Chairman of W.C.S., Mr. Bachubhai Ajmera and co-chairman Bhadresh Dhila have been received.

As a Jain, it is our greatest moral obligation to respond to the needs of helpless victims in this tragedy. Your contribution will make a remarkable difference in the lives of these victims.

Please send your tax-deductible contribution, payable to "JAINA" in USA and mail to: Bachubhai Ajmera, 1502 Univ. Blvd., Langley Park, MD 20783. Canadian residents can send their contribution to Shri S. S. Jain Foundation, 276 Carlaw Avenue, Unit 200, Toronto, Ont M4M 3L1.

This page has been brought to you through generous donation from:

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JAINA Goes to Shikharji

From the rippling shores of the Indian Ocean to the shining peaks of the Himalayas, from the desert of Kutch to the fertile fields of Brahmaputra, lies our vast motherland Bharat. In the Northeast corner of Bharat lies the state of Bihar (Magadha), heart and soul of Jainism where most of our Tirthankaras spent their lives. Most of the ancient sites of pilgrimage are located in that state. The first and foremost among them is Samet Shikharji (also known as Parshwanath hills among locals), located about 4500 feet above sea level. Jains consider Samet Shikharji as their most sacred place of pilgrimage and hold a lifelong dream of being there at least once. Samet Shikharji is where 20 Tirthankaras, out of 24 attained salvation (Nirvana). There are beautiful temples and charanpadukas (representing the footprints of the Tirthankaras).

Traveling through Bihar has always been considered a difficult endeavor and *sangh yatra* is the only real choice for most people. For those of us living in North America, this is the first opportunity to join a sangh organized from this land to Samet Shikharji and other nearby Tirths. In observance of its 25th anniversary, Veerayatan has offered to be our host in India for this Yatra. Once we land in Bihar via New Delhi, Veerayatan will organize and assist our sangh in everyway possible. We will join them in their 25th anniversary celebration which will be graced by the Chief Minister of Bihar, the Prime Minister of India, and many other prominent Jains from all around the world. A delegation of 75 Jains from the U.K and 50 Jains from Africa is also expected. Pilgrims will have the opportunity to meet the Prime Minister of India and many other dignitaries.

We will also be visiting Pavapuri (Nirvana place of Mahavirswami), Kundalpur (*charan paduka* of Gautamswami), Rajgiri (a place where Lord Mahavir spent 14 *chaturmas*), Nalanda University (founded in 5th century B.C.), Gunayaji (Gautamswami attained Kevalgnan here), Rujubaluka river (Mahavirswami attained Kevalgnan here), and Bodhgaya (where Lord Buddha attained enlightenment). Many of us have dreamt about visiting all of these places of pilgrimage but never had the opportunity. Now your own organization, JAINA provides you with the opportunity to fulfill a dream of your lifetime.

Like many milestones in the short history of JAINA, this will be another one. By now I am sure you must have received a brochure describing this tirthyatra. Let us visit the land where our faith took birth and grew in strength—a land that introduced a profound religious thinking based on Ahimsa, Anekantvad, Aparigraha and Anukampa, a land that may still show the way in this chaotic world of today.

Jai Jinendra!



Dhiraj Shah

For more information on this pilgrimage, please see pages 6 and 7.

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for administrative purposes. It is sent to all member
organizations and committee members of JAINA. All
news items for publication in the JAINA Focus must be
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR OF JAIN DIGEST

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, Lata Champsee. We endeavor to publish all letters, space permitting. The JAIN
DIGEST reserves the right to edit all material for clarity and/or space. All letters must include the sender's name, address and
phone number to be considered for publication.

Jai Jinendra!

We have been publishing series of pictures in Jain Digest in order to put names to faces. In past issues we published pictures of JAINA Executive Committee members, JAINA Committee Chairpersons etc. This issue covers all 84 Directors of JAINA representing all 54 Jain Societies of North America. As you know, no organization can function without dedication and sacrifice of its Board members or executive committee members. Everyone of them has been putting utmost efforts, by not only giving their time but also paying for out of pocket expenses. Our hats off to them!

The demographics of Jains in North America are changing and so are our needs. This is the era of building temples. Next phase could be of building homes for seniors, retirement/nursing homes etc. In order to focus on this topic, coming December issue of Jain digest will be special issue on *"Golden Years and its Challenges"*. We want your ideas and articles relating to religious and social activities, community housing, health maintenance, financial planning and benefits such as social security and pensions. We would like to publish useful information that specifically relates to our community. Please forward such material to me or to Vinay Vakani, Northeast regional editor, at address included on Page 2. Hope to hear from you.

Lata Champsee

Meet your Board of Directors at Large



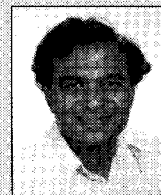
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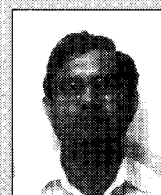
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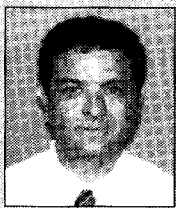
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Jain Society of Greater Atlanta Lays Temple Foundation

A highly impressive ritual studded ground breaking ceremony for an artistic Jain Center/Derasar with domes, adjoining auditorium, kitchen, dining hall, library, pathshala and accommodation for visiting guests was held by the Jain Society of Greater Atlanta on a sunny Sunday morning of April 5.

Acharya Shree Chandanaji and Shubhamji of Veerayatan Ashram in Rajgiri, Bihar, conducted the solemn, elaborate ceremony attended by over 300 members. Acharya Chandanaji said that Jainism focuses on human dignity based on non-violence in thought and deed towards all. Acharya Chandanaji was assisted by learned Abhaychandra Mehta of Houston and Mangalam Panwala from North Carolina to conduct the ceremony, which included Dwar Pooja, Kalash Pooja, Bhoomi Pooja, Nav Grah Pooja etc. The President of JAINA, Dr. Dhiraj Shah from New York, graced the colorful ceremony. Dr. Shah praised the project. He said that the Temple and the Hall would be a symbol of harmony and unification rather than destruction and dissection. Derasar will be a flagship of Jainism in the southeast U.S. and provide a pulpit to promote,

preserve and propagate Jain religion and cultural heritage. It will help solidify the Jain community and help strengthen its identity. The President of the Jain Society of Greater Atlanta, Dipak Shah, his wife Sampurnaben, Prema Gandhi, Virbala Jain and Saroj Bhavsar also helped conduct the ceremony. The secretary of the Sangh, Shirish Gandhi, gave the guests memento gifts at the end of the ceremony.

Jain community in Atlanta is very progressive. With donors like Jagdish Sheth and Dipak Shah and many more, the Jain Samaj will rally together to see the dream project become a reality. After the ceremony, Swamivatsalya was sponsored by Santosh and Sarla Kothari and Vinay and Urmila Doshi. The previous evening, the society held a Cultural program at the Centennial High School where Acharya Chandanaji and the talented youngsters presented various episodes from the life of Mahavir. Sureshbhai and Zarna Shah sponsored dinner that evening. The Vice President of the Sangh, Indubhai Bhavsar, arranged the sound system and stage decorations.

Jain Center of South Florida Performed Bhumi Pujan on May 2, 1998

The Jain Center of South Florida (JCSF) celebrated the Mahavir Jayanti and performed Bhumi Pujan on a newly acquired 3.9 acre land located in Davie, Florida, on a sunny morning of May 2, 1998. This land is located right next to a newly built South Florida Hindu Temple (SFHT) in West Broward, Florida.

This auspicious event was blessed by Gurudev Chitrabhanuji along with Sattavadhani Mahasati Subhamji. Dr. Dhiraj Shah, President of JAINA, also attended this auspicious event. More than 350 people attended the ceremony. A program book was published for the event. As part of the ceremony, Snatra Pooja was performed early in the morning at the SFHT site under the direction of Gurudev Chitrabhanuji. Most of the Jains actively participated in this pooja. As per Jain belief, Snatra pooja is a celebration of Tirthankar's birth, part of the Panch Kalyanak, and first holy birth given by the Indras, Devas and Devis on the Meru mountain. During the ceremony, they recite special mantras including Bruhad Shantimantra. During Shanti Mantra, souls from hell see light and find peace for themselves. Traditionally the holy water of Tirthankar's bath given during Shanti Kalash is sprayed on to the land to make the land holy as part of the Bhoomi pujan.

A Cultural Program prepared by 40 children was presented. The Highlight of the program was a wonderful story of our 19th Tirthankar, Bhagwan Mallinath. Mahasati Shubhamji recited the

story in detail. All the children who participated were given an award.

The members of the Building Project and Fund Raising Committee outlined the proposed Jain Center and provided the report of the fund raising activities. The proposed Jain Center will consist of Gabhara, Temple/Prayer Hall, Pathshala, Swadhayay Room, Library, Museum and a visitors room. A total of 5500-6000 square feet air conditioned built-up area is anticipated. So far over \$600,000 in pledges have been made towards the Jain Center against a goal of \$750,000.

The Bhumi pujan was performed by two families: Mrs. Bhavnaben J. Shah and Digant/Ashok Dalal family. Gurudev Chitrabhanu, Mahasati Subhamji and Dr. Dhiraj Shah, congratulated the JCSF. Dr. K. Deepika Dalal, President of JCSF thanked all the attendees, as well as members of the committees for their dedication, hard work and help in making the Jain Center project a reality.

The Jain Center will expand faster in the future because of its unique location and the warm climate of South Florida. The proposed Jain Center is targeted for completion by the year 2000. If any one wishes to make a donation for this cause, please contact Dr. Satish Shah, Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee at 954/946-4752 or Dr. K. Deepika Dalal at 954/431-5957.

JAINA Executive Committee Meets in Philadelphia

The Executive Committee of JAINA along with a few special invited guests met in Philadelphia at SAMARPAN Temple on Saturday, March 21st. Dr. Dhiraj Shah, opened the meeting with a brief description of his 2 month long trip to U.K. and India. As published in January issue of Jain Digest, he met with planners of the 2600th Birth Anniversary of Lord Mahavir and pledged that JAINA will take the leading role in the North American celebration of this worldwide event. He gave a progress report of the temple building efforts in Tulsa, Miami, Atlanta and Pratistha Mahotsav in Detroit. The Committee approved his proposal to send each of the 54 centers a multi media CD-ROM published by the Pluralism Project, Harvard University entitled "On Common Ground — World Religions in America".

Preparation for YJA Convention is well under way. 725 Youths between the ages of 14-29 are expected to attend this biennial convention. Chairperson Raju Shah briefed the committee on the planning and extended an invitation to the convention to all the

members of the JAINA executive committee. Gurudev Chitrabhanu and other scholars are the invited guests and Dr. Dhiraj Shah will also address the gathering. JAINA also recommended that the JAINA Charitable Trust should give a grant of \$5,000 to the youth conference.

A Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Bipin Parikh was appointed for long term fund raising to finance various JAINA activities. The most important presentation of the day was from the members of SAMPARNA Jain Sangh in presenting their bid for the 10th JAINA Convention. The Executive Committee of JAINA and special invited guests (including 3 past Presidents of JAINA), unanimously approved a resolution to hold the '99 JAINA Convention in Philadelphia.

Next morning on Sunday, members of the Executive Committee attended Snatra Pooja at the SAMARPAN temple and met with members of the local Jain community.

JAINA Plans a Pilgrimage to Samet Shikhar

In the holiest of Jain traditions, JAINA in cooperation with Veerayatan, is planning a 14 day pilgrimage to Samet Shikhar and other nearby Tirths this coming October. Veerayatan will assist in arranging all the yatras. We will join them in their 25th anniversary celebration (October 3-5) which will be graced by the Chief Minister of Bihar, the Prime Minister of India, President of JAINA and many other prominent Jains from all over the world. Pilgrims will have an opportunity to meet the dignitaries. A delegation of 75 Jains from U.K. and 50 Jains from Africa is also expected.

This Yatra will take you to the places where Jainism took birth and grew in strength—a land that introduced a profound religious thought based on Ahimsa, Anekantवाद and Aprigrah land that may still show us the way and lead us out of the chaotic world of today. You will understand the origin of Jain religion and how it has

evolved through time to adapt to demands of the contemporary world. Visit Veerayatan and see "Compassion in Action". You will have a chance to interact with Jains of India and from many other lands.

Our plan is to fly to New Delhi and on to Patna, catch a bus to Veerayatan and at once experience heaven on earth. In the foothills of Rajgiri, Veerayatan is *Jangal me Mangal*, Bhagwan Mahavir's message in daily practice. The foundation of Veerayatan was laid in 1973 by Acharya Shri Chandanaji with the inspiration of Gurudev Upadhyay Shri Amar Muniji Maharaj. Veerayatan is located on foot of Vaibhavgiri hills. It covers an area of 40 acres and is rich in its historic heritage. Time spent there will prepare you spiritually to embark on the ultimate pilgrimage. (See *itinerary and registration form on the next page*).

Pathshala Teachers Convention

JAINA approved a grant of \$3,000 to 1st Quadrennial Pathshala Teachers Convention that took place on Memorial Day weekend (May 23-24) in Boston. The conference is jointly sponsored by JAINA and the Jain Centre of Greater Boston.

(The post-convention report is published on page 15).

JAINA Sends CD-ROM

For the benefit of all Jains, JAINA has sent to the Presidents of all 54 Jain Centers a CD-ROM published by the "Pluralism Project" at Harvard University. Entitled "On Common Ground — World Religions in America", this \$170 disc contains a large section on Jainism, which will be a valuable resource material for pathshalas. The CD-ROM contains 110 pages on Jainism and every Jain should look into it.

Itinerary of Samet Shikhar Yatra between September 30, 1998, to October 14, 1998

September 30

- Departure from New York (JFK) or Chicago (ORD) on Air India flight #112 to Delhi. Alternative arrangements are available.

October 1

- Arrive in Delhi at 10:40PM. Transfer from airport to hotel for overnight stay in Delhi.

October 2

- 10:15AM depart from Delhi on Indian Airlines flight #809 arriving in Patna at 11:40am. Upon arrival you will be transferred by bus to Veerayatan.

October 3-5

- Stay in Veerayatan.

October 6

Day trips to...

- **Nalanda:** Nalanda University was founded in 5th century B.C. and was the world's great university until it was sacked by Afghans in the 12th century. The remains are extensive and include Great Stupa, with steps, terraces and new intact stupas around it. There is archaeological museum of artifacts found on the site.
- **Pavapuri:** The teerth is situated in the midst of a lake and is the sacred spot of the emancipation of Mahavir Swami. In the water temple, we have foot steps of Mahavir Bhagwan, Black in complexion and 18 cm in size. This spot is the land of the last sermon and emancipation of Mahavir Swami. It is also believed that the first preaching of Mahavir took place here. A feeling of sacredness can therefore be experienced in the atmosphere.
- **Gunyaji:** Gautamswami attained Kevalgnan at this place.
- **Kundalpur:** This is the birthplace of the three gandharvas of Mahavir Prabhu, Indrabhuti, Egnibhuti and Vayubhuti. The Gautamswami's Charan Paduka is also located here.

October 7

Day trip to...

- **Bodhgaya:** In Bodhgaya Buddha attained enlightenment. Bodhgaya is an archaeological site and the most important pilgrimage site for Buddhists. The focal point is Mahabodhi Temple. The Banyan tree growing here is said to be a direct descendant of the original tree under which Buddha sat, meditated and achieved enlightenment.

October 8

Day trip to...

- **Rajgiri:** Rajgiri is nestled atop five hills, Ratnagiri, Udaygiri, Suvamgiri, Vaibhavgiri and Rajgiri. Each of these five hills is virtually filled with places of worship, meditation and penance. The cluster of holy spots makes Rajgiri one of the most sacred and revered pilgrim centres in India for Jains. The 20th Tirthankara Munisuvrat Swami is known to have preached and attained inner peace here.

October 9

- Proceed by coach to Samet Shikhar; overnight stay at Samet Shikhar.

October 10

- Pilgrimage to Samet Shikharji, with a stop at Rujubaluka River.
- **Samet Shikhar:** Jains consider Samet Shikhar as their most sacred place of pilgrimage and hold a lifelong dream of at least once in their life being there. Samet Shikhar is where 20 Tirthankaras of the Vartman Chauvisi attained Nirvana. There are beautiful temples and Charanas (representing the footprints of Tirthankaras). Early morning we will climb the mountain and reach Parsnath Prabhu's temple by mid afternoon. Return to the dhamasala by late evening for the night and next morning we will visit other places of interest in Shikharji.

October 11

- Departure from Samet Shikhar to Parasnath railway station by bus & then by overnight train ride to Calcutta.

October 12

- Full day in Calcutta, visit to Jain Temples in Calcutta. Afternoon free for shopping. Overnight stay in Calcutta.

October 13

- Departures from Calcutta to either Bombay or Delhi.

October 14

- Depart from Bombay or Delhi on Air India for return trip to New York or Chicago.

JAINA Executive Committee members will lead the delegation. We are expecting 100 or more yatris to participate. Already 30 yatris have indicated that they would like to join, so please contact us soon. The people listed below can send you a brochure with the complete itinerary and other details.

SAMET SHIKAR YATRA FORM	
Passenger Name (Last, first name)	Age
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
Address _____	
Home # _____ Office # _____	
Fax _____ Email _____	
Insurance required? YES NO	
Please send your registration form and deposit (payable to JAINA) to:	
Dilip V. Shah, 1902 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103	

Total Cost (air & land)	From New York:	From Chicago:
	\$1,550 per adult \$1,260 per child (11 & under)	\$1,585 per adult \$1,290 per child
Non-refundable deposit of \$225 per person due by July 15, 1998, payable to JAINA. Balance due in full by September 7, 1998, payable to travel agent (Jaya Travel).		
Cost includes	a. All air transportation as specified in above itinerary. b. All bus & train transportation in India as per above itinerary. c. Hotel stay in Delhi & Calcutta as per above itinerary.	
Cost does not include	a. Items of personal nature such as laundry, tips, telephone etc. b. Visa and Passport charges. (Valid passport and visa is passenger's responsibility). c. Travel accident & luggage insurance.	
Terms & conditions	Air India tickets are non-endorsable. There will be a \$250 charge for cancellation or change once ticket is issued.	
For more info, please contact	Dilip V. Shah Niranjan C. Shah Arvind Shah, Jaya Travel	215/561-0581, fax 215/561-0758 847/635-7780, fax 847/635-7778 248/372-4800 or 800/545-7788 fax 248/372-4806
Disclaimers	a. JAINA and Jaya Travel will not be responsible for any unexpected delay, cancellation or the events beyond our control. b. Jaya Travel can also handle arrangements for an extended stay in India.	

Jain Monk on Record Year Long Fast

Sri Sahaj Muniji Maharaj, a 65-year-old Jain muni, who was fasting for world peace since May 1997, broke his fast here on May 1, 1998. The muni weighed 42.5 kilograms (about 94 pounds) at the end of his year-long fast when he subsisted on little more than a glass of water a day for 365 days. He lost 88 pounds during his fast. He broke his fast by drinking little milk mixed with cloves, saffron and some Ayurvedic herbs. Over 20,000 people assembled outside his residence at Ganesh Bagh, to seek his blessings. However, the muni broke his fast in solitude, without even his guru or fellow monks.

The muni said: There are many tapasvis who can fast longer than me. When you are concentrating on your fast, nothing else matters. I feel strong because of the purification induced by the penance.

Sri Sahaj Muniji, who was born into an Agarwal Vaishnav family of Punjab on November 18, 1933 was ordained a monk in 1953. He has been fasting on and off since 1964, each time extending his endurance limits. This was the longest period he has fasted. The day he broke his fast over 100,000 devotees observed a day's fast all over the country.

Veerayan Celebrates Silver Jubilee

Veerayatan Celebrates Silver Jubilee on October 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1998. This occasion will be graced by the Chief Minister of Bihar, Prime Minister of India, President of JAINA and many dignitaries from all over the world. *(For more details, see page 22.)*

Bhagwan Vardhaman Global Educational Fund

In celebration of Gurudev Shree Chitrabhanuji's 75th birthday, Bhagwan Vardhaman Global Educational Fund has been established. The primary objective of this fund is to assist Jains in becoming Jain teachers for the 21st century, under the guidance of Gurudev Shree Chitrabhanuji. Please send in your generous donations for this noble cause to:

Kamlesh Shah,
11409 Berland Place
Germantown, MD 20876

For additional information, please contact:

Kamlesh Shah 301/353-0481
Dr. Manibhai Mehta 714/898-3156
Dr. Dhiraj Shah 716/775-0268

Gurudev Chitrabhanuji's Itinerary

JULY

2-4	Houston YJA Convention	
	Rajesh Dharamshi	281/970-4791
	Neela Gada	713/662-2857
5-6	Detroit, MI Pratistha	
	Praful Shah	248/851-1978
7	Whitmore Lake, MI Light House Center	
	Chetna/Cathy Florida	313/449-2101
11	Johnstown, PA Vegetarian Convention, NAVS	
	Brian Graff	518/568-7970
12	Pittsburgh, PA Jain Center	
	Dr. Surendra Sethi	412/283-8822
	Vinod/Indu Doshi	412/856-9235

AUGUST

1	Middletown, CT Jain Center of Greater Hartford	
	Dr. Faquir Jain	860/487-0607
	Dr. Padam Jain	203/561-0893
	Devesh / Kajal Jain	860/675-8509
19-27	PARYUSHANA, Festival of Forgiveness	
	Jain Center of Southern California	
	Kantilal Shah	714/831-8687
	Kalpana/Prakash Shah	562/693-5965

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Please call the Jain Meditation International Center at 212/362-6483.

Requests for Gurudev's visits in 1999 must be received by January 25, 1999.



Gurudev Chitrabhanuji received the *Courage of Conscious Award* from Peace Abbey in Sherborn, MA. Directors Lewis and Meg Randa presented the award on September 21, 1997. The Jain Center of Greater Boston had nominated Gurudev for the award.

Canada

Dr. Mahendra Mehta, Regional Editor

Edmonton, Alberta

Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated on Sunday, April 19th, 1998 as the main event of the day at our temple before 300 people. Both Jain and Hindu communities participated in the celebrations. The Jain youth took part in the main pooja. This was concluded with Shanti Dhara, Aarti and Priti Bhojan.

Toronto, ON

Elections. At Annual General Body Meeting of Jain Society on March 29, 1998, a new Executive Committee was elected for a two year term. The team consists of: Ashok Shah—President, Shan Jain—Vice-President, Vishakha Varia—Secretary, Atul Mehta—Treasurer, Amit Shanghavi—Youth Representative, Lata Champsee—Ladies' Representative. Members: Paulomi Gudka; Paresh Doshi; Lalit Mehta; Prabhulal Mehta; Chandrakant J. Shah.

For the first time, four youths stood for the election and all of them were elected with overwhelming support. This bodes well for the future of Jain Society of Toronto and its entry into the new millenium.

Young Jains. Approximately 24 young Jains are attending Youth Convention in Houston, Texas, in July. This will be the largest delegation from Toronto. Our youths are preparing a seminar for the Convention featuring an open forum for debate and a professional video on alcoholism. Youth are planning a second Religious Seminar on 25th July this year and some 200 registrants are expected. The speakers are chosen from local and University of Toronto faculties. The young Jains of Toronto had organized a semi-formal dance on 15th May and it was well attended.

On Sunday, 10th May, the students and teachers of Jain Pathshala bid a sad farewell to *Balbhadraraj (Bruce Costain)*, who has been a great inspiration, role model, organizer, teacher and a great resource person for all young members of Pathshala group.

He will be greatly missed by Toronto Jains.

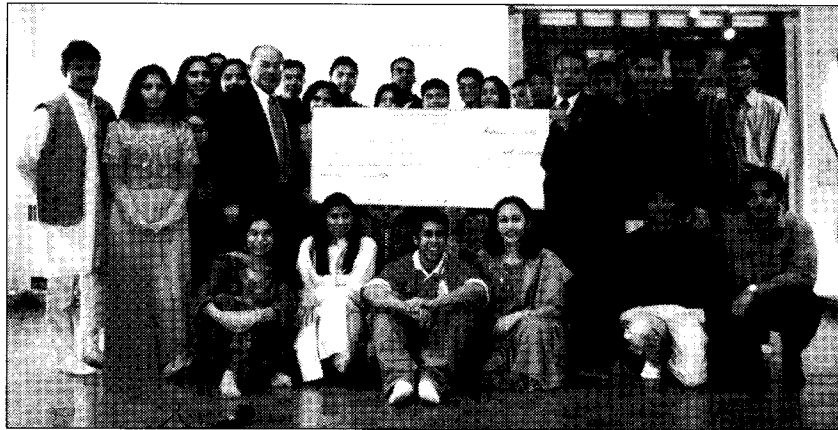
Watch for further events on the notice board and e-mail. Sports Days, Day

at Blue Jays game, annual summer picnic, new elections for YJT Exec., Religious camp in September and volunteers for work at such places as the Daily Bread Food Bank.

Jaina Pathshala Teachers Conference. The First Quadrennial Conference was held in Boston on May 23-24 and a large group of Pathshala Teachers, scholars, Jain education material developers and prospective educators from Toronto attended the conference. The report and new ideas will be implemented to set up new curriculum, syllabi, networking and generally raise the standard and profile of Jain Education.

108 Arhad Abhishek Pujan. This Pujan was performed by *Babubhai Kadiwala* and his group on Saturday, May 30th at the Jain Center. The main events included *Shantinath Bhagwan Sthapna, Ashta Prakari Pooja, Bhagwan Shantinath abhishek, 8 abhishek, 108 main abhishek, 16 Anek Prakari Pooja, Ashta Mangal Pooja, Pokhanna ceremony, 108 Deepak Aarti, Mangal Divo, Shanti Kalash, and Shanti Dhara* around the Center. The puja was followed by *Swami Vatsalya (dinner) & Prabhavna*.

His Excellency, Governor General Romeo LeBlanc and Madam Diana Fowler LeBlanc visited the Project Mainstream and Jaipur Foot in Mumbai on 27th March 1998. The Project Mainstream is the project of Rotary Club of Toronto and other Rotary Clubs in Mumbai. The project is for



In March, during Mahavir Jayanti celebration, Jain Society of Toronto youth, along with Mr. S. Khamsera, presented a check in the amount of \$17,991 to Dhirajbhai Shah.

lifting children off the street and teaching them etiquettes, responsibility, how to become good citizens, assimilate in the society and become self sufficient in future. We have now uplifted approximately 5,000 children of the street of Mumbai. They also visited Jaipur Foot Project which is the project of the Rotarians of India fitting an artificial leg or a limb to amputees or accident victims. It costs approximately US\$ 50 to have a foot and it can be fitted by a well trained technician. These two projects are handled by Rotarian Manubhai Sanghrajka, Rotarian Preeti Shah and Rotarian Mahendra Mehta. From Canada Rotarian Chris Snyder and Rotarian Keshav Chandaria coordinate. This project was introduced by Keshav Chandaria to Mumbai Clubs and played a leading role to get the Clubs agree to take this project. The visit of Governor General has enhanced this project on an International level.

The Swastik Controversy. *The Globe and Mail*, Canada's national daily newspaper, and *Toronto Star* have now agreed to amend their style book entry to differentiate between the Jain auspicious swastik which stands clockwise and at 90 degrees from other corrupted versions which are at times at 45 degrees and other times anticlockwise. Prakash Mody deserves to be congratulated for taking the matter to Ontario Press Council and winning his case.

Northeast*Vinay Vakani, Regional Editor***Washington, DC**

Jain Society of Metro Washington had celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on Saturday, April 11 which was attended by over 450 members. The highlight of the evening was the cultural program presented by children, and adults. Both children and adults participated in several skits, raas, solo dances and ras-garba items. There were 19 items presented, 13 by children and 6 by adults. After the cultural program, each participant was presented a gift of white cap embroidered with Jain Society Metro Washington Name Logo. The Cap was donated by Mr. Bhadresh and Mrs. Shefali Dhila. Program ended with swamivatsalya dinner which was sponsored by Mr. Vinay N. Shah and Mr. Nilesh N. Shah.

Essex Fells, NJ

Jain centre of New Jersey Celebrated Mahavir Janma Kalyanak on April 12, 1998. The celebration began with Snatra Pooja followed by cultural program. Over 100 children & young adults participated in the program which included Nrutya Natika

(Drama), Stavans, dances that were based on religious stories, themes & morals. During Chaitra Ayambil's oli about 75 Tapasvis participated in lecture on "Sripal & Myana nu rahasya". In addition to monthly pooja there are Pathsahala, Gujarati & Swadhyay classes running every other Sunday at Caldwell College. Swadhyay is also held twice a month at the derasar, Piscataway, Jersey City, and Edison. Samun Samahak is held once a month.

Cherry Hill, NJ

Nearly 400 persons attended 8th Anniversary celebration of Cherry Hill temple on Sunday, May 31. It was particularly a festive day for the sangh because of the inauguration of two 6' x 8' marble Pats of Mahashatrunjay and Girnar Tirths. Carved and beautifully hand painted in Jaipur, this was possibly very first such installation in a Jain temple anywhere in North America. The function was graced by Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji, Sadhviji Shri Shubhamji and president of JAINA, Dr. Dhiraj Shah. Special guest of the day was Shri Rajendra Dalal

of Secundrabad, India, who performed Shatrunjay Bhav Poojan, aided by a video presentation of the Tirth and various holy land marks as you climb the Giriraj. Shri Shubhamji gave Manglik and explained the meaning of word Shatrunjay. Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji complemented the Sangh for having made possible for Jains here to experience two of the holiest Jain Tirths and inspire them to make the real pilgrimage when they visit India. Dr. Dhiraj Shah spoke of the Cherry Hill Jain Sangh's illustrious history and how far they have come along with JAINA. Dr. Shah paid tribute to the Sangh (one of the original Signers of the JAINA'S Charter) and promised that next year, JAINA will arrange Yatra to both Shatrunjay Maha Teerth and Shri Girnarji. President of the Cherry Hill Jain Sangh Kirti Shah unveiled Sangh's plan for the expansion of the temple hall and thanked every one for coming. Prabhavna of post-card size laminated picture of Shatrunjay Teerth and swamivatsalya ended the festivity of the day.

Midwest*Manubhai Doshi, Regional Editor***Detroit, MI**

The temple of the Society has finally been completed and the Society has planned an elaborate **Pratishtha Mahotsav from 27th June to July 6th**. Kumbh Sthapan will be done on 27th June, and actual installation will take place on July 5th. Bhaktamar Pujan, Siddhachakra Pujan and other rituals are to be performed on various days during this occasion. 5000 people are expected to participate in the Mahotsav.

Chicago, IL

A campaign was undertaken for increasing the attendance in the religious classes and some incentives were announced.

The campaign seems to be succeeding in attracting more students to the religious classes which are held on the third Sunday of every month.

Arrangements for Ayambil were made at the Center on April 4th and 5th on the occasion of Chaitra Oli. More than 100 people availed of that facility.

Mahavir Jayanti celebration held on April 12th with Abhishek ritual by Digambar friends, the main function began in the afternoon in the presence of Shri Chitrabhanuji who gave a brief discourse in spite of his ill health. He also availed of the occasion for administering to the new office bearers the oath of allegiance to Jainism as

required by the new constitution of the Society. Moreover, all the past office bearers of the Society were honored by presenting them with the awards in recognition of their services. About 1000 persons participated in the function, which ended with Swamivatsalya in the evening. Shrimad Rajchandra Samadhi Din was celebrated in the Center on April 19. Devotees enthusiastically took part in Bhakti and in reciting the Virahgeets.

Robert Killa of Naperville High School visited the Center, along with 40 students of the school, on April 27th, 1998. They were taken around the temple and were given the information about the Center, as

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Southeast

Surendra Shah, Regional Editor

Raleigh, NC

At the Jain Study Center of North Carolina, the following were elected to the executive committee: President—Ramesh Fofaria, Vice President & Treasurer—Pratyush Mehta, Secretary—Madhuker Mehta, Food Coordinator—Arti Shah,

Youth Coordinator—Rekha Banker.

Shramaniji Shubhamji helped celebrate the Mahavir Jayanti on 19th April. The celebration included Asta Prakari pooja and cultural program. Thirty youths participated in the program. The members meet every

Thursday for swadhyay. Pandit Dhirajlal Mehta is going to visit Centers From July 19, to July 26, 1998.

Paryushan parva will be celebrated in August 1998.

Southwest

Jadavji Kenia, Regional Editor

Dallas, TX

Jain Society of North Texas celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on April 12, 1998. The day began with a Snatra Pooja followed by children's cultural program. They recited Nine Tattvas and Six Dravyas taught to them in the Pathshala. Youths from ages 14&up performed in an Oprah like talk show where they interviewed Mahavir and Confucius and covered their respective religions. Then there was a dance by four young ladies using a song "Jay Mahavir Bhagwan" for their music. The program was concluded with Shanti-Kalas and various Aartis followed by delicious lunch.

Among the dignitaries this year we had Sadhvi Subhamji from Veerayatan covering the human service side of Jainism and how human life should be lived. Over the Memorial Day weekend, we will have Babubhai Kadiwala and his assistants here to perform Sidhdha Chakra Pujan and Bhavana. A lot of our members are enthusiastically waiting to participate in these auspicious events. Among the other dignitaries, we will be hosting Dr. Bharill and Dhirajbhai Mehta in late May/early June. Others are yet to be decided. Several of our Jain Youth Group members are planning to attend the YJA Convention in Houston. Some are also preparing for a workshop presentation. As usual Jain Society is sponsoring their participation by contributing about half of their expenses. Adult Swadhyay sessions are continuing twice a week, though the attendance has been somewhat marginal. JSNT

contact is current president Pradeep Shah at 972/867-6255.

Houston, TX

During March Jain Society of Houston sponsored an "Ekasana" program. About 80 persons participated with great enthusiasm. During April, we had a "Navpad pooja", and Ayambil program. More than 60 individuals did Ayambil on that day.

During our general body meeting in April we elected the officers of the executive committee and Board of Trustees. Officers of the new executive committee are: Jitendra Shah (President), Pritiben Sheth (vice president), Rahul Lakdawala (Secretary), Nitesh Mehta (treasurer), Rajan Barua, Mina Kapasi, Kanti Shah, Manohar Kucheria and Hema Chheda. The Board of Trustees consists of Ashok Singhavi (Chief trustee), Udai Jain, Virendra Kothari, Virendra Khemsara, Parimal Desai and Navin Shah.

Youths of Jain Fellowship of Houston had two nights camp at Steven F. Austin Park. Youths of HYJAC (Houston Young Jains of America Convention) committee is busy planning the YJA convention in July. Everyone is working very hard and looking forward to the upcoming event. JSH contact is their president Jitendra Shah at 281/550-3155.

Tulsa, OK

Tulsa Jain Sangh celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on April 11, 1998. Program included Snatra Pooja followed by a delicious

lunch. One of our members did AULI for 8 days to celebrate Mahavir Jayanti. Our planning for building our own Temple and a Jain Center is progressing well. We are in process of applying for a building permit. Sunandaben Vohra will visit Tulsa from July 13 to 16. Samanji will visit Tulsa from November 4 to 11, 1998. Tulsa Jain Sangh contact is Kanti Shah at 918/369-3163.

Phoenix, AZ

Jain Center of Greater Phoenix Area celebrated Mahavir Jayanti this year on April 28, 1998. The program included the following items:

Pathshala songs, Diva Dance, Jain Band, Stavans, Garland Dance, Meera Dance, Megh Kumar Drama by Pathshala Students, Garbo by Adults and Kshamapana, Mangal Devo. It was followed by a delicious dinner. Everybody worked very hard for this auspicious day and over 125 people joined in the celebration.

Two Pathshala teachers from our area are planning to attend the First Quadrennial JAINA Pathshala Teachers Conference to be held in Boston on May 23-24, 1998. Some of the topics to be discussed are:

- Developing a Vision/Mission for Educators/Pathshala Curriculum Dissemination
- How the curriculum will be circulated, maintained, and disseminated to the
- Pathshalas, New Material Development Plans; what are the guidelines for

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West*Chandrakant Parekh, Regional Editor***Los Angeles, CA**

Jain Center of Southern California (JCSC) celebrated the 2524th Mahavir Janma Kalyanak on Sunday, April 12 with a Panch Kalyanak Pooja and a lecture by Dr. Chris Chapple of Loyola Marymount University. Dr. Chapple has published several books and articles on Asian traditions and in July he will convene a conference on Jainism and Ecology at Harvard University.

He spoke eloquently on his understanding of different religions and the areas where Jain religion has stood out from the others. Whereas new leaders of other religious orders charted a new course for their followers, in Jain religion Bhagwan Mahavir re-emphasized and articulated the five Mahavratas—Ahimsa, Satya, Asteya, Brahmacharya, and Aparigraha and their role in our lives. He emphasized that the scope of Ahimsa encompasses mental, verbal, and physical non-violence. Dr. Chapple commented that he personally practices at least one of these five Mahavratas every week. He also explained the merits and benefits of silence.

The dedication and services of the outgoing Board Members were recognized by presenting them with a commemorative plaque. Also, 47 Tapasvis, ranging in age from 11 to senior citizens, were honored for their tapasya of fasting for 8 or more days during paryushan. Each tapasvi was presented a marble plaque with a carving of a Jain temple.

The past Jain Center Youth Council (JCYC) Committee Members, ranging in age from 7 to 17 years, were recognized for their contributions. JCYC members successfully participated in various activities including a cleanup day on March 1, a picnic on April 18, and a Medical Camp on April 19. May 3 was celebrated as a Teacher's Appreciation Day when "Thank You" cards and flowers were presented to all the Pathshala teachers. Registration for 1998/

1999 classes are under way. Members of the Jain Senior Association visited Palm Springs on March 1 and enjoyed a ride in an aerial tram to get to the top of the mountains.

The annual health fair, jointly organized by the Jain Center and the Jain Social Group on April 19, was sponsored by Kumudchandra and Rasilaben Shah, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their marriage. Nearly 75 specialists in various fields examined over 270 participants. Kaiser Permanente, UCLA, Marquette Electronics, Bergen Brunswig, Glaxo Wellcome, and Secure Horizon donated equipment or supplies for the event.

Planning for the expansion of the Jain Center is under way and an architect has been retained to develop a master plan to integrate various properties owned by the center, to enlarge the existing temple, to build additional meeting hall, kitchen/dining areas, classrooms, and an exhibition space, and to provide adequate parking. Traditional Jain temple ornate will be reflected on the outside of the entire complex.

San Francisco, CA

Jain Center of Northern California (JCNC) has finalized the Jain Bhawan building plans which incorporate the changes recommended by the City of Milpitas Planning Staff. Estimates obtained from several contractors indicate that \$3.5 million will have to be budgeted for construction costs. To facilitate budgetary schedules, the entire project will be developed in two phases. Phase I will address the construction of the building's exterior shell and the temple by the Fall of 1999.

The ornate details of the building, shikhars and domes, and interior improvements will be completed by the year 2000. The Pratistha ceremony has been tentatively scheduled on the Mahavir Nirvana Day in 1999. A new architect has been retained to help develop the project. The

Temple Committee has finalized the temple layouts. All the Pratimas and the stone carvings will be made in India and will conform to JCNC's specifications. A colored rendering of the proposed Jain Bhawan has been published in March 1998 issue of the newsletter. A program of Bhakti and Shila Nias for the Jain Bhawan has been scheduled for June 13 and 14.

Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated on April 18 at the Fremont Hindu Temple. The activities included a Snatra Pooja, a Children's Program, and a lecture by Chandrakant Mehta from New Jersey. The members were updated with the status of the Jain Bhawan Project. The festivities concluded with Aarti, Mangal Divo and Shanti Kalash, followed by Sadharmik Vatsalya.

Detailed information about various activities and events planned by JCNC, including schedules, locations and directions are available on the Internet website at www.jcnc.org. For further information, please contact Jashvant Shah, President JCNC, at 510/475-7882.

Sacramento, CA

Jain Center of Greater Sacramento had invited three groups of Samaniji from Ladnau, Rajasthan. The most recent visitors include Madhur Pragyaji and Prasan Pragyaji. Madhur Pragyaji first came to the U.S.A. in 1989 and has since traveled widely all over the world. She took Diksha at the age of 18. She has a Master's Degree in Philosophy, and leads a group of 80 samnijis in Ladnau. She plans to stay in Sacramento for about a year. Prasan Pragyaji took Diksha about 8 years ago and is on her second visit to the U.S.A. Samanijis will stay with various member families and present Pravachans on Wednesdays and Sundays. For further information call Jagdish Shah at 916/685-4716 or Naresh Jain at 916/488-2601.

Membership Committee

Kamlesh Shah, Committee Chairman

JAINA encourages small centers with 10 or more families to become associate members. By becoming a member center, you will be empowered with voting rights, will be receiving information on all JAINA activities on a priority basis, will be eligible for grants for building a temple and above all, increase the strength of Jains in North America. If you belong to such small groups and your group is not a member organization of JAINA, please call us at (301)353-0481 to receive information on procedures to become a new member center. We thank the following Jain Centers for their timely payment of the membership dues for the year 1998.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 Jain Society of Greater Atlanta, GA | 16 Tulsa Jain Sangh, OK | 33 Jain Center of South Central PA, Harrisburg, PA |
| 2 Jain Center of Greater Boston, MA | 17 Jain Society of Middle Tennessee, TN | 34 Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington DC |
| 3 Jain Center of Northern California, CA | 18 Jain Society of Alberta, Canada | 35 Jain Society of Central Florida, Orlando, FL |
| 4 Jain Center of Southern California, CA | 19 Jain Society of Ottawa Carleton, Canada | 36 Jain Association of North East FL, Jacksonville, FL |
| 5 Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago, IL | 20 Jain Society of Toronto, Canada | 37 Jain Society of Tampa Bay, FL |
| 6 Jain Society of Greater Detroit, MI | 21 Jain Association of Montreal, Canada | 38 Jain Society of South FL, Miami, FL |
| 7 Augusta Jain Community, GA | 22 Jain Society of Rochester, NY | 39 Jain Association of Palm Beach and Treasure Coast, FL |
| 8 Jain Study Center of North Carolina, NC | 23 Jain Community of Buffalo, NY | 40 Jain Society of Fort Myers, FL |
| 9 Jain Sangh, Pennsauken, NJ | 24 Jain Center of Syracuse, NY | 41 Jain Society of Memphis, TN |
| 10 Jain Center of New Jersey, Essex Fells, NJ | 25 Jain Center of America, NY | 42 Jain Social Group of Milwaukee, WI |
| 11 Jain Society of Capital District, Albany, NY | 26 Jain Society of Oregon, OR | |
| 12 Jain Center of Cincinnati/Dayton, OH | 27 Jain Study Group, Charlotte, NC | |
| 13 Jain Society of Greater Cleveland, OH | 28 Jain Society of Southern Louisiana, LA | |
| 14 Jain Society of Pittsburgh, PA | 29 Jain Center of Minnesota, MN | |
| 15 Jain Center of St. Louis, MO | 30 Jain Society of Houston, TX | |
| | 31 Jain Society of N. Texas, TX | |
| | 32 Hindu Temple Society, Allentown, PA | |

We urge the rest of the Jain Centers to send in their membership dues as soon as possible.

Virchand Raghavji Gandhi Scholarship Fund

Pravin C. Shah, Committee Chairman

Virchand Raghavji Gandhi Scholarship Fund has been established to promote study on Jainism. The interest accrued from the fund will be used to give out scholarships to promote research studies on Jainism at recognized educational institutions in India. Recently, Pravin C. Shah (Chairman) and Kanti Mepani, members of this committee spoke to the Jain Sanghs at Philadelphia and Allentown about the project and received generous donations/pledges. The presidents of all Jain centers in North America have been mailed the flyers and an appeal for collecting donations from members and are requested to publicize the project and collect donations so as to enable the committee to start the implementation of this noble project. A list of donors of \$100 or more will be published in the JAIN DIGEST.

The following donors of have given \$100 or more to Virchand Raghavji Gandhi Scholarship Fund:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Pravin & Kanta Shah | Garden City Park, NY | 6. Milan & Phalguni Kapadia | Princeton Junction, NJ |
| 2. Bharat & Kokila Shah | Jerico, NY | 7. Anop & Renuka Vora | Rochester, NY |
| 3. K & R Patel Physiotherapy | Garden City Park, NY | 8. Harakh & Anuja Dedhia | Morgantown, WV |
| 4. Rajesh & Jyoti Chheda | Atco, NJ | 9. Arun & Jaya Bhimani | Piedmont, CA |
| 5. Ashwin & Chandrika Doshi | Cerritos, CA | | |

Ahimsa Day Committee

Surendra Singhvi, Committee Chairman

The Ahimsa Day is being celebrated each year in October since 1992. This year, the celebration will be held on October 4. All Jain Centers are requested to plan their celebration on Ahimsa Day by inviting non-Jains to the program and giving a speech on Jain Ahimsa. They are also requested to contact Dr. Suren Singhvi at home 937/885-7414 or at office 937/435-5252 to inform him of their plans for the celebration.

1999 JAINA Convention Preview

by Devendra T. Peer

In North America we have 54 Jain centers, some of the most thickly populated ones being in the Northeastern Corridor. In over 15 years there has not been a JAINA Convention in the entire Northeastern USA. The Executive Committee of the Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA) during the meeting in Philadelphia on March 21, 1998, unanimously decided to hold the next biennial Convention during the 4th of July weekend 1999 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Although Samarpan Jain Sangh of Philadelphia is sponsoring the Convention, it is intended to represent all Jain centers of Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Delaware. The Presidents of all these centers have pledged to actively work for the Convention to make it a success.

Invitation

We will need a lot of volunteers for this task. We will need artists, performers, writers, editors, speakers, moderators, experts in food service, Convention facility management, security, transportation, publishing, and computers. Above all we need your ideas and suggestions. This is your Convention. Please come forward and offer your help either through mail or via email at Devendrap@aol.com. Please also visit our web page: www.jainaconvention.com. We are inviting all the Jain centers to develop at least one cultural program for presentation at the Convention.

The Youth

As the first generation of Indians who migrated to North America approaches the 21st Century it faces an inevitable question. Those who were born in India gained Jain religion automatically from the pervasive religious environment. But what about the second generation of JAINS born here? Our children are growing up in the midst of diverse culture of North America with their antennae exposed to varying conflicting "signals". How can the Parents ensure that the Jain message is the strongest providing direction while our children are learning to assimilate in the main stream?

Ahimsa

When you open the daily newspapers you read about American youth full of energy but unable to follow the rules of a civilized society. They seem lost in a world of violence. Without heroes to worship or a clear road map to a purposeful life they stray. Our Jain children happily are surrounded by spiritual personalities. Growing up with "AHIMSA" in their ears they seem to stay focused and well anchored.

Jain Teachings

When one sees this one feels that the gigantic task of transplanting a more than 2500 year old heritage to a land 10,000 miles away seems to have begun in earnest. We have started establishing JAINS SANGHS everywhere, more and more temples are coming up and PATH-SALAS are opening up. We are getting spiritual Scholars and Monks from India to enlighten us on our ancient books and their sacred teachings. But we need more home grown Jain scholars and Ancient Books, some centuries old, need to be preserved and read. Isn't this a worthy goal?

The Theme

With so many things to do (and being done by JAINA) what should the "Theme" of the next JAINA Convention be? We thought we would ask you, the readers of Jain DIGEST for your opinion.

Essay Competition on "The Theme for the Next JAINA Convention"

The essay should discuss various themes and give the rationale for selecting your choice. The prize is \$101. There will be no age limitation or space limitation. The decision of the Samarpan Jain Sangh's Executive Committee will be final, and the winning essay will be announced in the Fall 1998 issue of JAIN DIGEST. The deadline is July 31, 1998. All are invited to participate.

Please mail your entry (typed, double-spaced) to:

"Essay Competition"
Samarpan Jain Sangh
9701 Bustleton Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19115

The First Quadrennial JAINA Pathshala Teachers/Educators Conference

held May 23-24, 1998, in Boston, MA

The first JAINA Pathshala Teachers/Educators Conference (JPTC) was hosted by the Jain Center of Greater Boston (JCGB), in conjunction with the JAINA Education Committee, on May 22-24, 1998. Boston was the place to be this past Memorial Day weekend. It brought together Pathshala teachers and educators from all over the USA and Canada. A total of 81 teachers/educators attended this conference. The feeling from everyone during departure was that, this type of grass root level conference was long needed.

The main objective of this conference was to collectively address all crucial issues related to Jain education in USA/Canada and to ensure that our present youth and future Jain generations receive a sound understanding of the Jain philosophy with an equal emphasis on practice of Jainism. This brought us to three initial goals –

- To develop a common curriculum for all Jain Centers and home based teaching
- To plan on what new material needs to be developed, how it will be developed and disseminated
- To better understand the efforts, challenges and success of each of the Pathshalas and to support each other.

The level of attendance and enthusiastic participation by many Jain Centers and JAINA leaders reflected the anticipation of such a conference. When some of the sessions began their discussions with chanting of the Namokar Mantra, it showed how much the participants were determined to stay united and to make this conference productive.

The following centers participated in the conference (brackets indicate the number of people who attended):

Los Angeles (11)	Phoenix (2)	Northern California (2)	Connecticut (5)
Miami (1)	Chicago (7)	Boston (16)	Washington, DC (8)
Detroit (1)	Northern New Jersey (2)	Southern New Jersey 2	New York (1)
Columbus (1)	Cleveland (1)	Huntington Valley, PA (1)	Pittsburgh (1)
Houston (2)	Dallas (2)	North Carolina (2)	Toronto (12)
Buffalo (1)			

The conference started on Friday evening by welcoming the attendees and giving them their registration package, which included the conference agenda and all curriculum outlines. Saturday morning the conference directors Dr. Prem Gada, Pankaj Shah, and Yogendra Jain got to work and started with laying out the objectives of the conference along with the ingredients to make it successful. What followed was two days of being together, sharing our experiences, much laughter as well as a lot of serious discussion.

All Pathshalas—Sharing Challenges/Fun Experiences

After the welcoming remarks, the stage was turned over to all represented Jain Centers who gave a presentation on unique methodology / techniques that they have incorporated in their teaching and a summary of their curriculum along with specifics on their student count, classes held, total teachers, volunteers, etc. Each center had their own share of challenges as well as new ideas on how they attracted students to Pathshala, how they were working with parents for serious commitment to Pathshala, their unique approaches to teaching – via scientific methods, audio cassettes, simplified language, extracurricular activities and rewards for the students. Other centers mentioned teamwork amongst teachers, support from their Jain center committee, minimal politics, more reasoning and understanding of our culture and religion and less memorization as effective methods for a successful and smooth

Pathshala as well.

This sharing helped attendees realize that the challenges they face are common across all centers and that only through team work and peer support we can resolve many of the issues. The most common issue, which was highlighted, was the challenge to maximize the learning experience given barely 20-40 hours of formal education per year.

"I am tremendously indebted to all of you for giving me the wonderful opportunity to refocus my teaching commitments and meet my fellow educators."

Curriculum for Pathshalas in North America

The most important goal of the conference was to develop a curriculum that would be acceptable to all the JAINA affiliated Jain Centers. Dr. Premchand Gada, chairman of JAINA Education Committee, and Pankaj Shah, Director of Education, JCGB, explained the process through which they had reviewed current curriculum from major Pathshalas and the new and existing Pathshala teaching material, and after identifying objectives and guidelines, how they came up with a proposed curriculum. The proposed curriculum was presented in a joint session. Five groups were assigned to review the curriculum in separate breakout sessions for each Level. The sessions chairs for each level were - Level 1, age 4-6, (grade pre-school - 1) - Jyotindra Doshi, Level 2, age 7-9, (grade 2-4), Jaya Nagda, Level 3, age 9-12 (grade 4-7), Kirit Gosalia, Level 4, age 12-14, (grade 7-9), Pallavi Gala, Level 5, (High School), Mahendra Shah (Detroit).

Model Curriculum

After the breakout sessions, each session chair presented summarized feedback on the each aspect of the proposed curriculum. Most of the teachers felt comfortable with using word "Model curriculum" instead of "Proposed Curriculum". There was a common consensus to accept the most of the curriculum material except for the "memorization of sutras". Dr. Dhiraj Shah, JAINA's president emphasized JAINA's commitment to develop a common curriculum and would work with all centers. He mentioned that it would be at the discretion of each Jain centers how to conduct their Pathshalas. He also stated that JAINA plans to conduct an annual examinations primarily to reward and motivate the Pathshala students as well as parents.

Curriculum Conclusion

It was concluded that after incorporating the feedback from various sessions of this conference, JAINA Education Committee would propose the Model curriculum. The teachers/educators who were present and those who could not come would be requested to give their feed back before the curriculum is finalized. Then, the "Model Curriculum" will be sent out to all Jain centers for implementation. The memorization of sutras would be left at the discretion of individual Pathshalas and their teachers.

Now that the curriculum issue was satisfactorily addressed, the conference attendees moved to many other important issues described below that were addressed in joint sessions or in break out sessions or in speeches during meals.

"A truly historic and long needed Jain education conference in North America."

-Mukesh Doshi, Chicago

Leveraging Technology

Further re-enforcing the need to adopt new methodology, Prem Jain of Northern California, gave a key note address on "Leveraging Technology/Internet in Education." He discussed the use of Internet to develop a virtual Pathshala. He urged all the Pathshala teachers to be well versed on the use of email and Internet and that all teaching material and curriculum and lesson plan be placed on the Internet such that students and parents can have instant access to them.

Developing a Vision/Mission/Organization Plan for Jain Education

In this session, coordinated by Harendra Shah and Prem Jain, the attendees brainstormed on a Vision/Mission. After many ideas were floated, a task team consisting of Amar Salgia, Sanjay Jain, and Balbhadraji was assigned to finalize a mission statement. The following mission statement was presented to the attendees: Instill Spiritual development, self-awareness, moral consciousness, social well-being, and Jain identity in individuals, based on the principles of Jainism

New Books Published

Outside the conference halls there were exhibits of unique Jain Books and a large display of the latest Jain teaching material which is being incorporated in the curriculum. Specifically to commemorate the conference, JCGB organized publishing of the following eight new books/study guides:

- *Jain Story Books* by Manubhai Doshi
- *Pathshala Level III and Level IV* books compiled by JAINA Education Committee
- *Primary Principles of Jainism* compiled by Harendra Shah/Manubhai Doshi
- *Question and Answers about Jainism* compiled by Harendra Shah/Manubhai Doshi
- *Shevatambar and Digambar Pooja* in Gujarati and Hindi, compiled by Ratibhai Dodhia
- *Excerpts from Unfinished Book* by Amar Salgia

Four other books were reprinted. Ordering information of these books will be sent to presidents of each Jain Center separately.

Teachers Training/Qualification/Lesson Plan

This session, which was coordinated by Pravin Shah and Balbhadraji concluded that a lesson plan must be developed by teachers to maintain continuity and documentation. The teachers must loosen up and use as much interactive material as possible. Other discussions revolved around the urgent need to develop teacher's guide, how do we ensure quality teaching, and how should we qualify teachers?

"Congratulations to all volunteers of Boston who productive and enjoyable many dedicated, non-self"

of hard working staff and made the conference very I learned a lot and met h and [the] nicest people.

Adult Education

In this session, coordinated by Rajni Gosalia and Dinesh Dalal, it was confirmed that only seven of the 20 centers

have regular adult classes. Some of the suggestions to increase participation were to incorporate social elements, have a week long 'Shibir' locally, include study of comparative religion, and develop a stronger curriculum.

New Material Development Plans

This session coordinated by Sudhir Shah of CT concluded that a template and guidelines needs to be developed for all new material development. This template will assure easier development and incorporation of the material in the curriculum process. The team also mentioned the need for good graphics, illustrations, "Americanized English, quality illustrations, and inclusion of photographs.

Evening reception

After a long day of work on Saturday, the day ended with an evening reception with the JCGB community. Pradip Gosalia, President of JCGB thanked the participants for coming to Boston to attend the conference. Dhiraj Shah, President of JAINA, shared JAINA's vision of Jain Education and again confirmed his personal and JAINA's commitment towards this cause. Balbhadraji discussed the "urgency in Jain Education" of not just children but adults as well. An award ceremony was held to acknowledge lasting contribution to Jain Education. The awards were presented to Dr. Prem Gada, Manubhai Doshi, and Pravin Shah. Also part of the program was a multi-media presentation by Dr. Gada on Jain Temples in India. The evening program, which was hosted by Sweta Mepani, general coordinator of the conference, ended with a classical music concert.

On Sunday during the breakfast session, next generation Jain games on CD's developed by Shripal Shah of JCGB, a student in Computer Science was exhibited. After breakfast all the attendees joined for the three breakout sessions, College Level Curriculum Review, Adult Education, and Roles and Responsibilities of Pathshala coordinators.

College Level Education Review Session

In the Youth College Review session, coordinated by Pravin Shah, it was generally agreed that plenty of material exists for this age students. Young Jain Association (YJA), represented by several youth confirmed the leadership role that YJA can play in the disseminating material and promoting education

Roles and Responsibilities of Pathshala Coordinators

In this session, coordinated by Shailesh Jain, many ideas were

presented on how to get larger mental share of parent's towards Pathshalas. These ideas include having a Pathshala booth at major Jain functions, start parent classes with parallel student classes, publish a curriculum, use of email and parents post-pathshala meetings to keep them informed.

During the lunch session on Sunday, Kirit Gosalia presented a *Multi-Media presentation of Level 3 Curriculum*. Also presented were glimpses of *Tattvarth Sutra*, *Ancient Scriptures Come Alive* presentation by Parimal Pandya, Archit Shah and Yogendra Jain of JCGB.

After the Sunday lunch, the attendees settled in for some serious learning. Two teams presented a *Mini-Workshop on Transliteration*. One workshop presented by Darshana Shah and Pankaj Shah gave recommendation on a consistent way to transliterate Jain Stutis, prayers, and words/phrases with an emphasize on correct and original pronunciation. The second part of the workshop was presented by Amar Salgia who presented a practical view on Transliteration.

All attendees agreed that the most fun part of the conference was a presentation by Amita Desai and Smita Doshi on *Creative Ways of Teaching Jain Principles to Children*. They showed how they teach Jain fundamentals to youngsters using objects around the house. For example a tennis ball thrown on the ground and it bouncing back demonstrates karmic action/reaction; sticking stickers on people based on their action shows karmic inflow and bondage; many bubbles were blown in the air to demonstrate that as bubbles appear and disappear, so does happiness and sorrow. It was obvious to the attendees that by adding this dimension to teaching Jainism, learning is significantly enhanced and that learning process can be fun.

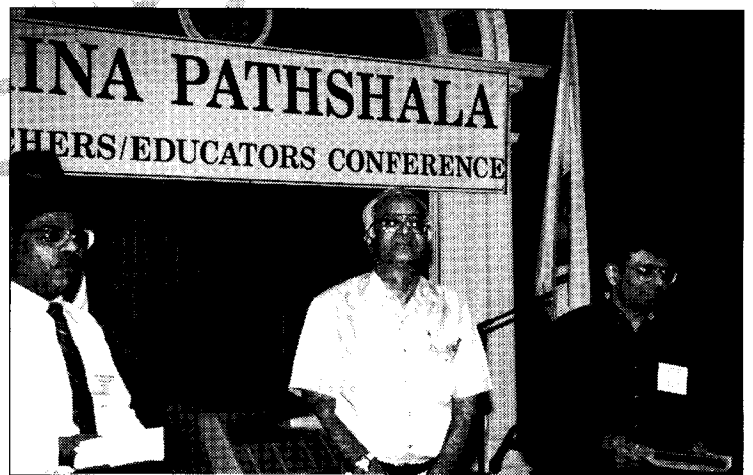
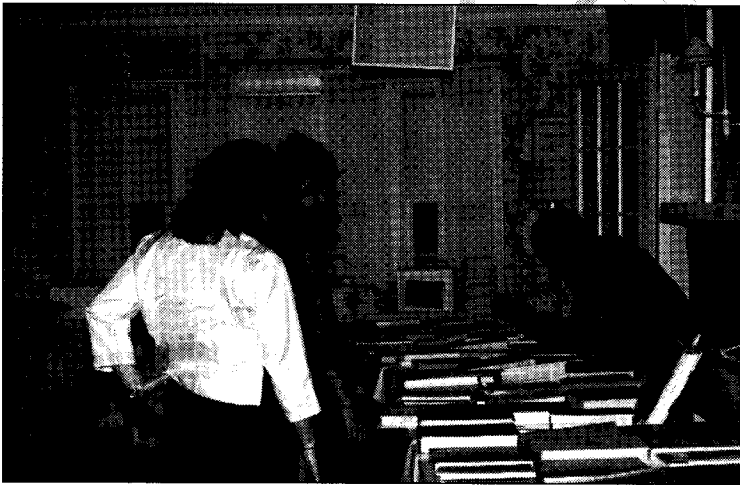
In the *Graduation—A Goal and Glory for Students* session, Niren Nagda presented Washington, DC's quest to motivate students and parents. They have "formalized and ceremonialized" the learning of Jainism by having graduation ceremony for college bound students. Such formalization gets not only the parents but the community involved and recognizes students and their family's accomplishments in Jainism.

The entire conference was well planned and went very smoothly and mostly on schedule. JCGB definitely was an excellent host. The food was excellent, the weather beautiful, the conference facility calm, peaceful, comfortable and cozy. The host families were warm and caring and all volunteers extremely helpful and friendly.

The conference proceedings will be published in July. A copy will be sent to all participants and presidents of all Jain Centers affiliated with JAINA. Please contact Premchand Gada, Chairman of JAINA Education Committee at 806/ 793-8555; Pankaj Shah 781/449-3297 shahpk@gwsmtg.nu.com or Yogendra Jain 781/ 237-6070 yogendra.jain@radisys.com for further information.

The First Quadrennial JAINA Pathshala Teachers/Educators Conference

photo album



Midwest

Continued from page 10

well as about Jainism.

Kanval Prashar from Rock Valley College of Rockford IL. came to the Center on May 2nd along with about 30 students. They were first briefed about the essence of Jainism and then were taken around the Temple and the Center. Appropriate literature pertaining to Jainism was given to them. That was followed by a question-answer session. The visitors were happy to learn about Jainism and what it stands for.

Shri Laghuraj Samadhidin was celebrated in the Center on May 3rd. About 50 devotees enthusiastically took part in the Bhakti and other songs appropriate on this occasion.

St. Louis, MO

An overnight Youth Camp was organized at Days Inn Eureka on March 14th. 20 youths participated in the camp. A seminar was given at the camp by Dr. Satish Nayak.

Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated on 12th April at Kansas City along with the Hindu Society of Kansas. For that purpose 55 members of the Society proceeded from St. Louis on 11th and were enthusiastically received by the hosts. A discourse was given by Dr. Rajanikant Shah who was invited on the occasion. The actual Jayanti celebration took place on 12th in the Hindu Temple and Cultural Center of Kansas City. In addition to the message of Ahinsa, Dr. R. Shah gave a copy of Jain Tattava Prakash to every family.

Southwest

Continued from page 11

developing new material.

The Jain Center of Greater Phoenix will have Dharmalabh from Mumukshu Shree Chimanbhai Modi, Shree Bharatbhai Shah, Dr. Bharill, and Shradhey Shree Atmanandji this summer and during the Paryusana Mahaparva this year.

Several Young Jain members from Metro Phoenix area are planning to attend the YJA convention to be held in Houston during July 4-6 this year.

JCGP contact is Harshad Desai at 602/582-8437.

MATRIMONIALS

Continued from page 29

F653: Gujarati parents invite responses from highly educated professionals, for their beautiful, fair, attractive, US born daughter, Sept 71, 5'2", DMD (Dentist), doing private practice. Call 502/239-4973.

F654: Jain Physician parents invite responses from well educated, professionals, for their pretty, slim, talented, vegetarian, US born daughter, Sept 72, 5'3", 105 lb, JD (S/98), will join prestigious law firm. Call 914/633-1448.

F655: Proposals invited by Jain parents from well educated boys, for their beautiful, fair, highly proficient, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born Jan 73, 5'1", 110 lb, BA (Harvard Uni), well employed as financial reporter. Call 916/488-2601.

F656: Gujarati parents invite responses for their smart, beautiful, vegetarian, slim, US born daughter, Nov 75, 5'3", BS (MIS), well employed, from well educated boys with similar cultural background. Call 312/704-1166.

F658: Jain parents invite responses for Charming, Pretty, US born daughter, May 70, 5'3", BS (comp sc), from prestigious Univ., well employed as consultant, from cultured, educated boys. Call 847/891-2485.

F659: Gujarati parents invite responses for their pretty, slim, charming, cultured, vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born Oct 70, 5'6", BS (com sc), well employed as Analyst, from well educated, cultured boys. Call 402/291-9152.

F660: Gujarati parents invite responses for good looking, fair, vegetarian, well educated, India raised daughter, born Jan 57, 5'0", 105 lb, well employed as Business Manager at Detroit, from well educated, cultured boys. Call 248/540-2563.

F661: Alliance invited for beautiful, attractive, vegetarian, intelligent, cultured Girl, born Sept 71, 5'5", 120 lb, BS (comp sc), well employed, from professional, cultured boys. Call 708/349-8818.

AF129: Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, fair, vegetarian, highly accomplished daughter, born April 69, 5'2", MD, doing third year residency, from professional boys preferably MD. Call 410/882-9697.

AF194: Gujarati parents invite proposals for pretty, slim, vegetarian daughter, BS MLS (Medical Laboratory Science), born Nov 74, 5'2", from professional boys. Call 403/435-9070 or 909/927-7580.

AF208: Brother invite correspondence for his gorgeous sister, unfortunately widow, born Aug 59, 5'5", 110 lb, Bcom, convent educated, from cultured, educated, Gujarati males. She is currently in Ahmedabad, India & willing to settle in USA. Call 510/796-4851.

AF209: Uncle invite proposals from Hindi speaking vegetarian Jain Boys, for slim, pretty, cultured niece, born Feb 75, 5'3", BS, Master in Comp. Application, employed in India as Software Engr. Professionals boys like Comp engr, MBA, MD preferred. She is willing to settle in USA. Call 901/756-6626.

AF210: Alliance invited by sister for pretty, slim, talented, vegetarian sister, born Oct 66, 5'2", BHMS, practicing physician at Bombay, from suitable, educated, cultured Gujarati match. She is divorcee (within 15 days of marriage - no issue), currently at Bombay & willing to settle in USA. Call 978/970-0299.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Jain Purvas of 1999

Mahavir Jayanti	March 29
Akshya Tritiya	April 18
Paryushan Parva	September 7
Samvantsari & Daslakshani Parva	September 14
Ananta Chaturdasi	
Kshmavani	September 24
Mahavir Nirvan-Diwali	November 7
Gnan Panchmi	November 12
Loka Shah Jayanti	November 22
Maun Agyarash	December 18

CORRECTION

In the Spring 1998 issue, the Secretary of the Jain Center of Southern California was incorrectly listed in the Regional News section. Mr. Navin Gangar is the Secretary.

JAIN DIGEST regrets the error.

Health Information for Travelers to India

by Dr. Dilip Shah, Chicago, Illinois

Travelers Diarrhea

Infection may cause diarrhea, vomiting, and fever. It can be caused by viruses, bacteria, or parasites, which are found in contaminated food or water. Over-the-counter antidiarrheal medicine and antibiotics may be needed.

Malaria

Malaria is a preventable infection that can be fatal if left untreated. A drug, Mefloquine, should be started once a week, two weeks before departure. Continue to take it once a week while in India, and up to four weeks after returning. Insect repellent containing DEET in 30%-35% strength for Adults and less than 30% for children should be applied regularly to protect against mosquito bites.

Vaccines

For the following vaccines, see your doctor at least 4 to 6 weeks before your trip so that the immunizations can take effect.

- Hepatitis A or Immune Globulin.
- Hepatitis B. This vaccine is not needed for every visitor. Plan to receive this immunization if you are planning to stay longer than 6 months in India, or if you have a risk of blood exposure (such as a hospital worker, for example).
- Typhoid vaccination. If you are planning to visit rural areas or are planning to stay longer than 6 weeks, this vaccine is recommended.
- Cholera vaccination is NOT recommended.

Hygiene

In order to stay healthy during your stay in India, try to adhere to the following guidelines.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Drink only bottled or boiled water. Avoid tap water, fountain drinks, ice cubes, ice cream, & food from street vendors.
- Eat only thoroughly cooked food or washed fruits and vegetables
- Remember: Boil it, cook it, peel it, or forget it.

See your doctor for the above vaccines. Have a safe trip, and bon voyage!

JAINA CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

JAINA Checking Account as of April 30, 1998

Submitted by Jit Turakhia, Treasurer

Various sub-committee balances as of April 30, 1998

Education Committee	\$10,629.92
Jiv Daya Committee	362.00
World Community Service	1401.00
Temple Guidelines	1050.00
YJA	6649.75
Virchand R. Gandhi Fund	909.00
North American Jain Family Assistance Program	<u>1001.00</u>
TOTAL	\$22,002.67

JAINA General Fund

Balance as of April 30, 1998	<u>\$40,469.38</u>
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JAIN DIGEST Endowment Fund

Balance as of April 30, 1998	<u>\$60,416.38</u>
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JAINA Charitable Trust

Balance as of April 30, 1998	<u>\$144,111.74</u>
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Abhidhan Rajendra

by K. L. Banthia

Preachings of Jain Tirthankars known as “Agams” upon which the Jain religion is based, are compiled in Ardhamagadhi Prakrit language. Needless to say that without fully understanding the “Agams” i.e. the Jain religious texts, one cannot understand the Jain religion, its philosophy, logic, ethics, etc. The agams besides being in Ardhamagadhi Prakrit language are full of technical terms, the true meaning of which cannot be understood with the help of ordinary dictionaries or lexicons.

Though Jain Acharyas had started compiling dictionaries thousand to twelve hundred years ago, the need was always felt for an Encyclopedic Canonical Lexicon which would be perfectly organized with Prakrit terms and words arranged alphabetically, giving the etymology and grammatical description of each word, alongwith shades of various meanings and special connotations of Sanskrit equivalents, listing all the allusions and references to the usages illustrated from various ancient writings of Acharyas and expert teachers. Such a lexicon would be helpful in understanding the Jain scriptures more scientifically and facilitate the systematic study of ancient Indian literature, history and philosophy. Following many nineteenth century foreign scholars Indian Pandits were also inspired to study Jain texts in their contemplation and research of Jainology in particular and Indology in general.

At such a time a Nineteenth Century (1827-1906) Jain Acharya Shrimad Vijay Rajendra Suriiji pioneered the creation of Abhidhan Rajendra and thus paved the way to the study of Jain texts and Sanskrit and Prakrit languages in India. Suriiji remarkably felt that a number of valuable words of Magadhi dialect in Jain philosophy have become obsolete and something should be done to revive them. He collected all valuable words of Jain Philosophy, found their original Sanskrit roots, gave correct definitions and noted the exact meaning they embodied.

Abhidhan Rajendra was started in 1889 and continuously compiled for 14 years till 1903. During this period, he made extensive tours on foot, covering thousands of miles, organized Pratishta, Anjan Shalaka, gave initiation (Deeksha) participated in religious discussion and composed alongwith Abhidhan Rajendra, the Prakrit dictionary entitled Paiya Saddambuhi and Kalpsutra Balavabodhini and many other such volumes. His writing material were old deshi pens made from Baru sticks and ink was prepared every day and it had to be dried every evening. A.R. was prepared under such rigid penance.

A.R. gives in detail the history of a particular word, its origin and usages in various contexts, references, gender, suffixes and anecdotes under various heads in several pages. It deals in detail with Sutras,

their vrittis, bhasyas, niryuktis, churnis, alongwith the history of the various Darsans - Vedant school, Nyay Vaivesika and Mimansa system of thought in elegant and beautiful style. A.R., has 7 volumes containing 60,000 Prakrit words with Sanskrit synonyms starting with “A” () and ending with “ha” () with their Matras of Devanagari script. A.R. abounds in treasury of references churned from 97 ancient works of Jain Acharyas and contains approximately 450,000 Sanskrit verses. It is a quintessence of Jain Agams.

Needless to say that there is no parallel to be found of this unique works of Suriiji not only in any religion or language of India but also of the world. After years of his study of A.R., Prof. Sylvan Levi of Paris University remarked, “I can say that no student of Indology and Ancient India can ignore this wonderful work. In its specialization, it has surpassed the “Jewel of Lexicons - the Saint Petersburg Lexicon. Will there be any work about Hinduism and Buddhism comparable to it?”

The celebrated and learned author of this monumental work, Shrimad Vijay Rajendra Surishwarji was born on 3rd December, 1827 A.D. at Bharatpur in Rajasthan. Inspite of his ardent desire, Suriiji could not see publications of A.R. in his lifetime. Litho Press had just started then. It's publication could be started only in 1906 and completion of its 7 volumes took several years. Jain Prabhakar Printing Press was established at Ratlam (M.P.) at a cost of Rs. 4 lakhs for printing this magnum opus. Many Indian and Foreign Scholars eager to study the Jain religion, Prakrit language and non-Jain philosophies were delighted as they received such a unique, complete and fascinating Encyclopedia or “Vishwakosh” after years of patient waiting.

After several years of its first edition when it became no more available, Muni Nagrajji, D.Lit, thought to get it reprinted again. Inauguration of the second edition was done by Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India in 1984. However, the demand in the country and from overseas was so great that the third edition had to be printed soon by the present sixth Acharya succeeding Rajendra Suriiji, Sri Jayant Sen Suriiji in 1986.

With fast developing interest and study of the Jain religion culture and philosophy in several universities of the world, its English translation will be universally useful and beneficial to students, research scholars and historians in general.

Views and suggestions are invited from scholars of Jain studies, universities teaching Jainism, having linguistics, historical and International studies and humanities departments regarding translation and publication of English translation of Abhidhan Rajendra Kosh.

K.L Banthia, 261 Z-1 Barra-2 Hemant Vihar, Kanpur-208027, INDIA. Phone: 0512-612511,612434

Silver Jubilee Celebrations at Veerayatan Rajgiri, Bihar

Veerayatan has been described as "Compassion in Action". Its development and continued progress are all attributed to the untiring efforts of Acharya Shri Chandanaji and her dedicated team of learned and talented Sadhvis. Seva, Shiksha and Sadhna is the motto of this most unique Jain institution.

Shri Chandanaji is the first Sadhvi ever to earn the title of Acharya. Inspired by Param Pujya Gurudev Upadhyaya Shri Amar Muniji Maharaj, Chandanaji started a spiritual and cultural movement and introduced a new chapter in the history of Jain religion. "Veerayatan", where the concept of service to mankind is not only preached but also practiced. Beautifully landscaped 40-acre site is located at the foot of Vaibhargiri hills on the outskirts of the ancient city of Rajgir (once the capital of the Magadh Empire). The site is rich in its historical heritage, where the undercurrents of Jainism, Buddhism and Vedic religions meet. This glorious place is blessed with the fourteen Chaturmas of Lord Mahavir, the Nirvan of his eleven Gandhars and the composition of some of the most significant Jain Scriptures.

Through the eye hospital, orthopedic, polio, artificial limb and outpatient medical clinics; and the ophthalmic research and training center, Veerayatan serves humanity. To date, 75,000 eye operations and 250,000 out patient treatments have been performed entirely free of charge and irrespective of religion. Prayers, meditation and yoga are the routine features of the Ashram. Sanskar Shibirs, Scholarly seminars and conferences are regularly organized. Veerayatan assists the running of primary schools and awards scholarships to needy students. To uplift the lives of thousands of deprived local children; hundreds of children are fed one nutritious meal daily. They are led to prayer meetings followed by training in personal hygiene, importance of education, disci-

pline and awareness of Bhagwan Mahavir's message. The library complex houses volumes of religious texts on Jainism, Buddhism and Hinduism and has drawn scholars from all over the world. In case of natural disasters, Veerayatan takes up task of distribution of food and clothes to the needy.

Veerayatan needs your support. A Silver Jubilee Celebration Souvenir is planned. This keepsake book will enumerate the glory and contribution of Jainism's past and present. Printed in both English and Hindi, the book reviews the accomplishments of Jainism and Veerayatan. You can sponsor a full page by contributing \$600. By sponsoring a page of the book, your family name will be printed on that page. Please note that the funds collected will be exclusively used for the Eye research Training Center Project at Veerayatan. Veerayatan International is a registered tax-exempt charity ID no 52-195627. If you would like to help, please fill out the form below, and mail it to any one of the following individuals:

Mrs. Mangalam N. Panwala
2905 Bromwich Ct.
Fayetteville, NC 28306
910/426-0700, Fax: 910/426-7411

Dr. Nayan & Jayu Shah
6980 Woodglen Drive
Hughesville, MD 20637
301/274-3227, Fax: 301/884-7419

Mr. Virendra K. Shah
24122 Huber Ave.
Torrance, CA 90501
310/326-5685, Fax: 310/715-1441

Silver Jubilee Celebrations Sponsorship Form

We have the pleasure of sponsoring a page in the souvenir to be published as part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of Veerayatan.

Enclosed, please find a check in the amount of \$600 (payable to *Veerayatan International*), for sponsoring one full page in the souvenir book. Please list the sponsoring individual or establishment as follows:

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

Sponsor: in order to conserve the use of paper, your name, as shown above, will be highlighted as a strip at the bottom of the sponsored page.

This page has been sponsored by an anonymous donor.

JAINA PATRON PROGRAM UPDATE

JAINA would like to thank each and every one of the following new patrons for their generosity in helping make us successful:

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196	Mr. Narendra Bhandari, North Brunswick, NJ
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198	Mr. & Mrs. Dipak & Pritee Kapadia, Oakbrook, IL
199	Mr. & Mrs. Bharat & Harsha Shah, Nashua, NH
200	Dr. & Mrs. Gurang & Ashwina Sheth, Williamsville, NY

JAIN DIGEST LIFE MEMBERS UPDATE

Congratulations and thanks to newest JAIN DIGEST Life Members

525	Devendra Mehta, NJ
526	Jasvantrai & Nalini Shah, Richardson, TX
527	Pankaj & Nalini Vakharia, Swartz Creek, MI
528	Manhar & Ramila Shah, North Bergen, NJ
529	Anonymous
530	Natin & Anjana Sheth, New City, NY
531	Navin S. Dedhia, San Jose, CA
532	Mrs. Namita Kothari, Bangkok, Thailand
533	Dinesh & Hemlata Patel, Rockville, MD

GENERAL FUND UPDATE

The JAIN DIGEST and JAINA would like to thank each and every one of the following for their generosity in helping make us successful:

Jain Society of Toronto	\$17,991.58
(\$7215.00 donated in Oct. '97)	
Marriage Information Service	480.00
Harshad Sanghavi, Northridge, CA	50.00
Mahendra Shah, Miami, FL	250.00
Pravin Shah, Clarkson, GA	25.00
Mukundrai & Nalini Shah Irvine, CA	51.00
Bhanu M. Mehta, Congers, NY	10.00

HAPPY OCCASIONS

Jaina wishes the very best and thanks you for your donation of \$100:

Mr. Anop and Renuka Vora, Rochester, NY, would like to announce the engagement of their son, Dr. Sujay A. Vora, with Rupal D. Shah, daughter of Dr. Dinesh & Mukti Shah, Los Angeles, CA.

Federation of Jain Associations in North America Appeal

*I want to stop the loss of Jain identity and culture by supporting JAINA and I want to be a proud Jain!
Please fill out this form and support JAINA.*

In the U.S.A, mail to:

JAINA Headquarters
PO Box 700
Gerzville, NY 14068



In Canada, mail to:

S.S. Jain Foundation
276 Carlaw Ave., Unit 200
Toronto, ONT M4M 3L1

- ☐ I want to be a Trustee of JAINA Charitable Trust and will donate \$500⁰⁰ every year.
- ☐ I want to be a JAINA Patron and will donate \$251⁰⁰ every year.
- ☐ I want to be a Life Member of JAIN DIGEST and will donate \$101⁰⁰.
- ☐ Any other amount: ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50

Please make checks payable to JAINA in the U.S.A. or S.S. Jain Foundation in Canada.

Your donation is tax-deductible in both countries. Please advise us if you wish your donation to remain anonymous.
950 Jain families have already done so, would you not do so? If not for you, do it for your children and grandchildren.

Jain Temple Directory of North America

by Jasvant Mehta, Edmonton, Alberta

JAIN TEMPLES

Siddhachalam/I M J M

650 Mud Pond Road
Blairstown, NJ 07825

Jain Society of Toronto

48 Rosemeade Avenue
Etobicoke, ONT
416/251-8112
500 families

Jain Society of Houston

3905 Arc Street
Houston, TX
713/789-2338
350 families

Jain Centre of N. California†

33136 Lake Champlain St.
Freemont, CA
510/475-7882
500 families

Jain Society of Metro Chicago

435 North Route 59
Bartlett, IL
900+ families

Tulsa Jain Sangh†

25 families

Jain Sangh of NJ-Cherry Hill

3401 Cooper Avenue
Pennausken, NJ
200 families

Jain Society of North Texas

538 Apollo
Richardson, TX 75081
180 families

Jain Centre of Cincinnati/Dayton

6798 Cincinnati Dayton Road
Cincinnati, OH
150 families

Jain Society of Greater Detroit

29278 West 12 Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI
300 families

Jain Centre of South Florida†

Davie, Broward County, FL
60 families

Jain Center of America

4311 Ithaca Street
Elmhurst, NY 11373
718/424-9333
700 families

Jain Centre of NJ-Essex

233 Runnymede Road
Essex Fells, NJ
210/226-2539
750 families

Jain Centre of Greater Boston

15 Cedar Street
Norwood, MA 02062
617/762-9490

Jain Centre of Southern California

8072 Commonwealth Avenue
Buena Park, CA
714/739-9161

Jain Society of Metro Washington

1021 Briggs Chaney Road
Silver Springs, MD
301/236-4466

HINDU/JAIN TEMPLES

Jain Society of Alberta

14225-133 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
403/451-5130
45 families

Sanatan Mandir of Toronto

9333 Woodbine Avenue
Markham, ONT
905/887-7777
500 families

Jain Centre of Minnesota

Augusta Jain Community
408 Hastings Place
Martinez, GA
12 families

Jain Society of S. Carolina

12 families

Jain Centre of St. Louis

85 families

Jain Community of Buffalo

1595 North French Road
Getzville, NY 14068
716/688-2460
54 families

Jain Society of C.D.- Albany

450 Albany Shaker Road
Londonville, NY
20 families

Jain Sangh of Allentown

4200 Airport Road
Allentown, PA
15 families

Jain Society of Pittsburgh

615 Illini Drive
Monroeville, PA 15146
412/325-2073
70 families

Jain Centre of Connecticut†

Samarpan Hindu Jain Temple

6515 Bustleton Avenue
Philadelphia, PA
215/537-9537

Jain Study Center of North Carolina (Raleigh)

309 Aviation Parkway
Morrisville, NC 27560
45 families

Jain Study Group of Charlotte

7400 City View Drive
Charlotte, NC

Jain Society of Rochester

14 Ambergate Rise
Pittsford, NY 14534
716/377-2100

Jain Group of Greenville

108 Meaway Court
Simsonville, SC 92681

Hindu Temple Society of Augusta

P.O. Box 204624
Augusta, GA 30907

Jain Sangh of Allentown

4200 Airport Road
Allentown, PA 18130
610/264-2810

Hindu Centre of Virginia

60651 Springfield Road
Richmond, VA
804/346-9954

† Denotes temple is under construction. We have tried our best to make this information as accurate as possible. Please contact Jasvant Mehta at 403/497-5504 for corrections.

YOUNG Minds

YOUNG JAINS OF AMERICA

Dear fellow Jain community members:

Jai Jinendra! Young Jains of America (YJA) and the Houston YJA Convention Committee (HYJACC) are pleased to present the program of activities for the 3rd Biennial YJA Convention. Under the theme, "Jainism – Back to Basics", the fundamental principles of our religion will be explored and expanded upon through a variety of exciting sessions.

The convention will utilize a variety of different session formats which include lectures by experienced guest speakers, workshops and seminars, and small group discussions to allow participation and interaction amongst all attendees. The distinguished keynote speakers for the convention are Shri Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, Balabhadraji (Bruce Costain), Sadhviji Shilapiji, Dr. Benjamin Zephaniah, Dr. Cromwell Crawford and Professor Janice Leoshko. In addition, other young and old Jain thought leaders from around the country will conduct the convention workshops and discussions. These activities promise to enlighten and stimulate.

In early May, descriptions of the convention activities were sent to all registered convention participants. Participants were asked to select which activities they wished to attend, and to mark this information on an Activity Selection Sheet that was to be returned to the convention organizers.

On the following pages you will find a schedule of activities planned for the convention. In addition, a brief description of each keynote speaker is included.

Please feel to contact any one of the convention committee members listed below for more information.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in July!

*Young Jains of America (YJA) &
the Houston YJA Convention Committee (HYJACC)*

Contact the Houston YJA Convention Committee (HYJACC)

Committee	Contact	Email Address	Phone Number
Chairperson	Neela Gada	neela@owl.net.rice.edu	713/662-2857
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Finance	Zarana Sanghani	zks94526@bayou.uh.edu	281/530-0535
Fund Raising	Kalpesh Shah	kshah@ees.enron.com	281/261-8223
Public Relations	Samir Sanghani	samir_sanghani@notes.pw.com	281/242-0446
Records	Swapna Mehta	progress@hal-pc.org	281/820-9325
Registration	Anish Shah	superman99@juno.com	281/879-5516
Site	Pavan Zaveri	pz692187@bcm.tmc.edu	713/797-0217
Souvenir	Dhanesh Shah	dhanesh@worldnet.att.com	713/952-7616
Transportation	Sonia Dedhia	ssd59580@jetson.uh.edu	281/933-5540

1998 YJA Convention Schedule

July 2-5, 1998

Thursday	Opening Ceremonies - including keynote addresses by Shri Gurudev Chitrabhanuji and Dr. Dhiraj Shah - JAINA President Ice Breakers and Mixers										
Friday	Yoga										
BW-1	Basics of Jainism Intermediate					Basics of Jainism Advanced					
LGS-3	Main Speaker - Benjamin Zephaniah										
SGD-4	Awakening the Namokar Mantra Within You	Jains Becoming More Active in Everyday Society	The Ethics of Business in Daily Life	A Jain View of the American Melting Pot	Scientific Background of Jainism	Reflections on the Study of Jain Art					
LGS-3	Self Preservation vs. External Obligations	Inter-Ethnic Marriages & Pre-Marital Relationships	Gender & Salvation: Is There an Equilibrium	Rituals: The Beginning or the End	Faith Without Reason	Replacement Parts - The Transferring of Organs	Got Milk? - How Essential Is It	Human Intervention vs. Natural Order	Addressing Issues Facing Youth Groups and Clubs	Cigarettes, Coolers, and Clubs	
SGD-4	Awakening the Namokar Mantra Within You	Jains Becoming More Active in Everyday Society	The Ethics of Business in Daily Life	A Jain View of the American Melting Pot	Scientific Background of Jainism	Reflections on the Study of Jain Art					
	Self Preservation vs. External Obligations	Inter-Ethnic Marriages & Pre-Marital Relationships	Gender & Salvation: Is There an Equilibrium	Rituals: The Beginning or the End	Faith Without Reason	Replacement Parts - The Transferring of Organs	Got Milk? - How Essential Is It	Human Intervention vs. Natural Order	Addressing Issues Facing Youth Groups and Clubs	Cigarettes, Coolers, and Clubs	
Saturday	YJA Session Garbaa-Raas Yoga										
LGS-5	Karma: You Make the Call	A Jain Prescription for Well-being	Understanding the Many Faces of 'God'	Passing the Torch - a Legacy of Ego, Greed, Power & Hypocrisy	Different Interpretations of Jainism by Keynote Speakers	Sectarian Schism, Gender Bias, and the Role of Women in Jainism					
BL-2	Basics Lecture - Balabhadraji	Basics Lecture - Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji	Basics Lecture - Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji	Basics Lecture - Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji	Basics Lecture - Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji	Basics Lecture - Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji					
SGD-6	Escaping Temptation	The Afterlife and Individual Control	How Good of a Thing is Knowledge	Jainism and the Environment	The Road Less Traveled	Jain Education: Philosophy or Ritual Based	Following in Their Footsteps	Cloning - 1 Soul, 2 Bodies	Contradiction: Principle vs. Action		
LGS-5	Karma: You Make the Call	A Jain Prescription for Well-being	Understanding the Many Faces of 'God'	Passing the Torch - a Legacy of Ego, Greed, Power & Hypocrisy	Different Interpretations of Jainism by Keynote Speakers	Sectarian Schism, Gender Bias, and the Role of Women in Jainism					
SGD-6	Escaping Temptation	The Afterlife and Individual Control	How Good of a Thing is Knowledge	Jainism and the Environment	The Road Less Traveled	Jain Education: Philosophy or Ritual Based	Following in Their Footsteps	Cloning - 1 Soul, 2 Bodies	Contradiction: Principle vs. Action		
Sunday	Feedback Session Formal Dinner and Dance Yoga Closing Ceremonies Tour of the Jain Center of Houston										

CONVENTION KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Our six keynote speakers represent a wide variety of Jain knowledge and perspectives. All are renowned for not only their speaking ability, but also their presentation experience with the younger generation and with topics that Young Jains face everyday. Keynote speakers will not only take part in specific lectures, but also will participate in some of the workshops, seminars, and panel discussions. In addition, speakers will be available during break times to personally talk with interested youth. This variety of activities will allow participants to listen and interact with all of our distinguished speakers.

Balabhadraji (Bruce Costain)

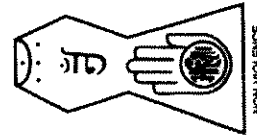
Bruce Costain received his Bachelor in Education, Masters in Art, and a Ph.D., and since 1974, he has practiced the art of meditation. During his studies of Eastern Philosophy, he was introduced to Jainism. Further awareness of Jainism and its principles influenced him to become a vegetarian. In 1985, Bruce Costain adopted the name Balabhadra and became an "Anuvrat" (took the five minor vows of a Jain layperson). To better understand the religion, Balabhadraji traveled to India to live and learn. Currently residing in Toronto, Canada, Balabhadraji is actively involved in teaching Pathshala classes. He has worked extensively with Jain youth for several years providing a unique perspective to the religion that young Jains in the west can relate to.

Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji

Gurudev, founder of the Jain Meditation International Center in New York, was a Jain sadhu for 28 years. During that period, he spent five years in silence and meditation in India. He is the author of more than twenty-five books, all of which reflect his message of world peace and non-violence. A mesmerizing orator, Gurudev has led numerous retreats, workshops, and seminars throughout his life. He became the first Jain sadhu to travel out of India over 25 years ago, and since that time has worked closely with YJA, JAINA, the World Fellowship of Religions, and other organizations in North America.

Sadhvi Shilapji

This young student took her diksha five years ago. She obtained her Masters degree at the London School of Economics and is currently enrolled at King's College, University of London, United Kingdom. Sadhvi brings a unique mix to young Jains, blending her religious and scriptural studies with a western system of research. She is an ideal ambassador of the Jain message to younger, English-speaking Jains. In fact, she is well-conversant in many languages. Currently, Sadhvi spends time between London and Veerayatan, India.



જાન શિક્ષણ આંદોલન

Co-Chairpersons

Gaurav Kapadia
Raju Shah

Benjamin Zephaniah

Benjamin Zephaniah is an African poet who is deeply influenced by Jain philosophy. He was asked to join the Oxford University faculty when he was of thirty, and continues teaching there today. He is a noted author, having written several books. His topic of presentation will cover poverty, the environment, and consumers. Mr. Zephaniah will discuss the interrelation of these issues, and how we all can play a key role in combating the negative causes and effects.

Dr. Cromwell Crawford

Professor Cromwell Crawford teaches Religion at the University of Hawaii. A specialist in Indian Studies, he leads courses in Ethics, Philosophy of Religion and Medicine in World Religions. He has been published widely in the areas of Comparative Ethics and Bioethics, with a focus on Hinduism. His most recent book is *Dilemmas of Life and Death, Hindu Ethics in a North American Context* (State University of New York, 1996). A frequent speaker at national and international conferences, professor Crawford has been an early proponent of East-West dialogue. In his former capacity as Director of South Asian Studies, University of Hawaii, he had instituted various forums for the academic development of Jain Studies, and has taken an active interest in the spread of Jain scholarship in North America over the past five years. Dr. Cromwell Crawford was born in Jhansi, his ancestors having come to India as Civil Servants in 1761. In his book on Ram Mohan Roy he describes the ferment created by this encounter of contrasting cultures.

Professor Janice Leoshko

Janice Leoshko is a professor at the University of Texas at Austin. She primarily deals with studies related to South Asian Art and has a special interest in Jain Art. On this specialized area, she has been published as a renowned expert in the artwork of South Asia.

Young Jains of America

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

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JAINA Youth Coordinator

Pravin Mehta
(931) 648-9535
pmchra@juno.com

YOUNG MINDS (continued)

YJA MEMBERSHIP FORM

GENERAL INFORMATION

TODAY'S DATE: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I. _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Telephone Number: () _____ Email Address: _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY): ____/____/____ Jain Center Affiliation: _____

Parents' Names: Father _____ Mother _____

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

High School Information

☐ Check if currently a high school student

School Name: _____

Class of: _____

College Information

☐ Check if currently a college student

University/College Name: _____

Class of: _____

Graduate School Name: _____

Class of: _____

Most Recent (or current) Degree/Major: _____

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

Profession (list primary field(s)): _____

Employer/Company: _____ Position/Job Title: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____

Optional

Why do you want to join YJA?

I do not want...

- ☐ any of this information published by YJA in a positive manner
- ☐ home phone number published
- ☐ college phone number published
- ☐ business phone number(s) published

If you would like to join YJA or update your existing membership information, please fill out this form and mail it to either of the following addresses:

Within the U.S.:

Young Jains of America
% Raju Shah
PO Box 202039
New Haven CT 06520

Outside the U.S.:

Young Jains of America
% Paulomi Gudka
35 Andes Road
Scarborough, ONT M1T 3B6

You can also find this form online at:
<http://www.yale.edu/yja/>

Email YJA

To Reach...

...the Executive Committee

yja-excom-list@pantheon.yale.edu

...the Co-Chairs

yja-cc-list@pantheon.yale.edu

...the Advisory Board

yja-ad-list@pantheon.yale.edu

...Your Regional Co-ordinators

yja-xx-list@pantheon.yale.edu

(Replace xx with ma, we, se, so, ne, or mw, depending on your region.)

YOUNG Minds

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Gaurav Kapadia

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Avni Shah

Raju Shah

Anish Sheth

If you would like to become an editor of **YOUNG Minds**, please email Gaurav Kapadia at Gauravk@aol.com, or call 516/829-3316.

MALE

M275: Jain vegetarian, handsome, 5'10", never married, well settled professional, candian resident, invites correspondence from attractive, educated, cultured girls (27 - 33). Call 905/828-6976.

M377: Gujarati parents invite proposals for their very handsome, fair, highly accomplished, active, vegetarian son, born Jan 70, 5'11", 145 lb, MBA, well employed, from cultured, beautiful, educated girls. Call 931/648-9535.

M478: Jain parents invite proposals from bright, caring, educated, vegetarian, cultured girls, for very handsome, talented, US born son, Sept 69, 5'11", 150 lb, PhD (Cornell), very well employed. Call 914/462-1620.

M548: Jain parents invite proposals with biodata / photo, from attractive, educated, vegetarian girls, for their very handsome, fair, talented son, born Feb 68, 5'8", 140 lb, MBA, very well employed / settled in New York. Call 718/279-0874.

M579: Uncle invite alliance from cultured, vegetarian, Gujarati girls for very handsome, fair, talented nephew, born March 72, 5'6", MS (Electronics), own successful business, trained in oracle software, currently in India & willing to settle in USA. Call/Fax: 413/664-7488.

M600: Gujarati parents invite proposals for handsome, talented, vegetarian, US citizen son, born April 72, 5'8", 150 lb, PharmD (Doctor of Pharmacy), very well employed, from educated, cultured girls preferably in any type of medical field. Call 910/483-7992.

M630: Correspondence with biodata & returnable photo invited for Gujarati Jain, handsome, vegetarian boy, born 69, 6'1", 160 lb, BS (EE), well employed, from suitable, educated, vegetarian girls. Call 416/494-0118.

M638: Jain parents invite proposals for their very handsome, fair, intelligent, vegetarian, US raised son, born Feb 72, 6'0", 160 lb, MD, resident doctor, from pretty, fair, educated, cultured girls. Call 612/559-1061.

M639: Gujarati parents invite responses for their handsome, talented, US raised, vegetarian son, born Aug 68, 5'8", BS (comp sc), well employed with Andersen, from educated, cultured girls. Call 847/541-4155.

M645: Brother invite correspondence for handsome, vegetarian, US citizen brother, born Oct 73, 5'7", 140 lb, MS (Engg), well employed as Research Engineer, from Gujarati Jain, family oriented girls. Call 330/659-3169.

M646: Jain parents invite alliance for handsome, vegetarian, US born, divorcee son, Jan 68, 5'8", 125 lb, BS (Fin), well employed, from cultured, suitable match. Call 410/750-0662.

M647: Gujarati parents invite proposals for their handsome, talented, vegetarian, US born son, Dec 68, 6'0", BA (comp sc), well employed with Ernst & Young, from cultured, educated girls. He lived in India also for some time. Call 973/890-9788 or 847/635-7500.

M649: Gujarati parents invite responses for their very handsome, fair, bright, US born son, Dec 73, 5'9", second year Medical student, from cultured, educated girls. Call 703/262-0183.

M657: Gujarati parents from NJ, invite proposals from educated, cultured, vegetarian girls, for their handsome, talented son, born Oct 69, 5'11", BS (Comp Sc), well employed as Analyst. Call 732/821-2055.

AM188: Responses invited by Gujarati parents from educated, cultured girls, for their handsome son, born June 70, 5'11", MD, finishing residency June 99 in Canada. Call 905/646-2304.

AM211: Gujarati parents invite responses for their professional, cultured, US born son, Mar 73, 5'7", 130 lb, Actuarial Consultant (BS Math), from family oriented, vegetarian girls. Call 248/879-6981.

FEMALE

F248: Gujarati parents invite responses from cultured, educated boys, for their pretty, caring, vegetarian, talented, US citizen daughter, born Oct 68, 5'6", 125 lb, BS, well employed. Call 714/871-6428.

F258: Gujarati parents invite correspondence from professional boys, from cultured families, for their slim, very beautiful, fair, caring, intelligent, US born daughter, Aug 71, 5'6", MBA, well employed with Anderson. Call 716/473-9290.

F274: Correspondence invited for pretty, Jain vegetarian, social, family oriented, MBA daughter, raised in Canada, from professional, cultured, social gentlemen (29 - 34). Call 905/828-6976.

F324: Gujarati Surgeon invite correspondence from highly educated professionals, for his slim, fair, very beautiful, talented, highly accomplished daughter, born Nov 70, 5'2", MS (economy) from very prestigious school, well versed with Indian culture. Call 301/983-8597.

F335: Proposals invited by Gujarati family for beautiful, cultured, caring, vegetarian, well educated, widow daughter, born Aug 58, 5'0", 110 lb, well employed, from suitable, educated, cultured males. Call 630/769-1403

F447: Jain parents invite responses for exceptionally beautiful, very fair, talented, US born daughter, July 74, 5'5", 115 lb, MD (final year), from professional, handsome, bright boys. Please mail biodata / returnable photo. Call 248/651-1299.

F497: Responses invited by Gujarati family for their pretty, vegetarian daughter, born Sept 63, 5'2", 105 lb, Bcom, LLB, family business, from suitable, cultured, educated males. Call 931/645-7227.

F499: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for their beautiful, intelligent, US born daughter, Aug 70, 5'1", 110 lb, BS, pursuing MBA at Chicago Uni., from cultured, educated boys. Call 847/310-0552.

F509: Parents invite responses with biodata / photo, for beautiful, bright, caring, talented, vegetarian daughter, born Oct 69, 5'3", MD, practicing internal medicine, from professionals, preferably MD. Call 972/414-6506.

F519: Proposals invited by Gujarati parents for their pretty, talented, active, well accomplished, US raised daughter, born March 71, 5'5", 115 lb, BS (Wharton school of Business), well employed as consultant, from educated, cultured boys. Call 412/833-5108.

F520: Gujarati parents invite correspondence from cultured, educated boys, for their beautiful, intelligent, well accomplished, caring, US raised daughter, born July 72, 5'3", 115 lb, BS, well employed as Sr. Acts Manager. Call 412/833-5108.

F585: Alliance invited from professional boys, for extremely beautiful, slim, talented, vegetarian, US citizen, Jain Girl, born May 65, 5'1", BS, well employed as Chemist. Innocently divorced, 4 months brief marriage, no issue. Call 916/488-2601.

F587: Alliance invited by Jain parents, from professionals, for their very beautiful, charming, family oriented, cultured, vegetarian, highly proficient, US raised daughter, born June 71, 5'0", 110 lb, BBA, CPA, very well employed. Call 281/437-4700 & 713/952-7868.

F591: Gujarati parents invite proposals from cultured, educated boys, for their beautiful, talented, caring, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born Nov 71, 5'3", BS (pharmacy), well employed as Pharmacist. Call 717/541-8274.

F604: Gujarati parents invite responses for pretty, talented, vegetarian, cultured daughter, born Aug 72, 5'3", 110 lb, MD, first year resident, from well educated professional boys. Call 908/754-4795.

F640: Proposals invited by Gujarati parents from cultured, educated boys, for their beautiful, slim, intelligent, vegetarian, US born daughter, Aug 74, 5'6", 125 lb, BS, well employed. Call 847/985-6858.

F641: Responses invited with biodata / photo from cultured, well educated, progressive professionals, ages 25-29, for slim, good looking, artistic, outgoing, Jain background, canadian born daughter, March 71, 5'3", 105 lb, DMD, from US Uni., Dentist. Call 905/475-9285.

F642: Gujarati parents invite responses for pretty, talented, US born daughter with strong Indian family values, June 74, 5'5", BBA, well employed, from outgoing, vegetarian, well educated, professional boys. Call 281/820-6643.

F643: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents from professionals, for their beautiful, intelligent, slim, cultured, vegetarian, US born daughter, April 73, 5'4", 108 lb, BS (biology), BSN(98). Call 717/975-0708.

F644: Physician Uncle invite correspondence for pretty, cultured, slim, vegetarian niece, born May 75, 5'3", 100 lb, Computer Graduate from MS Uni. Baroda, from educated, vegetarian Gujarati boys. She is in India & willing to settle in USA. Call 301/279-0537.

F648: Brother invite responses for pretty, active, vegetarian sister, born Jan 69, 5'5", Bcom (Bom Uni), well employed in Travel Business, from educated, cultured boys. She is in India & willing to settle in USA. Call 408/733-3209.

F650: Gujarati Physician parents invite alliance with biodata / returnable photo from well educated, professionals, for their beautiful, fair, cultured, highly accomplished, US born daughter, March 69, 5'5", MS, well employed in educational multimedia. Call 718/273-1157.

F651: Alliance invited by Jain Physician parents for their beautiful, cultured, slim, vegetarian, US born daughter, Jan 71, 5'3", studying Medicine, from well educated, professionals. Call 914/633-1448.

F652: Correspondence invited by Gujarati family for beautiful, cultured, vegetarian, charming widow, born Dec 54, 5'2", 118 lb, BS, well employed, from educated, suitable match with family values. Write: PO Box 641281, Chicago 60664.

Continued on page 19

Guideline 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 MIS

Anyone wishing to place an ad and register with the MIS—Marriage Information Service—must follow these instructions *carefully*:

① Fill out the attached Registration Form. The registrant must fill out this form. *Do not leave anything blank.*

② Mail the following items to:

Hasmukh M. Shah
8721 Scrimshaw Drive
New Port Richey, FL 34653-6623
(813/376-7290)

- the completed form
- a check in the amount of \$25 payable to **Hasmukh M. Shah**. Leave the “memo” or “for” line blank.
- a recent, full-length photo of yourself with your name printed on the back

Upon receipt of this information the MIS will draft an ad for you and it will appear in the JAIN DIGEST—but only once. Remember, JAIN DIGEST is a quarterly publication.

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. Follow step ② above, but submit your own ad instead of a completed form and photo.

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. 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.

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.

The following candidates who have registered/listed with the Marriage Information Service are married/engaged, with the help of this service:

F098, 127, 139, 151, 152, 159, 188, 196, 206, 299, 316, 366, 382, 385, 387, 393, 397, 398, 426, 447, 457, 462, 465, 483, 490, 555.
AF74, 90, 106, 101, 110.

M181, 199, 237, 254, 284, 286, 287, 304, 321, 330, 336, 342, 343, 344, 364, 388, 389, 395, 405, 411, 417, 422, 438, 445, 446, 450, 452, 459, 470, 536. AM79, 89, 104, 107, 114, 120, 135, 169.

More and more Jains around the world are not only appreciating this much needed service, but are also taking advantage of it. Simultaneously, the flow of ads in JAIN DIGEST is gradually increasing.

MIS REGISTRATION FORM — PAGE 1

Send this completed form, a check in the amount of \$25 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 34653-6623

Name (please print): _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Address: _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____ Email: _____

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/COLLEGE

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.

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 Other (specify): _____

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.**

**EAR, NOSE & THROAT
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& AFFILIATED HOSPITALS**

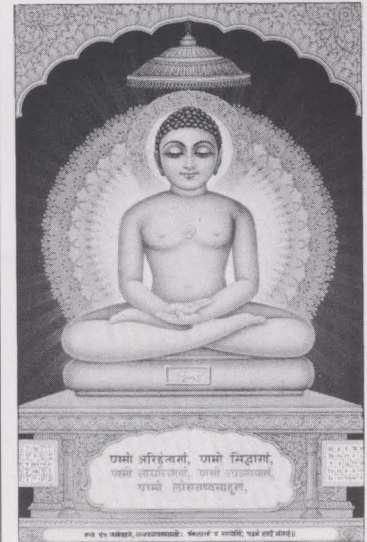
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NEW YORK CITY, NY 10003
(212) 505-9640**



Tirthankar Parsavnath



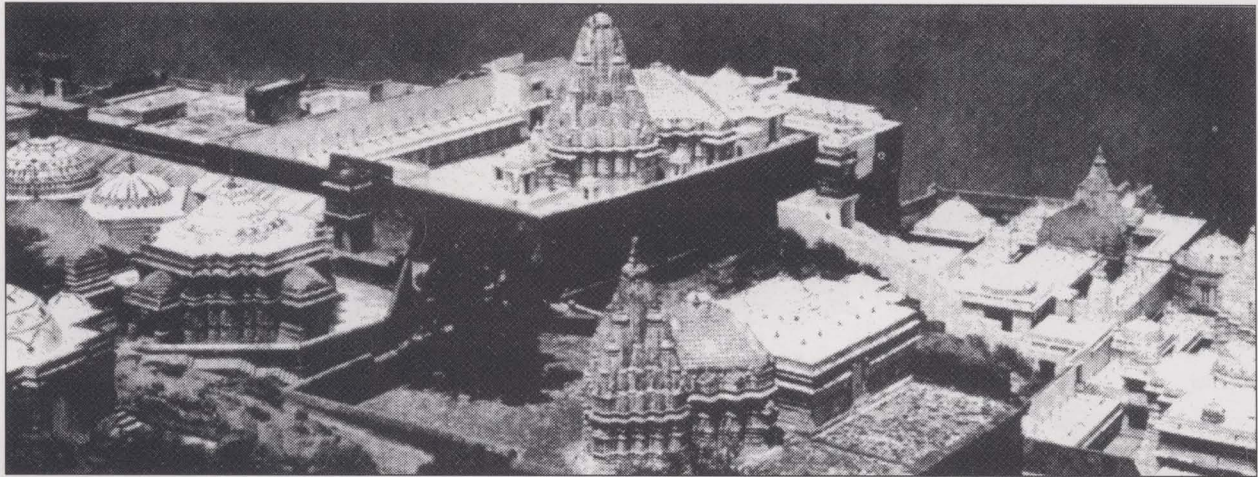
Jain temple format



Tirthankar Mahavir

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800/545-7788
FAX
248/372-4806

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34 Hill Road
Bandra (West), Bombay 400050
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