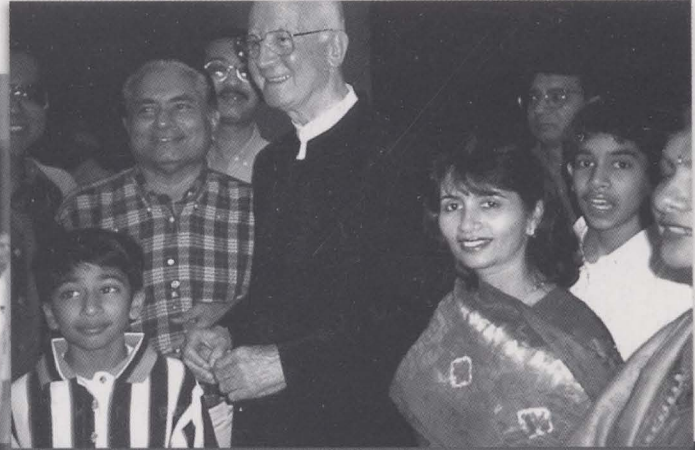


# JAIN DIGEST

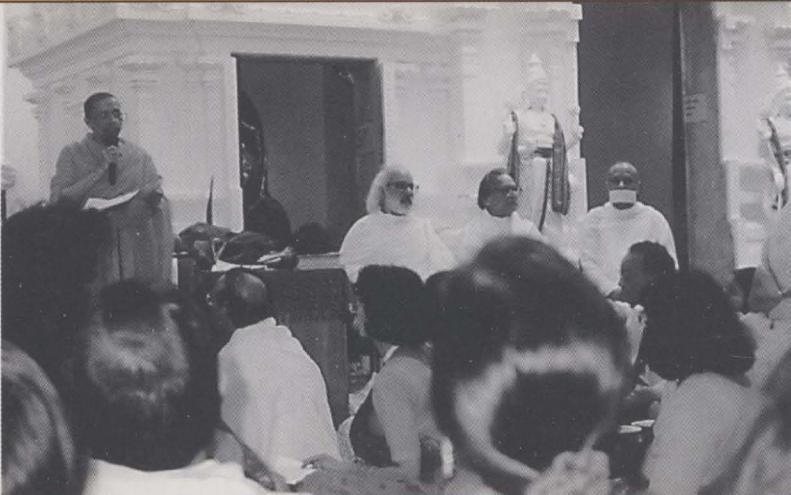
FALL 1999

VOLUME 15, NO. 3

## *Jainism in the new* **Millennium**



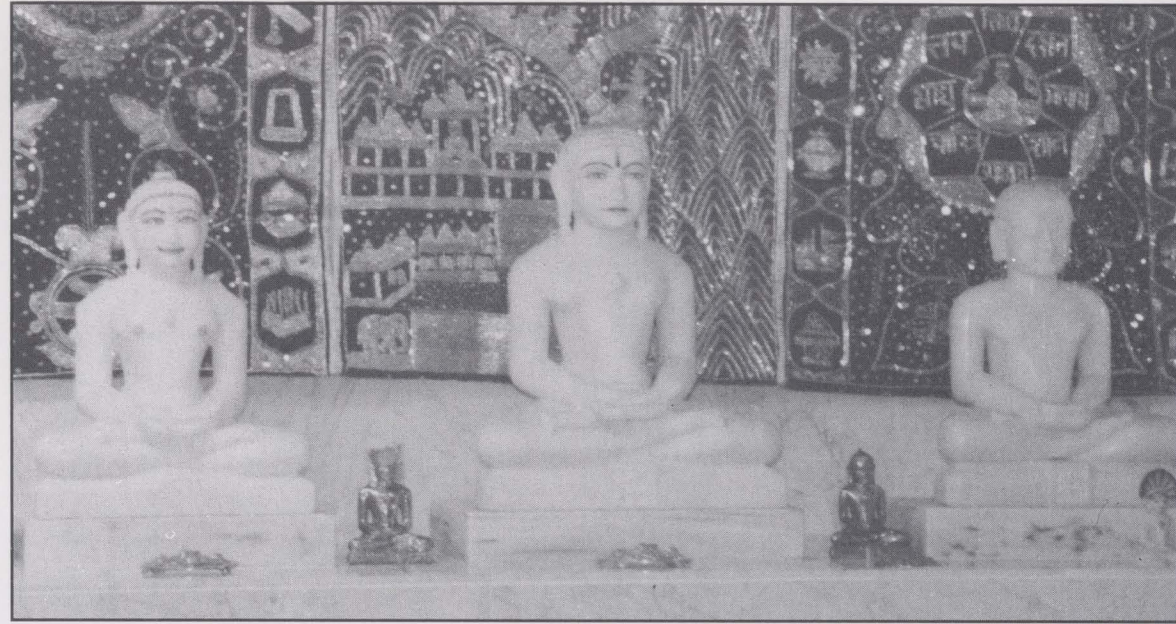
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## JAI JINENDRA

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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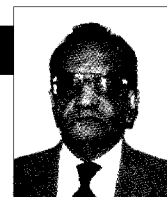
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P.O. Box 700  
Getzville, NY 14068-0700

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Sadharmic Brothers and Sisters:

JAINA Convention '99 in Philadelphia was an enjoyable and a learning experience for all of us. About 8000 Jains from all over North America, India and other parts of the world attended the Convention. The Convention was also graced by the presence of revered Jain Sadhus, Sadhvis and Scholars, and the honorable American and Indian dignitaries. I am sure that we are all enriched from their learned discourses and enlightening discussions. A replica of a Jain temple and Siddhachakra Poojan were highlights of the religious remembrance of the Convention. The cultural program and performances by the young and adults that were based on Jain tenets were enjoyable as well as educational.

One of the main events of the Convention was JAINA'S traditional Award Ceremony to recognize the outstanding efforts and services rendered to the Jain community by individual Jains. All of us are volunteers doing useful work for the benefit of the Jain community and JAINA's aim is to give tribute and recognition where it is due. We also recognized the Essay Contest Winners and Academic Bowl Winner to encourage more young people to participate in these activities.

JAINA's highest award of Jain Ratna was awarded to Mr. Pravin C. Shah of Cary, North Carolina. Next, the Ahimsa Award was awarded to Dr. Surendra Singhvi of Dayton, Ohio. JAINA Recognition Awards were presented to nine (9) young people and fourteen (14) adults. I congratulate all recipients and express our deep gratitude for their invaluable service to JAINA and the Jain Community of North America. The Presidential Award was given to Mr. C.N. Sanghavi of Bombay, India for his outstanding service to Jain Community at large.

Board of Directors of JAINA, at its General Meeting just prior to Convention, elected the new Executive Committee for the years 1999-2001. The new Executive Committee was inducted during the JAINA Award Ceremony and we are ready to serve the North American Jain community to the best of our ability. I am confident that we will have your full support in all of our new endeavors.

A resolution was passed in the Board of Directors' meeting that JAINA would organize and manage its Conventions in the future. Dr. Bipin D. Parikh, First Vice President of JAINA, will chair the first JAINA Convention Board. We believe that JAINA should take leadership in defining the theme and presenting an enjoyable and informative program of activities consistent with our religious beliefs. We are preparing the JAINA Convention Guidelines which will delineate rules and define responsibilities of JAINA and the Host Jain Center for future conventions.

We are also working diligently on developing other goals for years 1999-2001. I strongly urge you to think carefully about the goals listed in the letter sent to you by Mr. Vinay K. Vakani, Secretary of JAINA, and respond with your suggestions promptly. We want to present our plan for next two years to the Board of Directors at the October 2, 1999 meeting, at Siddhachalam.

But at first we need to strengthen JAINA financially to enable us to achieve all other goals. To accomplish this, I invite all Board of Directors to immediately become JAINA Patrons. I also ask for your help to enroll new Patrons from your respective Jain Centers.

Next, we believe that JAINA can become a plentiful and dependable source of books on Jainism in North America. JAINA displayed some books at the convention and has also distributed selected books by mail. JAINA's Regional Vice Presidents will contact Jain Centers about availability of the books.

To increase the awareness about JAINA, we plan to organize a JAINA DAY at every Jain Center. During the Hartford (Connecticut) Pratishtha Mahotsava last month, JAINA booth displayed books and other JAINA literature and talked with visitors about JAINA. I am happy to report that we also enrolled 23 new Patrons including four Grand Patrons. I am thankful to our Northeast Regional Vice President Mr. Jahraj C. Maru for his tireless efforts in organizing this endeavor successfully.

Also, JAINA is preparing a Jain Calendar for year 2000, and we expect to make it available to all Jain households in North America by upcoming Diwali - Mahavir Nirvan Day.

We have received reports of some undesirable occurrences during the Philadelphia Convention. I want to give you assurance that JAINA will make every effort to eliminate such lapses in judgement and not allow activities inconsistent with cannons of Jainism at future conventions.

In September, we will be observing our (Mahaparva) High Holidays of Paryushana and Dash Laxana. This will be the time for reflection on our self-indulgence and indiscretions during the year, and of spiritual awakening. In the spirit of Kshamapana, I ask for your forgiveness for any transgressions during the year, especially at the Convention, which might have hurt your feelings.

Michhami Dukkadam to all!

*Mahendra K. Pandya*

Mahendra K. Pandya  
President, JAINA

# JAIN DIGEST

A publication of the  
FEDERATION OF JAIN ASSOCIATIONS  
IN NORTH AMERICA

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## PUBLICATION DATES AND DEADLINES

Spring (March)	February 15
Summer (June)	May 15
Fall (September)	August 15
Winter (December)	November 15



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<i>Associate</i>	Buffalo	Miami	Houston
Edmonton	Cherry Hill	<i>Associate</i>	Phoenix
Montreal	Essex Falls	Augusta	<i>Associate</i>
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Northeast	ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NY, PA, MD, DE, NJ, VA, DC	Southwest	AZ, NM, TX, OK, CO, UT
		West	AL, WA, OR, CA, NV, ID, MT, 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 sent to the Editor by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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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, Lara 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.

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http://www.jaina.org/ http://www.jainism.org/  
**Young Jains of America**  
http://www.yja.org/



## A Message from the Past President

It was indeed a pleasure and a privilege to serve you for the last two years as JAINA President. I want to thank the entire Jain Community of North America for providing me this opportunity.

In the past two years, we have made JAINA a prominent organization, both nationally and internationally. This would have not been possible without the hard work of past administrations.

We have set so many new milestones that it is difficult to enumerate them. A few examples are Patron Program, first ever teacher's convention, first ever Jain Sangh of 64 pilgrims to Sametshikhar, regular publication of JAIN DIGEST and JAINA Focus, helping small sanghs to build Jain temples, sending audited financial statements to all the Directors, the teacher's workshops, working with US AID and United Nations, meeting Dalai Lama, the Presidents, Prime Ministers, Governors, Cabinet Ministers, Ambassadors and Consulate Generals and briefing them about JAINA.

This would not have been possible without the wholehearted support of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Chairmen of various Committees, JAIN DIGEST and JAINA Focus Editorial Board, trustees, patrons, donors and last but not least, hundreds of volunteers across North America. I deeply appreciate and thank all of you for making JAINA a financially stable, transparent, united and vibrant organization.

JAINA needs your continued support and input to continue its progress under the guidance of our new president, Dr. Mahendra Pandya and his team. I will continue to work for JAINA and do my best for the progress of JAINA and try to fulfill our mission statement 'From Cradle to Cremation, JAINA is There.'

Lastly, none of this would have been possible without the support of my wife, Pratima and my sons, Nealesh and Mitul. I can't thank them enough.

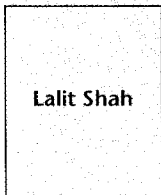
Jai Jinendra!



Dhiraj Shah

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1981-83



Lalit Shah

1983-85

Manoj Dharamsi



1985-87

Tansukh Salgia



1987-93

Sulekh Jain



1993-95

Jagat Jain



1995-97

Manibhai Mehta



1997-99

Dhiraj Shah



### Meet your Executing Committee for the 1999-2001 term

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Mahendra K. Pandya



First Vice President

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## JAINA Executive Committee Meets

*Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA—May 8<sup>th</sup> 1999*

The meeting started at 10:30 A.M. with Namokar Mantra.

The Secretary Dilip V. Shah read minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting in Los Angeles. The minutes were approved as written.

Jit Turakhia the treasurer presented fund balances in various committees and he informed that financial reports and IRS returns for 1998 will be ready by May 15.

Dr. Dhiraj Shah reported on various activities since last executive committee meetings:

- ▶ Dinesh Dalal of Boston will be representing JAINA at the Harvard University's Project on Multiculturalism.
- ▶ JAINA will be represented by at least 9 delegates at the World Parliament of Religions in South Africa.
- ▶ World Community Services of JAINA has started a special relief fund for refugees from Kosovo. Dhirajbhai urged every one to generously donate to the fund. He will meet with the UNCHR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) representative in New York on May 11 to present a check from JAINA.
- ▶ Dhirajbhai, Dr. Mahendra Pandya and Davendra Peer will meet with the Consul General of India in New York, Ms. Tripathi and invite her to come to the Convention.
- ▶ Dhirajbhai urged every one to write to the Census Commissioner of India to protest their decision to include Jains as Hindus in the next Census of India.
- ▶ Dhirajbhai reported that all 56 centers have now paid their dues to JAINA.

Meeta Peer, Convenor of the upcoming JAINA Convention reported on the preparation for the convention. Dr. Rajni Shah, Dr. Champaben Bid and Dr. Vinod Shah asked questions and Dhirajbhai explained various ways JAINA has been helping the convention efforts. Dhirajbhai promised that JAINA will do whatever it can to help. Many other chairpersons of various convention committees also presented their reports. Davendra Peer thanked all for coming and assured everyone that all the preparations for the convention are on schedule.

After lunch, the meeting began again at 3:00 P.M.

Anop Vora, Chair person of the Patron Committee reported that 105 Patrons had paid up current year's dues. He showed the badges the JAINA Patrons will get at the convention and encouraged others to become a JAINA Patron.

Dr. Manoj Dharamsi spoke about his Mahavir Memorial Committee. He met in India with various Jain leaders to discuss

coordination for the 2600<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary events world wide in the year 2001. He also discussed proposal for Mahavir Ahimsa Prize.

Dr. Dhiraj Shah reported on behalf of the World Community service committee. The committee has sent 1,000 Kg of used clothing and stress test machine to India. The houses being rebuilt in the two villages adopted by JAINA- Ragha and Shekhadia will be ready for occupancy before the monsoon season begins. Dr. Manibhai Mehta has one container load of medical equipment in Los Angeles ready to be shipped to India.

Kamlesh Shah of the membership committee sent request of the Hudson Valley Jain Sangh to be as associate member of JAINA. They sent the names and addresses of their 22 members and check along with the copy of their constitution. The application package was passed around and their application was approved by a voice vote without dissent.

Pravin Shah reported on his pathshala teachers workshop in Houston in February. He offered to do the same for any center that can have 25 to 40 people interested and willing to commit 16 hours of studies and lectures. He and Parimal Pandya briefed on the updating of [www.jaina.org](http://www.jaina.org) website. They expect all the updating will be done in the next 60 days.

Pravin Mehta reported on the activities of YJA. Bids are being evaluated from 4 centers for the next YJA convention. He also reported that YJA is actively participating in the JAINA Convention. He stressed need for more regional YJA conferences.

Kirit Daftary of Jirnodhdhar committee reported that Virendra Shah of Los Angeles will be the vice chairman of their committee. He also requested that the name of his committee be changed to Tirthodhdhar Committee. Dilip V. Shah seconded the change of name motion and was approved without dissent.

Prem Jain spoke of the expansion plans of their temple in San Francisco. He offered JAINA to open a regional head quarter in their temple complex. Every one applauded the offer and an ad hoc committee was proposed by Dr Dhiraj Shah and seconded by Mahendra Pandya to examine the feasibility of establishing a permanent JAINA head quarter and also possibly other regional offices. Dilip V. Shah, Jit Turakhia and Jagat Jain were named to this committee.

Dilip V. Shah proposed that in view of the fact that Dr. Dhiraj Shah has been handling a lot of work related to filing USAID reports and dealing with other Jain organizations around the world and application as NGO status with the UN, he be named chairperson of a new "Governmental and International Organizations Committee". The motion was seconded by Dr. Manibhai Mehta. Jit Turakhia suggested that in light of our established practice of

*Continued on page 6*

## Board of Directors Meeting In Philadelphia

Board of Director of JAINA met in Philadelphia on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the first day of the Convention. Manibhai Mehta started the meeting with recitation of Namokar Mantra.

The Secretary, Dilip V. Shah, read minutes of the last board of Directors meeting on November 14, 1998 in Chicago. Resolution concerning one-day registration for the convention was recorded as having passed as unanimously but it was pointed out that it was not unanimous as there was one person who had abstained from voting. The record was amended to reflect that and the rest of the minutes were approved as presented.

Jit Turakhia, The treasurer handed out audited financial report for the tax year 1998. He pointed out that for the first time in JAINA's history, during his term office, tax returns for both 1997 and 1998 were filed in timely manner without the extension. Also for the first time, 1998 financial statement included consolidated and breakdown of statements for JAINA, JAINA Charitable Trust and YJA Houston Convention. His report was greeted with warm applause and accepted.

Dhiraj Shah briefed everyone of JAINA's activity since November meeting. He appraised members on the status of JAINA's application for NGO status at the UN and the status of USAID application. He mentioned his trip to India in December where he personally visited two villages Ragha and Shekhadia that are being rehabilitated with JAINA's help.

Bipin Parikh proposed a resolution that future JAINA Conventions should be hosted by JAINA. The host Sangh will be in charge of the hospitality but all planning for the convention will be the responsibility of JAINA. JAINA will work closely with the host committee but the financial controls and responsibility will be that of JAINA. A lively discussion followed. Pravin Dand of Washington D.C., proposed and Jagat Jain seconded a resolution that Bipin Parikh be chairman of a special Committee to hold the next Convention. The amendment was accepted and the resolution passed by the vote of 32-5.

Vinay Jain, Chairman of the election committee presented his report. His committee had mailed out 80 ballots and 73 ballots were returned. Only the President's position was contested. He described the procedures that were put in place to maintain anonymity of the ballots and how the procedure will be further refined for the future. In presence of two observers from the floor, the ballots were opened and vote tabulated. He pronounced Mahendra Pandya as the next President. After the announcement the new members of the executive committee were inducted.

Dhiraj Shah thanked the Nomination and election committee for doing such a wonderful job. As he gave his farewell message, he thanked every one for allowing him to serve as the president of JAINA for the last two years and he adjourned the meeting.

## JAINA Trustees Meeting In Philadelphia

Minutes of trustees of JAINA Charitable Trust held on July 4, 1999 at 9:30 PM at Sheraton Hotel, Valley Forge, PA.

Following people were present: Mahendra Pandya - Chairman, Dhiraj H. Shah – Vice Chairman Jagat Jain – Controller of Finance Mr. Kirit Kapadia – Secretary General. Seventeen other trustees and invited guests were also present.

Meeting started with Mangalacharan. Minutes of last meeting in Chicago on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 1998 read by Kirit Kapadia, Secretary and adopted.

Mahendra Pandya, Chairman gave report on activities of the Trust and request for a loan of \$10,000 from Samarpan Jain Sangh of Philadelphia. After discussion, the following resolution was proposed by Mahendra Pandya and seconded by Mr. Kantilal Shah.

“Resolved that an emergency loan of up to \$10,000 can be given by the Executive Committee of Charitable Trust to any Jain Sangh/Society/Center which hold JAINA Convention.”

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Two new trustees joined the Trust, bringing the total of 94 trustees. A request was made by Kirit Kapadia to the existing Trustees to add more Trustees.

Jagat Jain presented financial report and it was adopted. Jain was requested to explore other investment options in addition to fixed deposit. A copy of the financial report will be mailed to all the trustees shortly.

After discussion, it was agreed that all current trustees would be sent the minutes of all meetings, list of major decisions, financial report and list of current trustees. The secretary will follow up.

Connecticut Sangh/Society made a request for contribution of \$5,000 towards temple project which was approved.

A resolution proposed by Mr. Girish Shah and seconded by Jagat Jain was unanimously adopted as follows:

“Resolved that JAINA CHARITABLE TRUST will contribute up to \$5,000 if request by any non-sectarian Jain Temple/Society/Sangh in North America for a temple project if temple is built according to JAINA guidelines including Navkar Mantra, Swetambar Idol, Digambar Idol.”

Pandya informed that he would be taking a leave for next two years to devote his attention to President's office of JAINA. Dhiraj Shah will act as a Chairman of the trust during his absence.

A vote of thanks was proposed.

Meeting concluded with Mangalacharan.

—Kirit Kapadia  
Secretary General, JAINA Trust

## Jain Sanctum Pratistha Celebration in Middletown, Connecticut, July 16-18, 1999

The Jain Center of Greater Hartford celebrated the Pratistha Mahotsav during the weekend of July 17-18, 1999. Two Pratimas, one of Tirthankar Rishubhdev Bhagwan and one for Tirthankar Mahavir Bhagwan, were consecrated in the Jain Sanctum in Sri Satyanarayan Hindu Temple, 11 Training Hill Road, Middletown, CT.

Pratistha Ceremonies were conducted under the direction of Bhattaraka Shri Devendra Keerti Swamiji and Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji. The pratistha was also graced by the presence of Shri Amrendra Muniji, Shri Manak Muniji, Samnji Vineet Pragyaji and Samnji Charitra Pragyaji, and other visiting scholars. The occasion came to life with music and Stavans performed by various Mandalis and Bhavana groups including Virendrabhai Shah and his team (New Jersey), South New Jersey Bhavana Group, and Prakash Lapasia and team (Connecticut).

The weekend Pratistha Celebration began on the evening of Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, with the Youth program, which included a discussion session with visiting Sadhus and Sadhwees. The discussion was followed by a Garba.

On Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1999, the actual Pratistha began with a procession circling the temple grounds at 7 A.M. The ceremony started with Bhattaraka Sri Devendra Keerti Swamiji conducting the Abhishek for Bhagwan Mahavir. Following the abhishek/pooja, Bhattarkaji invited Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, Amrendra Muniji, and Manak Muniji to conduct the "surma/sight ceremony" for Bhagwan Mahavir.

Later in the morning, Gurudev Chitrabhanuji performed the ceremony of Abhishek and Pooja for Bhagwan Rishubhdev. Everything ran so smoothly that the mahurat to do pratistha of both Tirthankar Rishubhdevji and Mahavir Bhagwan occurred as planned around 12:39pm. Two groups participated in the installation of each Jinabimba. First Adishwar Bhagwan's pratima was placed in the sanctum, and this was followed by the pratima of Mahavir

Bhagwan.

It is difficult to describe the joy and happiness that was in the hearts of those who attended the Pratistha. Before serving lunch, people danced with joy and performed Garbas and other impromptu dances. Also, groups of children performed several dances. The Shantidhara was followed by Swamivatsalya lunch.

The Pratistha Mahotsav was concluded with Bhattarkaji, Muni Amrendraji, and Shamni Vineet Pragyaji and Shamni Chitra Pragyaji delivering pravachans, highlighting the basic core principles of Jainism and how to adhere to them in our daily lives.

On behalf of the Jain Center of Greater Hartford we gratefully acknowledge the kind support of officers of the JAINA Federation (Kamleshbhai Amin, Jagat Jain and others for timely assistance; Mahendra Pandiyaji and Nirmal Dosiji for taking the time to attend the Pratistha Mahotsav), Officers and Members of Jain Center of Connecticut (Sudhir and Anita Shah and colleagues), and several other Jain Centers including Massachusetts (JCGB), New York (NY city, Albany, Poughkeepsie), and New Jersey who helped us in many ways. Our special thanks to Mrs. Mamtaji and Mr Naresh Jain, Kumarbhai Shah, and Jai Dugar who assisted in arranging the visits of Gurudevji, Bhattarkaji, Muni Amrendraji, and Samnji. We would like to convey our heartfelt gratitude to the officers of Connecticut Valley Hindu Temple Society, the temple priests Sri Ramchand Bhatariji and Sri Krishnamurtiji, and the temple membership at large for their support before and during the ceremonies.

Jai Jinendra!

### Jain Center of Greater Hartford Executive Committee

Faquir Jain, President (860/487-0607, fcj@engr.uconn.edu)  
Padam Jain, V. President (860/561-0793, padamjain@aol.com)  
Prem Godha, Treasurer (860/657-2284, godhacp@yahoo.com)  
Kajal Jain, Secretary (860/675-8509, jain@erols.com)

*Continued from page 4*

President not heading any committee, Dr. Dhiraj Shah's committee chairmanship should begin after he leaves office as president of JAINA (July 7, 99). The motion was amended and was passed unanimously.

Shantibhai Shah of Toronto has offered to be a consultant to JAINA for any legal questions that arise. The executive committee has accepted his offer with thanks.

Dr. Dhirajbhai took notice of the fact that this was the last meeting of this executive committee and he thanked all the members of the Executive Committee for their cooperation.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M. with recitation of Namokar Mantra.

### Interested in helping publish the JAIN DIGEST?

The JAIN DIGEST is looking for volunteers to help in the publishing process of the magazine.

If you have a background in desktop publishing/printing and would be willing to help, please contact JAINA President Mahendra K. Pandya by phone at 718/816-0083, or fax him at 212/319-6781.

Help JAINA get the word out to thousands of Jains in North America and abroad. We look forward to hearing from you!



## JAINA Book Source

**Jainism: A Pictorial Guide to the Religion of Non-Violence**

By Kurt Titze \$35

**Illustrated Bhaktamar Stotra**

English by Dr. Prabha Pidrai. Written in English, Hindi, Sanskrit and Gujarati; includes Yantras. \$20

**The Notion of Growth: Discover Unknown Dimensions of Your Consciousness**

By Hermann Kuhn \$15

**Karma-the Mechanism: Create Your Own Fate**

By Herman Kuhn \$15

**JAINA: Philosophy and Religion**

By Muni Shri Nyayavijayaji; English by Nagin J. Shah \$10

**Bhaktamar**

English by Surendra Bothara. Written in English, Hindi, Sanskrit and Gujarati \$10

**Samayasar**

By Acharya Kundakunda; English by Professor A. Chakravarti \$10

**Illumination of Jaina Tenets**

English Rendering of Jaina-Siddhanata-Dipika By Acharya Tulsi \$10

**Concept of Prayer**

By Acharya Hastimalji Maharaj \$10

**Structure and Functions of Soul in Jainism**

By S. C. Jain \$10

**Cosmology Old and New**

By Prof. G.R. Jain \$10

**Religion and Culture of the Jains**

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The following pages list the more than 550 JAIN DIGEST Life Members from 1985 onwards. Please check to see that your information is correct. If it isn't, contact Keerti Shah at 630/837-8716, or by writing to him at the address listed on page 11.

### Life Members in Canada

#	Name	City, Province
1	Ashok & Keerti Kotecha	Calgary, ALB
2	Babulal & Nayana Mehta	Edmonton, ALB
3	Jaswant & Asmita Mehta	Edmonton, ALB
4	Navin & Urmila Mehta	Edmonton, ALB
5	Jitendra & Savita Shah	Edmonton, ALB
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7	Mahendra & Aruna Mehta	Sherwood Park, ALB
8	Gyanchand & Kusum Singhai	Richmond, BC
9	Anand & Bina Jain	Vancouver, BC
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11	Niranjan & Anjali Desai	Ancaster, ONT
12	Kamal & Ashi Jain	Ancaster, ONT
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16	Ramesh & Anupama Varia	Brampton, ONT
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20	Himat & Dulari Khandor	Etobicoke, ONT
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33	Naresh & Urmila Jain	Mississauga, ONT
34	Ramesh & Santosh Jain	Mississauga, ONT
35	Sachindra & Usha Jain	Mississauga, ONT
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37	Keerti & Snehlata Khandor	Mississauga, ONT
38	Bhuvanendra & Bramhi Kumar	Mississauga, ONT
39	Vasu & Bhavna Morchi	Mississauga, ONT
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48	Mahendra & Bindu Jain	Scarborough, ONT
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50	Jitendra & Sudha Shah	Scarborough, ONT
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56	Bhrrarat & Kailash Mehta	Unionville, ONT
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58	Chandulal & Ranjan Morbia	Windsor, ONT
59	Int. Mahavir Jain Mission	ONT

### Additional Life Members in Canada

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24	Vipin & Jyoti Vadecha	Diamond Bar, CA	105	Dhirendra & Aruna	Valrico, FL
25	Rohit M & Harsha R Shah	Fontana, CA	106	Dilip & Hemlata Jain	Americus, GA
26	Shrenik Jhaveri	Freemont, CA	107	C.S. & Reena Shah	Athens, GA
27	Ajit & Nima Gujar	Fremont, CA	108	Narendra & Hansa Shah	Athens, GA
28	Arun & Jashu Mehta	Fremont, CA	109	Manhar & Mukta Parekh	Atlanta, GA
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30	Amrut & Chandra Shah	Fullerton, CA	111	Jatin & Geeta Shah	Milledgeville, GA
31	Shashi & Renuka Jogani	Glendale, CA	112	Santosh & Sarala Kothari	Roswell, GA
32	Shashin Shah	Glendale, CA	113	Navnit & Manjula Shah	Stone Mountain, GA
33	Tarun F. Jogani	Hacienda Hts., CA	114	Glenn D. Paige	Honolulu, HI
34	Rina Shah	Hacienda Hts., CA	115	Rashmikant & Chandrika Gardi	Barrington, IL
35	Dr Ramesh Kothari	Hawaiian Gardens, CA	116	Vikram & Jayshree Shah	Barrington, IL
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37	Ajeet & Bina Sanghvi	Hemet, CA	118	Prabodh & Lata Vaidya	Bolingbrook, IL
38	Mahendra & Panna Tejani	Indio, CA	119	Bipin & Bharti Bhayani	Bourbonnais, IL
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56	Jawahar & Renuka Desai	Roseville, CA	137	Durgesh & Alpa Shah	Lake Zurich, IL
57	Dinesh & Mukti Shah	S. Pasadena, CA	138	Jagdish & Sheela Shah	Lombard, IL
58	Prakash & Bimla Jain	Sacramento, CA	139	Shailesh & Mayuri Zaveri	Matton, IL
59	Narendra & Sonal Sheth	San Diego, CA	140	Ramesh & Rekha Gandhi	Morton Grove, IL
60	Rohak & Swati Vora	San Diego, CA	141	Ashok & Nirmala Shah	Morton Grove, IL
61	Ramesh & Bharati Doshi	San Gabriel, CA	142	Sevanti & Hasumati Bavishi	Naperville, IL
62	Navin S. Dedhia	San Jose, CA	143	Ravi & Pallavi Kobawala	Naperville, IL
63	Raj & Daya Doshi	San Jose, CA	144	Pravin & Kiran Shah	Naperville, IL
64	Vinod Mehta	San Jose, CA	145	Vasant & Chanda Gandhi	Oak Brook, IL
65	Rasil & Manorama Patel	San Marino, CA	146	Manubhai & Ila Shah	Oak Brook, IL
66	Raj & Duru Jain	San Ramon, CA	147	Jagjit & Rani Jain	Oak Park, IL
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79	Ajay & Harsha Shah	Danbury, CT	160	Braj & Chander Jain	Wheaton, IL
80	Bipin J. & Anjana Dalal	Fairfield, CT	161	Surendra & Jyotsna Salgia	Wheaton, IL
81	Dinesh & Anila Shah	Fairfield, CT	162	Uttam & Anita Jain	Woodale, IL

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164	Ashok & Amit Parekh	Columbus, IN	245	Harshad & Jyotsna Shah	Morgantown, NC
165	Ramesh & Manjula Shah	Dyer, IN	246	Subash Shah	Winston Salem, NC
166	Jiya & Shubhi Jain	Fort Wayne, IN	247	Manu R. & Chinta Shah	Cherry Hill, NJ
167	Harish & Neela Shah	Munster, IN	248	Dinesh & Surbhi Shah	Clifton, NJ
168	Kishor & Bharti Shah	Munster, IN	249	Sanjay & Nina Mody	Closter, NJ
169	Surendra & Bharti Shah	Schererville, IN	250	Manu Shah	Colonial, NJ
170	Dinesh & Shobhana Mehta	Terre Haute, IN	251	Rajiv & Sonal Modi	Demarest, NJ
171	Hasu & Subhi Doshi	Shawnee Mission, KS	252	Nirmal & Snehlata Doshi	East Brunswick, NJ
172	Navinchandra & Renuka Shah	Elizabethtown, KY	253	Anil & Hemlata Shah	East Brunswick, NJ
173	Ravi & Kamal Jain	Loiusville, KY	254	Kamlesh & Dipti Shah	East Brunswick, NJ
174	Yogesh & Nila Kamdar	Louisville, KY	255	Sevantilal & Bindu Jain	Edison, NJ
175	Talaksi & Mayasundari	Owensboro, KY	256	Mahendra & Jayshree Vora	Edison, NJ
176	Mahavir & Padma Shah	Paintsville, KY	257	Arun & Deviyani Kothari	Englewood Cliffs, NJ
177	Ashok & Urmila Choski	Baton Rouge, LA	258	Girish & Juhi Jain	Freehold, NJ
178	Mahendra & Kalpana Parekh	Baton Rouge, LA	259	Arvind & Smita Shah	Hightstown, NJ
179	D. C. Mohnot Md	New Orleans, LA	260	Dhruv & Bharti Shah	Hightstown, NJ
180	Chandra & Asha Khasgiwala	Andover, MA	261	Mansukhlal Timbadia	Hightstown, NJ
181	Jagdish Shah	Lawrence, MA	262	Prakash & Rashmi Panday	Holbokus, NJ
182	Deval & Rakesh Kamdar	Melrose, MA	263	Kiran & Dipti Mehta	Jersey City, NJ
183	Anand & Shailja Kanjolia	South Hadley, MA	264	Kishor & Kokila Parikh	Kendall Park, NJ
184	Mukund & Dhira Mehta	Stoughton, MA	265	Chandravadan C. & Hansa Shah	Millington, NJ
185	Vinaykumar & Laxmi Jain	Wellesley, MA	266	Nitin & Parul Mehta	MT Laurel, NJ
186	Nilesh & Manna Shah	Burtonsville, MD	267	Jaswant & Saroj Shah	North Bergen, NJ
187	Mansukhlal & Niru Shah	Hanover, MD	268	Manhar & Ramila Shah	North Bergen, NJ
188	Fakirchand & Manju Dalal	Lanham, MD	269	Ramesh & Rasmika Shah	North Bergen, NJ
189	Niicholas Kokoshis	Rockville, MD	270	Bhupendra & Chandrika Tolia	Norwood, NJ
190	Dinesh & Hemlata Patel	Rockville, MD	271	Sharad & Ketki Shah	Paramus, NJ
191	Kantilal & Meeta Gangar	Silver Spring, MD	272	Kanubhai & Bhadra Patel	Piscataway, NJ
192	Bhavi & Anju Vora	Silver Spring, MD	273	Naresh & Sarla Jain	Rutherford, NJ
193	Bhogilal C. Doshi	Bloomfield Hills, MI	274	Y & Jyotsna Bhandari	Shorthills, NJ
194	Shrikant & Neena Mehta	Bloomfield Hills, MI	275	Arun & Asmita Parikh	Wayne, NJ
195	Charu & Ashvin Parekh	Bloomfield Hills, MI	276	Ranjit & Renu Jain	Las Vegas, NV
196	Kantilal & Jyotsna Shah	Bloomfield Hills, MI	277	Lalit & Abha Jain	Batavia, NY
197	Kirit & Vasu Tolia	Bloomfield Hills, MI	278	Mayur & Nina Doshi	Brooklyn, NY
198	Nitin & Indira Bhimani	Caledonia, MI	279	Vidya Jain	Brooklyn, NY
199	Hemant B & Tarulata Shah	Canton, MI	280	Chandrakant & Aruna Shah	Brooklyn, NY
200	Mahendra & Saroj Shah	Canton, MI	281	John & Smita D'archengelo	Buffalo, NY
201	Pravin & Surbhi Shah	Canton, MI	282	Vijay & Kanta Jain	Buffalo, NY
202	Bahadur & Leela Bohra	Dearborn, MI	283	Harshad & Bharti Shah	Buffalo, NY
203	Shrikumar & Mayurika Poddar	East Lansing, MI	284	P.R. & Suman Sheth	Chestnut Ridge, NY
204	Dhiraj & Niru Maru	Farmington Hills, MI	285	Shanti & Sobha Bedmutha	East Amherst, NY
205	Kanaiyalal & Leela Bhalgat	Flint, MI	286	Girish & Kokila Chheda	East Amherst, NY
206	Chandrakant & Madhu Malde	Flint, MI	287	Ramesh & Rekha Shah	East Amherst, NY
207	Vinod & Suman Vakharia	Grosse Ile, MI	288	Chaman & Usha Jain	Flushing, NY
208	Vijay & Nayna Mehta	Kalamazoo, MI	289	Prakash Kapacia	Flushing, NY
209	Pravin & Kalpana Choksi	Livonia, MI	290	Kirit & Jyoti Shah	Flushing, NY
210	Kanti Shah	Monroe, MI	291	Suketu & Sheetal Shah	Forest Hills, NY
211	Mahendra & Saroj Porwal	Rochester, MI	292	Rajesh & Kaushika Patel	Garden City Park, NY
212	Mahendra R & Indira Doshi	Rochester Hills, MI	293	Pravin & Malini Mehta	Getzville, NY
213	Satish & Arati Doshi	Rochester Hills, MI	294	Ravi & Pramod Pahade	Getzville, NY
214	Jim & Kundan Sata	Romulus, MI	295	Bansidhar & Sushila Mehta	Gloversville, NY
215	Ketan & Nilipa Tolia	Southfield, MI	296	Kiran & Mita Kothari	Goshen, NY
216	Bharat C & Dipti Shah	Sterling Heights, MI	297	Dhiraj & Pratima Shah	Gr&island, NY
217	Pankaj & Nalini Vakharia	Swartz, MI	298	Narendra & Subhadra Jain	Hicksville, NY
218	Sharad & Nalini Shah	Taylor, MI	299	Jay & Suman Mehta	Horseheads, NY
219	Arvind & Ramila Shah	Troy, MI	300	Hasmukh C. Harde Md	Hudson, NY
220	Arvind V & Jaya Shah	Troy, MI	301	Arvind & Ila Vora	Kings Park, NY
221	Jayanti & Heena Shah	Troy, MI	302	Bhupendra & Smita Mepani	Lewiston, NY
222	Pravin & Jyoti Shah	Troy, MI	303	Mansukh And Indira	Liverpool, NY
223	Sanjay & Bela Shah	Troy, MI	304	Mansukh Shah	Liverpool, NY
224	Sharad R. Shah	Troy, MI	305	Jitendra & Manda Turakhia	Liverpool, NY
225	Vinay & Sneha Shah	Troy, MI	306	Hemant & Hansa Bhayani	Lockport, NY
226	Bharat & Padmaja Doshi	Utica, MI	307	Suresh & Meena Shah	Lockport, NY
227	Bharat & Geeta Tolia	W Bloomfield, MI	308	M.G. Jhaveri	Long Isl&city, NY
228	Ashok & Asha Jain	W Bloomfield, MI	309	Rajendra & Meera	Manhasset, NY
229	Mahendra A & Linda Kapadia	W Bloomfield, MI	310	Natin & Anjana Sheth	New City, NY
230	Natwar & Manjula Shah	Warren, MI	311	Hemendra & Kiran Shah	New Hyde Park, NY
231	Vinod & Anila Shah	Burnsville, MN	312	Naresh & Minaxi Shah	New Hyde Park, NY
232	Ram & Neena Gada	St. Paul, MN	313	Pravin & Kanta Shah	New Hyde Park, NY
233	Deepak & Milan Kapadia	Chesterfield, MO	314	Jeffery & Anita Halditch	New York, NY
234	Gulabchand & Movanbai Kothari	Kansas City, MO	315	Saurin & Priti Mehta	New York, NY
235	Vasant & Prabha Seipal	Burlington, NC	316	Chinu G Shah	New York, NY
236	Pravin & Arti Shah	Cary, NC	317	Mamata Yagalla	New York, NY
237	Mahesh & Indu Varia	Chapel Hill, NC	318	Rajni Kant & Neelam Patel	Orchard Park, NY
238	Vijay & Nalini Doshi	Charlotte, NC	319	Kaushik & Geeta Shah	Orchard Park, NY
239	Nemichand & Hema	Charlotte, NC	320	K.M. Shah	Patchogue, NY
240	Narendra & Ila Mehta	Charlotte, NC	321	Deepak & Aruna Maniar	Penfield, NY
241	Dhiru & Tara Patel	Charlotte, NC	322	Nagin & Shakuntala Shah	Penfield, NY
242	Kirti & Hansa Shah	Charlotte, NC	323	Dr Jagat & Manjula Mehta	Pittsford, NY
243	Kirti A. Shah	Charlotte, NC	324	Mahendra & Charu Vora	Pittsford, NY



**Life Members in the United States (continued)**

#	Name	City, State	#	Name	City, State
325	Ramnik & Ila Vora	Pittsford, NY	406	Sailesh & Maya Lakdawala	Aledo, TX
326	Jitendra & Panna Shah	Port Jefferson, NY	407	Sunil & Devyani Sheth	Arlington, TX
327	Pravin & Chandrika Kothari	Poughkeepsie, NY	408	Vivek & Alka Shah	Austin, TX
328	Mahendra & Jyoti Nanavati	Rochester, NY	409	Ravindra & Usha Jain	Bedford, TX
329	Anop R. Vora	Rochester, NY	410	Guatam & Sweta Daftary	Dallas, TX
330	Mayur & Purnima Kothari	Roslyn, NY	411	Bhalchandra & Veena Daulat	Dallas, TX
331	Jitendra & Priti Tolia	Searingtown, NY	412	Kantilal & Nilam Desai	Dallas, TX
332	Dr Shobhan Lal	Smithtown, NY	413	Daulat & Manorama Khamesra	Dallas, TX
333	Mahendra K. Pandya	Staten Island, NY	414	Nikin & Ranjan Mehta	Dallas, TX
334	Arvind & Kalavati Shah	Wappingers Falls, NY	415	Sharad & Jayshree Parekh	Dallas, TX
335	Vijay & Trinidad Bhandari	Williamsville, NY	416	Dhiren L. & Susham Shah	Dallas, TX
336	Arun & Jean Jain	Williamsville, NY	417	Pradip & Bina Shah	Dallas, TX
337	Jagat & Urmila Jain	Williamsville, NY	418	Dr Anudeep & Aarthi Jain	Houston, TX
338	Kewel & Usha Jain	Williamsville, NY	419	Ghevarchand & Kamal Jain	Houston, TX
339	Piyare Lal & Pritti Jain	Williamsville, NY	420	Prabodh & Sheela Mehta	Houston, TX
340	Sushil & Lata Kothari	Williamsville, NY	421	Rajesh & Ashis Mehta	Houston, TX
341	Gaurang & Ashwina Sheth	Williamsville, NY	422	Kantital & Madhu Shah	Houston, TX
342	Rajnikant V. & Jyoti Gandhi	Williston Park, NY	423	Kirit & Vasanti Shah	Houston, TX
343	Pravin & Bhavin Vakani	Williston Park, NY	424	Manoj Shah	Houston, TX
344	Kanti & Pushpa Shah	Ada, OH	425	Navin & Kokila Shah	Houston, TX
345	Rajshree & Sushilkumar Jain	Akron, OH	426	Premchand & Bhagawati Gada	Lubbock, TX
346	Natavar & Devila Sheth	Ashland, OH	427	Nalin & Kamal Tolia	Odessa, TX
347	Surender & Parvesh Jain	Athens, OH	428	Ashok & Usha Daftary	Plano, TX
348	Sushil Jain	Bryan, OH	429	Sudhir & Sadhna Mehta	Plano, TX
349	Virendra & Sushila Bhachawat	Canton, OH	430	Jitendra & Aruna Ravani	Plano, TX
350	Hemant & Taru Shah	Canton, OH	431	Shanti Lal & Minaxi Shah	Plano, TX
351	Pravin & Harsha Shah	Canton, OH	432	Praduman & Dhanlaxmi Zaveri	Plano, TX
352	Vir Singh & Chanchal Jain	Cincinnati, OH	433	Jitendra & Daksha Ghelani	Richardson, TX
353	Pramod & Vina Jhaveri	Cincinnati, OH	434	Jasvantra & Nalini	Richardson, TX
354	Jwala & Aruna Prasad	Cincinnati, OH	435	Jayant & Bhanu Shah	Richardson, TX
355	Rajnikant & Vina Shah	Cincinnati, OH	436	Natvar & Usha Shah	Richardson, TX
356	Hasmukh & Bharti Shah	Cleveland, OH	437	P.A. & Hansa Varia	Richardson, TX
357	Jutu & Usha Shah	Cleveland, OH	438	Vijay & Alka Jain	San Antonio, TX
358	Ramesh & Jaya Shah	Cleveland, OH	439	Hasmukh & Mina Shah	Spring, TX
359	Vinod & Hansa Sutaria	Cleveland, OH	440	Devendra & Madhu Bhandari	Sugar Land, TX
360	Patricia Takas	Cleveland, OH	441	Udai & Sushila Jain	Sugar Land, TX
361	Rajendra & Neelu	Columbus, OH	442	Bharat & Panna Shah	Sugar Land, TX
362	Tansukh & Bharti Salgia	Columbus, OH	443	Sulekh & Ravi Jain	Sugarland, TX
363	Kushal & Jyoti Baid	Concord, OH	444	Virendra & Prem Khemsara	Sugarland, TX
364	Prem & Lata Jain	Dayton, OH	445	Chandra & Kiran L Bhayani	Salt Lake City, UT
365	Navin & Leena Rambhia	Dayton, OH	446	Surendra & Sneha Jain	Bluefield, VA
366	Mahesh & Chandrika Shah	Dayton, OH	447	Kamal & Jyoti Sanghani	Herndon, VA
367	Surendra & Sushil Singhvi	Dayton, OH	448	Ramesh & Kusum Shial	Midlothian, VA
368	Hemendra & Meena Mehta	Elyria, OH	449	Manoj & Kanta Dharamsi	Reston, VA
369	Mohan & Kamala Bafna	Moreland Hills, OH	450	Sandhya & Amit Mehta	Waynesboro, VA
370	Hasmukh & Nalini Shah	New Philadelphia, OH	451	Kasturilal Jain	Everett, WA
371	Kushal & Piyush Bhaiji	North Royalton, OH	452	Mayur & Shashi Sheth	Lynn Wood, WA
372	Mohan & Sevanti Jain	Painville, OH	453	Laxmichand & Hemlata Gogri	Renton, WA
373	Sailesh & Sonal Parikh	Reynoldsburg, OH	454	Ashish And Rupa Udani	Brookfield, WI
374	Chhagan & Indu Bapna	Solon, OH	455	Pravin & Kunjlata Sheth	Hales Corners, WI
375	Madhukar & Divya Shah	Toledo, OH	456	Arun & Pratima Gandhi	Mequon, WI
376	Shailesh & Harsha Nanavati	Westlake, OH	457	Tony Larson	Racine, WI
377	Dilip & Rekha Ujla	Westlake, OH	458	Ashvin & Usha Shah	Racine, WI
378	Pravin & Pratibha Mehta	Willowghby Hills, OH	459	Ramesh & Minaxi Shah	Beckley, WV
379	Pankaj & Avani Sheth	Edmond, OK	460	Harakh & Anuj Dedhia	Morgantown, WV
380	A Dragan	Eugene, OR	461	Harish & Pratibha Gandhi	Morgantown, WV
381	Mohan & Mohini Jain	Allentown, PA			
382	Bhailil & Sumitra Shah	Allentown, PA			
383	Surendra & Hira Sethi	Butler, PA			
384	Sujal & Rajul Shah	Harleysville, PA			
385	Arun & Rita Shah	Lansdale, PA			
386	Nimish & Niti Sanghrajka	Lower Gwynedd, PA			
387	Navnit & Varsha Mithani	Philadelphia, PA			
388	Dilip & Sarla Shah	Philadelphia, PA			
389	Mahendra & Usha Gajarwala	Pittsburg, PA			
390	Rajesh & Meena Mehta	Pittsburg, PA			
391	Chandrakant A. & Gita	Pittsburg, PA			
392	Shirish & Jyoti Shah	Pittsburg, PA			
393	Ashokkumar & Sushma Jain	Pittsburgh, PA			
394	Mukesh & Parin Shah	Pittsburgh, PA			
395	Vijay & Pratibha Vakharia	Reedsville, PA			
396	Joseph Royack	Shamokin, PA			
397	Ramnikant & Rasila Doshi	Springfield, PA			
398	Ramesh & Jyoti Shah	Wilkes Barre, PA			
399	Pravin & Dina Shah	Wyomissing, PA			
400	Vasant & Shaila Vora	Yardley, PA			
401	Ratilal And Indira Dodhia	Lincoln, RI			
402	Sobhan & Chandra Sheth	Charleston, SC			
403	Jitendra & Jyoti Mehta	Lexington, SC			
404	Pravin & Madhukanta Mehta	Clarksville, TN			
405	Anil Shah	Memphis, TN			

**Life Members outside North America**

#	Name	City, Country
1	Ajitkumar Banadi	Ulzburg, Germany
2	Lalit & Madhu Shah	Ahemdabad, India
3	Shrimandha & Lalita Kumar	Banglore, India
4	Pratap & Sumitra Toliya	Banglore, India
5	Kalyan & Jyoti Mota	Bombay, India
6	C.n. & Hansa Sanghavi	Bombay, India
7	Toki & Veena Savla	Bombay, India
8	Sardar & Chandulal Shah	Bombay, India
9	F. Parekh	Dahigaon, India
10	Gokulchandra Jain	Ghaziabad, UP, India
11	Mutt Jain	Hombuja, India
12	Rajiv Prasad Jain	New Delhi, India
13	Chintamani & Shakuntala Katte	Pune, India
14	Shreyams & Shaila Morchi	Sangli, India
15	Namita Kothari	Bangkok, Thailand
16	Nemu Chandaria	UK
17	J Shah	UK
18	Anonymous	

## Additional Life Members in the United States

*Address unknown—please contact Keerti Shah!*

#	Name	City, State	#	Name	City, State
1	Kirankant & Geeta Patel	Alhambra, CA	16	Sri & Usha Jain	Rochester, NY
2	Surji & Urmila Mehta	Los Angeles, CA	17	Neelam Patel	W. Sineca, NY
3	Ashwin & Ila Shah	San Diego, CA	18	Meera Jain	NY
4	Manish & Jayshree Mehta	Fitchburg, MA	19	Gunasekara Jain	Athens, OH
5	Nitin & Chandni Doshi	Rochester, MI	20	Padam & Kausalya Raj	Bowling Green, OH
6	Suresh & Indu	Manchester, MN	21	Sudhir & Taru Amir	Charging Falls, OH
7	Kirit & Bhishma Shah	Charlotte, NC	22	Pravin & Surbhi Shah	Fairfield, OH
8	Abhay & Uma Jain	Appleton, NJ	23	Mukund & Mayuri Batta	N. Royleton, OH
9	Pradhuman & Dhanlaxmi Zaveri	Bridgewater, NJ	24	Narendra & Meena Bakshi	Solon, OH
10	K. R. Patel	Garden City, NJ	25	Brahmita Nabhirajiah	Sylvania, OH
11	Poorav	Hughville, NJ	26	N. R. Shah	Danbury, PA
12	Darshan & Sireh Bafna	Jersey City, NJ	27	Nagkumar & Usha Turnkur	N. Providence, RI
13	Devendra	NJ	28	Parsh & Suman Brahm	Murfreesboro, TN
14	Sandieep & Charu Jain	Amherst, NY	29	Gene Harris	Richardson, TX
15	Suresh & Meeta	Flushing, NY	30	Vijay Phade	Bluefield, VA

### JAIN DIGEST Life Membership Form

☐ I would like to become a Life Member of JAIN DIGEST. I have included a check of \$101 for membership dues.

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST
FIRST
MIDDLE

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Spouse)*
LAST
FIRST
MIDDLE

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET
CITY
STATE
ZIP

Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

JAIN DIGEST—FALL 1999

Please send your check (payable to *JAINA*), or your corrections, to the address on the right. You can also reach him by telephone at 630/837-8716.

Keerti Shah  
 Chairman, JAIN DIGEST Membership  
 842 Lakeside Drive  
 Bartlett, IL 60103-4718    USA

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Samans Visit Far East Countries

Saman Shitpragya and Saman Ashwinipragya, disciples of Acharya Shri Mahapragya, completed a six weeks tour of Thailand, Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, and Malaysia. Their mission was to spread the message of peace, non-violence and ecology based on the teachings of Lord Mahavira, and to teach the practice of Preksha Dhyana Meditation, Anuvrat, and Science of Living. While addressing the Jain and Indian communities in Bangkok and Hong Kong, the Samans talked about stress and health management. Nearly 500 South Koreans attended various lectures and workshops on Jain-way of non-violence and Anuvrat Movement, which were

organized at the Hankuk University and several Buddhist Centers. The Director of Taipei City Council and a councilman were very impressed to hear from the Samans about the Jain life style and the code of conduct of Anuvrat Movement for the politicians. The Preksha Dhyana Meditation workshops were conducted at Okido Yoga Center and about 500 Taiwanese benefited from the experience. Under the sponsorship of Birla Group, the Samans conducted Preksha Dhyana Meditation workshops at various cities in Malaysia during a three weeks period.

**West***Chandrakant Parekh, Regional Editor***San Francisco, CA**

The Jain Center of Northern California (JCNC) hosted an exciting eleven days spiritual program of Shri Bhaktāmar Stotra Poojan, Shri Siddhachakra Poojan, Shri Bhagwan Mahavir Janmotsava Nrutya Nātikā, āradhanā and bhāvnā led by Shri Narendra Nandu and his colleagues from May 21-31. The program was coordinated by Haribhai Shah.

The Pāthshālā Program, held during the first half of this year in Milpitas and Concord, will resume in September. Annual picnic was scheduled on July 24. Following an automobile accident, His Holiness Pujya Shri Jin Chandraji Maharaj will not be able to lead the Paryushan Parva activities. Samaniji Managalprajna and Samaniji Sharadaprajna will grace the Paryushan and Das-Lakshana programs.

Jain scholars, Dr. Natubhai Shah from England, Dr. Jagdish P. Jain from New Delhi, Mr. Hermann Kuhn from Germany and Dr. Vimal P. Jain, have visited the Bay Area and shared their knowledge of Jainism with JCNC members. All of them have published excellent books on Jainism.

A historical milestone was established for the JCNC on June 17, 1999. After four years of meticulous and dedicated planning, construction of the Jain Bhawan began at 7:30AM. In addition, work is progressing in parallel in India to craft the marble idols and artifacts for the temple. The total project of \$5,200,000 is targeted to be completed by June 30, 2000, and the Pratishtha ceremony is tentatively scheduled for the first week of July 2000. To support the project schedule, the community members are requested to forward the pledged commitments and new donations in a timely manner.

Mr. Hermann Kuhn, co-founder and president of the Jain Association of Germany, addressed the Bay Area Jain Americans (BAJA) members on the innovative methods to inspire western people about the Jain ideals. He has published a book on modern interpretation of the Tattvartha Sutra that brings out its practical application in daily life. BAJA members are involved in a number of the Jain Bhawan committees including construction, fundraising, and coordination. For further information about BAJA activities, please contact Seema Bhimani at [sbhimani@carollo.com](mailto:sbhimani@carollo.com) or 510/482-1357.

Shri Hasmukhbhai Vora and Shri Rajendrabhai Kamdar, both disciples of Gurudev Shri Kanji Muni, will conduct Swādhyāya. A goal of at least 2,501 Akhand Tap Aradhana consisting of upvas (adult) and ekasana (children and youth) will be completed by the Pratishtha Ceremony. Information about these and other activities, schedules and locations are available at [www.jcnc.org](http://www.jcnc.org) website. For further information please contact Jitendra B. Shah, JCNC President at 408/729-7916.

**Los Angeles, CA**

The eleventh anniversary of the inauguration of the Jain Bhavan was celebrated by the Jain Center of Southern California (JCSC) on July 11 with a Dwaj ceremony and Shri Uvasagarham Pujan led by Shri Narendrabhai Nandu.

During the past few weeks, JCSC has been a host to several Jain scholars including Dr. H. Bharill (June 16-18), Shri Narendrabhai Nandu (July 9-11), Pujya Sunandaben Vohra (July 20-30), Shri Roopchandra Muni (July 31) and Shri Babubhai Kadiwala (August 7-8).

The Paryushan (September 7-14) and Das Laxna Parva (September 15) will be graced with the presence of Pandit Dhirajlal Mehta. Shri Narendrabhai Nandu and his colleagues presented an exciting series of programs on Sarasvati Aradhana, bhavna, 18 Abhishek and Uvasagarham Pujan. JCSC members had an opportunity to have Abhishek performed for their private murtis. Shri Babubhai Kadiwala performed Shri Chantamani Maha Pujan and Shri Siddhachakra Maha Pujan accompanied with the divine music.

Various books, tapes and videos of the JAINA National Library have been transferred to JCSC. Following the cataloging of these items, information will be posted on the website. Over 100 participants took advantage of the annual medical camp, jointly sponsored with the Jain Social Group of Los Angeles, on May 23.

Nearly 250 Pathshala students graduated on June 20. Next Pathshala classes are scheduled to begin on September 26 and a winter camp is planned for December 18-21. Jain Center Youth Council (JCYC) members participated in a Teacher's Appreciation Day, clean-up day service project, and a summer picnic. Jain Association of Young Adults (JAYA) organized a summer bash of clean teenage fun on July 10.

A new website at [www.jainbavan.com](http://www.jainbavan.com) now offers information about the JCSC and schedules of regular activities and planned events. Also, additional information can be obtained by contacting Kantibhai Shah, JCSC President at 949/831-8687.

A traffic report prepared for the Jain Center expansion project has been submitted to the City of Buena Park. Several solutions have been included in the report to mitigate the parking shortage due to the size of our proposed facility. The building plans to obtain the necessary approvals are due to be submitted shortly to the City of Buena Park.

**Sacramento, CA**

Information about the regular activities and special events, including visits of the Jain scholars, scheduled by the Jain Center of Greater Sacramento can be obtained by contacting Manoj Desai, JCGS President, at 916/791-4111.



## San Diego, CA

A Jain temple constructed by the Jain Society of San Diego under the leadership of Nipul Shah was a major attraction at the Philadelphia JAINA Convention. The temple will be permanently installed at Siddhachalam. More than 300 murties were created by the participants in a Murti workshop organized by Nipulbhai at the convention.

A presentation on "Practicing Jainism-A Journey Within" given by Kokila Doshi at the convention covered several aspects of Jain rituals and emphasized the need for inner transformation. It was well received and generated significant interest among the members of various Jain Centers.

In an inspiring lecture presented at the home of Rohak Vora in July, Sunandaben Vohra showed how to incorporate Jainism in our daily life and to bring harmony in our relations.

Babubhai Kadiwala performed Siddhachakra Pujan, the traditional rituals accompanied by divine music, at Shri Mandir on August 7. The puja was followed by Swamivatsalya dinner attended by about 150 people.

Manek Muni will present lectures and meditation techniques at the home of Suresh and Pragna Mehta on August 21-22. Arun and Mayuri Zaveri will give presentation on Preksha Dhyan at Shri Mandir on August 23-26.

A three-day camp will be scheduled in September. Puryushan Parva will be celebrated in the presence of Shramaniji. The regular activities include - Navangi Puja at Shri Mandir every Saturday, a monthly Jainshala at the home of Kokila Doshi, and a monthly Jain adult class at Shri Mandir. For further information, please contact Kokila Doshi at [kdoshi@acusd.edu](mailto:kdoshi@acusd.edu) or 858/679-7645.

## Northeast

*Vinay Vakhani, Regional Editor*

### Essex Fells, NJ

During the summer, several scholars visited the Jain Center of New Jersey. Shri Dhirajbhai Pandit gave evening discourses for two weeks, Kiranbhai Parekh talked on various topics for two weeks and Diptiben Shah gave talk about practical aspects of Jain rituals for one week. The Class of 1999 graduates celebrated their graduation by performing a Pooja at Siddhachalam. Naishadh A. Shah has been elected as Chairperson of YJA. Jain Center of New Jersey groups presented four items at the 10th Jaina convention in Philadelphia.

## Midwest

*Manubhai Doshi, Regional Editor*

### Detroit, MI

The Society has been conducting Snātrapujā on every Sunday, Swādhyāy on every Sunday and Wednesday and Pratikraman on every 14th day of the Indian month.

### Chicago, IL

The Society has been having Snātrapujā and Digambar Pujā every Sunday. The religious classes are held on the third Sunday of every month. The attendance is maintained at a high level. This applies to the children as well as the adult classes.

The Pratishtha anniversary was celebrated on June 26 and 27. Arihantvandanavali, flag changing ceremony, 18 Abhishek, Padmāvatī Pujan and Pārshwanāth Pujan were the highlights of the celebration. All the programs were well attended.

During JAINA convention at Philadelphia, a slide show was organized by JSMC students on the life of Lord Mahavir with live talks and music. About 200 people enjoyed the show.

A Talk Back Live program on subjects pertaining to Jain community was organized at the said convention. The topics discussed were prayer, rituals, unique features of Jainism, influence of parents in orienting children towards Jainism, Gheeboli etc. More than 500 people attended the program. Dr. Pradip Shah of JSMC was the moderator.

JSMC participated in the Jain Academic Bowl organized at the convention and stood second in the final tournament.

Dr. Hukumchand Bharill gave talks on August 1, 4-7. Annual picnic was held on August 1. About 400 people participated in that picnic.

The health fair was conducted on August 14. Arrangements were made for blood test, EKG, dental care etc. About 200 people took advantage of that. Rest of the medical check up will be conducted on 22 August.

A drive was conducted for collecting usable clothes for sending to India. More than 200 parcels were packed and would be transported to Maryland for onward transmission to India.

### St. Louis, MO

The center holds its meetings on the third Sunday of every month.

The Pratishthā Mahotsav was celebrated on 29 and 30 May at the time of Memorial weekend. The idols of Lord Mahavir and Lord Parshwanath were installed in the Hindu temple of St. Louis. On that occasion, Panch Kalyanak and other Pujans were performed under the guidance of Chitrabhanuji and Devendrakirtiji. About 500 people participated in the function.

**Southwest***Jadavji Kenia, Regional Editor***North Texas (Dallas area)**

Jain Society of North Texas had a fair representation at the 10th Biennial JAINA Convention. Among the dignitaries we started with Shri Niraj Jain in June. He gave discourses on the importance of Bhakti (worship- how it keeps you on the right path to salvation), Karma Bandh and Science of Living. Sunandaben Vohra came in July and discussed Kalpa Sutra and its contents in a story form (without reading the Sutra itself). This year he covered several stanzas of Samay Sar explaining what the soul (Atma) is and what it is not. He also emphasized the importance of Atma-Dhyan (meditation of the self) as he pointed out that such meditation is what every soul is doing when one overcomes Ghatia karmas and obtains Keval Gyan.

During August we had several sessions of Preksha Meditation and its explanation in scientific terms with Arunbhai and Mayuriben Zaveri. They covered such topics as Human Existence from physical to soul, Concentration of Mind, Stress Management, Goal Setting and achieving the desired results, Retarding Aging Process, Achieving and Maintaining Physical and Mental Health and Jain Philosophy with its scientific explanation. Pandit Dhirajbhai Mehta continued his discourses on the Tattvarth Sutra where he had left off last year. Topics included detailed explanations of the types of Jiv and Ajiv. These discourses with his simplifying teaching style are very helpful in understanding rather difficult subjects. JSNT contact is President Sudhir Mehta at 972/612-1144 or [sudhir\\_mehta@yahoo.com](mailto:sudhir_mehta@yahoo.com).

**Houston, TX**

Jain Society of Houston now has over 350 family members. During the last elections held in April/May this year 12 executive committee members were elected. Current office bearers are: President - Vijay Sanghani, Vice President - Meena Kapasi, Secretary - Kirtibhai Sanghani and Treasurer - Kanti Shah. In addition, six trustees also look after the affairs of the Jain Society. Current Chief Trustee is Udai Jain. Udai Jain and Parimal Desai are JAINA Directors representing JSH.

Every year we invite 5 to 6 Jain scholars for enhancing Jainism knowledge and spiritual uplifting. We had Niraj Jain in June followed by Dr. Bharill in July. Babubhai Kadiwala arrived in July who conducted Chintamani Parshvanath Puja and Padmavatimata Puja. Manak Muniji provided religious discourses during early August followed by Pandit Dhirajbhai Mehta who continued with chapters 3-4-5 of the Tattvarthadhigama Sutra. Sagarmal Jain will guide us during Paryushan/Das Lakshana. Swami Vatsalya is scheduled for October 3, 1999. Tentatively Tarlaben Doshi will also visit us during October.

For our youth, Pathshala classes are conducted every Sunday and we have approximately 100 students divided into 5 groups starting with age 4 through ages 14 and up.

Jain Center remains open everyday from 11 to 1:30 and in the evening from 4 to 7 p.m. Our library is open every Sunday. We have over 1000 videos/cassettes and a few thousand books. Last Sunday of every month we hold bhavna followed by a sangh jaman. We publish a monthly publication called "Jai Jinendra."

JSH contact is president Vijay Sanghani at 281/499-2594 or Parimal Desai at 281/859-3661.

**Tulsa, OK**

Members of the Tulsa Jain Sangh had the pleasure of listening to the religious discourses of Sunandaben Vohra in July. She spent about a week with us and talked about several aspects of the Jain religion and its philosophy.

In August, we had the privilege of having the company of Arunbhai and Mayuriben Zaveri for about three days during which they introduced us to the principles and art of "Preksha Dhyan" and how important meditation is in our life, particularly in conjunction with the practice of the Jain religion.

Tulsa Jain Sangh contacts are the president Kanti Shah at 918/369-3163 or [KANARU@aol.com](mailto:KANARU@aol.com), or the secretary Biren Ajmera at [bajmera@hotmail.com](mailto:bajmera@hotmail.com).

**Phoenix, AZ**

Jain Center of Greater Phoenix has created a Web page. Our Web site is listed under [www.azindia.com](http://www.azindia.com). Under the listing of associations please check out "Jain Center". Jain center's news, event calendar, etc. will be posted on this website.

Jain scholars Subhashbhai Sheth, Dr. Hukumchand Bharill and Shantibhai Kothari visited Phoenix during the past months. Many people attended the lectures given by these scholars. Rajendrabhai Kamdar, a Jain scholar well known to Phoenix Jain community, will be visiting Phoenix, AZ during Paryushan to be celebrated from Sept. 8 to 15, 1999.

About 10 families from Phoenix area attended the JAINA convention held from July 2nd - 5th in Philadelphia. About 60 Jain families attended the Jain Picnic held on May 2, 1999 at McCormick Railroad Park. Members enjoyed themselves with variety of activities. Kids and adults enjoyed bingo. Food was excellent. The center would like to acknowledge hard work and planning put together by the event coordinator, Sandhya Shah. After the brief summer break, the Pathshala activities will be reinitiated in September. JCGPh e-mail address is [Jain\\_phoenix@hotmail.com](mailto:Jain_phoenix@hotmail.com). You may also contact Bhakti Gosalia at 623/561-2148.

## **JAINA Yatra 2000 Jaisalmer to Palitana**

Last year's Samet Sikhar Yatra was so successful that JAINA is now planning a pilgrimage of Tirthdhams in Rajasthan and Gujarat. We expect to leave for the two-week pilgrimage on or about January 20 of the year 2000.

Tirthyatra for Jains is a way of revitalizing the soul that has been tired due to worldly chores. This pilgrimage will take us to Udaipur, Keshariyaji, Ranakpur, Jodhpur, Osian, Falodi, Jaisalmer, Lodhravapur, Nakoda, Jalor, Bamanwada, Mt. Abu, Delwara, Achalgadh, Idar, Mehsana, Taranga, Patan, Sankeshwer, Palitana and Ahmedabad.

We plan to visit L.D. Institute of Jainology in Ahmedabad and famous Poostak Bhandars of Jaisalmer, Patan and Mehsana. Half of the times we will be staying in dharmshalas and the other times we will be staying in good hotels.

Detailed itinerary is still being worked out and our estimate is that the total cost of the package (including roundtrip airfare to India) will be approximately US \$1550. Pilgrims will be able to stay in India after the Yatra is over and return to U.S. on the date of their choice. If you would like to join this yatra, please act soon. Maximum capacity for this pilgrimage is 96 and many of the pilgrims who joined our first pilgrimage have indicated that they would like to join in this yatra too. For more information contact one of the following persons.

Dilip V. Shah  
1902 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
215/561-0581

Dr. Anil B. Shah  
4 Hampton Court  
Burr Ridge, IL 60521  
630/323-9409

Dr. Dhiraj H. Shah  
135 Morningside Dr.  
Grand Island, NY 14072  
716/773-1314

## **World Community Service Turkey Earthquake Relief Fund**

We have just finished Kosovo Refugees Relief Fund and handed over \$10,000 to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Once again, our compassion for fellow living beings is being tested by the catastrophic earthquake which hit Turkey a few days ago causing a death toll of 18,000 and is expected to climb still higher. Tens of thousands of people are still missing and hundreds of thousands of survivors are homeless.

We, the followers of Lord Mahavir, steadfast believers in Ahimsa (Non Violence) and Anukampa (Compassion) can not sit idly, plug our ears or shut our eyes in the face of mounting tragedy. We must do our share to reduce the burden of victims, just as we did in Rwanda, Kosovo and cyclone in India. JAINA is appealing to each and every one of you to donate what you can for this crisis. Victims are facing starvation, shortages of drinking water and threats of epidemics, like cholera and typhoid. Let us provide hope

to those who have lost everything including family members.

As a Jain, it is our highest moral obligation to respond to the needs of helpless victims of this tragedy. Your tax deductible (in U.S.A.) contribution will make a remarkable difference in the lives of these innocent victims.

In the case of Rwandan refugees, we worked with the American Red Cross. In the case of Kosovo refugees, we worked with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In this case, we are planning to work with U.S. Committee for UNICEF (Arm of U.N.)

Please send your check payable to JAINA and mail to  
Bachubhai Ajmera  
1502 University Blvd.  
Langley Park, MD 20783

Time is running out! There is not a moment to waste.

## **JAINA Patron Program**

JAINA Federation initiated the patron program in 1997 in order to finance JAIN DIGEST and other activities. A patron is an individual or a couple who provides an annual support of \$251 to Jaina. During 1997-98, there were a total of 222 patrons from North America. Jaina appreciates these patrons' financial and moral support.

A request letter has been sent to all patrons by Dr. Mahendra Pandya in mid-July asking them to renew their support for 1999. All JAINA directors have been requested to become a patron this year.

A patron is entitled to (a) receive a bimonthly Jaina Focus newsletter, (b) receive at least one book on Jainism, (c) recognition

in JAIN DIGEST once a year, (d) priority enrollment for future pilgrimage to India, (e) priority hotel reservation and seating at the convention and (f) one free listing for marriage information service (MIS).

The Patron Program in 1999-2000 will be chaired by Surendra Singhvi, who can be reached at 937/885-7414. JAINA requests Jain families to become patrons in 1999 by sending a tax-deductible contribution of \$251 to:

Surendra Singhvi  
439 Ridge Line Court  
Dayton, OH 45458



## Tirthodhdhar Committee

During the last meeting in Philadelphia, we have changed the name of Jirronddhar committee, to Tirthodhdhar committee. This was done to accommodate needs of Sadhu Sadhvijis and Teerths. They are jangam and sthavar teerths respectively.

We have selected Mr. Virendra Shah as Vice President of Tirthodhdhar committee. Mr. Kirit C. Varia of Lansdale, NJ has agreed to become liaison for the Northeast corridor.

We are proud to announce that JAINA was the grand sponsor of Vaiyavachha camp, organized by Navkar Sarvar Kendra. Over 1100 sadhu maharaj and sadhvijis visited this camp. JAINA has sent \$900 to them, and we would be sending additional \$4,000 to them before Diwali Tirthodhdhar committee had taken up a booth at JAINA convention. Mr. Sanjay Kothari and Mr. Jaysukhbhai Nandlal Shah had come from India. They came to explain about their activities in detail. It was a great success. We have received pledges and contributions of over \$3,900 from this convention. Because of the convention, we have received more inquiries about our cause and activities. The seed has been planted, now it needs tender loving care and nutrition to give benefits to Tirthodhdhar committee.

In the meantime, we are also trying for getting our web site, which will describe in detail the activities of Teerthodhdhar committee. This would give pictures of various teerth sthanaks in India. It would have a link with JAINA.

We have also been approached by Shrut Kevali Education trust of Sharavan Belgoda, located in Karantak State.

Shravan Belgoda is a famous Jain teerth in Karantak State of south India. This teerth is known throughout the world for thousand year old and 57 feet height standing colossus statue of Lord Bahubali. It is also regarded as one of the oldest seat of learning Jaina Philosophy and literature.

The aim of Shrut Kevali Trust is to provide protection, conservation and publicity to Jainology in general and Prakruti and Sanskrit in particular.

A multi purpose institute known as National Institute of Prakruti research and studies has been founded by the trust with the intention of protecting, publishing an teaching of Jainology in a systematic way. Eight scholars have already been registered for research and a good number of palm leaves and paper manuscripts have already been collected in the library section of the institute.

The Shrut Kevali is looking to us for financial support for library building, collecting old manuscripts for further studies by their scholars. It would be helpful if we can financially sponsor scholars like this with scholarships, stipends, etc.

This falls in the guidelines of Teerthodhdhar committee. Our needs have increased since our humble beginning in February of 1999. We would appreciate collection of at least \$21 per Jain Family in Northern US and Canada. The paryusan is around the corner. Please donate generously and send your tax-deductible check to:

Kirit C. Daftary  
JAINA/Tirthodhdhar Committee  
3322 Woodlake Drive  
Waco, TX 76710  
Phone: 254/756-3200 x103

Following are names of donors who have donated \$100 and more so far:

Urmi & Kirit Kamdar	Chicago, IL	\$1001
Manibhai & Savitaben Mehta	Cypress, CA	1001
Navin T. Parekh	Arlington, TX	750
Ramesh Jain	Ontario, Canada	501
Kirit Daftary	Waco, TX	501
Bipin Parikh	Des Plaine, IL	501
Prem Jain	Freemont, CA	251
Girish P. Shah	Campbell, CA	251
Ashok Daftary	Plano, TX	251
Ashish Doshi	Columbus, OH	201
Harkh & Anuja Dedhia	Morgantown, WV	200
Ashok & Ujwala Singhvi	Houston, TX	\$150
Shakuntala Kothari	Ohio	101
Parimal Desai	Houston, TX	101
Kirit C. Varia	Lansdale, PA	101
Girish Devji Dharod	California	101
Bharti Shah	Bakersfield, CA	101
Ashokbhai Sanghvi	Charleston, WV	101
Arvind Shah	Montdale, NJ	101
Amishi Shah		101
Dhirajbhai Shah	Buffalo, NY	100
Bharat & Kokila Shah	Jericho, NY	100

## North American Jain Family Assistance Program Appeal

JAINA is on the move towards the new millennium powered by a rich cultural religion, non-violence and peaceful coexistence. The North American Jain Family Assistance Program is JAINA's will for humanity, self-reliance and dedication to overcome pain and sorrow in order to live in a free world. The mission of this committee is to create an infrastructure of support ready for families within their communities. The committee's role in this endeavor is to function as a catalyst by granting initial emergency funding then fostering assistance to the needy families directly from their own community.

### Support activities NAJFAP organized in the past year:

(1) The committee began to organize and develop a communication network with various Jain communities across North America. (2) Committee members contacted community members in their cities to explain the mission and increase awareness of the type of help available. (3) Letters were then distributed to Jain communities all across North America requesting donations for the committee's emergency funds. (4) The committee began to receive requests for assistance and began to distributed emergency financial support. (5) The committee contacted the appropriate official within the grant receiver's local community to urge support for the family or person in need of assistance.

### Work accomplished in 1998:

1. For a loving husband, fulfilling the last wish of his dying wife
2. For a caring father, the gift of a bone marrow transplant and life for his beautiful daughter
3. For a Jain sadu and scholar, a suggestion of a generous honorarium and community care.
4. For a single parent, her daughter's dream to study abroad.
5. For a scared and confused individual, moral support, soothing communication and faithful prayer.
6. For emergency situations, financial support.

Your commitment, large or small, will continue to grow and brighten the lives of countless fellow Jains. Can you keep this mission in mind? Will you pour compassion from your heart for needy Jains? Will you join us to develop a security blanket for own dharam bandhu?

Please allow this work to touch your heart and push you towards excellence. Whatever can be raised to fulfill the needs, the dreams and the wishes of our fellow Jains will be greatly appreciated. Together we can further this noble cause.

Please make your contribution paying to JAINA and mail it to:

Ila Mehta  
6128 Wyandotte Rd  
Maumee, OH 43537  
419/865-2727

## IAAMJV to Offer Loan Scholarships

The International Alumni Association of Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya (IAAMJV) is planning to offer \$1,000 loan scholarships for four years (total \$4,000) beginning next year. The program was inaugurated with the blessings of Gurudev Chitrabhanu at the 1999 JAINA Convention in Philadelphia. These scholarships will be open to all Jain (regardless of sect) high school seniors residing in the USA and funded primarily by general donors or Benefactors. The Benefactors are the ones who will donate \$5000 for each student they sponsor. They could be an individual, an institute, Jain Center/Society/Sangh, Private Foundation, or a Charitable Trust. Each loan scholarship will be named after the benefactor's name. The concept behind the proposed program is to set up a loan scholarship fund, which will assist the student today, and when repaid by the current student, it will be available for the next student. On graduation each scholar will be aware of the tangible contribution of the community towards his/her success and should feel proud to be part of it as he/she repays the loan from earnings.

The following individuals have made a commitment to support for \$5,000:

Dr. & Mrs. Bipin & Anjana Dalal, CT  
Mr. & Mrs. Jitendra & Pinky Doshi, NY  
Mr. & Mrs. Bipin Mehta, CA  
Dr. & Mrs. Manibhai & Savita Mehta, CA  
Mr. & Mrs. Bipin & Niru Parikh, NY  
Drs. Shirish & Kanan Patrawala, NJ  
Mr. & Mrs. Ashok & Pratibha Shah, NJ  
Dr. & Mrs. Nathalal & Nayana Shah, NY  
Mr. & Mrs. Sharad Shah  
Mr. & Mrs. Vijay and Rita Shah, NY  
Drs. Dinesh & Muktida Shah, CA  
Drs. Indravadan & Saroj Shah, NY  
Mr. & Mrs. Vijay & Bina Shah, CA  
Drs. Bhupendra & Chandrika Tolia, NJ  
Mr. & Mrs. Harkishan & Kusum Vasa, CA  
Dr. & Mrs. Jiten Vasa, CA  
Mr. & Mrs. Anop & Renuka Vora, NY  
Mr. & Mrs. Harshad and Raksha Shah, CA

The total pledges so far are \$90,000.

IAAMJV is currently in the process of setting up Scholarship Committees with broad representation. They will work out the infrastructure details and work with the donors as well as students. To involve by contributing your time and/or money, please call :

Dr. Dinesh Shah (West) 323/258-4010  
Mr. Kanti Mepani (East) 203/921-1950  
Mr. Rajni T. Shah (Mid West) 630/876-1279  
Mr. Pravin Mehta (South) 615/648-9535  
Dr. Chandrika Tolia 201/767-3518

The administrative details will be available through JAIN DIGEST and JAINA focus by November 1, 1999, or through our website at [www.iaamjv.org](http://www.iaamjv.org), being set up now. This will enable the interested students to start the process of applications.

—Anop Vora, President, IAAMJV  
JAIN DIGEST • FALL 1999/17

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### *Be Generous by Saving on Capital Gains Tax*

We would like to share a creative donation idea for your consideration: If you have a stock or a mutual fund that has appreciated, donate it to JAINA instead of donating the same dollar value in cash. You will qualify for an income tax deduction based on its current market value. You won't be taxed on the capital gain, and neither will JAINA. The procedure is very simple. We are currently in the process of opening up an account at Paine Webber. Please contact Anop Vora, Treasurer, JAINA at 716/473-9290 for additional details.

## HAPPY OCCASIONS

### *Congratulations to the Newlyweds*

JAINA is pleased to welcome the following newlyweds to its large North American JAINA family and wishes them an ever lasting happiness.

Pareena and Tushar Shah	Chicago, IL
Hiten and Miwa	Chicago, IL
Jindendra and Tripti Ranka	Poughkeepsie, NY
Reena and Parag Shah	Edmonton, ALB

A gift of books, *Jaina-Philosophy and Religion* and *Jainism-A Pictorial Guide to the Religion of Nonviolence*, has been sent to the newlyweds. Please inform JAINA Headquarters of the weddings in the community so we can welcome them to JAINA.

## JAINA CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

JAINA checking account as of August 8, 1999

JAINA General Fund	\$18,254.26
JAIN DIGEST Endowment Fund	53,973.07
MMF for JAIN DIGEST Endowment Fund	6,824.80
JAINA Charitable Trust	
(as of February 18, 1999 latest figure available)	152,988.12

### Various sub-committee balances:

Education Committee	\$5,417.92
Jiv Daya Committee	1,577.00
World Community Service	16,929.76
Temple Guidelines Committee	1,401.00
YJA	3,738.05
Virchand R. Gandhi Fund	7,127.00
North American Jain Family Assistance Program	5,484.00
Tirthodhdhar Committee	3,343.00
Pilgrimage Committee	1,000.00
JAINA Book Source Committee	<u>2,647.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$280,704.98</b>

Submitted by Anop R. Vora, Treasurer

## 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 \$500 every year
- ☐ I want to be a JAINA Patron and will donate \$251 every year
- ☐ I want to be a Life Member of JAIN DIGEST and will donate \$101
- ☐ I want to subscribe to JAIN DIGEST for one year (Winter 1999 to Fall 2000) for \$11
- ☐ Other amount: ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 10TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION

PHILADELPHIA, PA — JULY 2-5, 1999

## VARDHAMAN

“Vardhaman” means the one that rises, the one that increases. That was the name of 24th Tirthankar of Jains, Mahaveer Swami. The name was the message of his life.

Jains have not wasted 2500 years since our last Tirthankar. The Jains in North America have been inspired by Pujya Sushilmuniji and Gurudev Chitrabhanu and they are galvanized to grow since 1971. That was evident at the 10th Biennial Jaina Convention held in Philadelphia between July 2nd and July 5th 1999 at the Valley Forge Convention Center.

### THE FIRST DAY

The four day event started on Friday afternoon with Marriage Information Service organised by Lataben Champsee and Keshavjibhai Gada which was attended by 250 youths (Lawyers, Doctors, Engineers, Artists, Pharmacists, Businessmen and women and some still students). We had a cruise in the Delaware river attended by more than six hundred people. Those who did get to go had a good time and those who could not were disappointed. We express sincere regrets for this disappointment and apologize for the inconvenience and hardship caused to some people who could not get in.

In the evening Janak Khendry and his troupe from Toronto presented ‘Pancha Kalyanika’ a dance drama based on the life of Mahaveer. The music, the costumes and the dancers were exquisite. Rajendra Jain and Anandjibhai of the Kalyanji Anandji fame delighted the crowds in the evening with their music and singing.



*Gurudev Chitrabhanu led the inauguration ceremony of the temple from Los Angeles Jain Center.*

### OPENING CEREMONY

July 3rd Sunday morning was the opening ceremony. A beautiful procession led by the Grand Marshal Dr Navinbhai C. Mehta and the Chief Guest Mr Frank Pallone the Congressman from New Jersey (who is the founder of India caucus in the U.S Congress) included the three keynote speakers Gurudev Chitrabhanu, Father Carlos G. Valles of Ahmedabad and Sadhavi Shilapiji of Veerayatan, the present and past presidents of JAINA, the Convention Board and members of the executive committees of JAINA and Samarpan Jain Sangh, Jain Directors and Patrons, and a cadre of speakers and visiting dignitaries like deputy ambassador of India to U.S. Shri T.P. Sreenivasan, Shri Dhiraj Shah – Honorable Speaker of Gujarat Assembly.

The convention, with the theme of “Jainism in the New Millennium”, opened with the blessings from Acharya Chandanaji of Veerayatan. The convenors Devendra and Meeta Peer expressed hope in their opening speech that this convention will become a forum for exploring new ideas and discussing issues facing the Jain community to determine our path for the New Century and a New Millennium. The president of JAINA Dhirajbhai Shah recited the accomplishments of the past two years.

Mr Frank Pallone, the chief guest gave a promising speech depicting a picture of increasing dialogue between India and USA the two largest democracies, that holds prospects of lasting peace and friendship. Gurudev Chitrabhanu gave one of the most inspiring speeches of his life. In emotional tone filled with fervor he spelled out what life as a true Jain could be in the land of promise and prosperity that is unhappily beset with violence, if one follows Jainism.



*Devendra Peer, Dhiraj H. Shah and Meeta Peer watch as Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr., inaugurates the convention by lighting a lamp.*

The JAINA Directors held their meeting. Devendra Peer and Hansa R. Shah welcomed all directors to our city and invited them as guests to the Banquet in their honor. The Directors elected a new president of JAINA for next two years. Dr Mahendra Pandya was elected President, Dr Bipin Parikh First VP, Mr Anop Vora was elected Treasurer and Mr Vakani was elected Secretary of JAINA, Deepika Dalal (SE), Kirit Daftary (SW), Ila Mehta (MW), Hans Maru (NE), Jasvant Mehta (Canada) & Girish Shah (west) were elected regional vice presidents. Dr. Dhiraj Shah will serve as ex-officio.

## THE TEMPLE

A beautiful big temple 25' x 25' x 25' made from hydrostone replicating the Temple brought from Gujarat to the World Fair in St Louis in 1903 and now residing in Los Angeles Jain Center, was erected as a Center Piece of the convention in the main hall. This was created by Dr Nipul Shah and his team of San Diego Center.

Shah Associates led by Dr Vinod Shah and Dr Mahesh Shah loved the temple so much that they declared a "Matching Daan" there and then to any one who donates money for the temple. The Executive Committee of Siddhachalam met and accepted the offer to take the temple to Siddhachalam. \$ 27,500 was pledged by various donors and Shah Associates' matching donation of \$ 27,500 made it \$55,000 for the Convention.

## LECTURES

The afternoon saw multitude of Lectures, Seminars and Debates with and between speakers from USA, UK, Canada and India. The exhibitions was full of booths from many centers depicting Jainism and its practices. There were films on Jain themes and mythology. People were very happy with the variety of speakers organized by The Speakers Committee, led by Dr. Vinod Shah and Nirmal Dosi.

The evening saw the most spectacular display of talent from Jain centers from all over USA and Canada. There were dances galore. Dr Mahendra & Hansaben Shah and Prafulbhai & Kernikaben Mehta had put in great effort in organizing this cultural program and it showed. Program went like clock work and it concluded on time.

On Sunday morning (July 4th) Father Valles was the keynote speaker. He said he has been given a title of "Honorary Jain" and he is proud of it. He credited Mahaveer's Management strategy for the survival of Jainism against foreign invasions where Buddhism had failed to survive. The institutions of not just "Monks" and "Nuns", but "Shravak-Shravika" created by him are what sustained Jainism through the ages. Honorable Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Keshubhai Patel arrived and delivered an inspiring speech.

In the afternoon, along with Father Valles many speakers were



*Father Valles with Jain munis.*



*Chief Minister of Gujarat Keshubhai Patel address the gathering, as Dhiraj Shah, Gurudev Chitrabhanu, Grand Marshal Navin C. Mehta, H.R. Shah (TV Asia) and Dhirubhai Shah (Speaker of Gujarat Assembly) look on.*

sought after by the attendees. There were debates and discussions. There was "Academic Bowl" which was a major attraction for the Young Jains. There was inter faith dialogue. For the first time there was Continuing Medical Education Seminar organized by Meeta D. Peer, MD and Dr. Mahesh Shah. The hall was bubbling with energy of Young Jains wanting to learn and grow - Vardhamaan. Sunday afternoon was an important event for ladies. This seminar was addressed by Indian Consul General at New York Mrs. Tripathi and Acharya Chandanaji and discussed the role of women in modern age.

## SIDDHA CHAKRA MAHAPOOJAN

For the first time at a convention, there was a Siddha Chakra Poojan. It was performed with the idea that many small centers cannot easily hope to have a Mahapoojan like this that requires a lot of people to participate and perform. This poojan gave Young Jains an educated idea of what a classic Jain poojan (prayer) is like and what it involves. The fund raised from Siddha Chakra Poojan will be used for temple purposes only. The Convention Board is in the process of collecting all the pledges so that it can pay all its bills for expenses incurred for the Convention.

The evening saw a parade of Indian dresses by young Jains, which was well liked by the young and the young at heart! The lively Rajendra Jain again delighted the crowds. There was a drama written by Devendra Peer and directed by Ramesh Shah 'Patan Ni Pabhuta' based on the famous novel by K.M.Munshi. The story based on historical facts depicted the glory of Gujarat at a critical time in its history and showed how the Jain Queen and the Jain Prime Minister had saved Gujarat with their vision, valour and personal sacrifice.

Sunday evening also witnessed the draw of raffle tickets. Three winners were declared. The first prize winner is Apurva Bhansari from Texas and the third prize winner is Raksha Gajarwala from New Jersey. The second prize winner has not come forward to claim

## *Jainism in the New Millennium*



*Father Valles with Jain monks, Grand Marshall Mehta and Hermann Kuhn, President of the Jain Society of Germany (on the right),*

the prize yet. The holder of raffle ticket no. 16822 is hereby requested to contact us to claim the second prize, which is a set of beautiful Jain books.

### **THE FINAL DAY**

Monday morning was Sadhavi Shilapiji's speech as a keynote speaker. She inspired the young generation with instructive insights into Jain religion. After keynote address a well attended programme "ask the prophet" was organized. Dozens of scholars participated. Subsequently, seminar on "Humanitarian activities & Jainism" was held led by Acharya Chandanaji, JAINA president Dr. Dhiraj Shah and Bachubhai Ajmera, chairman of world community services. There was Gujarati Sahitya Sammelan where two Ranjitram Gold Medal Winners of Gujarati literature Father Valles and poet Laureate Makarand Dave enthralled the crowd. Gujarati language originated from Jain scriptures. Madhusudhanbhai Kapadia recalled contributions of Jainism to Gujarati literature. Many writers living in America recited stories written by them.

The closing ceremony was a joyful occasion. Many awards were given by JAINA and Samarpan Jain Sangh. JAINA's highest award "Jain Ratna" went to Pravin Shah of Raleigh, N.C., Acharya Sushilmuni Ahimsa Award to Surindra Singhvi of Dayton, Ohio

and Presidential award to Shri C.N. Sanghavi of Bombay. JAINA also recognized fourteen adults and nine youth for their contribution to Jainism. The Souvenir and the special "JAINA Convention" issue of "Gurjari" magazine edited by Kishore Desai carried special articles, pictures and information about the convention which was attended by estimated 9000 people. People loved the food and food arrangements. Kundanben & Kishorebhai Ghelani had fulfilled their promise! ("You will remember this Convention for its food!") The paintings of painter Polaji, who had been invited specially for the Convention from India, were a big hit. The biggest painting went for \$ 10,000 !

People went home praising the programs which were put together by The Program Committee led by Dr Manoj Dharamsi. The Volunteers Committee led by Dr Mandalia and Mr. Deepak Doshi managed the huge facility at Sheraton and the needs of thousands of attendees.

### **THE FEEDBACK FROM THE CONVENTION**

Young Jains have invariably stated that the content of the convention was solid.

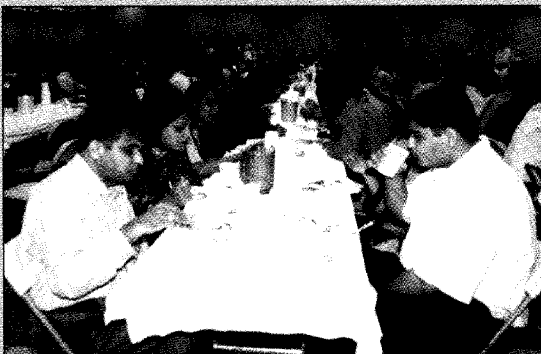
Mr. Sobhagya Khamesra from Toronto graciously said this was the best convention he has seen.

Father Valles wrote " The Convention has surpassed all my expectations, it was large, well-organized, effective and inspiring. I think I have never addressed such a large audience with such an intimate contact...".

Gurudev Chitrabhanu said "From the multitude of lectures, panel discussions and exchange of views between scholars, it is apparent that the young generation is striving to understand the spiritual heart of Jainism rather than just rituals... People want religion that contributes to their personal growth and freedom..."

So the Jains are growing in North America. Vardhaman.

*—Devendra & Meeta Peer  
Convenors of the Convention*



*Food court people had the best food throughout the convention—everyone will remember this convention for its food!*



*Acharya Chandanaji (at right) opened the convention with her invocation prayer.*

## Federation of JAINA Presidential Acceptance Speech

Respected Sadhus, Sadhvis, Dignitaries, and Sadharmic Brothers and Sisters,

It is indeed a distinct honor for me and the newly elected Executive committee to be given the privilege of working for JAINA for next two years. I do realize that each of us carries enormous responsibility. However, as I look around here, the load does not feel as heavy. I sincerely congratulate the present administration led by Dr. Dhiraj Shah as well as other previous administrations led by: Dr. Manoj Bhai Dharamsi, Dr. Tansukh Salgia, Dr. Sulekh Jain, Dr. Jagat Jain, Dr. Mani Bhai Mehta and others. They laid down a strong foundation on which building JAINA for preserving our heritage seems to be much easier. I want to thank Samarpan Jain Sangh, and conveners of this convention, Devendra Bhai and Meeta Peer, with their convention board for putting on a marvelous and memorable convention.

The Federation of JAINA is a unique institution and does not have many parallels in the Jain World today. During the past twenty years of its existence it has strived for and succeeded to unite all Jains as Jains inspite of the diversity in religious tradition, rituals, customs, language, and regional origin. This is mainly because we believe in unity of Jains not uniformity in Jains and the same belief should guide us into the next millenium.

As we enter the next millenium our efforts should first of all be directed towards us Jains, who are called Jains simply because of our birth in a Jain family, be converted to Jainism and become true Jains. At the turn of the century, humankind is looking for a system of thoughts, which is Democratic in spirit, scientific in temper, rational, and humane in outlook. Jainism provides all of these. However, we have not been able to make a mark in society and propagate the true principles of Jains. The reasons are obvious, as we have not understood the essentials of Jainism in their proper perspective, their significance in our daily lives and relevance to the world today. Our doctrines of Anekantvad, Ahimsa, Aparigrah, and Anukampa have no parallels. Our law of Karma makes each individual fully responsible for his progress or decay, a sort of complete individual autonomy. There is no such thing as accidental happening or mercy of supernatural or Gods in Jainism. Every effect, every action has a cause which lies in the individual himself. Jainism is based on rational, scientific and practical considerations of self-development, well being, and happiness. It stands for universal love and liberalism in both thought and conduct.

Besides so many worthy projects already in place and progressing, in the next two years, this executive committee would like to see most of us born Jains to be converted to Jainism and become true Jains fully understanding its principles and putting them in practice. As Umaswami said "Samyak darshan-gyan-charitrani moksha

margaha", so our faith, knowledge and conduct should be right. We and our future generation can not be called educated if their education is not associated with right faith. As we know there are no living gods, Tirthankaras or Kevalis and not even many gurus are available in this part of the world. As Acharya Kundkunda said "Swadhyay param tapa", So we have to learn our religion by ourself thru Swadhayay of Jinvani where our Acharya have very kindly put in the teachings of Jina.. I am happy that Dr. Duli Chand Jain, Dr. Prem Gada, Pravin Shah, Dr. Manu Bhai Doshi, and others are working very hard to guide us in our Swadhyaya. This executive committee would like to enhance this activity in the field of education by insisting that:

Each household should have a "mini Jain library", a collection of three to five books on the basic principles of Jainism. Recently available books include: "JAINA Philosophy and Religion" by Nagin Shah, an English translation of an original Gujrati book, "JAINA DARSHAN" by Muni Nayanvijayji, and "Jainism: A Pictorial Guide to the Religion of Non-Violence" by a German scholar Kurt Titze is an attempt in this direction. My congratulations and thanks to JAINA Trust and its Trustees for making these books available to us.

More seminars and classes should be conducted to educate ourselves. For this I look forward to Dr. Duli Chand Jain, Shri Pravin Bhai Shah, Shri Prem Bhai Gada, Shri Sulekhji Jain, Dr. Surendraji Singhvi, Shri Manu Bhai Doshi, Dr. Surendra Jain and others to step forward and take this responsibility.

Third and equally important step to achieving the above goals is that all our centers should have temples and sthanaks with libraries and pathshalas. We should have more Jain Centers wherever there are Jain families living. I would like to organize a strong JAIN TEMPLE COMMITTEE and call upon you all for your active participation to accomplish this purpose.

Teerth Yatra: Our teerths are eternal source of charging us spiritually. Our Yatra sangh of Sri Sammedh Shikharji is still feeling the vibrations of change in their life. For that I look forward to the continued Leadership of our secretary Dilip bhai Shah.

JAIN DIGEST, besides giving all national and International news should also become a source of educating us in the field of religion. I do congratulate Lataben Champsee and Navin Jain and the entire Editorial Board for doing a superb job and ask them to take this added responsibility by adding a strong religious editorial board.

JAINA calendar giving all the Tithi and Tyohars during the year, starting the year 2000.

To carry out this essential task of converting born Jains to Jainism and becoming true Jains, as our President, Dr. Dhiru Bhai Shah said, "We need your time, talent, and treasures." I am not sure



# Jainism in the New Millennium

how much of these he received from you in the past two years, but I do need your commitments for the next two years to make this possible. We have a huge responsibility to ourselves, our children, and our heritage. If we fail to do so, we would never be able to forgive ourselves.

We can all participate and share this great responsibility by:

Becoming JAINA Patrons by donating \$251 per year.

Becoming a Trustee of the JAINA CHARITABLE TRUST in its various categories.

Become a Life Member of JAIN DIGEST by contributing \$101. By supporting the various educational, humane, and health projects sponsored by JAINA at present. More information regarding this is available at the JAINA Booth and in the regularly published JAIN DIGEST.

Last but not the least I will request each of you to get involved in JAINA. I am certain that none of you will leave this convention without committing yourself to at least one of the above causes. As a friend, I would like to offer you some personal advice and word of caution. The first advise is that your involvement in Jains and JAINA will be the most profitable investment you will ever make. We may have multiplied the value of our investments in the recent Bull Market, however; it will fast disappear with the Bear Market which always follows it. Your investment in Jains and

Jainism will never diminish in value and will give you instant dividend of peace and happiness not only in the years to come, but in lives to come.

Now as a word of caution that Devendra Bhai and the Convention group, by establishing a real temple and having a Siddha Chakra Vidhan Pujan have invited the Vyanter Devas the celestial Gods to this convention to look for our safety, health, and happiness. However these devas will not leave us alone until we have committed ourselves to this worthy cause. I do not think any of us would want these Vyantar devas to be with us after the convention. I strongly urge you to make a solemn commitment of time, talent, and treasure. It is my firm belief that in the next two years, JAINA will be able to bring an internal change in us, a change which will result in more contentment, peace, happiness, and harmony in our lives. However, please do remember that Jaina's success is your success but if JAINA fails you fail as well and I am sure you will not like to fail at this time and in this part of the world.

I thank you all very much for your time and look forward to be working for you and with you for the next two years.

Thank you and Jai Jinendra!

—Dr. M. K. Pandya, MD

July 4, 1999 at 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial JAINA Convention, Philadelphia

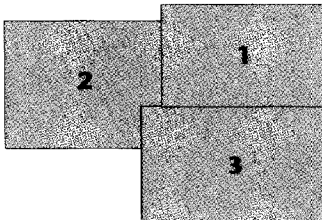


Mahendra Pandya delivers his Federation of JAINA Presidential Acceptance Speech



The entertainment program was headed by singer Rajendra Jain, Mr. Anandjibhai of "Kalyanjil Anandji" fame and actor Prem Chopra.

## Cover Captions



**Photo1:** Father Valles (Keynote Speaker on July 4th), with admirers.

**Photo 2:** Co-covenor Meeta Peer, JAINA President Dhiraj Shah, Chief Guest Frank Pallone, Gurudev Chitrananu, co-covenor Devendra Peer and others, during the opening ceremony on July 3, 1999.

**Photo 3:** Father Valles (second from left) and Indian Deputy Ambassador Srinivas (third from left) with a section of the crowd.



# 10TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION

## JAINA Recognition Awards—Presented at the Convention

### JAINA Ratna Award



Pravin Shah  
Cary, NC

### Acharaya Sushil Muni Ahimsa Award



Dr. Surendra Singhvi  
Dayton, OH

### Presidential Award



C.N. Sanghavi  
Mumbai, India

### JAINA Special Recognition Awards



Dr. Dhiraj H. Shah  
Buffalo, NY



Mr. Devedra T. & Dr. Meeta D. Peer  
Philadelphia, PA

### Institutional Award

#### Jain Society of Toronto

The Federation of Jain Associations in North America is pleased to honor the Jain Society of Toronto for successfully hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial JAINA Convention.

### JAINA Recognition Awards



Lalaben Champsee  
Ontario, Canada



Kanta M. Dharamsi  
Reston, VA



Navin Dedhia  
San Jose, CA



Pravin Dandl  
Silver Spring, MD



Jyotindra Doshi  
Mt. Prospect, IL



Vinod Doshi  
Monroeville, PA



Satish Jain  
Brea, CA



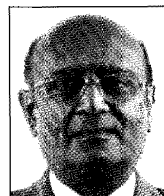
Charuben Khara  
Plano, TX



Madhukar Mehta  
Durham, NC



Chandrakant Parekh  
Cerritos, CA



Anul R. Shah  
Woodside, NY



Hasmukh Shah  
New Port Richey, FL



Kamlesh Shah  
Georgetown, MD



Photo not  
available

Pankaj Shah  
Needham, MA

### JAINA Youth Awards



Tejas K. Doshi  
Gaithersburg, MD



Navin K. Jain  
Buffalo, NY



Suken Jain  
Brea, CA



Dina Mehta  
Durham, NC



Shayna Parekh  
Cerritos, CA



Ameet Shah  
Lexington, NC



Raju M. Shah  
Hanover, MD



Shilpa Shah  
Decatur, GA



Nisha Vagadia  
Foxboro, MA



परस्परप्रेमो जीवनाम्

# 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  
yja-exec@egroups.com • <http://www.yja.org/>

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Naishadh Shah

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Jai Jinendra!

YJA's Executive Board has a new face. The results of our recent elections leave us with quite a diverse group of leaders. Besides the obvious increase in number of Executive Board members; the distribution of ages and occupations reflect YJA's goal to meet the needs of *all* its members. The newly elected board consists of undergraduate and graduate students as well as young professionals. Full of enthusiasm, professionalism, leadership, creativity, and motivation, the group will be pivotal in continuing to successfully cater to youth nationally and internationally.

Currently, preparations are in progress for the YJA Midwest Convention to be held in Detroit, Michigan (November 25-28, 1999). The underlying theme for the programming is "*East Meets West: Tradition Vs. Compromise of Jain Values*". The registration deadline is September 30, 1999 and forms can be found inside this issue of JAIN DIGEST or can be downloaded from our site at <http://www.yja.org/>.

In addition, we are in the process of selecting a site for the next YJA Convention. To make sure that YJA 2000 is as educational and enjoyable as possible, we are soliciting assistance, suggestions and ideas from all of our members. Please feel free to express yourself to one of the Co-Chairs.

As always we like to keep accurate contact information for all our members. If your contact information has changed, please send your updated information to our Director of Membership/Records: Shefali Parekh at [shefaliparekh@mail.com](mailto:shefaliparekh@mail.com).

If anyone has any comments, questions, or concerns for the new board, please let us know so we can better meet our goals.

Thank you!

Shubhra Jain and Naishadh Shah  
Co-chairs, Young Jains of America 1999-2000

## Jain Education through the Millennium

YJA is making new plans to reach out to the Jain youth in America. The Education Committee has planned a few new projects to bring Jainism into everyone's home: ritually, spiritually, and philosophically.

### YJA Education Committee: Millennium Plan

- ▶ One of our main projects is to collect and collaborate information from all Jain societies and complete a book that can be distributed to youths across the nation. We plan to have a interactive coloring section for young children, explanations of major theories for teenagers, deeper philosophical articles for college students, and information regarding diet/meditation and other topics to help young adults in this modern, fast paced, high tech society.
- ▶ We are also working on a Stavan Book with not just English translations, but with interpretations as well. We've learned that many youths hesitate to learn or participate in Jain rituals/stavan/bhajans because they don't understand what it means. In this society, young adults demand a purpose in what they are doing. This new Stavan Book will show the meanings and uses of these stavans.
- ▶ In the future, we want to plan a trip in to Veeryathan India, for interested youth to get hands on experience in the medical field, or simply helping others. Young adults are interested in bringing Jainism into their lives by practical hands on experience. This trip is a way for youths to get religiously involved and fulfill their possible interest in medicine or other types of aid.
- ▶ Additional activities would be to have local YJA representatives get involved with their Jain community and start conducting seminars, discussions, pathshala classes, and more. Younger children look upto their siblings and older youths the most. These older youths can participate in educating younger children and give one on one discussions and/or seminars.
- ▶ Another activity YJA is planning is to have more communication between young adult Jains. YJA will be having an essay and art competition in various Jain published articles to promote awareness of various topics. Young adults can interactively comment and discuss issues that they may feel very strongly for or against. It will be an on-going Jain discussion over articles

YJA is moving ahead with the changing times of today's generation. We understand what hesitations, concerns or doubts young adults have about Jainism. We also understand what benefits, happiness and purity comes from Jainism. All of these activities mentioned above will have independent teams with team leaders, contributors, financial supporters, writers, organizers and more. This is your chance to lead a team or simply support a team and get involved.

We invite anyone and everyone to be a part of YJA's Millennium Plan. Please contact the Education Directors below to discuss your ideas and join a team of your interest. Thanks for your support, we look forward to seeing your name in our education projects

YJA Educational  
Committee Directors:

Anita Shah  
([anitashah@mail.com](mailto:anitashah@mail.com) or 516/873-7104)

Monica Shah  
([monicashah@mail.com](mailto:monicashah@mail.com) or 312/587-1241)

## MIDWEST REGIONAL CONVENTION

*"East Meets West: Tradition vs. Compromise of Jain Values" November 25-28, 1999 in Detroit, Michigan*

Preparations for the first YJA Midwest Regional Convention are progressing well. We are expecting 300 youth between the ages of 14 and 30. Religious, cultural, and social activities, with speakers such as Balbhadraji, will give the youth a better understanding of Jain principles and practice and this convention will also provide young Jains the opportunity to learn from youth from other Jain Centers and the role Jainism plays in their lives. Registration forms are available online at <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~ajshah/yja/> or you can send in the form on the facing page.

You contact the Midwest Regional Convention Committee at [MWRCC@aol.com](mailto:MWRCC@aol.com) or the following co-chairpersons:

Binisa Shah, [shahbini@pilot.msu.edu](mailto:shahbini@pilot.msu.edu) or 248/442-9474  
Sneha Shah, [SShah42@aol.com](mailto:SShah42@aol.com) or 248/347-4576  
Suchita Shah, [Favafunk@aol.com](mailto:Favafunk@aol.com) or 248/477-1869

Please contact any one of us for further information or if you would like to help out in any way and we hope to see you at the convention!

## MIDWEST REGIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

*"East Meets West: Tradition Vs. Comprise of Jain Values"*

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male Female

School/Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduating Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Jain Center: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Diet: Vegetarian Vegan Jain Vegetarian

Medical Insurance/Policy#: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate Preference (Only one choice, optional):

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Check if you would prefer not to publish any of this information in the convention souvenir booklet. \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the information submitted above if true, complete and accurate. I have filled out this form to the best of my ability and read the registration guidelines.  
Signature (of parent or legal guardian if under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### Registration Information:

\_\_\_\_ \$150-Postmarked by August 15, 1999

Open to all youth

\_\_\_\_ \$175-Late Fee; postmarked by Sep. 30, 1999

Open to all youth

**Forms may not be accepted after September 1, 1999!**

Donations: \_\_\_\_ \$100.00 \_\_\_\_ \$25.00

\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 \_\_\_\_ Other

Make checks payable to: *Jain Society of Greater Detroit.*  
(write 'YJA Midwest Convention' in the MEMO portion of the check). Mail Registration Forms and all fees and donations to: YJA Midwest Convention  
% Shamita Shah  
37448 Windwood Dr.  
Farmington Hills, MI 48335

### PARENTAL CONSENT FORM

This form must be signed by all participants over 18 or a legal parent or guardian of any minor (under 18 years of age as of 11/25/99) participating in the YJA Midwest Regional Convention.

I, the undersigned, hereby grant permission to have my child (one form per child is required) \_\_\_\_\_, participate in the YJA Midwest Regional to be held in Detroit, MI between November 25 and 28, 1999. I certify that I am the parent having custody or the legal guardian by court order of the said minor. I allege that the said minor is physically able to participate in the activity set forth herein.

I herein understand and agree that, in permitting my child to participate, I will be ultimately responsible for my child as the parent and guardian, and the YJA Midwest Regional Convention Committee members will take all reasonable steps to provide individual care and safety for my child, but will not be ultimately responsible. The Convention Committee and all its parent member organizations, volunteer workers, or agents cannot assume responsibility for any injuries, damage, and/or harm that might result in the course of any activities during the convention.

I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless and blameless The Jain Society of Greater Detroit (JSGD), YJA, JAINA, its officers, employees, or agents from any and all liability from damages, loss, or injuries either to person or property, which the said minor may sustain while engaged in any activity conducted by or in connection with the YJA Midwest Regional Convention including, but not limited to transportation.

I further agree to reimburse or make good any loss, damage, or costs that JSGD, YJA, and JAINA may have to pay if any litigation arises on account of any claim made by the said minor, or anyone in the said minor's behalf, resulting directly or indirectly from the said minor's participation in the convention activities.

I further authorize medical treatment for the said minor in the event of illness or injury sustained in my absence while participating in convention programs provided by JSGD and its volunteer committees or their agents. In the case of injury or other activities requiring parental permission, the YJA Midwest Regional Convention Committee coordinators, employees, and/or agents shall have authority to act for me in case I cannot be reached

I understand that in case of injury, serious illness, or in extreme cases of disciplinary actions, the convention chairperson will, if need be, send home my child by the first available transportation at my own expense. I also understand that my child may be removed and sent home if he/she attempts to leave the convention site for any reason during the convention other than for any authorized group trips that may be taken.

Signature of parent having custody or legal guardian

Daytime telephone number Evening telephone number

Signature of participant

## Gujarati Meets Multimedia Education

For many second generation Gujarat youth raised in America, Gujarati has become the language that their grandparents speak and English has become "their" language. English undeniably has its importance for surviving and communicating in this Western world. But Gujarati still retains its significance as our mother tongue and the language of many of the original Jain scripture translations.

Parents are often caught in a dilemma as to which language to emphasize while their child is still growing and learning. The usual, and most rational, choice is English. Yet, parents cannot give in completely to Western society and have their children forget where they came from. So, they purchase countless Gujarati lesson books and give home lessons on the language- yet, this is only effective to a point. In order to assure that children attempt to learn Gujarati on their own and throughout their life, one must make the learning experience as enjoyable as possible.

Sai Enterprises introduces Gujarati Master, a fun-filled multimedia expedition into the Gujarati language. The software is geared for Gujarati children living under foreign skies. The course puts a emphasis on grammar as well as basic rudiments of the language. Each lesson is followed by a fun quiz to test the knowledge of that particular lesson. Sai Enterprises will donate a portion of their proceeds to YJA to help encourage youth education and interaction.

First year law student, Bijesh Patel said, "This tutorial program will definitely make our younger generation appreciate the richness of the Gujarati linguistic heritage and most importantly want to

learn it on their way." The software has been endorsed by JAINA, Gujarati Samaj of NY, NC as well as Gujarati Literary Academy along with many other organizations.

The multimedia set contains three CD-ROMs. Main topics covered are counting, alphabets, wordcraft (making words), half sounds, activities, tenses, adjectives, adverbs, joining words and making sentences. There is also a glossary full of words to increase vocabulary and conversation skills. With the purchase of the two Gujarati CD-ROMs comes a free Rhymetime CD-ROM that has numerous melodious songs that even adults can enjoy and has an audio track on a regular compact disk player.

To obtain more information about the Gujarati Master as well as other products like Ramayana, Panchatantra, Fables from India, Karishma (the wonder that is India), a new Jainism software (will be available shortly), and many more, please call 1-888-82CD-ROM or visit **www.saienterprise.com**. If you chose to purchase any software, be sure to mention YJA because Sai Enterprises has agreed to donate a portion of their proceeds that comes from YJA sales.

"If we incorporate innovative technology of the modern era into an education system, we can inspire the youth to learn about their culture and their mother tongue. This was the developers main focus when creating animated characters and fun multimedia techniques with which children can relate," said Dipal Pandya, spokesperson for Sai Enterprises.

## YJA Pen Pals Program

The Young Jains of America Events committee would like to put together a nation-wide Jain Pen Pals Program. The program would help to introduce youth from different Jain communities to each other. After being introduced, the Pen Pals can keep in touch through email, phone calls, letters, and a wide variety of media. They can look forward to meeting each other at conventions and other YJA events. Some of our closer friends can even arrange to meet each other on their own time.

Any interested youth can sign up for YJA Pen Pals Program by filling out the form below or filling out a form online (**www.yja.org**). Pen Pal candidates will be paired with other candidates based on their age group, location, hobbies, and other information we will gather with this enrollment form.

The program itself is part of a major YJA goal to unify Jain youth across the U.S. Pen Pals will help to increase youth interaction and education, it even has the potential to expand to an international level. Once enough entries have been received and "pals" are matched up, YJA will begin to deliver contact information to its Pen Pal candidates. Then, each Pen Pal can contact the person they have been matched with and begin to communicate.

If you are interested in being a pioneer in the YJA Pen Pals Program, please fill out the following form and send it to: Reshma Modi, 29531 Greenboro, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

### YJA Pen Pals Program Enrollment Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender (circle one): M or F

Interests/Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Information about the kind of Pen Pal you would like:

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender (circle one): M or F

Region (circle): Mid Atlantic/South East/Mid West/South West

Interests/Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_



## Meat and the Environment

by Kevin Vora

For thousands of years, many civilisations have relied mainly on animals as a source of nutrition. But today, we can observe a trend of more and more people abandoning meat products. This may be because many studies are showing that vegetarian diets could be beneficial to the health of a person. For a moment, let us not consider the health benefits of vegetarianism. We should instead consider the amount of resources wasted with the production of meat and the impact that meat eating has on the environment. Vegetarianism could greatly help us reduce waste and slow down global warming.

Many people believe that without meat, they would lack many essential amino acids. This is a common perception in society, but it is absolutely false. All of the nutrients found in meat can be found in alternative sources. These alternative sources are usually low in saturated fats, do not contain cholesterol, and are easier on the digestive system than meat products. It has been repeatedly proven that a vegetarian diet is very healthy.

Figures from the U.S. Department of Agriculture show that for every sixteen pounds of grain fed to cattle, we get back only one pound of meat. It is quite surprising when we consider that in the U.S., 90% of oats, 85% of corn, and 80% of soybeans that are grown are fed to farm animals. Fifteen vegetarians can be nourished on the same amount of farmland that is needed to produce a meat-centered diet for a single person (President's Science Advisory Committee).

A primarily vegetarian society could help save a lot of energy and slow down the deterioration of fertile farmlands. Through farm animals, we lose over ninety percent of proteins, calories, carbohydrates, and nutritional fibers that are fed to them. The amount of food that could be saved if humans consumed plant foods directly would be tremendous. It should also be noted that waste occurring from farm animals creates three times more organic pollution than all other industrial sources combined (United States Environmental Protection Agency). Again, this could be avoided if more people resorted to eating plant foods.

We need not state the dangers of global warming. However, it is important to note that the two gases that have the greatest effect on global warming are methane and carbon dioxide. The

combined weight of all farm animals exceeds the combined weight of all humans. Since animals need to breathe just like humans, they must also consume a lot of oxygen and produce carbon dioxide, which contributes to global warming. But these quantities are still minimal. Farm animals do the most damage to our atmosphere and environment by producing large quantities of methane gas, which contributes to global warming. Many do not realise the extent to which farm animals influence the Earth's climatic changes. Methane's effect on global warming is very significant because it traps heat in the Earth's atmosphere 21 times better than carbon dioxide.

In 1996, farm-animals were responsible for 30% of the production of methane in the US (United States Environmental Protection Agency). The methane is produced during animal digestion as well as during the decomposition of organic animal waste (manure). From 1990 to 1996, the quantity of methane emitted from these sources increased by 3%. The main cause for this was an increase in livestock populations itself. Becoming a vegetarian is a small price to pay if it helps slow down the effects of global warming, which could destroy life as we know it.

Some people might think that if everyone stopped eating meat, that farm animal populations would keep growing because they would not be slaughtered. In reality, if people would slowly stop eating meat, the farmers would notice this decrease in demand and reduce their production of meat (i.e. they would not "replace" slaughtered cattle with new livestock) because otherwise they would lose money.

Animals cost money to raise and it would not be economically sound for the farmers to continue producing meat that nobody wants or to keep extra animals that would serve them no purpose. If more people stopped eating meat, then farmers would have to reduce their production of meat and the number of livestock would be significantly reduced. Most of the animals left would be for the production of dairy products.

In brief, eating animals has a greater effect on the environment than most people think. This practice is slowly exhausting our soils and much waste is created, thus adding to our problem of pollution. The fact that farm animals add to the greenhouse effect is a very significant consequence. Our environment would greatly benefit if more people resorted to eating vegetarian diets.

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*Many people believe that without meat, they would lack many essential amino acids. This is a common perception in society, but it is absolutely false.*

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## 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:

Shefali Parekh  
MR Box 1081  
31 McAlister Drive  
New Orleans, LA 70118-5645

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

### YJA ON THE INTERNET

To reach the Executive Committee, email:

[yja-exec@egroups.com](mailto:yja-exec@egroups.com)

Visit our website at:

[www.yja.org](http://www.yja.org)

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## Exercise and Falling: Ways to Age Healthily

by Dr. Dilip Shah

Have you ever wondered why people in Paris and Rome are thin despite a culture rich in fatty foods and delicacies? What is their secret? The truth is that people in other countries get more exercise in their daily activities than we do. They walk to the grocery and produce store, the bus and train stations, and are active in many household activities. Many of these individuals believe that even moderate physical activity such as, for example, taking the stairs instead of the elevator and walking instead of driving will improve their overall state of health and their excellent heart function, low blood pressure, and normal weight are testament to that. In contrast, over 60% of Americans are sedentary and more than one in three is overweight. As a result, the prevalence of obesity and heart disease in the United States is significantly higher than what is seen in similar, industrialized countries.

A recent study in the medical journal JAMA and confirmed in a Johns Hopkins study showed that brisk walking for just 30 minutes a day is as effective in reducing heart problems as a 3-mile run, three to five times a week. Women between the ages of 40-65 also stand to benefit if they can manage to reduce their weight through exercise and can transform themselves from "apple-shaped" figures (fat around the abdomen) into more "pear-shaped" figures (fat around the hips, buttocks, and thighs). This sort of transforma-

tion will statistically reduce their risk of heart attacks by 66%.

Preventative exercise also serves to benefit us as we age as one major concern for the elderly is falling. When you are young, falling is a part of everyday life but, as you grow older and particularly over the age of 60, falling can mean severe disability and even death. About one out of three people over 65 fall each year and a large number of individuals suffer from fractures of the hip, wrist, arms, or legs. However, since 60% of the falls occur in the home, simple steps such as removing loose rugs, keeping walkways unobstructed, and installing grab bars and non-slip mats in the bathroom and shower areas would be of great benefit.

Clearly, the message of these studies is good news as staying healthy does not need to involve strenuous exercise or crash diets. A little extra consideration now will go a long way towards preparing you for an active and happy life. Just get out of the house, move around, and don't stop at the doughnut shop.

Send your comments or questions to:

Dr. Dilip Shah  
1508 Midwest Club  
Oak Brook, IL 60523  
[dilipshahmd@yahoo.com](mailto:dilipshahmd@yahoo.com)

## \$12,000 in SEED Scholarships Awarded

The Supporting Excellence in Education (SEED) Foundation is excited to be entering its second year! In 1999, the Foundation awarded \$1,000 scholarships to three (3) high-school students. These three individuals were chosen based on their strong academic performance, outstanding leadership potential, and an unwavering commitment to their communities. The three scholarship recipients were *Meera Shah from Alberta, Canada, Hetal Mehta from Alhambra, California and Dave Choksi from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.*

The Foundation is pleased announce the offering of **eight (8) scholarships totaling \$12,000** to outstanding North-American high school students graduating in the Spring of 2000. There will be four (4) scholarships of \$2,000 each and four (4) scholarships of \$1,000 each. The scholarships will be awarded based on merit and need. Applications will be available starting November 15th, 1999, at the SEED Foundation website ([www.seedfoundation.org](http://www.seedfoundation.org)). The deadline for submitting scholarship applications is February 15th, 2000.

The SEED Foundation is a non-profit scholarship foundation promoting Asian-Indian youth to achieve greater educational opportunities. The goal is to support and prepare youth for the emerging global world. Our mission is to plant a seed of inspiration that will help youth to grow into responsible adults in their communities. The Foundation sponsors an annual scholarship program that recognizes and rewards well-rounded students. For more information on the SEED Foundation and its activities, please visit our website or contact Samir Mehta, Scholarship Director, at 281-277-7547 or Namita Solanki-Patel, Chairperson, at 630-231-3033 with any questions.

# Paryushan Celebration

by Manu Doshi, Chicago, IL

**T**his year, we celebrate the Paryushan Parva and Dashlaxna from September 7 to 24. Paryushan literally means abiding by the Self. As such, during those days, one has to remain tuned to the soul. Remaining so tuned is not easy, because we are not accustomed to that. Even the concept of abiding by the soul may seem a bit abstract. For all practical purposes it means abiding in equanimity. Jain canons therefore repeatedly state that the objective of undertaking every religious activity is to gain equanimity. Observing the austerities and performing different rituals during Paryushan days are laid down for that very purpose. If equanimity is gained by such observance and practice, they are worthwhile, otherwise they turn out to be lifeless rituals. Such mechanical activities hardly serve any purpose.

Observing Upvās is one of the ways to abide by the soul. Upvās literally means staying close to the soul. But it is normally equated with fasting and therefore people undertake long or short fasts during Paryushan. In scriptural terminology that austerity is termed as Anashan. Ashan literally means to eat and Anashan therefore means not to eat or to go without food. That is popularly termed as Upavās. Since Upvās, however, means abiding by the soul, the person observing that does not care for the physical aspects like appetite and happens to go without food. But abstaining from food is not the purpose of Upavās.

Jainism does lay emphasis on austerities and lays down 12 types of austerities. Six of them are external and the other six are internal. Fasting is only one of the external austerities. Repentance, modesty, selfless service, study of the Self, meditation and spiritual concentration are the internal austerities and obviously more attention needs to be devoted to them. The last two, which are popularly known as Dhyān and Kāusagga, constitute the most vital steps on the path of liberation. It is therefore worthwhile to discuss their significance at some length.

The ultimate objective of every religious activity is to gain liberation. We would however be more interested in an objective, which we can hope to reach during this life. That can be defined as giving up the evil tendencies and developing the good ones. In other words, one should avoid the vices and cultivate the virtues. Forgiveness or Kshamā is the most important virtue. All other virtues revolve around it. Kshamāpanā or atonement therefore happens to be the most important part of the Paryushan celebration.. Resorting to various religious activities, inclusive of fasting, is meant for cultivating the sense of forgiving. That enables us to atone for the wrong deeds and to extend forgiveness to every one.

During the life we come across a number of events and situations, some of which are to our liking and others are not. If they are to our liking, we look at them favorably and try to retain them. If they are not to our liking, we tend to hate, abhor or despise them. Such hating etc. leads to the sense of anger, frustration etc. We also tend to develop jealousy, animosity or hostility towards those, who

seem to us instrumental for such events. Such feelings and tendencies are known as Dwesh. That Dwesh is the root cause of perturbing the peace of mind. It is therefore laid down that during the Samvatsari Pratikraman, at least, we should atone for indulging in Dwesh towards any one and extend forgiveness to every one, inclusive of those whom we might be perceiving as enemies or adversaries.

Indulging in Dwesh may or may not actually hurt the person towards whom the Dwesh is targeted, but it surely hurts us. It is detrimental to our own physical and spiritual well being. Therefore, if one wants to be happy, he needs to give up that trait. For that very purpose, it is laid down to atone for the same. Such atonement can generate a genuine sense of forgiving. That sense softens the feelings and purifies the mind. Other virtues would automatically flow from such purified mind. Then, one would also try to avert the recurrence of ill will as well as evil tendencies and to start the future on a clean slate.

But what actually happens is that after forgiving all the beings on the occasion of Samvatsari, the old tendencies recur and we happen to indulge in Dwesh once again. That gives rise to the feelings of anger, animosity etc. towards those whom we perceive as working against us or as doing something that seems detrimental to our interests. How does that happen? When we had decided to avoid Dwesh, why do the bad feelings and evil tendencies arise? Was our decision not sincere or did we indulge in hypocrisy?

That happens, because our decision making apparatus functions at the conscious level. We are not aware of what lies at the subconscious level. At that level lie the stored up feelings and tendencies built long ago, may be, even during the earlier lives! The impact of such tendencies is too strong to be eradicated by decision at the conscious level. Since we are not even aware of the tendencies lying at the subconscious level, how can we succeed in removing or eradicating them?

Here comes the role of meditation or Dhyān. Contemplation, awareness and concentration constitute the varying degrees of Dhyān. Ashtāng Yoga of Patanjali lays down Dhāranā, Dhyān and Samādhi as the last three phases of Yoga. Dhāranā stands for contemplation, Dhyān for awareness and Samādhi for concentration. Of these three, Dhyān and Samādhi constitute the essence of meditation. For the time being, we are going to restrict ourself to Dhyān or awareness and indicate how that helps in removing the deep rooted tendencies.

When one gains spiritual inclination, he endeavors to overcome the evil tendencies that come to his notice. If the tendencies are mild, they can be easily overcome. The strong tendencies, however, put up stiff resistance; and if one tries to suppress them, they go underground and lie at the subconscious level. It means that those tendencies continue to exist in the dormant state, but the person concerned does not remain aware of their existence. That uncon-

scious level stays beyond our reach, because our attention remains confined to the conscious level. We hardly try to fathom the subconscious level. In order to make out what exists there, it is incumbent to penetrate that level.

Fortunately, it is possible to peep there, because the tendencies lying at the subconscious level transmit signals to the physical level. Those signals take the form of sensations that continuously occur in all parts of the body. Such sensations can be subtle or gross. The subtle sensations usually remain beyond our comprehension, because our mind has not acquired the subtlety required to grasp them. The gross ones arise in the form of pleasing sensations like joy, gladness etc. or painful ones like itching, aching etc. They do come to our notice; but instead of remaining unimpassioned, we react to them instinctively by expressing the delight or the distress. This happens, because we are not accustomed to observe dispassionately. Our task is therefore to learn how to remain dispassionately aware of whatever happens from time to time.

The people generally tend to associate awareness with memory. That is wrong. Memory relates to the past, while awareness relates to the present. No one can remain aware of what has already happened. Awareness therefore pertains to what has been happening at the present moment. So many things continue to happen in our life. Do we remain simply aware of that? If we think a little, it will be clear that we look at every phenomena with preconceived notions; we perceive them with our preferences and prejudices. We hardly perceive dispassionately. Therefore, what is required is to cultivate unimpassioned mind. We need to learn how to observe without indulging in likes or dislikes. When we remain dispassionately aware, we do not get under the influence of craving or aversion. In other words, our mind is not affected by Rāg or Dwesh. It remains pure and unpolluted. The absence of Rāg or Dwesh is therefore the key to observe without the pre-judgment.

When we observe dispassionately, we can notice that continuous changes have been going on at the physical as well as the mental level. There are more than 50 trillion cells in a mature human body; 50 millions of them are destroyed every second and so many new cells arise to take their place. These changes, however, occur at very subtle level and we do not get even a glimpse of such enormous changes. We notice them only when the outcomes are gross enough to draw our attention. The body, for instance, incessantly undergoes changes. We, however, notice only after a long time, when the changes become evident in the form of growth, wrinkles, aging, disease etc. This is despite the fact that every change generates sensations that arise in the body. Such sensations can be grasped by developing very subtle mind and that can be done by maintaining continuous awareness. We can then learn at the experiential level that all the sensations are temporary and no sensation lasts long. That experience prompts us to remain indifferent to them. We thus learn to be free from attachment or aversion for any sensation and

to retain equanimity in all the circumstances.

That has its impact on mind. The mind is a phenomenon that continuously goes on thinking. Every moment, it jumps from one thought to another, but we hardly remain aware of that. When we try to cultivate awareness, we get the opportunity to observe what has been going at the mental level. Then we can notice how unsteady is the mind. At times, the ideas, that we had never even dreamt of, occur in the mind. That happens, because such ideas were lying at the subconscious level, but we were not aware of that. By remaining indifferently aware of whatever occurs at the mental level, the subconscious mind is exposed to the conscious level. In other words, the darkness of ignorance is exposed to the light of awareness. Since the mind cannot withstand such exposure, it loses its momentum and becomes steady. That causes the deep rooted tendencies and feelings to come upwards. Remaining dispassionately aware is thus the way of coming face to face with what had been lying at the subconscious level. When we become conscious of the wrong or evil tendencies lying within us, we can try to overcome them.

Beginning for that can be made during the Paryushan days. For that purpose one does not need to leave aside what he might be normally doing. It is not even necessary to adopt any particular posture. What is suggested is to sit comfortably in a quiet place. Then, closing the eyes, start observing whatever happens. Simply try to remain attentive to what has been going on in the body and the mind without indulging in likes or dislikes. If you find it hard to do so, observe the incoming and outgoing of breath for a few seconds. But do not try to regulate it, simply observe it as it comes in and goes out. After gaining some control over the mind, revert to the overall observation. That will lead to the peace of mind and you will be in a position to dispassionately observe the feelings and tendencies that arise from time to time. You will then be in the position to atone for the bad feelings and evil tendencies. That will enable you to dwell in the true spirit of forgive and forget.

This practice can also be put in Jain perspective. The tendencies lying at the subconscious level represent the accumulated Karma and the sensations arising from time to time are the consequences of the operative Karma. Pure awareness is the Jñātā-Drishtā Bhāv, that denotes the sense of knowing and perceiving without likes or dislikes. That amounts to staying beyond the physical state. That itself is Samvar, the prevention of Karma.

The pure awareness is the true nature of soul and it naturally arises in the advanced state. Such awareness needs to be effortless. When a person thus remains merely the knower and perceiver, he stays completely aloof and is not affected by any situation. Whether it is favorable or unfavorable, he takes it as the consequence of Karma and remains simply aware of it. That amounts to dispassionately bearing the consequences of Karma. That is Nirjarā, the eradication of Karma. The exposure of mind to pure awareness thus leads to Samvar as well as Nirjarā.



# Liberation through Meditation

by Anop R. Vora, Rochester, NY

**T**he liberation reflects the most purified state of mind—one without a single trace of craving and aversion (RAG and DWESH) round the clock. To achieve it, we must focus our efforts at understanding our thought process in depth. It is only when we understand our mind better and divert away from craving and aversion are we going to stop the influx of KARMAS and gradually move on to the path of liberation. Although this basic principle is known to many of us, the truth is that our thoughts are permeated most of the time with craving and aversion, in spite of spending a lot of time in temple worship, religious discourses, rituals and other forms of religious practices. It appears that they have not made much of an impact on us. If we critically examine the way we think and behave, we realize that we have not changed much after many years of life experiences. Unless we do something about this state of affairs, the liberation is indeed going to remain a distant dream.

The primary reason for this phenomenon is that we have indeed failed to comprehend and assimilate the “generic” process of how we think and subsequently act. In the corporate world, companies at least in the USA, have benefited handsomely by understanding their business processes and taking necessary corrective actions. Similarly to make a quantum jump at the spiritual front, we must step back and reflect upon the underlying process. This process understanding is very important if we wish to derive the maximum benefit from the religious practices including meditation.

The best way to understand the process is by examining the way our mind works. The typical sequence is as follows:

1. The mind gets a stimulus from any of these primary sources (a) Physical Senses (b) Memory of past events (c) Imagination of future events, plans, fear for the future (d) Desires.
2. Initially, the mind just receives raw data of information about the stimulus and becomes cognizant of it.
3. Then, it quickly perceives the stimulus and makes a judgment.
4. Perception results into physical sensations—pleasant or unpleasant, signaling a very close mind-body connection.
5. Reaction to the stimulus takes place.

The last step is very critical. Normal reaction involves liking or disliking (craving or aversion) and takes one to passions such as anger, arrogance, deception, greed and other miscellaneous passions. These passions lead one to unwholesome conduct involving violence, falsehood, stealing, sensuous pleasures, or craze for possessions either in active form or in passive form. Some times, the unwholesome conduct shows up immediately. In a civilized society, the passions usually remain dormant in various forms such as trickery, revenge etc. only to erupt at a later date. In either case, we form new KARMAS and get entangled into an unending cycles of life and death.

Usually this reaction is not a one-time event. Most of us go through “mental gymnastics” whereby we keep going back to the memory of the same stimulus, generate the same reaction, and the same kind of passion repeatedly over a long period of time. This goes on subconsciously because of our ignorance and conditioning giving rise to a mental turmoil. The time interval between the stimulus and reaction is so fast, so habitual that we fail to notice what is going on internally. We could spend the whole life without being aware of this hidden process.

We need to understand that the stimuli are a fact of life, can not be avoided in a worldly life and mostly are beyond our control. The remedy prescribed by our seers is first to develop an awareness of how we react to stimuli. Until we become aware of what is going on, we can not improve ourselves. The difficulty with our present situation is that our life style is too hectic and allows very little time to sit back and think. From the time we are awake and till we go to bed, we just run around. Even while we are sleeping, our mind is occupied with dreams. The way to get out of this situation is by changing our priorities in life and start developing a deep

interest in meditation. It is through meditation that we can calm our minds down, reflect upon how we react, and get answers to our questions from within. Perhaps the meditative postures of our Tirthakaras (and also of many religious leaders) have been giving us the same message for ages. It appears we have been too blind to recognize it.

Once our mind becomes tranquil, we can tone down our reactions to the stimuli with an attitude of detachment, equanimity, forgiveness, humility, straight forwardness, contentment, and compassion. We can start understanding the real nature of ourselves. When we run into pleasant or unpleasant situations, we can start thinking that everything that happens is due to the past karmas. We can start controlling our habitual reactions of RAG and DWESH in such a way so as to minimize the formation of new KARMAS. When we read the story of Lord Mahavir, we realize that this is the same path he followed and achieved the liberation. If meditation is the

most powerful cure, why are not we resorting to it on a regular basis? Perhaps due to a combination of tradition and conditioning. It appears that there is a big divergence between the way Lord Mahavira practiced the religion and the traditional forms of Jain religious practices that sprung up afterwards. Many of them place more emphasis on rituals than on meditation. When we go to a temple, usually too many distractions surround us. When we do Pratikraman, our tendency is to go through the whole exercise swiftly without taking the time to reflect on what is happening. KAUSAGGAS embedded into PRATIKRAMAN are supposed to prepare us for more serious meditation but that is not happening because we are too busy to finish up of our quotas of counting NAVKAR MANTRA!

Lord Mahavira spent most of his 12 years of monk hood in deep meditation before he achieved KEVALGNAN. Lord Buddha employed a similar technique for years before he achieved ENLIGHTENMENT. Many other religious leaders have followed the same practice and obtained strikingly similar results. If we want to liberate ourselves, we must follow their footsteps and devote our time and energy toward meditation. In practical terms, the VIPASANA Meditation offered by the followers of Buddhism and the Preksha Dhyana being taught by Saman Shrut Pragnaji, Ashwin Pragnaji and other followers of late Shri Acharya Tulsiji are both consistent with the Jain precepts and worth experiencing. The real benefit is in practicing them and not just reading about them. If we follow through on this suggestion, we would have taken the most important first step toward achieving liberation.

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## 4th Jain Academic Bowl

The 4th Jain Academic Bowl (JAB) was held at the Tenth Biennial Convention of JAINA in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This year's tournament was as exciting as ever, combining competitiveness, knowledge on Jainism, and friendly interaction from a number of young Jains. Six excellent teams participated; they represented Jain Centers from Boston, Chicago, Detroit, North Carolina, Pittsburgh, and Washington DC.

The final match featured the Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago (coached by Mrs. Darshana Shah) and the Jain Society of Pittsburgh (coached by Mr. Shantilal Mohnot). And the winner was? The Jain Society of Pittsburgh!! Team members of the Jain Society of Pittsburgh (Sheel Mohnot—Captain, Aditya Sanghvi, Kunal Rambhia, and Rishi Mohnot) each received individual "1st Place" trophies as well as a larger team trophy to be placed in their Jain Center.

The Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago (team members: Alap Shah—Captain, Satya Mehta, Sheel Mehta, Shailee Mashruwala, and Sameer Shah—Alternate) also received a large "2nd Place" team trophy for their Jain Center. The trophies were conferred at the convention Awards Ceremony on Monday morning. Undoubtedly all the participants were winners since an in-depth study of many wide-ranging concepts in Jainism was required and many participants felt they learned so much from the experience.

The high caliber and preparedness of the teams were certainly impressive and the final match was viewed by a capacity crowd (standing room only) in the Grand Ballroom. Congratulations to all teams! (Special recognition goes to the outstanding team from the

Jain Center of Greater Boston, which faced some unusual circumstances.)

The tournament was structured in a modified round-robin format with six preliminary tournament rounds. There were two simultaneous matches per tournament round and each match consisted of two teams (four members on each team) playing each other. Each match featured competitive category questions, non-competitive individual team questions, and competitive grab-bag questions. By going through all possible combinations, each team played four of the five other teams in the tournament. A random drawing at the beginning determined where each team played in the schedule. The two highest-ranking teams from the preliminary rounds met in the final match and that match solely determined the winner.

The JAB is an academic competition, modeled after the high school "It's Academic" and college-level "College Bowl" activities of today's educational institutions. It is based on an appreciation of knowledge of Jainism, the ability for quick response, and a friendly yet competitive spirit.

Many thanks to the numerous people who assisted in planning and execution of the JAB - it could not be possible without a team effort! The principal organizers were Saurabh Dalal, Tejas Doshi, and Neha Vagadia with Kanu & Jyoti Doshi's keen assistance in corrections and review. Spread the word so we can see bigger and better "JABs" at future conventions!

To help organize future JAB contact Saurabh Dalal at 301/577-5215 or [s.dalal@ieee.org](mailto:s.dalal@ieee.org).

**MALE**

**M489:** Gujarati parents invite responses for very handsome, fair, successful entrepreneur as comp. software consultant, vegetarian, US born son, March 71, 5'9", 150 lb, MS (comp. engg.) from cornell university, from pretty, cultured, educated girls. Call: 410/771-0251.

**M508:** Correspondence invited for handsome, slender, JD, Jain Gujarati Attorney, 32, 5'10", graduate of an Ivy League Law School and practicing at prestigious law firm, from beautiful, slim, US raised girls at least 5'4", no bar, Photo must. Phone: 1-800-315-9844.

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

**M663:** Responses invited for handsome, fair, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, born Oct 70, 5'11", 170 lb, MBA, pursuing CFA, raised in India, well employed, from cultured, pretty, well educated girls. Call: 719/218-7237. Email: shah\_h@hotmail.com

**M759:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for handsome, fair, intelligent, family oriented, US raised son, born July 71, 5'10", 160 lb, CPA, well positioned with Price Water House, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 714/670-7854.

**M760:** Jain parents invite correspondence for handsome, vegetarian, US born son, Oct 76, 5'10", doing internship in pharmacy. Send biodata/photo: Vinay Jain, MD, 10 Bonnie Lynn Ct, Roslyn, NY 11576.

**M754:** Gujarati Surgeon invite correspondence with biodata, returnable photo for very handsome, slender, talented, vegetarian, US born son, 30, 6'0", MBA from a world renowned Uni., holding high position in a prestigious global investment co., Prefers well educated, slim, good looking girl. Call: 815/939-3159.

**M757:** Alliance invited for articulate, handsome, accomplished professional, MBA, young looks and interests at 49, 5'6", 138 lb, permanent resident, from cultured, educated, compatible Gujarati lady with US permanent legal status. Call: 847/913-0640.

**AM214:** Practicing Surgeon seek educated, professional, active, vegetarian & pretty lady around forty years, residing in USA. Please mail biodata/returnable photo at: 11412 Rouen Drive, Potomac, MD 20854

**AM233:** Proposals invited by very handsome, vegetarian, professional, US born American, Aug 55, 6'0", PhD, Psychologist, divorced 1990, lived with Jains in Gujarat, yoga, (no children, but can help raise if you have), from suitable match (including widow, divorcee). Call: 954/921-2292.

**AM240:** Parents seek responses for a very handsome, fair, highly successful, US born son, born in 70, 5'10", 150 lb, Harvard MBA, prestigious job; from exceptionally beautiful, highly qualified professional. Call: 312/988-7491.

**AM243:** Alliance invited for handsome, fair, slender, intelligent, vegetarian, US citizen, Gujarati boy, born Oct 73, 5'11", MS (comp sc), pursuing MBA, well employed with famous multinational co. at Atlanta, GA, from cultured, educated, slim, vegetarian girls. Call: 404/559-9010.

**AM244:** Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, bright, successful, vegetarian son, born April 73, 6'1", 170 lb, MBA, MS (comp sc), MS (fin), investment banker, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 908/412-0507.

**AM245:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for handsome, vegetarian, active, bright, India raised, US citizen son, born May 73, 5'7", BS, Dip comp, well employed, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 609/748-1573.

**FEMALE**

**F233:** Jain parents invite responses for beautiful, talented, affectionate, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born July 66, 5'5", BS (chemistry), well employed as chemist, from suitable, educated, Gujarati/Kutchi match. Call: 919/776-9091.

**F481:** Parents invite responses for beautiful, slim, very attractive, highly accomplished, vegetarian, family-oriented, US-raised daughter, born Sep 72, 5'10", MD, 2nd year resident, from professional boys, preferably MD. Phone 606/297-2626.

**F512:** Gujarati parents in NY invite responses for pretty, vegetarian, smart, green holder daughter, born Oct 73, 5'5", BCom, employed as accountant, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 718/468-1426.

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

**F670:** Alliance invited with biodata and returnable photo for a bright, beautiful, caring, US raised vegetarian girl, born May 73, 5'3", 125 lb, MD 99, now doing residency, from Hindi speaking professional boys. Call: 440/347-6148.

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

**F739:** Alliance invited from cultured, educated boys, for beautiful, slim, vegetarian, Gujarati girl, born Dec 72, 5'5", BS, well employed as Visualizer in Bombay and will to settle in USA. She is currently on a visit to USA. Call: 201/861-6557.

**F744:** Gujarati physician patents invite correspondence for very beautiful, slim, vegetarian, US born daughter, Oct 74, 5'6", Medical student at NY, from cultured, professional boys preferably MD. Call: 718/273-1157.

**F745:** Proposals invited from cultured, educated boys, for Gujarati, pretty, intelligent, vegetarian girl, born Nov 74, 5'0", 103 lb, BA (st. xaviers), LLB, well employed in Bombay and willing to settle in USA. Currently visiting USA. Call: 212/750-3325.

**F746:** Gujarati parents in CA, invite responses for pretty, intelligent, vegetarian US raised daughter, born Feb 73, 5'6", MS, well employed as teacher, from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 714/524-1961.

**F747:** Alliance invited for very beautiful, slim, fair, talented, vegetarian girl, born June 76, 5'6", BS, Dip Comp., doing graphic designing, from cultured, well educated

boys. Currently in Bombay and willing to settle in USA. Toured USA twice in the past. Call: 803/469-3991. Bombay ph: 6103450.

**F748:** Correspondence invited for a pretty, vegetarian, cultured, US citizen widow, born April 61, 5'0", 120 lb, BS, well employed, from educated, professional, caring, cultured match. Reply: PO Box: 3154 Gaithersburg, MD 20885.

**F749:** Sister invites responses for intelligent, fair, vegetarian sister, born July 72, 5'4", MA, Dip Comp., from cultured, educated boys with family value. Currently in India and willing to settle in USA. Call: 201/784-0118.

**F750:** Uncle invites proposals for beautiful, slim, talented, vegetarian niece, born May 69, 5'5", MD, well employed as Physician in Bombay, from cultured, well educated boys. Currently in Bombay and willing to settle in USA. Call: 732/238-4531.

**F751:** Responses invited for beautiful, slim, cultured, vegetarian Jain Gujarati, US born girl from well settled family, March 74, 5'6", studying MD (4th yr), fun loving, well rounded, east/west balanced, compassionate, sociable, from similar valued vegetarian professionals. Call: 248/652-2066.

**F752:** Gujarati parents seek alliance for extremely beautiful, fair, slim, intelligent, charming, vegetarian, US born daughter, Jan 73, 5'4", BS, pursuing MS, well employed, from well educated, cultured boys. Call: 215/721-9452.

**F753:** Alliance invited for pretty, slim, talented attractive, US born girl, Nov 68, 5'4", BS (Wharton) MBA (Stanford), well employed as marketing director, from well educated professional boys. Call: 415/292-7875.

**F755:** Alliance invited for beautiful, fair, charming, vegetarian, Hindi speaking girl, born Jan 76, 5'5", 120 lb, Mcom, Dip comp sc., from cultured, professional boys. Currently in India and willing to settle in USA. Visiting USA in Dec 99. Call: 252/972-8959. India Ph. 91-129-282210

**F756:** Alliance invited for beautiful, attractive, talented, vegetarian Gujarati girl, born Oct 64, 5'4", 125 lb, BS (comp sc), professionally well employed, from

cultured, well educated match. Call: 609/750-0940.

**F758:** Uncle seek proposals from cultured, educated boys, for pretty, caring, vegetarian Gujarati niece, born Sept 76, 5'6", Bcom, well employed in India and willing to settle in USA. Currently visiting USA. Call: 408/225-5686.

**F761:** Scientist/physician Jain parents invite correspondence for beautiful, slim, very fair, accomplished, US born daughter, Sept 74, 5'1", MD, doing 2nd year residency, from cultured, vegetarian, preferably MD boys. Call: 972/436-7091.

**F762:** Gujarati parents invite responses for beautiful, slim, successful, active, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born Nov 75, 5'8", 125, BS (ME), well employed as analyst, from professional boys raised in USA/Canada. Call: 248/347-4576.

**AF118:** Biodata/photo requested for Gujarati Jain physician, 33/5'5", US born, enjoys traveling, photography, theater, from vegetarian, never married, MD/professional cultured males. Send to Dr. N. Shah, 91 Carona St., Silver Spring, MD 20905.

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

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

**AF234:** Gujarati parents invite responses for pretty, intelligent, virtuous, vegetarian daughter raised in India, born Oct 76, 5'0", MD, studying for USMLE, from cultured, well educated professionals. Call: 201/384-7596.

**AF235:** Gujarati parents in Singapore invite responses for very beautiful, charming, slim, vegetarian daughter, born June 74, 5'3", CPA, well employed, from cultured, well educated boys. Currently in Singapore and willing to settle in USA. Call: 972/208-9828. Singapore Ph. 065-4424567.

**AF236:** Gujarati parents invite correspondence for beautiful, fair, slim, talented, caring, US born daughter, May 74, 5'4", 125lb, BS in nutrition, well employed as regd. dietitian, from suitable educated match. Call: 908/757-7424.

**AF237:** Gujarati parents invite responses from cultured, educated, vegetarian, preferably Jain boys for their slim, very beautiful, charming US citizen daughter, born March 76, 4'11", 85 lb, BS, well employed. Call: 718/476-1678.

**AF238:** Correspondence invited for pretty, slim, professional, sensitive, Gujarati, vegetarian girl, born April 64, 5'1", BA (english lit.), divorced after brief marriage, from professional match. Currently in India. Call: 248/352-7946, 510/797-2757. India ph. 01191-33-2377658.

**AF239:** Parents seek responses for a very beautiful, fair, talented, vegetarian, US born daughter, born in 74, 5'3", 105 lb, MD, all Ivy League education, from exceptionally handsome, highly qualified professional. Call: 202/462-6311.

**AF241:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, fair, talented, vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born June 73, 5'3", 97 lb, MD, doing residency, from MD or well educated professional, cultured boys. Call: 732/583-7039.

**AF242:** Alliance invited for very pretty, fair, charming, talented, vegetarian girl, born Oct 69, 5'1", 101 lb, MD, from well educated, cultured boys. Recently visited USA. Currently in Ahmedabad and willing to settle in USA. Ahmedabad Ph. 79-6638236. Email: major@ad1.vsnl.net.in

**AF246:** Alliance invited from well educated, professional, cultured, vegetarian, boys, for beautiful, slim, highly accomplished, vegetarian, attractive, convent educated Jain girl, born April 69, 5'6", PhD, well employed as Professor in a reputed College in India, willing to settle in USA. Call: 972/783-2230.

**AF247:** Gujarati parents invite correspondence for very beautiful, very fair, charming, slim, accomplished, cultured, family oriented, vegetarian, US born daughter, Oct 76, 5'4", MD, 3rd year student, from highly educated, cultured, professional boys. Call: 909/598-1777.

### 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.

Full name, address and phone number of the candidate must be furnished for MIS records, along with the ads.

### Responding to an Ad (only if contact info isn't available)

If the phone number or address is not given in the ad, then you must contact the candidate through MIS. 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.

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, 378, 382, 385, 387, 393, 397, 398, 426, 447, 457, 462, 465, 483, 490, 492, 536, 542, 545, 555, 570, 578, 590, 635, 668, 671. AF74, 90, 106, 101, 110, 137, 165, 176, 180, 193, 194.

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, 478, 479, 535, 536, 538, 551, 561, 575, 582, 583, 596, 617, 624, 672, 697, 731. AM79, 89, 104, 107, 108, 114, 120, 122, 135, 137, 138, 169, 174, 186, 187, 199, 221.

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



## MIS REGISTRATION FORM — PAGE 1

Send this completed form, a check in the amount of \$25 and a recent,  
full-length photograph of yourself with your name printed on the back to:

Hasmukh M. Shah, 8721 Scrimshaw Drive,  
New Port Richey, FL 34653-6623

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a vegetarian? YES NO Do you smoke? YES NO Do you drink? YES NO

Have you been married before? YES NO

If yes, indicate the name of your divorced spouse. \_\_\_\_\_

What is your visa status in the USA/Canada? \_\_\_\_\_ When did you enter the USA/Canada? \_\_\_\_\_  
MONTH/YEAR

What languages do you speak? \_\_\_\_\_ What is your religion? \_\_\_\_\_

What languages do you read? \_\_\_\_\_

What languages do you write? \_\_\_\_\_

Education: \_\_\_\_\_  
DEGREE YEAR RECEIVED MAJOR NAME OF UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE

Work experience: \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY'S NAME POSITION DURATION

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Brother(s) and/or Sister(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME(S) AGE(S) EDUCATION OCCUPATION

Do you have other relatives living in the North America? \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME RELATIONSHIP OCCUPATION ADDRESS

Other relevant information (use additional paper if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

A. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Member of: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION'S NAME

B. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Member of: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION'S NAME

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

Age: Between the ages of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ or open.

Height: Between the height of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ or open.

Weight: Between the weight of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ or open.

Education: ☐ Bachelor ☐ Masters Degree ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian: YES NO Work experience: YES NO

Residence: (state) \_\_\_\_\_ Visa Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of time in North America: \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Language. English: YES NO Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Photograph**

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

With best compliments to JAINA

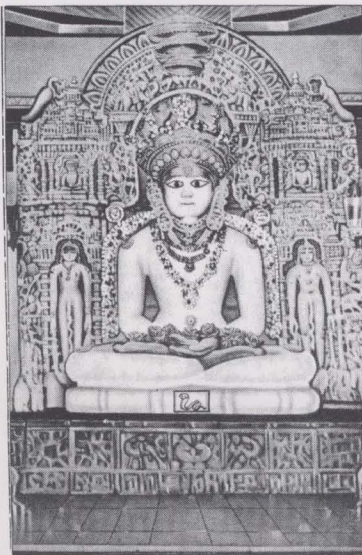
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M.B.B.S., M.D., P.C.**

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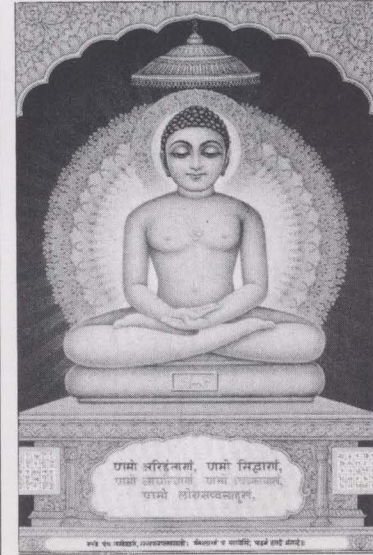
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Tirthankar Parsavnath



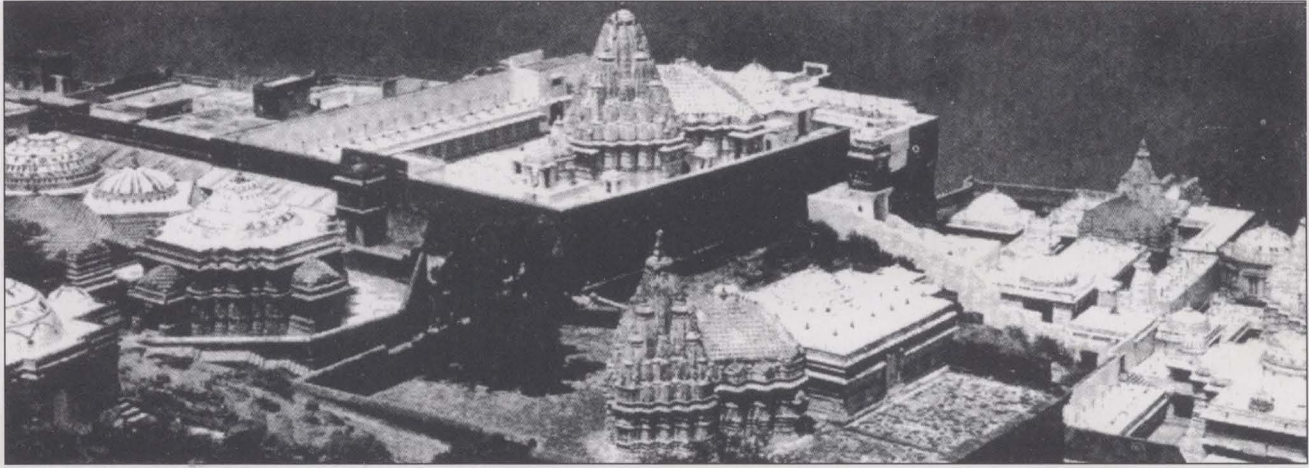
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**Jain temple format**



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