

The Magazine of the Federation of Jain Associations in North America

JAIN DIGEST

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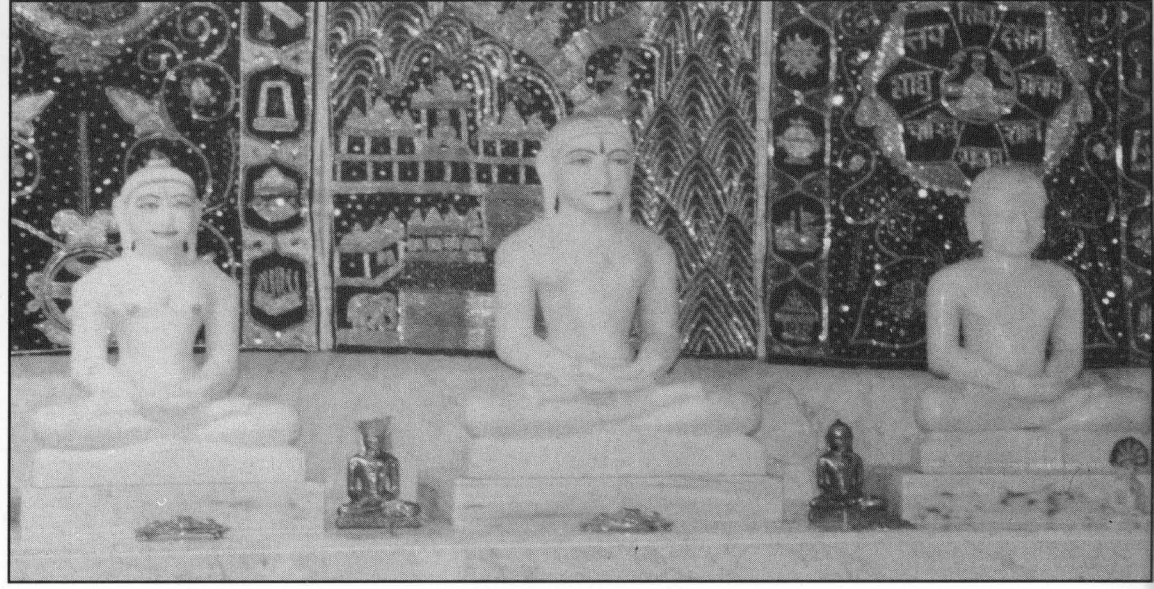
Fullfilling the Promise...

JAINA IN ACTION



10TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION
Philadelphia, PA — July 25, 1999

JAIN TEMPLE, WASHINGTON, DC



JAI JINENDRA

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

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

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

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

- Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra, Srimad Rajchandra -

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

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

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"JAINA at its best"

JAINA's new mission statement, "From cradle to cremation — JAINA is there" was not just a hollow promise or political rhetoric. JAINA is delivering on that promise every day.

Let me inform you what has happened since that statement.

JAINA's North American Family Assistance program committee under the leadership of Ilaben Mehta of Toledo, Ohio was helping a family in San Jose where a woman was dying of cancer and also helped raise funds for a Jain woman, Ms. Vijaya Kumat from Jaipur-India, who is here for bone marrow transplant.

Pravin Shah, Chairman of E.B.B. service organised a teacher's workshop with the financial assistance from JAINA and helped fifty plus teachers, so that they can use their experience at the local level and teach our children our religion, our heritage and our way of living in a better way.

As JAINA President, I signed an appeal letter, addressed to all Jains to contribute for the temple being built by Jain Centre of Northern California.

The Pilgrimage committee under the chairmanship of Dilip V. Shah of Philadelphia is planning a second Jain Sangh to the places of pilgrimage in Rajasthan and Gujarat after first successful Jain Sangh to Sametshikhar.

The interfaith committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Rashmi Gardi of Chicago is organising Jain delegation to world parliament of Religions to be held in Capetown, South Africa. JAINA is one of the cosponsor of the conference.

JAINA and Veerayatan are trying for \$400,000 grant from U.S. AID under the child Survival Program to save the lives of thousands of children under five in Nalanda District of Bihar where 125 out of 1000 children per year are dying because of malnutrition, diseases, lack of vaccinations and unhygienic conditions. Our goal is to reduce mortality rate by 50%. This will make difference in the lives of thousands of families and bring hope of survival to those who would have otherwise died prematurely.

JAINA has decided to be Founder member of Jain Academies International Federation headquartered in Ahmedabad, India. Someday, we hope to fund a chair of Jain Studies at a prestigious university in North America.

JAINA and the Jain Centre of Southern California under the leadership of Dr. Manibhai Mehta of L. A. has raised \$65,000 and took 48 doctors and volunteers to Bidada medical camp and treated 18,000+ patients who had no other access to medical care. These volunteers gave their time, talent and treasure for those who needed the most. Endeavours like this are a great inspiration to future generations. U.S. ambassador Richard Celeste visited the camp and praised the humanitarian works of JAINA volunteers.

At the same time, World Community Services volunteers, Vijay Chheda of L.A., Keerti Shah of Chicago, Meetaben Shah of New Jersey, Kantibhai Shah of L.A., Dr. C. Haria of Cleveland, Dr. Pravin Mehta of Buffalo, Popat Savla of L.A., myself and many others participated in ground breaking ceremony of houses, temple and tubewells in villages of Ragha and Shekhdadia, adopted by JAINA for rehabilitation after deadly cyclone had destroyed these villages on June 9th, 1998.

Newly formed Jirnodhar Committee under the leadership of Kirit Daftary of Dallas, TX has already completed its first project by sending funds to NAVKAR MANDAL of Ahmedabad to help them in their ongoing project of providing medicine to 1100 Sadhu-Sadhviji.

In this continent, under the leadership of Dr. Mahendra Pandya of New York and host Samarpan Jain Sangh under the leadership of Devendra Peer are getting ready for 10th Biennial

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JAIN DIGEST

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Fall (September)	August 15
Winter (December)	November 15



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Regular: Two directors on JAINA's Board (over 50 families). *Associate:* One director on JAINA's Board (up to 50 families).

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Northeast	ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NY,	West	AL, WA, OR, CA, NV, ID, MT,
	PA, MD, DE, NJ, VA, DC		WY, HI

JAINA FOCUS

JAINA publishes the JAINA Focus monthly newsletter
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.

JAINA ON THE INTERNET

JAINA **Jain BBS**
http://www.jaina.org/ http://www.jainism.org/
Young Jains of America
http://www.yja.edu/

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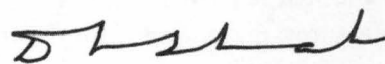
JAINA Convention. Chief guest Vice-President Al Gore and Honourable guests like Father Valles of Ahmedabad, Sushma Swaraj (Ex-Minister of Information and Broadcasting in India) and many prominent scholars and dignitaries will grace the occasion.

Last but not least, JAINA, under the leadership of Dr. Manoj Dharamsi, is preparing for 2600th Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Mahavir in year 2001. Dr. Manoj Dharamsi, Dr. Manibhai Mehta and myself held meetings in India with many Jain leaders to develop common programs. I also visited New Delhi and followed up my meeting with Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, I also met Home minister L. K. Advani,

Minister of Broadcasting and Information Mr. Pramod Mahajan, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Mr. Khurana, leader of Opposition In Rajya Sabha Dr. Manmohan Singh and Ms. Sushma Swaraj (Ex-minister of Information and Broadcasting).

As you can see, hundreds of JAINA volunteers were active in the last three months to fulfil JAINA's stated mission "From Cradle to Cremation – JAINA is there!"

Jai Jinendra!



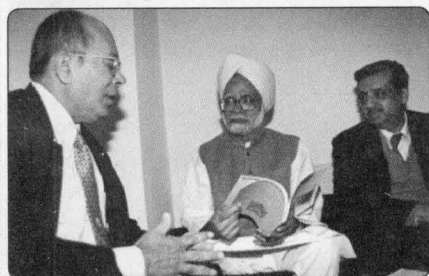
Dhiraj Shah

January 25-27, 1999: President at work for 2001 Mahavir Celebration



Mr. Rajiv P. Jain (JAINA's India representative) and Dr. Dhiraj Shah with Mr. L. K. Advani, Home Minister of India

With Smt. Sushma Swaraj, ex-Minister of Information & Broadcasting and ex-Chief Minister of Delhi



With Dr. Manmohan Singh, leader of the opposition

With Pramod Mahajan, Minister of Information & Broadcasting

Cover Captions

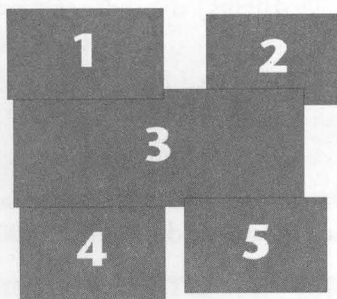


Photo 1: US Ambassador Richard Celeste and Consul General Franklin Huddle with JAINA doctors and volunteers at Bidada medical camp

Photo 2: Dr. Manibhai Mehta operating on a child to remove a kidney stone

Photo 3: Participants at the Jain Teachers Workshop held last November in Raleigh, NC

Photo 4: JAINA volunteers participating in the ground breaking ceremony of a villager's house

Photo 5: JAINA volunteers distributing blankets to villagers of Ragha and Skehkadia

Meet the new committee chairpersons

JAINA Convention '99
Mahendra Pandya



Pilgrimage
Dilip V. Shah



Jirnodhdhar
Kirit Daftary



JAIN DIGEST Membership
Keerti Shah



Future Conventions
Bipin Parikh



Executive Committee of JAINA Meets in Los Angeles

The meeting was held at the Jain Center of Southern California and started at 10:15 A.M. on Saturday February 20, 1999. It started with recitation of Namokar Mantra by Dr. Manibhai Mehta. Minutes of the November 1998 meeting in Chicago were read by the secretary, Dilip V. Shah and were approved.

Jaya Travel & Tours of Detroit that arranged for the travel arrangements for JAINA Samet Sikhar Pilgrimage announced a donation of \$2,000 to JAINA general Fund and \$1,000 to the JAINA's Pilgrimage Committee.

President Dr. Dhiraj Shah reported on JAINA's activity during the last 3 months. He visited India during December and January and met with various Jain leaders and political leaders of India.

World Community service of JAINA has completed and submitted to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) application under the Child Survival Program for a grant of \$400,000. This money will be used in the Nalanda District of Bihar for reducing mortality rate of children between the ages of 1 and 5 from 125 per thousand to 75 per thousand. Our partner in this project is Veerayatan and the U S Embassy in India has already approved the application and we are waiting for decision by Washington.

For the Year 2001 Janmakalyanak of our Lord Mahavir, JAINA had submitted to the Prime Minister Vajpayee a request for issuance of 3 Postage stamps commemorating Lord Mahavir, Shrimad Rajchandra and Shri Veerchand Raghavji Gandhi. During his meeting with Sushma Swaraj in New Delhi, Dhirajbhai got assurances that the needful will be done.

Pramod Mahajan – Minister of Information and broadcasting, in his meeting with Dhirajbhai promised that Government of India would approve up to Five Crore Rupees to produce a documentary on Life of Mahavir for world Wide Audience. Dhirajbhai met with Shri Deepchand Gardi and other leaders in India to discuss details of that proposal and creation of Mahavir Peace prize.

Dhirajbhai visited Ragha and Shekhadia. two villages JAINA has adopted for rehabilitation. A donation of \$25,000 from KOJAIN has enabled them to dig 2 tube wells providing safe water for the villages. With the help of Jain Center of Southern California, 48 Doctors and volunteers visiting Bidada medical camp saw 18,000 patients and \$65,000 was donated by Jains of North America for the medical camp and 25 Cardiac surgeries.

Treasurer Jit Turakhia sent financial report showing fund balances in various accounts and was approved by the members.

Devendra Peer, Convenor of the 1999 JAINA Convention reported on the preparation for the convention. He discussed the capacity of various halls and appealed for help on advertisements for the souvenir. He talked about various programs at the convention. He distributed a list of various activities that will be taking place.

The executive committee approved a resolution requesting JAINA Charitable trust to give a grant of \$10,000 for the Convention. Mr. Peer reiterated his earlier pledge to share 50% of any surplus with JAINA. As the convention hotel gets full, 2 new hotels will be announced. He requested JAINA to provide volunteers for food service.

The executive committee approved a budget of \$5,000 for preparing a JAINA booth that will be managed by Ramesh Shah of Ohio. Membership committee reported that many centers had not yet sent their membership dues and not reported names of their Directors for the coming 2 year terms. The regional vice Presidents were requested to assist Kamlesh Shah, the chairperson of Membership Committee.

Anop Vora reported on Drive for Patrons. Many of the patrons have not yet renewed their membership. He will send out letters to all the patrons for reservations at the convention hotel.

JAINA will look at sets of 6 books from the Education Committee on Pathshala Curriculum for review by Kirit Daftary, Girtish Shah Sr. of LA, Pravin Mehta and Dr. Dilip T. Shah. Based upon Jain's resources, a budget of \$1,500 was approved for distribution of sets to all centers if the reviewers approve.

Pravin Mehta reported on YJA. The regional convention in Atlanta was very successful. They will be preparing bid packages for the next YJA convention.

Ila Mehta of North American Jain Family Assistance Program presented a detailed written report of their activity. She wants to have a liaison person in each center and invited any one interested to work on her committee to contact her.

Kirit Daftary talked of his Jirnodhdhar Committee's work. His committee has donated \$900 to the Navkar Seva Kendra near Ahemdabad that looks after health of Sadhus and Sadhwis. He has invited suggestions for worthwhile projects for his committee.

The executive committee approved a request by Dhirajbhai to join "Jain Academies International Federation" as one of the founding members. Paying for annual dues of Rs. 5,000 per year was also approved.

Keerti Shah of Chicago was approved as chairman of the new JAIN DIGEST Membership Committee. His committee will undertake to signup more life members. Dr. Bipin Parikh of Chicago was appointed to the new Future Convention Planning Committee.

Saurabh Dalal reported on the possibility of Young Jain Professionals (YJP) to be a committee of JAINA. They are still discussing it and Anop Vora will act as a liaison.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be in Philadelphia May 8th and 9th. Agenda will be sent on time.

Dr. Dhiraj Shah, President of JAINA has appointed Dr. Mahendra K. Pandya, First Vice President of JAINA as the chairperson of 10th Biennial JAINA'S Convention 1999 Committee. Dr. Mahendra K. Pandya has chosen the following members:

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	Dr. Bhupendra Tolia	Norwood	NJ	201-767-3518	
	Mr. Pravin Mehta	Clarksville	TN	615-648-9535	615-648-5901
	Dr. Dilip Shah	Oakbrook	IL	630-655-1670	630-837-1099
	Mr. Anap Vora	Rochester	NY	716-473-9290	716-473-9450
	Mr. Sobhagya Khamesra	Mississauga	ONT	905-274-6464	416-368-0007
	Mr. Prem Jain	Freemont	CA	415-770-0503	
	Mr. Gyan Jain	Toronto	ONT	416-447-1650	
	Mr. Vijay Jain	Parsippany	NJ	973-428-3318	973-887-7692
Registration	Mrs. Chhaya Kapadia	Great Neck	NY	516-829-3316	
Sadhus, Sadhavis	Mr. Nirmal Dosi	East Brunswick	NJ	732-390-0296	
Souvenirs	Mrs. Lata Champsee	Willowdale	ONT	416-493-1666	416-493-1667
	Mr. Navin Jain	Buffalo	NY	716-632-3716	
Food	Mr. Ramesh Shah	Floral Park	NY	718-343-0143	
	Mr. Bhavanji Lodhaya	Floral Park	NY	718-470-0046	
Exhibition	Mr. Kirit Gosalia	Phoenix	AZ	602-863-1073	
YJA	Mr. Gaurav Kapadia	Great Neck	NY	516-829-3316	
Jaina Temple & Pujas	Mr. Naresh Shah	Garden City Park	NY	516-741-9269	516-873-8930
	Mrs. Asha Pandya	Staten Island	NY	718-816-0083	212-319-6781
	Dr. Jagat Jain	Williamsville	NY	716-688-0104	716-688-0104
Speaker Forum	Mr. Ramesh Shah	Mayfield Village	OH	440-442-4596	440-442-4645
Education & Pathshala	Dr. Prem Gada	Lubbock	TX	806-793-8555	
	Mr. Pravin Shah	Cary	NC	919-469-0956	919-469-0956
Interfaith	Dr. Rashmi Gardi	S. Barrington	IL	847-428-4298	847-843-7054
Marriage Bureau	Mr. Hasnukh Shah	New Port Richey	FL	727-376-7290	

Indian Prime Minister Announces Mahavir Centenary Celebration

"There is no alternative to *ahimsa* (non-violence), no *rasta* (path) other than friendship. Co-existence is the key to the future. Bhagwan Mahavir's teachings are becoming more and more relevant today," Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee said on February 28. "*Ahimsa* is the only way out," he said, speaking at the inaugural function of the Bhagwan Mahavir Kendra and Museum, near Delhi University's south campus.

The government will soon set up national and international committees to celebrate the forthcoming 26th birth centenary of Bhagwan Mahavir, the 24th Tirthankara of Jains, said Vajpayee.

The celebrations would also include a world conference of religions to spread the message of peace and brotherhood.

Noted jurist L. M. Singhvi urged Vajpayee to declare 2001 as the year of Lord Mahavir to commemorate his 2600th birth anniversary. "*Ahimsa* has been a fundamental truth since ancient days... Swami Vivekanand, Shri Aurobindo and Mahatma Gandhi have shown us the way," he said.

The gathering urged Vajpayee to ban the export of meat and enact a central law to ban cow-slaughter.

Jains Around the World Mourn Loss of a Dynamic Leader – Ashok Jain

Eminent Jain leader, industrialist and media baron Ashok Jain died in Cleveland, Ohio, on February 3, following complications arising from heart transplant surgery. He was 65.

He was not only a Jain leader but also an eminent media personality, a businessman and a philanthropist. He was known for his social work and many charitable endowments.

Ashok Jain was not only a pillar of the Jain community, but creator of the largest newspaper empire in India. He also owned largest Jute mill in West Bengal and Rohtas industries in Bihar.

He took keen interest in JAINA's activities and received JAINA leaders when they were in New Delhi.

His other major contributions included his work as a managing trustee of the Bharatiya Jnanpith, an organization devoted to the promotion of creative writings in Indian languages. The annual Janapith award by the organization is the most prestigious in the country.

President K. R. Narayan, Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and Congress party President Sonia Gandhi were among the host of politicians, leading industrialists, heads of media organizations and religious leaders who expressed grief over Jain's death and praised his contribution to the field of media and literature.

National institutions of the Jain community together held a memorial meeting on Feb 7 in New Delhi to pay homage to one of their community's most eminent members. The all India Jain revival Foundation conferred the community's highest honor—JAIN RATNA—on Ashok Jain "in recognition of his services to the community and the nation." His memorable contribution as president of the 1993 Mahamasthikabhishekha committee would always be remembered. JAINA has issued a condolence message and conveyed to the family of the deceased in India.

Adlai Stevenson once commented about a man and his contribution: "It is not the years in a life that counts; it is the life in the years (deceased) lived." We will miss him.

— *Dhiraj Shah, President*

Dr. Nathmal Tatia

Dr. Nathmal Tatia-A Jain scholar and the translator of Tatvarth Sutra died in Calcutta on Friday, 19th February. He was Professor at World famous Nalanda University in Bihar. Anytime he met Jains in Nalanda district, he invited them to his residence for tea. Many of us have enjoyed his hospitality. His death has left a big vacuum, as far as academicians of Jain religion are concerned. Jaina has conveyed its condolence to deceased family in India.

Bidada Medical Camp

Bidada Sarvodaya Trust of Bidada – Kutch celebrated its Silver Jubilee by organizing 25th Medical camp of 25 different specialties for 20 days, and treating thousands of poor, needy and indigent patients. It was a highmark in the history of Bidada Sarvodaya Trust which started its activities 25 years ago by organizing an eye camp under the tent.

Growth of humanitarian activities of this trust is phenomenal. In last 25 years, Trust has treated 1.5 million patients, operated on 33,000 patients and sent 3,000 patients to Bombay for major surgery at the expense of Trust. Trust runs 51 bed Hospital, eye, Dental and Ob. Gyn. Departments. The hospital is equipped with X-Ray, Ultrasound, Pathology Lab and one General Operation Theater as well as operation theater for eye surgery, which is equipped with latest equipment like Phaco-Emulsification Machine, yag Laser Machine and many other modern equipments.

This year, hundreds of Doctors and Volunteers from Bombay and 48 Doctors and Volunteers from US and Canada participated in the camp. Doctors and Volunteers from US and Canada came at their own expense and served thousands of patients by using their time, talent and treasure. Jain Center of Southern CA and JAINA coordinated efforts of NRIS under the supervision of Dr. Manibhai Mehta (Past President of JAINA) Dr. Dhiraj Shah (President of JAINA), Vijay Chheda, Trustee of Bidada Sarvodaya Trust and Navin Ganger.

Then, US Ambassador, Mr. Richard Celeste and his wife as well as Consulate General, Mr. Huddle and his wife from Bombay came to observe the work of US doctors and volunteers on January 15th and 16th, 1999 and very pleased to see the humanitarian service provided by US Doctors and Volunteers.

JAINS from North America contributed US\$65,000 and Share & Care Foundation donated US\$6,000 for expenses of Medical Camp.

Nargis Dutt Memorial Trust through Peter Bhedda donated cancer detection equipments worth US \$30,000.

For more information please contact Dr. Dhiraj Shah at 716/773-1314 (Res.) or 716/282 3018.

Sevantilal Sheth

Mr. Sevantilal Sheth of Sunny Side, New York passed away in Bombay following complications of Heart by pass surgery. He was 63. He and his wife Rasilaben had joined JAINA's pilgrimage of Samet Sikhar last October. He is survived by his wife, daughter Neela, Son in law Mehul and daughters Rupa and Shilpa.

Inauguration of Jain Academy International Federation

A meeting of prominent Jain was held on Friday, 1st January, 1999 at Samrat Hotel, Bombay. The trustees of Jain Academy, Bombay, Rajkot, Baroda, and Dr. L.M.Singhvi, Ex-High Commissioner for India at U.K., the eminent philanthropist Shri Dipchandbhai Gardi, JAINA President Dr. Dhirajbhai Shah and other leading personalities also attended. In all there were fifty six members who attended the meeting.

This meeting was held to consider about the formation of Jain Academy international Federation and other matters. The purpose was to create facilities for education and research in Jainism. The constitution of the Federation was passed unanimously and then the inauguration ceremony was performed by the honourable Dr. L.M.Singhvi, Ex-High Commissioner for India at U.K. the internationally acclaimed scholar of Jainism, by lighting a lamp.

The meeting was presided by Shri C. N. Sanghavi, the founder president of the Jain Social Groups' Federation and Chairman trustee of Jain Academy. Many eminent Jain Institutions also joined the federation as founder members.

Shri Dipchandbhai Gardi, Dr. Dhiraj Bhai Shah, President JAINA, Dr. Manoj Dharmasi, past president, Dr. Pravin Mehta from USA and many other welcomed and blessed the establishment of this federation.

Shri C.N.Sanghavi, the chairman of this function declared that a donation of Rs.1,00,000/- (Rs. One lakh) has been offered to our newly established federation by Dr. Bipinbhai Doshi was is present in the meeting.

This declaration was highly applauded by the members present in the meeting. Thus the meeting ended with all enthusiasm and joy on this very auspicious first day of the year 1999.

Diwaliben M. Mehta Award

Diwaliben M Mehta Charitable Trust awarded the prestigious Diwaliben M Mehta Awards to 11 individuals from different field. The awards were given by Shri Pandurang Shastri, on January 8, 1999. Each award carries a citation, Gold Medal and a cash prize of Rs.300,000.

One of the recipients of this award was Dr. Kumarpal Desai of Ahmedabad. He is well known figure among Jains around the world for his contribution to Jainism. He is a frequent visitor to North America during Paryushan month.

JAINA to Participate in the World Parliament of Religions Cape Town, South Africa December 1999

Dr. Rashmi Gardi, Chairman of the interfaith committee requested JAINA to be one of the sponsors of this meeting. Board readily agreed. Dr. Rashmi Gardi and Dr. Dhiraj Shah will lead the delegation. Application form to participate in this Quadrennial event is printed on page 15 in this issue of JAIN DIGEST. For details, contact Dr. Rashmi Gardi at 708/428-4298.

Felicitation of Shri C.N. Sanghavi

Under the auspices of Institute of Jainology a function was arranged at Patkar Hall on Friday 1st January, 1999. On this occasion the founder President of Jain Social Groups' Federation C.N. Sanghavi was felicitated for his outstanding services. The President of the function was Shri Ratibhai Chandaria, the Chairman of Institute of Jainology and Shri Dipchandbhai Gardi, the Chairman of Shri Bhagwan Mahavir Memorial Committee was the honorable distinguished guest. Shri Kishorebhai Sanghavi, leading Jain personality and industrialist was the chief guest.

Dr. Kumarpal Desai spoke very appropriately appreciating Shri C.N. Sanghavi and his outstanding services. He made a special mention regarding the maximum contribution of Shri C.N.Sanghavi in the development of Jain Social Groups' Federation. This institution has got 198 branches having more than 60000 members. Parenting such a big family, Shri Sanghavi has rendered services with all his might, strength and dedication, making it one of the leading institutions, achieving international status.

Dr. L.M.Singhvi said that "Shri C.N.Sanghavi is not an individual but an Institution itself. We all heartily wish him a healthy life so that his precious services may be available for a long time.

At the end of the function Shri C.N.Sanghavi was felicitated and honored by many Institutions by offering shawls, bouquets and momentos.



C. N. Sanghavi is felicitated by L. M. Singhvi

West

Chandrakant Parekh, Regional Editor

Los Angeles, CA

A new Board of Directors of the Jain Center of Southern California (JCSC) was elected.

JAINA Executive Committee met at the Jain Center on February 20 and 21. A town hall meeting was held to provide an opportunity for the Jain Center members to interface with the JAINA Executive Committee. In continuation of the expansion plans for the Jain Center, the acquisition of an additional property, the Volvo dealership lot on the north east corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Stanton Avenue, has been completed. The newly acquired lot will be used to address the parking requirements of the proposed new facilities.

Ninety eight children from Los Angeles, San Francisco, New Jersey and Singapore, and fourteen teachers and volunteers attended the JCYC winter camp at Pilgrim Pines Camp Grounds in Yucaipa, San Bernardino Mountains. Class curriculum included practical aspects of Jainism in daily life as well as participation in various projects depicting Jain objectives. Entertainment activities included a talent show, a hike up the mountain trail, and a campfire. Lack of snow was the only major disappointment on this popular and enriching activity for the youngsters.

A forum entitled "Growing up in Multi Cultural America" was organized at the Jain Center on February 7. A panel of Jain youths who grew up in America, are now settled in a career path, and some of whom are married and are parents, fielded questions from the Jain youths, age 14 years and older, on such topics as communication, conflict resolution with parents, conflicting culture values, retention of religious and cultural heritage, peer pressure for smoking, drinking, and drugs, dating and sex, arranged and mixed marriages, and education and career opportunities. No adults were allowed to attend this session. To

complement this meeting, the same group of panelists will address the concerns of the parents at a forum entitled "Raising our Children in America" scheduled at the Jain Center on February 21. No children will be allowed to attend this meeting. A summary of the discussions from both the forums will be published.

San Francisco, CA

The new Executive Committee of the Jain Center of Northern California (JCNC) were selected. Vision and philosophy of the committee include completion of the Jain Bhawan project, integration of different sects of Jain religion, arrangement of lecture series and programs

Detailed information on regular activities and events, including schedules, locations and directions, are accessible on the Internet website at www.jcnc.org. Pathshala program is coordinated by a JCNC Education Committee. Classes are offered for various age groups and are conducted using study course books at levels 1 to 6.

The Jain Bhawan Committee accomplished a great deal during 1998. The temple and building design has been completed and negotiations are underway to select a contractor and to order temple carving and fabrication in India. Donations of \$2.85 million have been pledged through 2001 of which approximately \$2.2 million were collected in 1996 to 1998. Mahavir Janma-Kalyanak and Jain Bhawan Construction Initiation Ceremony will be celebrated at the Jain Bhawan Site on April 17 under the direction of H. H. Bhattarak Devendrakirtiji.

Bay Area Jain Americans (BAJA) was established in March 1998 to provide an outlet for young Jain professionals, over the age of 23, to promote Jainism amongst the peers, and to develop a network of friends. BAJA charter and activities emphasize education and awareness of Jainism, commu-

nity service, active participation in JCNC and the Jain Bhawan project, and social networking. BAJA is planning to coordinate a summer spiritual retreat with Samanjis and Samanijis. For further information, please contact Seema Bhimani at 510/482-1357, Nita Itchhhaporia at 650/322-1468, or Nilesh Goel at 510/793-7974.

Please contact Jitendra Shah at 408/729-7916 for JCNC activities, and Parveen Jain at 408/559-6987 for the Jain Bhawan update.

Sacramento, CA

For information about the activities and events organized by the Jain Center of Greater Sacramento (JCGS), please contact Jagdish Shah at 916/685-4716 or Naresh Jain at 916/488-2601.

San Diego, CA

The committee members of the Jain Society of San Diego for the year 1999 were selected. The regular activities of the center include: Navrangipuja every Saturday, monthly meeting on 2nd Friday of the month, monthly Jain Shala, and monthly Swadhyay by Girishbhai Shah.

Fifty Jain senior citizens from Los Angeles visited San Diego and were welcomed by the Jain Sangh with a traditional brunch, stavans by Paresh Shah, and a dinner at the Shri Mandir Derasar. Shramanji's lecture at Rohak Vora's residence was attended by forty five adults and kids who learnt about the meditation, exercise and stress management techniques. With the help of several adults and kids, Nipul and Renuka Shah are constructing a beautiful 24' x 24' temple from hydrostone which will be displayed at the upcoming JAINA convention in Philadelphia. The temple is a replica of the antique Palitana temple received by the Jain Center of Southern California. Further information is available on the web site at www.geocities.com/yosemiti/meadows3550.

Southwest

Jadavji Kenia, Regional Editor

Tulsa, OK

Tulsa Jain Sangh had trustees and executive committee election during the last 3 months though few new members joined committee or trustee group. Our Temple and Hall project is making a slow progress. Tulsa Jain Sangh contact is president Kanti Shah at 918/369-3163, KANARU@aol.com.

North Texas (Dallas Area)

Jain Society of North Texas elected new Board of Directors during November for 1999 term and the board elected officers for the center.

Jain Youth Group is planning a Southwest region Youth Conference during the Memorial Day weekend. The main theme is art and humanity in Jainism emphasizing Jain architecture, literature, music, art, science and technology. Some out-of-town scholars are being invited for this conference. To this end some Jain families who went on a Yatra in India recently have brought baack some nice pictures and video of various religious places, some of which were shown at the January general meeting.

Southeast

Surendra Shah, Regional Editor

Atlanta, GA

An election was held in December 1998, to elect the officers for the year 1999. The election was uncontested and all the nomiess won.

The Atlanta Jain Center's plans for the building are progressing very well. The building will be constructed in Norcross (a suburb of Atlanta) on four (4) acres of land. The site has been already cleared, graded and ready for the construction. The architectural, mechanical electrical and plumbing plans have been finalized. The bid packages are ready to be sent out for inviting bids. Madhuben Sheth and her family's

JSNT contact is our new president Sudhir Mehta at 972/612-1144.

Houston, TX

Paryushan Parva was celebrated with a great deal of enthusiasm. We were fortunate during Paryushan to have Kumarpal Desai at our center whose lectures enlightened us all. There were a lot of Tapasvis who did various Tapasyas as follows:

Adults. Ansuayaben Mehta: 21days, Sheetalben Shah: 9, Latikaben Jain: 9, Mukeshbhai Shah: 8, Anilbhai Sanghani: 8, Ranjanben Sanghani: 8, Meenaben Shah: 8, Amitaben Solanki: 8, Shefaliben Jhaveri: 7 (Khirsamudra). **Youth.** Ricki Shah: 8 days, Anish Shah: 8, Purvi Shah: 8, Sangita Sutaria: 8, Samir D. Sheth: 7 (Khirsamudra), Pallu Dedhia: 8, Bela M. Shah: 3+2+1, Sonya Dedhia: 6, Sudha Doshi: 3, Deepak Doshi: 3+2+1, Pinky Shah: 7.

Among the other dignitaries, Vasantbhai Khokhani, a scholar of Shrimad Rajchandra visited us on September 6 and delivered a lecture. On September 20th,

Acharya Jinchandra Suri from Bikaner delivered a religious discourse. During Diwali we had a pleasure of having two Samanijis Shrut Pragna and Aswini Pragna for ten days. Their lectures as well as their "Preksha Meditation and yoga" practices were welcomed by all of our members.

On November 22, we celebrated our temple's third anniversary with Deep Sthapan, Kumbha Sthapan, Snatra pooja, Adhar Abhisek and flag hoisting. It was a grand success. On December 13th the Doctors Club conducted a Heart Disease Awareness program in memory of our beloved Dinesh Lakhia.

Second Jain Pathshala Teachers' Workshop was hosted by JSH and conducted by Pravin K. Shah of Raleigh, NC from February 12-14. Many Pathshala teachers and potential ones from Southwest region took advantage of this to enhance their knowledge of Jainism. JSH contact is president Jitendra Shah at 281/550-3155.

contributions are very significant and help expedite the progress. The building plans along with the latest news can be accessed on web site at <http://www.flash.net/~Zaveri/jsga.htm>.

Dr. John Cort, a professor of religion at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, gave a lecture on Jainism on February 27, 1999. It was very interesting as his perspective was from a scholar who was not born or raised as a Jain and grew up in USA.

Dayton, OH

The center elected the Executive Committee members for 1999 and is entering

into 21st year of operations. Its membership is in excess of 150. In January 1999, Dr. Pravin Shah from Pennsylvania spoke about the spiritual life of Shrimad Rajchandra. In February Ashokbhai and Raginiben Sanghavi from Indiana conducted & explained "How, Why & what of Snatra Pooja. The Center plans to celebrate Mahavir Jayanti on March 28th. Dr. Balbhadra will speak on this day. Our center's temple built in 1995 and is only 3 miles from I-75. The visitors travelling on I-75 are requested to visit our temple. Please contact Vijay Doshi at 513/779-2112 for direction to the temple.

Midwest

Manubhai Doshi, Regional Editor

Detroit, MI

The temple is now open. Temple timings are as follows

Monday–Saturday

9:30AM – 12:30PM (Darshan & Puja)

5:30PM – 8PM (Darshan & Aarti)

Sunday

8:30AM – 1PM (Darshan & Puja)

5:30PM – 8PM (Darshan & Aarti)

Aarti and Mangal Divo are performed every morning at 11:45 am and in evening at 7:45pm.

Snatra-Puja is performed every Sunday from 11:00 am to 12:30pm. We are fortunate to have two Pujari to accomplish our day to day temple tasks.

The center celebrated Meru Teras day (Rishabhdev Nirvan Kalyanak) on Jan.16,1999. Panch-Kalyanak puja was performed on that day followed by Swami Vatsalya. On March 27, 1999 , Navanu Prakar Puja was performed. There was lot of enthusiasm and greater participation on both these occasions.

Study classes (Pathshala) are conducted once a month. Proposal was made and accepted by majority of members to conduct study classes twice a month. There are now more than 200 students registered for the classes.

Future events: Mahavir Jayanti will be celebrated on March 27, 1999. The annual fund raising dinner will be held in last week of April 1999. Jain Society of Greater Detroit would like to invite all Jain Sangh to new Temple for Pilgrimage. For more Information and directions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Heenaben Shah 248/649-0981 or Kalpesh Shah 734/572-8536.

Canada

Dr. Mahendra Mehta, Regional Editor

Toronto, ONT

5th Anniversary Celebrations. The winter blues of 1998 and heaviest snowfall of this century did not dampen the spirits of our members to plan 25th anniversary of the founding of oldest Jain Society on the continent of North America.

Under the chairmanship of Shan Jain, a committee of 10 members was convened and the preliminary work has been completed. The dates for the celebrations are May 21, 22 & 23 and everyone is welcome.

There will be exhibitions and displays on various activities of Jain Society of Toronto as well as past, present and future ideas of the Society's achievements. The young Jains are planning interesting cultural & religious activities.

There will be talks, discussions, workshops, souvenir and of course good food. All our sadharmic brethren from south of the border are most welcome to these celebrations.

Jain Studies at University of Toronto. The University of Toronto is offering a new credit course on Jain and Hindu ethics. The topics will include dharma, karma and the interrelationships between Jain and Hindu

ethics.

This endeavor is supported financially in part by a Toronto Jain family. Those interested should call Prof. Joseph O'Connell at 416/926-1300.

Rotary Club of Toronto. The Rotary Clubs of Toronto and Pune and the Rotary Club International have donated US \$125,000 towards the Sadhna Village Center for upgrading facilities and make it self sufficient. Mr. Keshav Chandaria was instrumental in making it possible.

Prayers for Mr. Ashok Jain. Prayers and shantipath were recited at Jain Center on Sunday 7 Feb.99 in the memory of Mr. Ashok Jain, a media baron in India, philanthropist and leader of Digambar Jains. Ramesh Jain and Manharbhai Shah gave brief outline of Ashok Jain's life and achievements.

Official Recognition: The Premier of Ontario, Mike Harris sent a letter recognizing Prakash Mody for his efforts as a volunteer member of the Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual and Religious Care. Our Society is proud of members who work with mainstream Canadians to bring awareness of our Jain heritage.

COMMITTEE NEWS

World Community Service

We have received the following donations after we published the list of the donors in last issue of JAIN DIGEST for cyclone relief and helping to rehabilitate two villages Ragha and Shekhadia.

India Association of Long Island
Nitin & Bina Shah
Nirmala & Ute Jain
Anop Vora
India Association of Indianapolis
\$6881 previously donated

Jericho, NY	\$1050
Cerritos, CA	4000
Irvington, NY	100
Rochester, NY	250
Indianapolis, IN	46

Education Committee

For more information, contact Premchand B. Gada at his office 806/793-8555 (9am 9pm CST) or at home 806/794-4777. If you're looking for Jain information, visit www.jainworld.com. To join the Jain Pathshala Teachers forum, visit members.tripod.com/~Gada_Premchand/

Jirnodhar Committee

Purpose: To identify Jain Tirth, Derasars, and Upashryas needing help for renovation and/or remodeling. Select such projects based on overall appeal to Jain Community, keeping in line with Jain teachings. Market such projects through JAINA Newsletters, website of JAINA and other Jain newsletters (in India and other countries) for wider awareness and acceptance. Present such projects through local JAINA directors to receive acceptance and financial support at local Sangh level. We would also undertake Vaiyyavacha and other projects, which would help Jain Sadhus and sadhvijs.

Activities

1. We have undertaken a project to help Shri Navkar Center of Ahemdabad. Their group goes in Van, including 2 vaidraj and ophthalmologist to provide them with medicine. Their medicine is all Aryurvedic, and also nirdosh (no animal testing, etc). They also provide free glasses to sadhus and sadhvijs.

We have so far raised so \$ 1,153. Of this \$900 has been sent over to Shri Navkar center. We will wait for next \$500 to be collected, before we send them this amount. Our goal is to reach over \$10,000 in collection by year 2000. We propose to establish Jirnodhar chapters at local level. The details are being worked out.

2. There has been keen interest by few members to undertake Samet Sikhar as one of the Tirth needing help. Members have found this Tirth does not have proper facilities to do proper puja, etc. once they go up to various Derasars. They also feel that local people does not respect such facilities. These members want respect and proper care given by locals. They are willing to undertake projects to

renovate and build simple facilities such as providing hot water for bath before doing puja, etc. They also want to build simple halls and facilities to stay overnight at the top of the mountain, where such facilities do not exist. They want to involve local and state government to help carry out such projects.

3. Some members want JAINA to select one Tirth per every two years, and provide full support to uplift the facilities. One such of interest is Rajgruhi's Jalmandir, Pawapuri, lachwad, etc.

So far we have two members from Chicago and Dallas area who are willing to spend one month/year in India, so they could monitor and expedite projects in India. Once JAINA approves the projects, they would be published in next issue of JAINA Digest.

4. The committee will take a booth at JAINA convention. Local Jain leaders from India, who are carrying out Vaiyavachha and other projects, would man it. This would give better exposure to the project, and where their donation is being spent.

In our Tatvarth Sutra, there is a chapter on Nirjara. That is Sakam Nirjara of our Karma. Tap (Penance) is needed for Nirjara. Vaiyavachha is one of the ways of doing sakam nirjara. Vaiyavachha has several categories. The one which is most important is doing Vaiyavachha (give them medical treatment) where needed, of our sadhujis and sadhvijs. Shri Navkar Sarvar Kendra is carrying out such a project.

The best way to do Vaiyyavacha is to go personally and do it, and next best is send financial support to those who are carrying out such mission. With Jirnodhar committee now in existence, our members now have more qualified choices for donations in India.

Jiv Daya Committee

Jiv Daya Committee presently working on getting the Panjrapole board in Chembur, Bombay area to set up a free sterilization clinic for animals and free medical care clinic. We are also working on a donkey sanctuary at the school in Maharashtra, the 4,000 students and teachers and staff are very excited to incorporate Jiv Daya into the daily life of the students and the 30 surrounding villages. We are negotiating the purchase of 15 acres next to the school's present land. This sanctuary will be paid for by us. We also need Jain dentists who would be willing to run a dental camp/ teach proper care of teeth and give dental check ups at the school. We presently have medical camps at the school for the kids and for the surrounding 30 villages.

Our goal is to provide medical and dental care for the area and for the animals of the area. I would suggest that every Jain family donate \$5.00 per year for the Jiv Daya Committee. Your \$5.00 will go a long way to stop animal suffering, to get them medical care and proper food. For more Information please call Bonny and R.N. Shah, Chairperson 817/430-8638.

V. R. Gandhi Scholarship Fund

The concept of this project and list of donors who contributed \$100.00 and more until Nov 98 were published in the Winter Edition, 97 and subsequent 1998 Editions of JAIN DIGEST respectively. If enough funds become available, this project may be expanded beyond India i.e. in North America.

We are planning to open a VRG booth at the 10th JAINA biennial convention to be held in Philadelphia in July 1999. Besides the year 2001 is VRG's death centenary, we wish to celebrate these two events by raising more funds. No stone is to be left unturned at this convention to make the whole world aware of VRG's mission. We need your help and cooperation.

Your generous tax-deductible contributions to this worthy cause will be greatly appreciated. Please make your check payable to JAINA. Indicate in the memo VRG Scholarship Fund and mail it to: Mr. Jitendra Turakhia, Treasurer, JAINA, 4013 Pawnee Drive, Liverpool, NY 13090.

For more information, please contact Pravin C. Shah phone 516/248-8265 or Kanti Mepani at 203/921-1950.

International Alumni Association of Mahavir Jain Vidyalay

IAAMJV Undertakes a Large Educational Project in Udaipur; A Pledge of about US\$74,000 from a Single Donor Received. To help the bright and needy Jain students residing in Udaipur area obtain college education, IAAMJV has undertaken a very ambitious project. The project entails establishing a branch of Shri Mahavira Jain Vidyalaya at Udaipur by June 2000 and is estimated to cost around \$300,000. The branch will be a state of the arts facility and offer lodging and boarding to 80 college bound students. The land has already been acquired and the ground breaking ceremony is scheduled to take place tentatively on the birthday of Lord Mahavira this year. Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya, Bombay will provide the ongoing management.

Dr. Mohan Jain, Chairman, Udaipur Project, Allentown, PA has established a Steering Committee in Udaipur led by Babubhai Bafna and a similar committee in Bombay led by Premal Bafna and

Mohan Sanghavi. His contacts in India have assured him of raising about R.50 lakh (Rs.125,000).

Dr. & Mrs. Yashwant and Sampurna Jain (Long Island, NY) have pledged Rs.31 lakh (about \$74,000). This is the FIRST time that an ex-alumnus of MJV residing in North America has come forward to donate such large sum. It should inspire us all to open up our wallet and contribute generously. Indication of financial support from many Jain families residing in the States and Canada has indeed been very positive. If you are interested in supporting this project and wish to receive more details, please call Anop R. Vora, President IAAMJV at 716/473-9290, Dr. Mohan Jain 610/437-9596 or Kanti Mepani 203/921-1950, Please. What we are doing has far reaching positive ramifications for a very important section of the Jain Community

Vegetarian Awards in Mumbai Non Violence and Nature Bounty

On the 27th of November, 1998 – Thanksgiving time – the Vegetarian Society (Reverence for Life) held its annual function at the Catholic Gymkhana at Marine Drive in Mumbai. The annual award presentation was one of the highlights of this event. The National Award for the Best Vegetarian of the Year was given to Dr. Kalyan Gangwal, an eminent physician for his distinguished work in helping in the propagation of vegetarianism through speeches and writings. The Best Vegetarian Restaurant Award was conferred on Little Italy for offering innovative gourmet cuisine.

Another highlight of the event was the address of the President of the Society, Shri Chitrabhanuji. He emphasized that in order to diminish violence, it is not enough to deplore it. Instead of cursing the dark, we light a candle. We go beyond denunciation in words to practicing non violence in everyday life. Can we achieve a large vision of non-violence if we continue to be callous in our actions? If we sow seeds of pain to animals causing death to them, what can we hope to reap. These questions we need to pose to ourselves and know

that sensitivity and compassion will transform violence.

Vegetarianism, Chitrabhanuji explained is not a negative act. It embraces appreciation of Nature's bounty; grain, vegetables, fruits. Transformation involves a respect for the environment. Such respect translates to an attempt to nurture resources by avoiding waste, recycling matter, and evolving lifestyles that show concern for the health of the planet, the self and all living creatures. The practice of vegetarianism originates from such a sense.

We have to renounce violence. We cannot abet it in thought or deed. By doing so, we become accessories. He also cautioned that we might be accessories in nine ways:

By counsel	By command	By consent
By concealment	By provocation	By silence
By partaking	By praise or flattery	By defense

We can negate violence by affirming and practicing kindness, compassion and appreciation. It is for this reason that Shri Chitrabhanuji during this social occasion confirmed and espouses the need and recognition of vegetarianism.

Gurudev Chitrabhanu's Schedule-1999

Weekdays: In Manhattan & New York City
Time: 7:20pm on Wednesdays
Theme: Blending thought Processes and Behavior
 Patterns for meaningful change in lifestyles & values in life
Place: TRS Professionals-11th floor
 44 East 32nd Street, Manhattan, NY

For September/October schedule, please call the JMJC hotline at 212/362-6483.

Weekends:

April 24	Essex Fells, NJ	V. Shah 732/329-3236
May 8	Baltimore, MD	N. Sheth 410/628-7030
May 16	Elmhurst, NY	J. Gandhi 516/741-2892
May 29	St. Louis, MO	D. Kapadia 314/532-0136
June 5	Whitmore Lake, MI	Chetna 313/449-2101
June 19	Louisville, KY	K. Ravani 502/253-0233
July 2-5	Philadelphia, JAINA Convention	
July 17	Hartford, CT	F. C. Jain 203/487-0607
July 26	Gurudev's 77th Birthday	
August 7	Long Island, NY	J. Gandhi 516/741-9269
August 8	Albertson, NY	P. Vakani 516/248-8265

JAINA & the United Nations

For the past eight years, JAINA's greatest outlay of funds has been for the humanitarian efforts. Through its World Community Service; JAINA regularly devotes all its resources whenever or wherever natural calamities strike. We recruit Doctors and volunteers and take them to the remotest area of the world, desert of Kutch in India and organize medical camp for 3 weeks and treat thousands of patients who have no access to medical care. We have sent help through Red Cross to Rwanda during civil war and were awarded an "Institution of the Year" award by Niagara chapter of American Red Cross.

We have helped the people at the time of earthquake in North Ridge, CA; Latur and Uttar Kashi in India. Our volunteers by joining hands with Salvation Army have helped refugees of Mississippi River flood victims. We have established dispensaries in remotest parts of India. Just recently, when devastating cyclone hit the West Coast of India and killed thousands of people and destroyed hundreds of villages, we raised enough monies to adopt two villages (Ragha & Sekhadia) for rehabilitation. We have been recognized by US AID as a volunteer organization and we are working with them on a project for Nalanda District of Bihar that will save thousands of children by providing proper vaccination – nutrition and medical personnel and pre, intra & post natal care. Our volunteers will provide social education about hygiene. We provide educational material like computers to so many institutions. All our efforts are for humanitarian purpose without regards to race, religion or nationalities. We have, by our humble efforts, united people.

The United Nations is a unique institution linking peoples across the globe expressing their faith and hope

of peaceful tomorrows. In the words of Secretary-General Kofi Annan "....(the UN) does not belong to nations alone. It is part of the common heritage of all of the humankind. It belongs to every one.

For each one of us, it is an expression of human faith and confidence in the future. Non-Governmental Organizations play an important part in functioning of the U.N". Other agencies of the UN like UNICEF (United Nations Children's Education Fund), the WHO (World Health Organization), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and a program that provides a third of world food aid - FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization) deliver much needed humanitarian relief projects all around the world.

Much in the world happens today by efforts of private companies, the mass media, universities, intellectuals, artists and voluntary organizations shape the Civil Society. Non-governmental organizations (NGO) are a basic form of popular participation and representation in the present day world. Today, 1500 NGOs participate in the UN effort to maintain peace around the world.

In view of all this, JAINA has decided to register with UN's Department of Public Information as a NGO (Non Governmental Organization). As a NGO, we will be eligible to receive regular mailings of UN information materials and participate in international forums to discuss issues of global concern. We in turn will be able to inform our community of UN activities of concern to us and focus our program to build upon common agenda. By joining hands with the UN, JAINA will be able to spread the message of Peace and Non Violence.

GIVE THE GIFT OF SIGHT THE DAY YOU SAW THE LIGHT VEERAYATAN

Veerayatan is a well known socio-religious institution in Bihar which perpetuates the concepts of spirituality, culture and education. The eye hospital in veerayatan, Rajgiri, Bihar helps to restore over 700 eye sights each year. The demand to receive the gift of sight, in the poverty stricken state of Bihar is never ending. Veerayatan aims to eradicate blindness from Bihar through the promotion of education, health programs, setting up training courses, and awareness campaigns. Besides eye treatments that costs only \$20.00 many other medical treatments are offered at Veerayatan.

Mr. Arvind Shah and Mr. Madhukar Mehta, Vice President and Secretary respectively of the Jain Study Center of North Carolina have begun a program that will provide an excellent support for the Veerayatan eye operations program. A pilot program was run last year for less than eight weeks that raised more than \$10,000.00 that was presented to Veerayatan at the end of the 25th anniversary celebrations. It has also raised more than \$2,000.00 thereafter.

The program is very simple, we all celebrate individual birthdays. In the celebrations we spend lots of money. While celebrating our birthday, we could afford to spend extra \$20.00 to support one eye treatment at Veerayatan. Give the Gift of sight, the Day you saw the light!

Once you join the program, it only requires one annual voluntary contribution on your birthday. Use the form provided to register your family members and yourself now. You may send your contribution for the current year now or when respective birthday arrives. Give the Gift of a lifetime every year.

NAME _____ SEX _____ BIRTHDATE _____

EMAIL _____ NO. OF EYE OPERATION _____ x \$20.00= _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

SPOUSE NAME _____ SEX _____ BIRTHDATE _____

EMAIL _____ NO. OF EYE OPERATION _____ x \$20.00= _____

SEX _____ BIRTHDATE _____

EMAIL _____ NO. OF EYE OPERATION _____ x \$20.00= _____

NAME _____ SEX _____ BIRTHDATE _____

EMAIL _____ NO. OF EYE OPERATION _____ x \$20.00= _____

EYE OPERATION DONATIONS \$ _____ OTHER DONATIONS \$: _____ TOTAL \$ _____

REPRESENTATIVE _____ RES PHONE: _____

Please Make Check payable to "VEERAYATAN" Tax -exempt ID # 52-195627

Mail to Madhukar A. Mehta, P. O. Box 13201, Durham, NC 27709-3201

For Further Information Please call Mr. Mehta (919) 484-9597 or Mr. Shah 919-518-1112. Local representatives are required in all areas. Please call or write for information.

PAYMENT: Check # _____ Cash _____
DONOR # _____ Date _____

REGISTRATION FORM
<1999 PARLIAMENT OF THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS
Cape Town, South Africa < December 1-8 1999

NAME (Underline family name) _____

How name should appear on registration badge _____

Organization (If any) **FEDERATION OF JAIN ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA (JAINA)**

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Postal Code _____

Country _____ Phone _____ FAX _____ E-mail (optional) _____

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All registration allows admission to all regular sessions of the Parliament (including seminars and workshops). December 1- 8 1999. There may be admission charge for some off site cultural events, exhibits etc. Full registration does not include travel, accommodations, or meals. Refunds (less \$25 for administrative costs) will be made upon request Until October 31, 1999. After this date no refunds will be given.

(Please circle appropriate Dollar amount)

< FULL REGISTRATION

INDIVIDUAL RATES

FAMILY OR GROUP RATES

Before March 30, 1999

\$300

\$200/person

After March 30, 1999

\$350

\$250/person

FAMILY REGISTRATION for couples and/or parent(s) with children. Parents, Please note: most indoor sessions are not appropriate for children under 12 years of age. You are responsible for your child's care at all times. Write the names of each additional person, relationship, and age. (Attach additional sheet if necessary.)

Family member name _____ Age _____ Relationship _____

Family member name _____ Age _____ Relationship _____

GROUP REGISTRATION is available when 8 or more persons register together. Please attach extra page(s)

SENIOR CITIZENS,(sixty and over) and STUDENTS (22 and under) can register at the flat rate of \$200/person.
Qualifying students must include photocopy of valid student ID.

< THREE DAY REGISTRATION \$225
(Single person. No discounts)

< ONE DAY REGISTRATION \$100
(Single Person, no Discounts)

(DATES)

(DATE)

Make checks payable to the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions

Total Due (all registration fees) _____ Method of payment () Check () VISA () MasterCard

Name of cardholder _____ Card # _____

Card expiration date _____ Signature _____

MAILTO: Dr. Rashmi Gardi, 39 PENTWATER DR., S. Barrington, IL 60010 Phone: 847-428-4298

OPTIONAL INFORMATION We'd like to know more about participants in the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions. If you wish, you can assist us by filling out this portion of the registration form.

Vital statistics: Age _____ Gender _____ () M () F

Dietary Preferences: () No restrictions () Vegetarian < Religion _____ Profession _____

Accommodation (Where you plan to stay in Cape Town)

() Private Home () Hotel () University Housing () Bed and Breakfast () Other

Note: CPWR is not responsible for making arrangements for accommodations. If you wish, you may make these arrangements through African Travel, Inc. 1100 E. Broadway GLENDALE, CA 91205

Tel: (818) 507-7893 OR (800) 727-7207

Fax (818) 507-5802

Email atilax@aol.com

North Carolina Teachers Workshop

The workshop was held during Thanksgiving holidays from November 26 to 29, 1998 at Raleigh, North Carolina USA. The workshop was sponsored by the Federation of Jaina and hosted by the Jain Study Center of North Carolina.

Workshop Statistics

- Total attendees 53—50 from USA, 3 from Canada
- Male 22, Female 31
- Indian origin 46, American 7
- Young Jain Professionals 13, Adults 40

Topics Covered

- Fundamental Concept of Jainism - Pravin Shah
- Philosophy of Karma - Pravin Shah
- Application of Karma Philosophy - Pravin Shah
- Path of Liberation - Pravin Shah
- Anekantvad and Syadvad - Pravin Shah
- Jain Geography - Pravin Shah
- Jain Scriptures and Literature - Pravin Shah
- Jain Rituals and Ceremonies - Hansaben Sutaria
- Comparative Religion - Mukesh Shah, Lynna Dhanani
- Tatvartha Sutra - Yogendra Jain

Special Presentations (Evening)

- How Jainism has affected us to live more healthy life style
- Young Jain Professionals' Social and Religious Activities
- Jain Planet
- The "New Age" Concept of Soul
- Storytelling Workshop
- Stavans and Bhajan

Early Morning Sessions

- Learning Silent Meditation
- Soul Meditation
- English Pratikraman

Workshop Material

The complete set of workshop presentation and reading material consists of about 300 pages. The cost of the material is US dollars \$ 15.00 plus postage. The material can be freely copied for education purpose (no permission is needed).

Also the material will be available on the Internet at www.jainism.org. You need to have Microsoft Word viewer and Lotus FreeLance Graphics 97 programs to view the files. If you need any more information or if you would like to organize such workshop in your area, please contact any of the following organizers:

Pravin K. Shah	pkshah1@ibm.net	919/469-0956
Madhuker A. Mehta	mehta@us.ibm.com	919/484-9597

Participants Comments

Over Thanksgiving weekend, five of us went to a Jain Education Workshop for Jain Pathshala teachers (of the Jain Youth) to learn more about the Jain religion. My head is still reeling with all the information we were given, but the experience of joy and love was assimilated by me immediately. I thank Gurudev for inspiring us to go to the workshop.

—Chetna

Thank you for sending us the book on Jain Workshop. What an excellent presentation of Jainism. It's systematic layout makes the philosophy very palatable and easy to understand. Congratulations from all of us.

—Chitrabhanu and Pramoda

Overall this workshop brought out an urgent need and continuous efforts for educating not only the Pathshala teachers, but all the active community members, who in turn can pass down the line to second and following generations of young, who are born/brought up and other adults, who work in the Environment of Western Culture.

— F J Dalal

By the conclusion of the conference, all were eager to try to implement the newly learned ideas in their lives as well as in their classes. Although some were tired following the multiple activities, people enjoyed the chance to deepen their knowledge, meet other Jains, and exchange experiences. The conference was a success and most of the participants eagerly await the next gathering of its kind.

— Sejal Sutaria

I would also like to suggest that in future we can keep a separate workshop for only comparative studies or advanced Jain Philosophy. (Covering some advanced Granths like Shri Samaysar) One more time I would like to thank organisers for all their efforts and dedication for a wonderful workshop.

— Ranjana Shah

The workshop was a very valuable educational experience for me. It was an impressive blend of presentation topics, especially since it included presentations by the youth. The material was very inspiring and informative. Facilities and food arrangements were undoubtedly outstanding.

— Jayesh Mehta

I left with a very positive experience. The food, accommodation, everything was excellent, not to say the least, the warmth and care given by all the volunteers who made us feel that we were at home away from home. We met many new faces, but spending the time together with a common goal in our hearts, we parted as good friends. I look forward to attending many more in future. I hope to see such workshops as being incorporated as part of continuing education to pathshala teachers.

— Arti Shanghavi

Publisher's note: JAINA sponsored an essay competition as a part of its ongoing commitment to the progressive development of Jainism in North America. The main topic of the 1998 JAINA Essay Competition was *Maintaining and Representing Our Religious and Cultural Identity as Jains in North America*.

There were a total of 123 participants, 45 from ages up to 10 years, 60 from ages 11 to 14 years, 16 from ages 15 to 18 years and two from ages 19 and older. There were 101 participants from Jain Center of Southern California, 11 from Jain Center of Greater Boston, three from Jain Center of San Diego, two from Jain Center of N. California, two from Jain Center of Chicago, two from Jain Center of Connecticut, and one each from Jain Center of Toronto and Florida. JAINA thanks each and every participant, and their respective Jain Centers for their efforts, enthusiasm and affection that they have shown for the Jain religion.

JAIN DIGEST is publishing the first place essays in all four categories. The winning essay by Riddhi Mehta, age 8, in the 'up to 10 years' category was published in the Fall 1998 issue. The winning essay for the 'ages 11 to 14 years' is reprinted below. The remaining two will appear in forthcoming issues. All the prizes will be awarded at the 10th Biennial JAINA Convention in Philadelphia this July.

First Place Essay: 11 to 14 years

Maintaining and Representing Our Religious and Cultural Identity as Jains in North America

By Shadrul Shah, Age: 13

As in the words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, "Jainism is really neither Hinduism nor Vedic dharma. It contributes to the advancement of Indian culture and study of Indian philosophy."

Those words are true in every sense, in the sense that Jainism is a religion with its own destiny, and own goals, separate from all other religions. But Pandit Nehru did not mention at the time he had said this, that Jainism has contributed not only to the advancement of Indian culture, but to the advancement of the world. It was one of the world's first religions to bring up the theory of reincarnation, only to be proven right by many scientists in the later centuries. Jainism has also helped provide theories to the everlasting mystery of the universe's substances, size, mass, etc. etc. Vincent Smith, a historian, said, "Jain ethics are meant for men of all positions." Think about that. This quote says the practice of Jainism is beneficial to all people. The theories of ahimsa, satya, brahmacharya, asteya, and aparigraha, all set the standard that all Jains should live by...

Jainism is a religion that fascinates me in the way that it covers everything, from Acaryas, (head masters) to yatis, (chiefs) and more. First of all, this dates back to the times of Adinath, and his self-triumph over his 100 sons and 2 daughters, and his mother (when he took diksha, he "did not" recognize his "mother," and he led his sons and daughters to diksha, after Bharat had taken over all of their land) and 599 BC when Mahavir was born. A new light was shed on the world. A new door was open, and a new wave of ideas came from him in the years to come. Jainism is a religion that can claim to be one of the world's oldest religions, and that makes it so interesting to research. What I mean by that, is that Jainism affects my everyday life, and every day of history corresponds to my life. Jainism also fascinates me in the sense that it believes in the

teachings of 24 gods, many holy scriptures (like the Kalpa Sutra) and many other kevalgyanees, such as Gautamswami, instead of the teachings of one book, and one god. This way, if one person does not believe one's teachings, (which they should not doubt) they can refer to another scripture or holy monk.

Also, Jainism is deeply involved in the field of science. As said earlier, Jainism was one of the world's first religions to provide a theory to the everlasting mystery of the universe. Jainism was the first religion to come up with the theory of the six substances of the universe (matter, space, time...) and Jainism can claim to have historical proof of kevalgyanees on the earth after Mahavir's death. (Umasvati, Jambuswami, and so on) The richness of Jain history is part of what I find so fascinating about Jainism. Jainism shows compassion to all living things, human or not, as Lord Mahavir had mentioned and demonstrated. (Chandanbala, Chandracaushik the snake, his brother Nandivardan, Gautamswami...) Our fundamentals, along with Hindu and Brahmin fundamentals, have created more awareness towards all living things. In fact, partly because of our efforts, 21% of all adults are vegetarians today. Many Jain farms have been set up around the U.S. and have helped escaped farm animals live a peaceful life. This has affected me in so many ways. To be honest, I do not let my friends harm a living animal when they are around me, and I try to tell, not force them, to be considerate of these animals.

Also, Jainism has many roots, and rules, which fascinate me, because they are so detailed, and just so "right." What I mean is that these rules are all true, and they help yourself, and others. There is more about this after the listing of the guidelines. The 5 vratas, (mentioned earlier) the 3 jewels, (samyak gnyan {right knowledge}, samyak darshan {right faith}, and samyak charitra {right conduct}) the 12 household conducts for

Continued on page 16

laymen, and the 6 essentials, (Samayik, Chauvisantho, {worship of the 24 tirthankars} Vandana, {respect to all holy Jain monks} Pratikraman, {reflecting -turning back- on yourself} Kayotsraga, {meditation towards self} and Pratyakhyan, {self control through vows}) all interlock with each other, in the sense that these guidelines all work off of one goal, reaching liberation in one of your next lives, through, as said, helping yourself, and others. It is hard to put into more words, how Jainism fascinates me, but I keep saying that Jainism is such a large religion, with roots, and rules you can research and practice in your daily lives. Also, I try to mention, in context, that Jainism helps us by figuring out things, that non-Jains may have never seen or believed before, such as the theory of reincarnation, showing passion towards all, the science of the universe, or how even becoming a vegetarian can help the Earth.

Jainism is around me, everywhere, and everyday, and as part of the 1st generation, I plan to practice Jainism all of my life. In North America, we Indians, are supposedly “split” between American culture, and Indian beliefs. I do not believe that because, those two things are integral, and are not that different as some people tend to exaggerate. Some of my Jain friends are so “split” between this, that they have chosen to eat meat, and not follow any Jain basics. I believe, through my practices, I am past that, and will always remain a Jain follower. I am practicing the Jain religion to ‘Yatha Shakti’, or within my limits. I study Jain scriptures, such as Jainism Through Science, by Munishri Nandighoshavijayi which is very complicated, but I try to incorporate the thoughts from the book into my head, and the rest of my Jain thinking. Also, reading Jain scriptures in my free time, helps me expand my thinking as a Jain, and think things I have never thought before. Also, performing the fundamentals of Jainism, such as pooja, and samayik, help my mental ability, in the way, that I can concentrate more, and understand what is going on around me. Also, rituals give me a better understanding of the Jain religion as a whole, and these rituals also are a time that you learn from the older, respected people of the temple, and their views on Jainism, and their knowledge. The Jain temple is a place where I feel I can be safe from the outside world, and the temple is a place I know I am being watched by the 24 Tirthankars. It is also a place that I can practice the Jain religion with my fellow Jains.

I am influenced by two very religious parents. My dad is the pathshala director, and my mom is my teacher, but some of my friends say that gives me an unfair advantage. To what? I ask. I also say, what you practice in Jainism is all about choice, and all about what you truly believe in. Jainism is also about your values, and it goes beyond what your teachers have taught you, your peers have said to you, and what your parents have put into you. It is your life, and your religion, so use it well. I believe that I represent the Jain children of America, because I have read many Jain books, and am living the Jain experience. The Jain experience consists of being a

Jain in North America, and spreading the message of Jainism and non-violence around. I attend all of the religious conventions. I am too young to go to the YJA convention, but once I do, I will try to set up an area which will let the attendees know, that having faith in Jainism, and practicing the three jewels will lead to everlasting internal happiness.

Representation of Jainism, not only comes from certain children, but everyone. Remember, a chain is as strong as its weakest link. Catch my drift? I believe that I am an influence to many young Jain children, because the only way for people to move in the right direction, is that there is an example set for them, by older children. For example, I have helped many children a little younger than me, learn not to eat eggs, or gelatin. They already know not to eat meat, but these are the smaller foods that kids have a hard time making a decision about. I do not tell them what to do, I just set them with an example, and they choose their own path. I basically have outlined how I plan to practice to practice Jainism in the future, but I will talk about those details, and how I plan to expand it.

Jainism, is strong, at approximately 2 million members. It is currently being spread right now, by very influential monks, and respected gurudev, such as Gurudev Shree Chitrabhanu, and the late Acharya Sushil Kumar. They have spread the Jain message, of Ahimsa, primarily in India. But, in North America, the children are the key. The children are the generation of the future. We will be running things very soon. It is best that we spread the message through fellow peers, whether they practice Jainism or not. They will at least know of our goals for the future, which I will get a little detailed with later, and I have mentioned a little bit. In North America, where the population is predominantly Christian, it is hard to spread a religion itself, but the messages of the religion are not so hard to spread. My Jain friends know this too, and they also tell their non-Jain friends of this religion. Our practice of Jainism in the future must remain as it was in the generations before us. If we, the children, do not maintain a strong Jain population, the Jain religion has a chance of dying out after hundreds of thousands of years of existence. It is in our hands to pass on what we know. It has been proven time and time again, that with every generation gone, there is something left behind, something not taught. That’s why America’s kids go to Pathshala, to learn what their own parents might never teach them. Right now, we are at a stage where we are one of the world’s 12 major religions, which is very good. But still, not a lot of people know of our existence, and individuality. We are a religion, on our own, and that’s that. All of my non-Jain friends just call me a “Hindu,” even though they know I am Jain. That’s what we need to get out of their heads, the wrong thoughts in their heads.

There are many obstacles in being a Jain today. First of all, the fact that the Jain tradition might not be passed on, is one. As I partly explained earlier, our parents have some knowledge that they might

forget to give to us, before they move on to their next life. There is always that something that they will forget. And what about Pathshala? Yes, they might teach us those remaining things, but remember, they are someone's parents too! What is the solution to all of this? Read, explore, and question. What I mean is that reading Jain books is a key part of learning. They are fun to read, and they give you never-before learnt knowledge. (Wouldn't it be better if we knew everything like the people who remembered the agams, all 45 of them, in their head? That is another example of forgotten knowledge, except that time, it eventually was written down.) Just go to your temple's library, and keep reading. Exploring is something you do if you are willing to get inside of something. - You cannot just sit on the bench, and wait for the coach to call you to go out in the field, you have to get out onto the field, and be willing to play. (In relative terms, you have to go out and be willing to learn.) - You ask other friends about things you do not know about Jainism, and you also ask elders, like gurus, teachers, and yes, your parents. This is something you do, in my opinion, if you are a true Jain, and want to pass the Jain religion on to others.

Finally, questioning is like exploring. You have to ask other people about certain things you do not understand. It is all part of learning more, and keeping the Jain tradition alive. And even if you are learned, and know many things, another concern of the Jain religion in North America, is not knowing what the meaning of what you are saying. Ask anyone what "Namo Arihantanam" means, and they will say, "I bow down to the Arihantas." Yes, that is true, but for many kids, that is how far the meaning of sutras goes. As many parents would say, what is the purpose of singing a sutra, without knowing the meaning? In fact, many of our parents do not know the meanings of certain sutras and stutis. That is all part of the generation-knowledge gap, that must be filled. We can fix this, as simple as going to a prayer book, and looking up the meaning of the Jain prayer you are singing.

Another problem, in keeping the Jain tradition alive, is inter-religious marriage. If a Jain marries a non-Jain, and they have kids, the kids will tend to go towards the more mainstream religion. I can say this, because I have 3 or 4 friends whose parents are Jewish, and Christian, and they have all chosen to be Christian, with Jewish being a "little" thing to them. Sometimes, not always, if a Jain marries a Hindu, things tend to work out, religion wise. But, if tradition breaks apart, we will lose Jains, to other religions. I hope this does not happen. And, nowadays, divorces, a seemingly "unknown" word to Jain couples, are popping up in the Jain world, which is not a good thing! Only time and faith will tell, whether these marriages work out, or divorces can stop. There is little we can do to stop these things, except to hope that people will come to their senses, and realize, that the Jain religion must go on, and that they should not break tradition. At a young age, if we tell them these things, it will get into their minds, hopefully, and if the parents of

a Jain child are both Jain, that is a big boost, in itself. Another big problem, as mentioned earlier, is the split tradition, for teenagers, between the American society, and the Indian values. As said, many people like me, live with this kind of society, and integrate both things, into their daily lives. But, some Jains have quit on their religion and started to eat meat, and I know Jains who drink in moderation, which I am not proud to admit the least bit. A way we can work around this, as said, is to get the Jain fundamentals into the kids at a very young age, and it is up to the parents to put good Jain values into them, and send them regularly to Pathshala. This is the only way that we can prevent this from happening.

In my own time, I read Jain books and magazines, such as the Jain Study Circular, and the Jainism Non-Violence and Vegetarianism, by Dr. T.J. Salga. It would be hard to list all of the books I have read over the 10 or so years I have been able to read, but I can tell you something from each book I have read. For example, I can tell you a lot about the stories in Introduction to Jainism, by Bharat Shah. (That is one book my friends and I have read at least 3 or 4 times, back to front.) The books I read I put to use in my daily life. For example, in the Studies In Jainism-Primer 2 by the Jain Study Circle, there is a story called Jainism for Young Jains, which I read in another book when I was a little smaller. It influenced me in the way that I should realize that I can't make people Jain. I just have to let them be the way they are. A newly found book/magazine that has come around is the Diwar Chakra Katra series on famous Jain Tirthankars, and teachings, such as "The Miracles of Namokar Mantra." I do samayik, especially during Paryushan, with my family. I am learning in my Pathshala class, how to do it myself. During this summer, I plan to do many samayiks, and do a lot more Jain reading. I also perform darshan, everyday of the week. As my mother says, "Going to school without doing darshan, is like not eating breakfast." Our temples have guest people who do lectures, but I never get around to asking them about Jainism. I have the most questions about cosmology, and the different worlds. These are just some of the things I do. I think rather than reading and going to the temple, an equally important part of Jainism, is practicing it in your daily life. And that's what I do, with a said, darshan, samayik, and pachchakhana, which I do on the weekends.

In conclusion, I would like to say that for Jainism to be carried out into the 21st century, we need to learn from our elders, as much as we can, and we need to go out and do our own work. Our goals of non-violence and compassion towards all, can be achieved through hard work. This is the only way that we, as Jains, can arise in a North American society, and carry on with the hundreds of thousands of years of Jain tradition. The children are the future of Jainism, the future of Jainism is in North America, and North America will know who we are. We, are the Jains of the 21st century. Thank you, and Jai Jinendra!

The Jain Shala of America

By Dilip V. Shah, JAINA Secretary, Philadelphia

Philadelphia is known as the birthplace of the nation and as the cradle of liberty. The city is rich with many historical and monuments and cultural institutions. The Liberty Bell, Independence hall, Betsy Ross house are just a few of the famous landmarks. Benjamin Franklin established the University of Pennsylvania in 1760 and hundreds of Indian students pursue undergraduate and graduate studies there. We Jains know that Philadelphia is the site for the next JAINA Convention. But very few amongst us know that the University of Pennsylvania's Van Pelt Library is a repository of the largest and richest collection of Indian books and manuscripts outside of India. The library's 450,000-volume collection of Indic works is notable for its collection of JAIN literature both old and new. These superb collections along with the University's Department of South Asia Regional Studies, the first of its kind in the world, and the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern studies, which offers a Ph.D. in Jainology make this institution the JAIN SHALA of America.

Have you ever seen a Prakrit-Hindi-Sanskrit Dictionary? Or a Bibliography for Prakrit language? Did you know about 12 volumes of an Encyclopedic Dictionary of Sanskrit on Historical Principals? Have you ever wanted to read works on classical and Vedic Sanskrit? Where would you send someone who wanted to read Jaina Puran Kosha or Jainendra Sidhanta Kosha? Jain literature in eight different languages is not a common site even in India. If you want to see nearly 5,000 volumes on Jainism and many more works on Hinduism in assorted ancient and modern languages you owe it to yourself a visit to this library.

This hidden gem of Indic literature is a life work of one Dr. W. Norman Brown. The story of the South Asia Collection at Penn revolves around the life and career of Professor Brown. Born in 1892 to missionary parents he spent his early childhood in India. Received his Ph.D. in Sanskrit from Johns Hopkins and returned to India as professor of English. After ten years of teaching in Jammu he became chair of Sanskrit at University of Pennsylvania. During World War II, the U.S. Government commissioned him to establish a program at Penn to train soldiers in the language and culture of India.

This experience helped him establish the South Asia Regional Studies department in 1948. As he was trying to expand the program and funding was getting difficult, he with several other scholars devised a novel solution: Using of PL-480 funds. The wheat-selling program of the U.S. government had created a huge surplus of local currencies that were used to purchase library materials. With the help of one of his students, Horace Poleman who was Chief of the South Asia Section of the Library of Congress, in 1962 he established the most

remarkable library program ever. A flood of materials started pouring in and as a result we have before us a supreme palace of knowledge for any scholar who wishes to study Indian religions or literature without having to go to India.

Dr. Brown's profound vision is manifestly present in this library. One can not help but wonder how he came across such a huge collection. During his frequent visits he made many influential friends like Dr. Radhakrishnan. Of many awards he received in India, U.S and Europe, one that adorns the room in the library bearing his name is the one awarded by West Bengal Government Sanskrit College: "Gnan Ratnakar" in 1961. His interest in Jainism was inspired by a Jain monk.

Among the notable books one must look at is the multi-volume encyclopedia of Jainism, an extremely useful Abhidhana Rajendra Kosa (Prakrit and Sanskrit). Many rare books in the Singhi Jain Series; the handy two volume Agama collection, the Suttage, several multi-volume Agama editions; and many works on all aspects of Jain traditions in English, Gujarati, Hindi and many other Indian languages. There is a complete six-volume edition of Acharya Shri Hemchandracharya's "Trisastisalakapurusacharitra" translated in to readable English by Helen M. Johnson, describing the lives of all the Tirthankaras. There is a much-admired two-volume set on Lord Mahavir in Hindi by Osho (Rajnish Muni). A recently published 560 page Gujarati book by Acharya Shri Rajyashurishwarji on Padmavati Devi (already out of print in India) The library receives many newspapers, magazines and journals including Gujrat Samachar, Navbharat times and both the English and Hindi editions of India Today.

All the above mentioned books are in the stacks and any visitor can browse to his or her heart's content. These books can be borrowed and are also available through inter library loan program from your local library. The entire collection is well documented and complete bibliographical material is available to you on the web. For scholars, there is a separate special collection of rare manuscripts. One needs to make special arrangement to visit this room. Everything here is under lock and key and upon specific request, you can see some rare manuscripts. I was privileged to see a 17th century cloth scroll about 10' long describing DEVPRATISTHAVIDHI. It describes Adhivasna Vidhi, Devi Pratistha Mantra, Mata Marudevi and other devi's Pooja /Pratistha Vidhi, Dikpal and other Devta's, Stapnavidhi etc. Of unknown Author and Date, in Jain Prakrit language and beautifully illustrated "Kalakacaryakatha". The moral of the legend of Kalaka is that he who labors for the purity of the Jain faith obtains imperishable glory. This manuscript was most prized by Professor Brown and he called it a "jewel". As you study these rare

manuscripts, you come to appreciate the rich traditions of our literature and come back with strengthened belief in Jain faith. Although special arrangements are necessary to handle the manuscripts, the library is making them available online, as scanned images on the library web page:

www.library.upenn.edu/etext/mss/index.html

A visit to the library would be incomplete without visiting the collection of black and white photographs of temples of India. This 95,000 photograph collection is the only one outside of India (The original set is in Benaras) and is most comprehensive catalog of temples - Hindu, Buddhist and Jain. It is a result of project of American Institute of Indian Studies that started in 1965 and is just now nearing completion. The collection is sorted by states and alphabetically by cities in that state so you can easily find your cherished temple.

This vast collection is expertly maintained on three different floors of the library by the Bibliographer Dr. David Nelson. He has been involved with South Asian studies for over twenty-five years. He studied Sanskrit at the University of Minnesota in 1969 and has knowledge of many of the Indian languages. He has been to India many times acquiring books and manuscripts. He is very impressed by strides made by publishing industries of India in last twenty-five years. Advent of new technologies has been so aggressively taken up in India that he conducts much of his business over the net. He is attempting to offer many of the valuable resources of the library to a global community rather than limiting to only University community. He has made so many of the scanned Sanskrit manuscripts on the net to enable Indian community to understand and study more deeply their cultural heritage. It is his personal commitment and interest in Indian culture that shines through the tremendous maze of books dating back nearly two hundred years.

Assisting Dr. Nelson in his endeavor is Dr. Jerome Bauer, who has completed a Ph.D. in Jain Studies at Penn. Dr. Bauer studied with Shri Nagin Shah at L. D. Institute of Indology in Ahmedabad for 2 years and spent 4 Rainy months (Chaturmas) with Muni Jambuvijayji at Charoop (in North Gujrat near Patan) reading Karmagrantha. In addition to working at the library, he currently has three projects. 1) An introductory course on Jainism and Jain Traditions for upper division undergraduate and graduate students; 2) a grammar, lexicon, and reader of Ardhamagdhī Prakrit, the language of the Jain scripture, which does not assume knowledge of Sanskrit; and most important of all, 3) a "sourcebook of Jainism," an anthology of diverse Jain writings in English translation. He strongly believes that Jainism should

be included in American religious studies:

www.library.upenn.edu/vanpelt/collections/sasia/

As rich as this Library collection is, what makes this institution vibrant today is Dr. Brown's Human legacy: the South Asia Regional Studies Department at Penn, with so many scholars teaching courses on Indian languages, religion, art music and history. Consider the courses being offered at Penn. Dr. Ludo Rocher teaches a course named "Legacy of India" every spring and is very popular and usually has 150 students many of whom are American born children of Indian immigrants. Many students end up writing paper on Jainism in this course. Dr. Richard Cohen, Associate Director of South Asia Center teaches a course on "Introduction to Jainism" and "Introduction to Jain literature". Dr. Michael Meister teaches art history courses with attention to Jain art and architecture. Dr. Jerome Bauer teaches courses on the history of Indian food, including Jain Vegetarianism. Advanced courses in Jain Prakrit were originally taught by W. Norman Brown, then by his student Dr. Ernest Bender, and now by Dr. Ludo Rocher. Dr. Wilhelm Halbfass offers advanced courses in Jain Philosophy. Dr. George Cardona teaches Sanskrit Grammar and Dr. Guy Welbon teaches the history of Indian religions. This rich offering of courses on Jainism is due to tradition of Guru Parampara that started from Dr. Brown to Dr Bender and today Drs. Cohen and Bauer. Dr. Peter Gaeffke offers courses on Indian literature and teaches Bengali.

Many Indian teachers offer courses in modern Indian languages. Ms. Panna Naik and Babubhai Suthar are teaching Gujarati, Dr. Surendra Gambhir teaches Hindi and Urdu. Dr. Gambhir takes number of students to Pune every summer for a course that includes studies of Ayurveda. Courses are offered in Bengali, Tamil, Malayalam, Punjabi etc. There are courses on Indian music and movies too!

The library is considering exhibiting some of the manuscripts and books at the convention. This fabulously wealthy temple of knowledge is sitting quietly in west Philadelphia waiting to be discovered by anyone who has interest in Jainism. Layman or a scholar who visits for the first time will be soaked with sprinklings from ocean of Jainism at this JAINSHALA So as you go to Philadelphia for the 10th Biennial JAINA Convention, plan to visit the Van Pelt Library at U. Penn. Be prepared to be overwhelmed.

The writer wishes to acknowledge help of Drs. David Nelson and Jerome Bauer in preparing this article. For more information on visiting the library, please contact Dilip V. Shah at 215/561-0581.

JAIN DIGEST LIFE MEMBERS UPDATE

Congratulations and thanks to our newest JAIN DIGEST Life Members:

543	Dhirendra & Aruna Mehta, Valrico, FL
544	Sujal & Rajul Shah, Harleysville, PA
545	Hemandra & Shraddha Shah, Sunnyvale, CA
546	Shirish & Jyoti Shah, Pittsburgh, PA
547	Prakash & Jyoti Lapsia, Norwalk, CT
548	Arti & Amitabh & Parul Patel, Machester, CT
549	Jayesh & Namita Patel, Chicago, IL

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:

Marriage Information Service	\$400
Janak K. Sheth, Metairie, LA	25
Amolak & Usha Jain	25
Gulabchand & Movanbai Kothari, Kansas City, MO	25
Norman & Linda Kwaliek, Ravenna, Ohio	10
Bhavin Parekh, Mississauga, Ontario	10

HAPPY OCCASIONS

Congratulations to Jasvant Mehta of Edmonton, Alberta on the engagements of his two daughters, Reema and Reena with the help of MIS. Thank you for your donation of \$51.

JAINA CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

JAINA checking account as of February 18, 1999

Various sub-committee balances:

Education Committee	\$14,516.92
Jiv Daya Committee	1077.00
World Community Service	18,908.39
Temple Guideline	1,201.00
YJA	4,701.14
Virchand R. Gandhi Fund	6,127.00
North American Jain Family Assistance Program	4,484.00
Jirnoddhar Committee	26.00
TOTAL	\$51,925.22

JAINA General Fund	\$24,925.22
JAIN Digest Endowment Fund	\$62,433.50
JAINA Charitable Trust	\$152,988.12

Submitted by Jit Turakhia, Treasurer

VIRCHAND RAGHAVJI GANDHI FUND

The following donors have contributed \$100 or more to Virchand Raghavji Scholarship Fund:

Vijay Shah, Westbury, NY	\$500
Bhupendra & Chandrika Tolia, Norwood, NJ	\$251
Y. P. Jain Alberton, NY	\$500
Vinay & Vimla Vakani, Oradell, NJ	\$200
Rashmi & Rekha Sheth, Bethlehem, PA	\$100

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.



Mail this completed form and your financial contribution to:

JAINA Headquarters
PO Box 700
Getzville, NY 14068

- ☐ 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.

Your donation is tax-deductible in the U.S.A.. Please advise us if you wish your donation to remain anonymous.
1,000 Jain families have already done so, would you not do so? If not for you, do it for your children and grandchildren.



परस्परौपद्वे जीवानाम्

Young Jains of America

Federation of Jain Associations in North America

A Non-Profit Tax Exempt Religious Organization. IRS Code Section 501 (c)(3) EI #54-1280028

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Timir Chheda

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pmehta@juno.com

Jai Jinendra!

Fueled by the inspiration and foundation set forth from past committees, the new Young Jains of America Executive Board has accepted the responsibility of creating a bright future for Jainism and its youth by preserving Jainism's past and placing its present within everyone's reach. YJA has a variety of activities planned for the next six months that needs your participation to be successful.

Of course everyone is gearing up for the JAINA Convention in Philadelphia, PA and there will be a variety of youth activities that will enable you to not only meet other people, but also learn more about Jainism. Insightful discussions, educational materials such as stavan books with both transliterations and translations, and fun social events are just some of the things we have in store for you. While we are excited to help organize the programming, we have to know what **you** want. If you have any suggestions, please contact any member of the board and let us know.

Additionally, there are a variety of other projects that you can become involved with through one of our various committees. If you would like to become a local representative or even executive board member, further information is provided in this section. We are in the process of updating and enhancing our webpage, promoting foster focus projects on the local level, and looking forward to several upcoming regional youth conventions in the South and Midwest Regions.

YJA strongly encourages you to update your membership information by either filling out the enclosed form or emailing Shubhra Jain with the appropriate information. As Co-Chairs of Young Jains of America, we would like to maintain the tradition of having a strong organization through hard work, dedication and effective implementation of creative and novel ideas to help further Jainism in today's society. If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please feel free to contact us at anytime via email or telephone. See you in Philadelphia!

Timir Chheda and Ameet Shah

Co-Chairs, Young Jains of America 1999

Announcements

Stavan Book

In preparation for the upcoming JAINA 1999 Convention in Philadelphia, Young Jains of America would like to prepare a stavan and sutra book. This will benefit all pathsala teachers, students, and anyone interested in Jainism. The book will include sutras or stavans in Hindi or Gujarati with English transliterations and translations. This compilation will be bound and several pages will be illustrated by Jain Youth across the country. We are currently in the process of asking people to contribute any stavans and translations that they might have. Specifically, a letter was sent to the Second Pathsala teacher's convention asking for submissions. In order to have everything ready by the convention, we plan to have all submissions by the end of April. If anyone wishes to contribute to the Stavan Book, please contact our Director of Education, Neha Vagadia, at nvagadia@iris.nyit.edu or (516) 759-0027.

YJUK Tour

The events committee is currently working closely with Raju Shah on organizing a tour around the East Coast for YJUK (Young Jains of the United Kingdom) members. The stops and sites to see are close to being finalized. The cities to be visited include Boston, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Baltimore, and New York City. Presently, YJA is working on getting a few youth from each area to spend some time with the YJUK members and describe Jain life in America. After enough youth volunteers are gathered, YJA will begin to estimate the number of YJUK members coming. The next step will be to accommodate travel and host housing. The tour is still in its preliminary stages, but it is looking good. If you would like to meet the YJUK members during their tour or provide host housing on the East Coast, please contact the Director of Events, Naishadh Shah, at (516) 334-6712, (732) 651-8734 or nshah@iris.nyit.edu.

Want To Get Involved In YJA?

YJA is in the process of recruiting new Executive Board Members. Being on the YJA Executive Board allows you to help make the decisions that affect Jain youth across the country. There is a lot of effort and time commitment involved, but it is well worth the difference you can make in the Jain community. We are specifically looking for candidates from the Midwest and West regions of the United States, but anyone interested is welcome to apply. If you would like to get involved please send your resume (highlighting Jain activities) with a page long essay entitled "How I Can Lead YJA Into The Next Millenium" to: yja.info@iname.com or, bring it along with you at the JAINA Convention, we will be conducting interviews there or by telephone.

If you cannot make the commitment of being an Executive Board Member, but would still like to help YJA, you can join one of our committees. Below is a list of our committees and who you should contact if you are interested in helping out:

- ▶ *The Events Committee* is responsible for many of the projects YJA undertakes such as foster focus and pen pals. Most of these projects involve increasing interaction between Jain youth across the nation. The Director of Events is Naishadh Shah—(516) 334-6712, (732) 651-8734, nshah@iris.nyit.edu
- ▶ *The Public Relations Committee* is responsible for YJA's interaction with its members and the general public. This committee provides the updates and is the main source of correspondence for YJA. The Director of Public Relations is Shefali Parekh—(504) 865-4616, sparekh@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu
- ▶ *The Education Committee* takes on the task of teaching YJA members. The committee provides resources (such as the Stavan Book) and offers suggestions for increasing education in Jain communities. The Director of Education is Neha Vagadia—(516) 759-0027, (508) 543-0097, nvagadia@iris.nyit.edu
- ▶ *The Membership/Records Committee* keeps YJA orderly and efficient. From adding members to the database to reproducing minutes from meetings, this committee makes sure YJA is organized. The Director of Members and Records is Shubhra Jain—(314) 692-7127, shubhrajain@yahoo.com
- ▶ *The Finance/Fundraising Committee* manages the YJA treasury and controls all transactions. The committee is also responsible for ideas to generate funds and revenue. The Director of Finance and Fundraising is Heerain Shah—(706) 855-8147, (404) 206-0586, gte271e@prism.gatech.edu
- ▶ *The Web Team* helps to edit and update YJA's webpage. Because the internet gives everyone access to YJA, it is important that our webpage be kept up-to-date and easy to use. YJA's Webmaster is Parimal Pandya—(781) 237-5997, parimalpandya@yahoo.com
- ▶ *The Publications Committee* is responsible for YJA's Young Minds newsletter and any of YJA's contributions to other publications (such as Jain Digest). This committee allows for YJA information to reach our member's mailboxes. The Director of Publications is Naishadh Shah—(516) 334-6712, (732) 651-8734 or nshah@iris.nyit.edu

South Regional Convention

The Jain Group of North Texas is currently working on organizing a South Regional Convention. The concentration will take place in Fort Worth, Texas at the Park Ventral Hotel during Memorial Day weekend (May 29th - May 31st).

The theme of the convention will be Humanities in Jainism and will focus on aspects such as art, architecture, literature, music, philosophy, and science/technology. Dancing, skits, murals, music, keynote speakers, and discussions are some of the methods that will be used to incorporate these six aspects of humanities in Jainism. For more information, please contact the YJA South Regional Coordinator, Shefali Parekh, at (504) 865-4616 or **via email at sparekh@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu**.

Local Representative Packets

The Director of Public Relations is currently working on putting together a local representative packet to be sent to all local representatives of YJA. The purpose of this packet is to create more uniform regional councils across the states.

This packet will include an organizational overview of YJA, the mission of YJA, membership forms, guidelines on how to start a youth group, workshop ideas, foster focus information, description of local representative communication with YJA, and more.

It will serve as a foundation for new youth groups and an organizational aid for existing ones. If you are interested in becoming a Local Representative for YJA and would like to receive a Local Representative packet, please contact our Director of Public Relations, Shefali Parekh, at (504) 865-4616 or **sparekh@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu**.

Editing Jain Stories

In an effort to give back to the community and help future Young Jains, YJA is asking for your help with editing Jain stories online. It is simple:

1. Go to **www.jainism.org**
2. Click on a story.
3. Copy it to a word processor and edit it for grammatical errors (put it into proper English form.)
4. Email the edited version to Neha Vagadia (YJA Director of Education) at **nvagadia@iris.nyit.edu** with the title of the story as the subject of the email.
5. Feel good, knowing you have helped the Jain community.

South East Convention

The South East Regional Convention has again proven to be a success for all included! The third of it's kind, the theme was Jainism: An Old Religion in a New World. People from across the globe gathered to celebrate their common beliefs, or to learn about other ones.

One unique aspect of the convention was the ability for a participant to get to know all the others who attended on a very intimate level.

The accessibility of the speakers for one-on-one questioning was unparalleled.

The mornings began with yoga and meditation exercise led by the revered Samani Madhur Prajna and Samani Akshaya Prajna.

The afternoon activities included discussions and lectures led by Pravin Shah, Manhur Parekh, and Samani Madhur Prajna and Samani Akshaya Prajna.

Some of the topics discussed were *What it Means to be a Jain in America*, *Peace of Mind*, *A Jain Diet*, *Jain history*, *Jain Rituals*, *Jainism in America's Future*, and the *Jain Universe*.

The evenings provided time to unwind with dinner, dancing, gaarba, raas, and even a cultural put on by convention participants!

In short, all who came learned more, got to know each other, had fun, and made memories to treasure.

JAINA Convention Youth Forum

This year's JAINA convention offers a variety of activities for youth, offering a healthy balance of both educational and social activities.

Engaging discussions will help us understand how Jainism can be applied to modern practice in such forms as investing, comparative approaches to how Jainism relates to other philosophies, and how Jainism views paranormal phenomena.

In addition to the traditional ice-breakers, there will also be a youth party and cruise.

To obtain more information about youth activities at this year's convention, please contact Cannon Ghelani at **cghelani@novora.com**.

YOUNG MINDS (continued)

YJA MEMBERSHIP FORM

GENERAL INFORMATION

TODAY'S DATE: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I. _____
Permanent Address: _____ Present Address: _____
Home Phone: () _____ School Phone: () _____ Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY): ____/____/____
Email: _____ Jain Center Affiliation: _____
Parents' Names: Father _____ Mother _____

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Check one:
☐ Elementary/high school ☐ Undergraduate college ☐ Post-graduate college ☐ Working ☐ Other _____
School Name: _____ Class of (mm/yy): _____ Area of study: _____

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

Current Employer/Company: _____ Title: _____
Business Address: _____ # of years: _____
Business Telephone: () _____ Email: _____

Optional
Why do you want to join YJA?

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

Signature: _____

If you would like to learn more about YJA and/or become a member, please fill out the form and send it to:

Subhra Jain
8680A Kingsbridge Lane
St. Louis, MO 63132-4500

You can also find more information and this form online at:
<http://www.yja.org/>

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
Naishadh Shah

If you would like to become an editor of **YOUNG Minds**, please contact Naishadh Shah at naish@excite.com, or 516/334-6712.

MALE

M346 Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for very handsome, fair, intelligent, vegetarian, US born son, Feb 70, 5'11", BS, planning to pursue MBA, well employed as business analyst in a top multinational co., Call: 732/367-4022.

M416: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, talented, highly accomplished, vegetarian, US born son, Dec 71, 5'11", 170 lb, BS (EE), well employed with reputed multinational co., from cultured, educated, pretty, caring girls. Call: 216/351-7020.

M450: Jain parents invite proposals with biodata/photo for Physician (MD), 2nd year resident, vegetarian, US born son, Oct 73, 6'3", handsome, athletic, from vegetarian Marwari/Hindi/Gujarati Jain families. 1120 Scaleybark Rd, Apt.210, Charlotte, NC 28209.

M489: Gujarati parents invite responses for very handsome, fair, very successful entrepreneur in software development, vegetarian, US born son, March 71, 5'9", 5'9", 150 lb, MS (comp eng), Cornell Uni, from pretty, cultured, educated girls. Call: 410/771-0251.

M552: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, intelligent, US born son, June 69, 5'10", 150lb, BS (EE), full time studying MBA (9/99), from cultured, educated, caring girls. Call: 716/381-8650.

M558: NI Jain parents invite correspondence for son BS (EE), MS (CS), 32/5'8", vegetarian, highly social, adjustable nature and family values, well employed in multinational corp., from educated and cultured girls. Call: 757/838-6377.

M586: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, talented, US born son, April 71, 5'10", 160 lb, BA (cornell), MPH, very well employed, from educated, cultured girls. Call: 650/577-1935.

M657: Alliance invited from educated, cultured girls, for handsome, talented, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, born Oct 69, 5'11", BS (comp sc), well employed as analyst. Call: 732/821-2055.

M674: Alliance invited by industrialist Gujarati family for handsome, vivacious, self-made son, born January 71, 5'7", BS, pursuing MBA (NY Uni), partner in successful diamond/jewelry mfg. co. in Manhattan. Call: 201/798-7150.

M699: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, talented, vegetarian, US raised son, born July 74, 5'7", 130 lb, BS (finance), well employed with reputed investment bankers, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 708/493-2300.

M700: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, intelligent, social, US born son, Nov 73, 5'7", 135 lb, BS (comp eng), well employed, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 847/438-6152.

M704: Alliance invited for Gujarati, handsome, talented, good nature, vegetarian, US citizen boy, born Dec 70, 5'10", 170 lb, BS (comp sc), well employed as analyst. Call: 973/365-2739.

M706: Correspondence invited by Gujarati parents for vegetarian, vivacious, accomplished, US born son, Feb 72, 5'10", 160 lb, JD, well employed with law firm as attorney, from well educated, vegetarian, caring, cultured girls. Call: 201/670-8451.

M711: Gujarati parents invite responses for brilliant, vegetarian, US citizen son, born Nov 74, 5'6", BS (comp sc), pursuing MS, well employed with IBM, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 201/659-1639.

AM153: Alliance invited for handsome, intelligent, accomplished, vegetarian, professional Gujarati boy, born July 71, 5'8", 165 lb, MS (ind pharma), well employed, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 718/

377-5572 or 818/349-2353.

AM214: Practicing Surgeon seek educated, professional, active, vegetarian & pretty lady around forty years, residing in USA. Please send biodata/returnable photo.

AM218: Alliance with returnable photo/biodata, invited for a handsome, vegetarian son, BCom., born Dec 66, well settled in business in US, from parents of suitable, cultured, vegetarian, educated Gujarati girls between 26 - 30 yrs. Call: 513/395-5740.

AM219: Alliance invited for handsome, fair, professional, highly accomplished, Gujarati boy, born Dec 67, 5'9", CPA, pursuing MBA, very well employed, from pretty, cultured, educated girls. Call: 512/349-5191.

AM221: Gujarati parents invite responses from educated, vegetarian girls for their handsome, intelligent, US citizen son, born April 74, 5'2", BS (pharm), well employed as supervisor pharmacist. Call: 718/476-1678.

AM222: Sister invite proposals for handsome, vegetarian, smart, intelligent brother, born Dec 70, 5'8", 143 lb, BCom, Dip Comp Sc., well employed in a computer field, from cultured, educated, Gujarati girls. He is currently in India & willing to settle in USA. Call: 847/364-7448.

FEMALE

F265: Gujarati parents invite correspondence from professionals, for vegetarian, slim, beautiful, intelligent daughter, born Feb 69, 5'4", 115 lb, BS (pharmacy), well employed with Pharmaceutical Co., Call: 705/324-7877.

F324: Gujarati Surgeon invite correspondence from highly educated professionals, for 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.

F337: Jain parents invite proposals for their Physician (MD), slim, vegetarian daughter, born Jan 70, 5'4", 105 lb, from vegetarian professional boys, with biodata and photo to: 13660 Fair Hill Rd, Apt.308, Shaker Heights, OH 44120.

F454: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for their pretty, caring, intelligent, MBA daughter, well employed as consultant, born August 70, 5'5", 115 lb. Call: 716/242-8586.

F621: Gujarati parents invite responses for beautiful, talented, vegetarian, US born daughter, Dec 73, 5'7" 3rd year Medical student, from professional boys, preferably MD or medical student. Call: 407/366-8810.

F628: Gujarati Jain family invite proposals for their pretty, fair, intelligent, vegetarian daughter, born April 74, 5'3", 110 lb, BS (comp sc), MS (Management Inf.), well employed as Project Manager, from professionals. Call: 609/770-0260.

F690: Responses invited by Gujarati parents for beautiful, charming, slim, talented, vegetarian, US born daughter, born Feb 74, 5'4", 110 lb, BS, pursuing MS, well employed with IBM, from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 714/998-4261 or 561/547-2451.

F694: Sister invites proposals from educated, cultured Marwadi/Gujarati boys, for very beautiful, fair, cultured, vegetarian sister, born Sept 72, 5'4", 115 lb, BCom. She is currently in India & willing to settle in USA. Call: 818/609-8799.

F698: Jain parents invite responses for their pretty, slim, talented, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born 71, 5'2", 105 lb, DMD, Dentist, from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 610/325-0259.

F701: Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, slim, intelligent, vegetarian, US born daughter, born July 75, 5'2", 100 lb, BS (biochemistry), well employed with reputed lab, from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 847/438-6152.

F702: Gujarati parents invite responses for beautiful, very fair, talented, vegetarian daughter, born May 75, 5'3", 120 lb, BS (pharmacy), from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 215/464-5753.

F703: Alliance invited for pretty, attractive, intelligent, amiable, vegetarian, Gujarati girl, (divorcee, no issue), born July 65, 5'3", 135 lb, BS (chem), MLT, well employed as Tech with reputed Lab, from suitable cultured, educated match. Call: 972/620-2912.

F705: Alliance invited by brother from professional, well cultured boys, for his beautiful, intelligent, virtuous, vegetarian sister, born July 75, 5'2" 100 lb, BA (political sc). Call: 301/890-8033.

F707: Correspondence invited by Gujarati family for good looking/nature, vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born Dec 66, 4'11", 125 lb, having Down's Syndrome, but is quite healthy, from suitable match. Please send biodata/returnable photo. 7220W, 111 St., #7, Worth, IL 60482. Phone: 708/923-1874.

F708: Gujarati parents invite proposals for very beautiful, fair, intelligent, virtuous, vegetarian, US born daughter, March 75, 5'6", BS (comp sc), from cultured, vegetarian, professional boys. Call: 512/335-4563.

F709: Hindi speaking parents invite correspondence for talented, charming, highly accomplished, vegetarian, US born daughter, Aug 71, 5'0", MS (accounting), CPA, employed with top five accounting firm in San Francisco. Call: 925/253-9230.

F710: Alliance invited for pretty, vegetarian, slim, US citizen Gujarati girl, raised in India, born July 74, 5'5", 105 lb, BS (chemistry), pursuing degree in Comp Science, from cultured, educated Jain boys. Call: 302/644-4048 or 973/956-7275.

F712: Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, talented, vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born Sept 72, 5'1", 120 lb, BS, pursuing CPA, well employed as tax specialist, from well educated, cultured boys. call: 201/659-1639.

F713: Alliance invited for pretty, vegetarian, Gujarati Jain, never married girl, born Oct 59, 5'3", 130 lb, BS, MT, multimedic professional, self-made, green-card holder, from cultured, well educated match. Call: 732/574-9104.

F714: Hindi speaking parents invite proposals for pretty, slim, charming, talented, US raised daughter, Born Aug. 74, 5'6", 122 lb, BA (comp sc), well employed, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 732/922-6274.

AF171: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for very beautiful, fair, highly accomplished, US raised daughter, born Feb 72, 5'5", MD, doing residency, from professional boys, preferably MD. Call: 419/868-7476.

AF220: Uncle invite responses for pretty, attractive, family oriented, talented, slim, vegetarian niece, born Sept 64, 5'2", BS, DMLT, Pathologist, from cultured, educated boys. She is currently in India & willing to settle in USA. Call: 410/536-0162.

You can find the MIS Registration form on Page 29 in this issue.

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
(727/376-7290)

- 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, 257, 268, 299, 316, 366, 382, 385, 387, 393, 397, 398, 426, 447, 457, 462, 465, 483, 490, 492, 542, 555, 570, 635. AF74, 90, 106, 101, 110.

M181, 199, 237, 254, 275, 284, 286, 287, 304, 321, 330, 336, 342, 343, 344, 364, 388, 389, 395, 400, 405, 411, 417, 422, 438, 445, 446, 448, 450, 452, 459, 470, 536, 538, 551, 582, 617, 624. 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.

Diabetes Mellitus

by Dr. Dilip Shah, Chicago, Illinois

Diabetes is a condition associated with hyperglycemia, or high blood sugar. It is caused by insufficient levels of a pancreatic hormone known as insulin which is responsible for helping your cells f your circulation. Diabetes is a common illness and one that can cause serious problems if not treated properly.

There are two major forms of Diabetes: Type I (Juvenile Type), or Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus (IDDM) and Type II (Adult Type), or Non-Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus (NIDDM). Type II (NIDDM) is much more common as it is estimated that 14-16 million Americans are diabetic and that twice as many individuals will have it by the year 2010.

Type II Diabetes occurs mainly after the age of forty and is usually due to obesity and results from a sedentary life style. It is especially prevalent in individuals with a family history of the condition as well as in ethnic groups such as African-Americans and Indians. Unfortunately, the majority of people who have the disease do not know of it until some complication occurs as symptoms may not appear for months.

Clinically, Diabetes Mellitus is diagnosed when high blood sugar levels of more than 126 mg/dl are observed in a fasting blood sample on two separate days. Other common symptoms include excessive thirst, fatigue, increased urination, blurred vision and, occasionally, weight loss. The major concern with Diabetes Melli-

tus are the serious complications that can occur. Heart attacks and strokes, for example, are 2-4 times more prevalent in afflicted individuals compared to the general population. Diabetes is also a leading cause of blindness in adults and often results in the necessity for leg and toe amputations. In association with high blood pressure, it can also lead to a rapid decline in kidney function that subsequently requires dialysis.

What can be done? First and foremost, a balanced diet consisting of adequate calories is essential to maintain your ideal weight: 2 x height (inches) + an extra 10 lbs. for men and 10-20 lbs. for women. Food intake should be monitored such that 50-60% of food consumed consists of carbohydrate and fibers, 15-20% consists of protein, and 10% consists of saturated fats. Twenty to thirty minutes of exercise two to three times a week will stimulate the body to use insulin more efficiently and is the cornerstone of good health. In more severe cases of diabetes, drugs called Sulfonylureas may be needed to enhance insulin production. Newer drugs such as Metformin and Rezulin, along with many others under development, also show great promise in conquering this frightening disease in the years to come.

Please consult your family physician for more details about this condition and the treatments available. Good Luck!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Workshop on Jainism

Jain Society of Chicago has organized an intensive workshop on Jainism on May 15th and 16th at the Jain Center. Mr. Pravin Shah from the Jain Study Center of North Carolina will teach at this workshop. This workshop will be conducted in English and will encompass various topics on Jain philosophy, Jain scripture, meditation, comparative world religion, Jain universe and cosmology and probably inter active question and answer sessions. The workshop will be held from 9.00 A.M to 9.00 P.M. Lunch, dinner, and

afternoon tea shall be provided. The registration cost is \$25.00, which includes all the meals and all the materials. Only 40 participants will be accepted on first come first basis.

The workshop is open to everyone above 18 years of age only. We highly encourage members of adult class and Pathshala staff to attend this workshop. Current Pathshala students of level-4 may be eligible to attend this workshop, ONLY if recommended and approved by their teacher. As soon as workshop topics and details are finalized, they will be made available and published. Mr. Pravin Shah is a renowned scholar of Jainism in North America with a wealth of knowledge on Jainism and other religions. We are really honored and fortunate to have him here to teach us at this workshop. A registration form for the workshop is included with this newsletter. Please forward it after completion to:

Mukesh M. Doshi

1540 Sandburg Drive

Schaumburg, IL 60173

Enclose a check of \$25 made payable to *Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago*. The deadline for registration is April 15, 1999.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I read with great interest JAIN DIGEST each time. I congratulate Dilip V. Shah for his splendid report on the pilgrimage to Samet Sikhar. By this way, I have taken a little part to "the yatra of a lifetime" which I could not attend due to many reasons. I hope JAINA will organize other such travels to India to visit sacred places like Palitana, Girnar, Shravana Belgoda...

Pierre Amiel, Secretary General Honoraire
France

10TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION UPDATE

Jai Jinendra!

Our Jain Community has begun to take roots in the Western World. The Federation of Jain Associations In North America (JAINA) was founded to create conditions to foster our precious religion and preserve our heritage in this adopted Motherland. Samarpan Jain Sangh of Philadelphia is proud to participate in this effort by hosting the 10th BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION between July 2nd(Friday) and 5th (Public Holiday) 1999 at Valley Forge Convention Center / Sheraton Hotel located in King of Prussia, northern suburb of Philadelphia.

A block of rooms and suites are reserved at Sheraton Hotel attached to the Convention Center and Holiday Inn, which is nearby. We encourage everyone to register either at Sheraton Hotel or at Holiday Inn because programs are going to be held at these two places. Please register early. The last date for cancellation of rooms is 31st May 1999. Cancellation penalty of 3 nights charge applies thereafter. You must register with the Convention in order to obtain a room or suite.

There will be an exhibition-cum-sale of beautiful Jain items at Convention. These booths are available to sponsors and non-profit organizations. Please apply early for booths. There will be a continuing medical education (CME) seminar as part of the programs to bring focus on health issues related to Indians in general. Your participation will be highly appreciated.

The chosen theme of the Convention is “**Jainism in the New Millennium**”. As the second generation of Jains is coming into its own, it faces the new century of evolving ideas and issues. We need to bring the future into our sharp focus to determine the path our people will take towards the goal of preserving our heritage while we assimilate with the main stream of North America.

Such a Convention requires a large number of dedicated volunteers to host it. It requires ideas, talents and time. And above all it needs Money. We are requesting you to give us your support in every way you can. We look forward to your support. With your support it will launch us into the next Millennium!

Devendra & Dr. Meeta Peer
Convenors - JAINA Convention 99

Dr. Dhiraj Shah
President - Federation of JAINA

Program Highlights

Chief Guest:	Al Gore – Vice President of USA ?	6:00 p.m.& Saturday, July 3 rd 1999. You must register to avail of this program.
Keynote Speakers:	Gurudev Chitrabhanu Veerendra Heggade Sadhi Shilapiji	Youth Cruise: Four hours of fun filled evening with dinner and dance for Jain youth, age group 18-40 on Friday, July 2 nd , 6:15 p.m. departure sharp from Sheraton. You must register for this program.
Special Guest:	Father Valles from Ahmedabad (The list is incomplete)	Academic Bowl: A challenging competition between youths of various centers on Jain literature, principals, philosophy, rituals and way of life. Please join this exciting competition through your center.
Opening Ceremony:	A galaxy of Jain stars with the chief guest, keynote speakers, special guest in a “dramatic procession” with music and dance. Saturday morning, July 3 rd . Imagine the power of 10,000 Jains singing Navkar Mantra together!	Reunions: Reunion of various schools and organizations. A chance to meet old friends and take trip down the memory lane. Friday to Monday.
Exhibitions:	Collection of Jain art in association with Philadelphia Museum of Arts, private exhibitions-cum-sale of beautiful Jain items. Saturday to Monday. (Please apply early for booths!)	Dandiya Raas/Garba A tumultuous Dandiya Raas competition between various Jain centers. The competition is in two categories, youth and adult. Make sure that your center has entered the competition! Saturday evening, July 3 rd .
Marriage Information Service [MIS]:	Meeting of young adults and a get together for a possibility to meet your life partner. Friday July 2 nd 3:00 to	

Program Highlights

Fashion Show: Competition: A spectacular parade of fashionable dresses on a stage by dazzling models. Do you want to be a star model? Call us! (Saturday, July 3rd)

Folk Dances: Folk dances and dandiya for all, yes, including all attendees. Music will be provided by Indian artists. Friday to Sunday.

Patan ni Prabhuta: A drama based on Kanaiyalal Munshi's novel will be performed by Jains of Northeast corridor. Sunday, July 4th. The story depicts the glorious period of Gujarat's history and the role of Jains in Gujarat's glory.

Discourses Speeches: Parallel sessions on Jain Religion by prominent scholars and Munis.

Panel Discussion: "Ask the Scholar". Q & A sessions on Jain religion and other panel discussions.

Sahitya Sammelan: One of our Indian languages originated from Jain literature! A Sahitya Sammelan bringing out contribution of Jain religion and philosophy on literature. A gathering of writers and poets of North America celebrating the riches of literature with their writings and expressions. Monday, July 5th, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Educational: An educational and informational conference to disseminate valuable advice on matters of personal finances and business to safeguard your assets and your well being. A must attend event for everyone. Saturday evening.

Continuing Medical: A continuing medical education seminar will be held for more than 1,000 doctors who are expected to attend the convention.

Debate: Parents vs. Youth. No topic is barred! A free ranging discussion and debate to promote understanding. There is no generation gap; it is only gap in understanding caused by change!

Interfaith Dialogue: A panel discussion between heads of various religions. A challenging exchange to promote understanding between faiths.

Religious Programs: Bhakti sangeet, satsang, yoga, pooja,

Children's Activities: meditation, music, folk dances, films, drama. Films, games, magic shows, talks, story telling.

Temple: A Jain temple on the location, specially created with enthusiastic help from San Diego Center and led by redoubtable Mr. Nipul Shah.

Convention Board Members

Convenors:	Devendra & Dr. Meeta Peer
Registration:	Velji & Dr. Champa Bid
Souvenir	Tansukh Maru and Hansa Shah
Programs	Dr. Manoj Dharamsi
Cultural Programs	Dr. Mahendra & Hansa Shah
	Praful Mehta
Youth	Canon Ghelani
Speakers	Dr. Vinod & Dr. Rasila Shah
Finance	Dr. Rajnikant Shah
Fund Raising:	Vastupal Shah
	and Rashmi Kamdar
MIS	Keshavji Gada
	and Lata Champsee
Medical:	Dr. Meeta D Peer
Publicity:	Devendra T Peer
Reception	Rajendra K Mota
Food:	Kishore & Kundan Ghelani

Sponsorships:

Grand Sponsor:	\$ 100,000
Temple Sponsor:	\$ 75,000
Dinner:	\$ 40,000
Lunch:	\$ 30,000
Breakfast:	\$ 20,000

Swami Vatsalya may be shared by more than one family.

**10th Biennial JAINA Convention
July 2-5, 1999 at Philadelphia**

ADVERTISEMENT FORM

Souvenir Advertisement Rates

Back Page Inside (Full Colour Ad)	10,000.00
Front Page Inside (Full Colour Ad)	10,000.00
Full Page (Full Colour Ad)	1500.00
Full Page (Black & White)	1000.00
Half Page (Black & White)	600.00
Quarter Page (Black & White)	350.00
Best Wishes (Business Card Size)	250.00

Souvenir Size 8 1/2" x 11"

Provide ready to print artwork for all advertisements

DECLARATION

I would like to advertise in the JAINA 99 SOUVENIR as marked above. I am enclosing my check for US \$ _____ in full payment, payable to "Convention 99 (SJS)". Please print the advertisement as per the copy enclosed.

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Fax No.: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Please mail your checks and advertisement material to:

"Convention 99 - SJS"

Samarpan Jain Sangh

C/O Tansukh Maru

18 Lisa Dr., Hazlet, N.J. 07730

Note: If you have any questions, please call

Tansukh Maru (732) 495 2304

Hansa Shah (302) 764 6577

Shirish Mehra (609) 720 2656

Convention Registration Form should be mailed separately along with check at stated address on the registration form.

Accommodation:

The following hotels have been booked for the Convention:

1) Valley Forge Convention Center / Hotel Sheraton
1200 First Avenue (Corner of North Gulph Road)
King of Prussia, PA 19406
Tel: (610) 330 4000 \$ 126 per night

2) Holiday Inn 260 Mall Blvd. King of Prussia, PA 19406 Tel: (610) 265 7500 \$ 99 per night	3) Park Ridge 480 North Gulph Road King of Prussia, PA 19406 Tel: (610) 337 18000 \$ 99 per night
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Directions:

From Philadelphia Airport / I-95:

Take I-95 South to 476 North to Route 76 West proceed to Schuylkill Expressway (Route 76) west to Exit # 25. Bear right at first light onto Mall Blvd.(formerly Goddard Blvd.). Turn right at next light onto N. Gulph Road and proceed through 4 lights to First Avenue.

From Philadelphia:

Take Schuylkill Expressway (Route-76 west) to Exit # 25. Bear right at first light onto Mall Blvd.(formerly Goddard Blvd.). Turn right at next light onto N. Gulph Road and proceed through 4 lights to First Avenue.

From PA Turnpike: (Route 276)

Take Exit # 24, Valley Forge. Immediately take first right and merge onto N. Gulph Road and proceed through 4 lights to First Avenue.

From Route 202:

Take Pottstown Exit, 422 west to first exit, (Bridgeport – Route 23 east). Turn right first light (Moore Road). Turn right at next light (First Ave.) to hotel.

From Route 422 East:

Take King of Prussia Industrial Park Exit to hotel.

By Air:

All the major airlines fly into Philadelphia International Airport. Super Shuttle (215) 551 6600, provides limousine service every hour for the 45 minute ride to the airport from the Valley Forge Hotel. Cost - \$ 17 one way.

By Bus:

SEPTA (215) 580 7700 or 279 8400, Route # 125 bus departs daily from Center City Philadelphia, on both 16th and JFK Blvd. and the 29th Street side of the 30th Street Station. The bus stops at the King of Prussia Shopping Complex and the hotel.

By Train:

AMTRAK, (215) 824 1600, provides frequent and regular service from major metropolitan areas throughout the country to Philadelphia. Train arrives at 30th Street Station. SEPTA bus # 125 leaves the station every half-hour on weekdays.

Candidate Information

Marriage Information Services (MIS)

Young Adults “ Get Together” – Philadelphia, July 2-5, 1999

Name _____ Education _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: Res.: () _____ Business: () _____

Fax: () _____ email: _____

Job / Business (description): _____

Date of Birth (MO/DD/YR): _____ Age: _____ Height: _____ Wt(lbs.) _____

Visa Status: _____ Arrival in USA/Canada (YR) _____

Vegetarian: Yes / No _____ Smoke: Yes / No _____ Drink: Yes / No _____

Parents attending: Yes / No Father\Mother's Name: _____

Describe your personality in 50 words or so on a separate sheet.

Personal Preferences for the Match:

Age: Between _____ and _____ Height: Between _____ and _____

Education: _____

Vegetarian: Yes / No / Don't care Smoking: Yes / No / Don't care

Language (circle all that apply): English/ Hindi/ Gujarati/ Marwadi/ Kannada/ Others (specify)

Other Preferences (describe): _____

Fees: \$ 50 per candidate.

Notes:

1. Make check payable to Convention 99 – SJS. The form should be mailed along with the Convention Registration and check to Convention 99 – SJS, Samarpan Jain Sangh, 9701 Bustleton Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19115. Phone no.: (215) 464 7676 [Office Hours].
2. The last date for Mailing is May 31, 1999. Avail of early bird registration discounts! See Convention Registration Form for details.
3. Candidates are required to bring plenty of pictures and Bio-Data with them. Please mail one copy of the Bio-Data with this form. This Information will be available to all the registered candidates at the MIS session on July 2nd and 3rd.
4. There will be two sessions. July 2nd - 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and July 3rd – 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The parents will not attend on July 3rd.
5. Candidates may avail of the Youth Cruise (18-40 age group) on Friday, 2nd July 1999. First come first served basis. You must register for the Convention to avail of Cruise.

Registration Form

10th Biennial JAINA Convention

July 2-5, 1999

Valley Forge Convention Center/Sheraton Hotel
1160 First Avenue, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Name _____ Profession/Business _____
 Spouse _____ Profession/Business _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____
 Zip Code _____ Phone: Res: _____ Bus: _____
 Fax: _____ email: _____

Name and age of other family members attending Convention:

1	Age	2	Age
3	Age	4	Age

Registration Fees:

	Early Bird Till March 31	Till April 30	Till May 31	On Site (Cash/Credit Card Only)
Individual	\$75	\$85	\$100	\$125
Couple	\$150	\$170	\$200	\$250
Family of 3 / 4	\$200	\$225	\$250	\$300
Add'l Members	\$75	\$85	\$100	\$125

Registration Fees (includes programs and meals)	\$
Youth Cruise (\$ 50 per person, friday July 2nd)
Marriage Information Service – MIS (\$ 50 per candidate)
Donation/Sponsorship(Tax deduction receipt will be issued by SJS)

Total Amt. Enclosed \$

Please mail your checks payable to: **“Convention 99 (SJS)”**
Samarpan Jain Sangh
9701 Bustleton Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19115
Phone: (215) 464 7676 (office hours) Fax: (215) 677 9919

1. Family rate covers husband & wife and up to two unmarried children. Kids upto age 5 are free.
2. The Registration fee is based on Per Person Rates. The family of 3 or 4 will pay family rates. Additional members or other relatives will be charged at individual rates. Registration fee includes programs and meals.
3. The registration dates apply to dates stamped by the Post office and not the check date.
4. 75% refund can be claimed only upto **May 31**. It is the **LAST DATE** of pre-registration.
5. **Most programs are at Sheraton.** A block of rooms and suites are reserved at Sheraton.Ph: (610) 337-2000
6. Receipt of confirmed registration will be mailed to you. Please bring it to Registration desk. It is a must!
7. Registrant is required to bring driver's license or passport for identification purposes.
8. Registration begins 9:00 a.m. on Friday July 2, 1999. The programs starts Friday afternoon [Marriage Information Service (MIS), Reunions, Cruise, Exhibitions etc.] and concludes Monday afternoon [Sahitya Sammelan, Reunions, Closing Ceremony etc]. Please buy our **Raffle Tickets** through your center.
9. You need to fill a separate **Candidate Information Form** to participate in Marriage Information.
10. **The cruise is scheduled for 18-40 age group on Friday and/or Saturday, and is charged at \$ 50.** First come first served basis. Four hours of fun filled evening, includes dinner, dancing Transportation from Sheraton at 6:15p.m. Please circle participants name.
11. Organizers are not responsible for loss, injury or damage of any kind to registrants or guests.
12. ☐ **Check if you have registered rooms at Sheraton Hotel. Registration for Convention is required to obtain room. The last day of cancellation is May 31st, 1999.**

With best compliments to JAINA

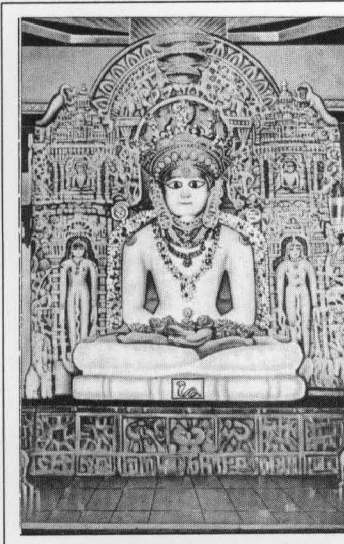
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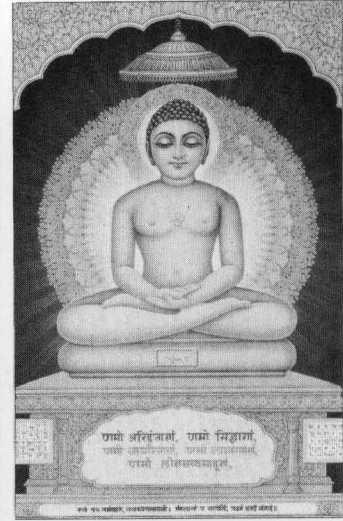
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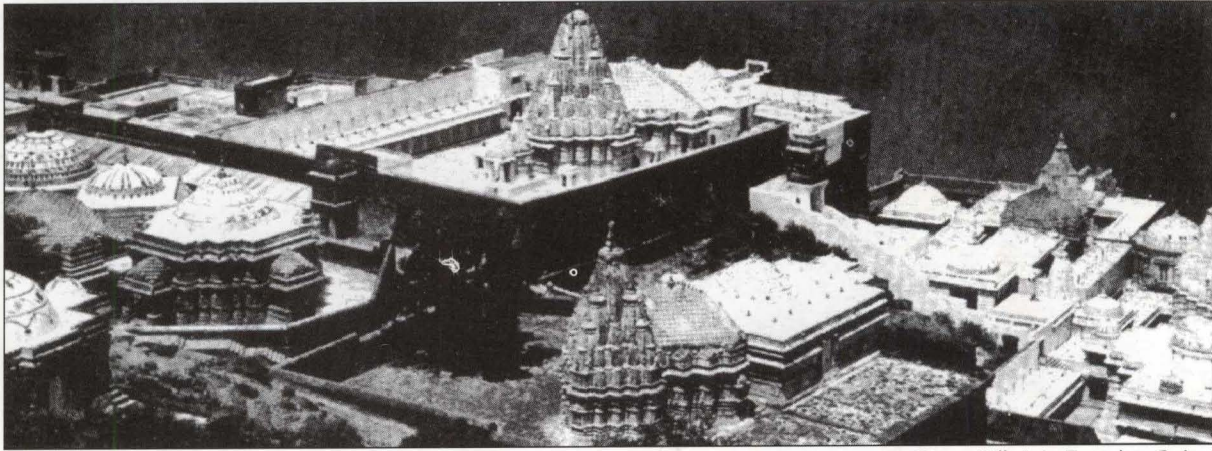


Tirthankar Mahavir

Jain temple format

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