

The Magazine of the Federation of Jain Associations in North America

# JAIN DIGEST

SPRING 2000

VOLUME 16, NO. 1

## YATRA 2000

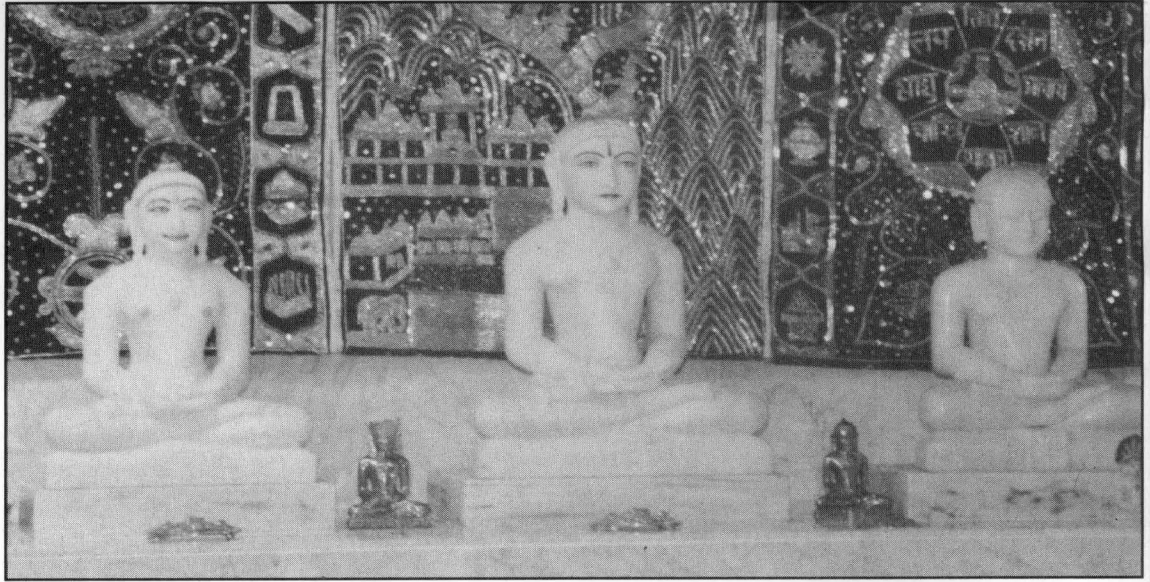


6844

YJA CONVENTION  
LOS ANGELES, CA - JULY 4, 2000



# JAIN TEMPLE, WASHINGTON, DC



## JAI JINENDRA

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

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

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

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

- Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra, Srimad Rajchandra -

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

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

## SHAH ASSOCIATES, M.D., L.L.C.

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

### Cardiology

Vinod K. Shah, MD, FACC  
A. A. Patil, MD, FACC  
Mahesh P. Shah MD, FACC  
Anil K. Shah, MD, FACC  
Anantha Rao, MD, FACC

### Gastroenterology

Umed K. Shah, MD, FACC  
Atul R. Shah, MD, FACC  
Nayan R. Shah, MD, FACC  
Sreenivas Mannam MD

### Pulmonology

Kiran D. Mehta, MD, FCCP  
Neurology

Beena A. Shah, MD

### Internal Medicine

Bhasker A. Jhaveri, MD  
David M. Federle, MD

Mary Kramer, MD

Avani D. Shah, MD

Dhiren Shah, MD

Chandra B. Sajja, MD

Manoj Panwala, MD

### Hematology/Oncology

Gurdeep Chhabra, MD

Harminder S. Sethi, MD

### Gerontology

Anwar T. Munshi, MD, FACP

Rita B. Jhaveri, MD

### Pediatrics

Ila V. Shah, MD, FAAP

M.E.O. Lafcer, MD, FAAP

Dawn Bertram-Stewart, MD

Beena Khetpal, MD

Fahmi H. Fahmi MD

### Pediatrics/Internal Medicine

James I. Harring, MD, FAAP, FACP

### Family Practice

John F. Fenwick, MD

J. Patrick Jarboe, MD

Robert J. Bauer, MD

John L. Bennett, MD

J. Scott Tidball, MD

Roy H. Bunes, MD

### Radiology

Halappa G. Hakkal, MD

Harris E. Orzach, MD

### Psychiatry

Aruna A. Patil, MD

### Endocrinology

John Tourtelot, MD

### Hollywood Office

Philip J. Bean Medical Center

P.O. Box 640

24035 Three Notch Road

Hollywood, MD 20636

301-373-7900

### Leonardtown Offices

Shanti Medical Center

P O Box 664

26840 Point Lookout Road, Suite 101

Leonardtown, MD 20650

301-475-5577 301-475-5524

St. Mary's Medical Arts Building

P O Box 306

22650 Cedar Lane Court

Leonardtown, MD 20650

310-475-5021 301-475-5023

### Prince Frederick Office

Calvert Medical Office Building

110 Hospital Road, Suite 303

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

410-535-4333

### Lexington Park Office

22335 Exploration II, Suite 1030 & 1035

Lexington Park, MD 20653

301-863-7041 301-863-9000

### California Office

P.O. Box 540

23263 By the Mill Road

California, MD 20619

301-863-5835

### Charlotte Hall Office

Charlotte Hall Medical Centre

P.O. Box 507

29795 Three Notch Road

Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

301-884-7322 301-884-7330

### Mechanicsville Office

Village Medical Annex

28160 Old Village Road, Suite A

Mechanicsville, MD 20659

301-884-4666

### Washington Area

831 University Blvd., #32

Silver Spring, MD 20903

301-445-4430

## In this issue

### Meet the committee

Chairpersons ..... 3

Letters to Editor ..... 4

Headquarter News ..... 6

Regional News ..... 8

Rituals or new awakening ..... 11

Committee News ..... 12

Affiliate News ..... 14

Jaisalmer to Palitana ..... 15

International News ..... 18

10th JAINA convention .... 19

Book Review ..... 20

### JAINA Current Financial

Statement ..... 21

Life Members Update ..... 21

MIS Registration Form ..... 22

MIS Information ..... 23

Matrimonials ..... 22

Young Minds ..... 27

Young Jain Professionals .... 30

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Sahdharmic Brothers and Sisters:

Jai Jinendra

Hope this letter finds you in the warmest of spirits after this year's freezing winter. The winter could be cold and severe but our spirits and activities should always remain filled with the warmth of friendship and compassion in the new century and millennium.

The response to our 2000 JAINA Calendar and Book Source has been very enthusiastic. Encouraged by the response JAINA has decided to make the JAINA Calendar an yearly event. I am in contact with well-known Jain Scholars in India to write an introductory book on Jainism for the use of our youngsters and non Jains as well. This book will deal with the basics of Jain Principles and will be reviewed by our scholars in North America for its usefulness in this part of the world. If approved by our scholars, we hope to make it available to all Jain families in N.A. by the upcoming convention in July 2001 or even earlier by the end of this year when the year 2001 calendar reaches you.

During my recent visit to India, I met with many leaders of the Jain Community who are jointly planning a full year of grand celebration of the 2600<sup>th</sup> Janmkalyanak of Bhagwan Mahavir in the year 2001 - 2002. The leaders have requested an active participation by JAINA for this yearlong celebration. Our Mahavir Memorial Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Manoj Dharamsi is proceeding in this matter. I also attended Bhagwan Rishav Dev Nirvana Mahotsav on February 4, 2000 celebrated at Red Fort, Delhi with Hon. Atal Bihari Vajpai, the Prime Minister of India as its chief guest. This is also being celebrated for the whole year on an international level. It is possible that both these yearlong celebrations will be facilitated under one organization. The essence of it being to spread awareness of the first and the twenty fourth Tirthankaras and also the 22, which are in between them. Please participate wholeheartedly in these important celebrations of the new century.

Our Regional Vice Presidents and Directors will be holding JAINA DAY around Bhagwan Mahavir Jayanti in association with our affiliate Jain Centers; please participate and cooperate in this activity.

Hope you are one of the participant to our much sought for YJP and YJA conventions this year. Our committees for Scholar Visitation, World Community Service, Senior Citizens, Jirnodhar, Temple, MIS, Ahimsa and others are all active towards their goals.

JAINA Tirth Yatra organized by our Pilgrimage Committee again became a memorable and rejuvenating occasion for all the Bahbya Jeevs who participated in it.

Jaina also sincerely thanks and congratulates all the Physicians, Surgeons and Volunteers who gave their services at medical camps at Bidada (Kutch) and Bhagyodaya Teerth (Sagar M.P.) in February this year. We are all proud to know that JAINA is fast becoming a well-recognized organization all over the World for its unity, activities and services. All eyes are watching us closely and are seeking us for our guidance and help. Congratulations to you all for making this happen and I urge you to keep up the good work.

Thanking You,



Mahendra K. Pandya  
President, JAINA

Moving? Receiving duplicate copies?  
Send your address corrections to:

JAIN DIGEST CIRCULATION  
Federation of JAINA  
P. O. Box 700  
Getzville, NY 14068-0700





# Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA)

## HEADQUARTERS

PO Box 700, Getzville, NY 14068-0700

Phone/Fax: 716/636-5342

Telephone Hours: Monday – Friday,  
2 PM – 5 PM EST

## JAIN DIGEST

A publication of the  
FEDERATION OF JAIN ASSOCIATIONS  
IN NORTH AMERICA (JAINA)

### EDITOR IN CHIEF

Lata Champsee  
35 Whitehorn Crescent  
Willowdale, ONT M2J 3B1  
Canada  
Phone: 416/493-1666  
Fax: 416/493-1667  
larachampsee@usa.net

### REGIONAL EDITORS

**Canada**  
Dr. Mahendra Mehta  
26 Vancho Cres  
Islington, Ont M9A 4Z2  
Phone/Fax 416/241-2044

**Midwest, US**  
Manubhai Doshi  
931 Golden Road  
Lake Forest, IL 60045  
Phone: 847/735-0120

**Northeast, US**  
Dineshbhai Chheda  
9 Johnson Ave  
West Caldwell, NJ 07006  
Phone: 973/808-2661

**Southeast, US**  
Surendra Shah  
1465 Sumter Drive  
Marietta, GA 30064-2920  
Phone: 770/422-1483

**Southwest, US**  
Jadavji Kenia (jkenia@iname.com)  
1819 Plymouth Rock Drive  
Richardson, TX 75081-3942  
Phone: 972/690-3593

**West, US**  
Chandrakant Parekh  
12914 Wolverton Lane  
Cerritos, CA 90703-7265  
Phone: 562/865-1679, Fax: (562) 865-0851  
engsys@aol.com

### ASSOCIATE EDITORS

**Young Minds**  
Reshma Modi  
248/ 851-3965, reshamodi@mail.com

Rajan Mehta  
Phone: 510/704-5683, rajmehta@mail.com

**Matrimonials**  
Hasmukh Shah  
8721 Scrimshaw Drive  
New Port Richey, FL 34653-6623  
Phone: 727/376-7989

### MANAGING EDITORIAL BOARD

Lata Champsee, Manubhai Doshi, Jagat Jain,  
Ramesh Jain, Vijay Jain, Harshad Shah, Anop Vora

The Managing Editorial Board will endeavor to publish all material submitted but reserves the right to edit and/or reformat for clarity and space restrictions. The views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Managing Editorial Board of JAIN DIGEST.

### PUBLICATION DATES AND DEADLINES

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

### JAINA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President**  
Mahendra K. Pandya  
Phone: 718/816-0083, Fax: 212/319-6781

**First Vice President**  
Bipin D. Parikh  
Phone: 847/699-1294, Fax: 312/726-4274

**Regional Vice Presidents**  
Jasvant Mehta, Canada  
Phone: 780/435-9070, Fax: 780/497-5598

Ila G. Mehta, Midwest US  
Phone: 419/865-2727, Fax: 419/868-7476

Hansraj C. Maru, Northeast US  
Phone/Fax: 203/775-1906

Deepika Dalal, Southeast US  
Phone: 954/431-5957, Fax: 954/545-6501

Kirit C. Daftary, Southwest US  
Phone: 254/776-4209, Fax: 254/753-1411

Girish P. Shah, West US  
Phone: 408/378-8765, Fax: 650/694-6961

**Secretary**  
Vinay K. Vakani  
Phone: 201/967-9344, Fax: 201/967-9344

**Treasurer**  
Anop R. Vora  
Phone: 716/473-9290, Fax: 716/473-9450

**Immediate Past President**  
Dhiraj H. Shah  
Phone: 716/773-1314, Fax: 716/775-0268

### SPECIAL OFFICE BEARER

**Executive Director of JAINA**  
Kamlesh Amin  
Phone/Fax: 716/636-5342  
jainahq@aol.com

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All Board of Directors names to be printed in the Summer 2000 issue.

### JAINA CHARITABLE TRUST

**Executive Council**  
Chairmen – Dhiraj Shah, Buffalo, NY  
Mahendra Pandya, New York, NY  
Comptroller – Jagat Jain, Buffalo, NY  
Secretary General – Kirit Kapadia, New York, NY  
**Members-at-Large**  
Rajen Jaswa, Saratoga, CA  
Bipin Parikh, Chicago, IL  
Bhupendra Tolia, Norwood, NJ

### Trustees

All Trustees names and photos to be printed in the Fall 2000 issue.

### JAINA ON THE INTERNET

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

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR OF JAIN DIGEST

We encourage our readers to send their questions, comments or views on current issues or concerns facing the Jain community of North America to the Editor in Chief, Lata Champsee. We endeavor to publish all letters, space permitting. The JAIN DIGEST reserves the right to edit all material for clarity and/or space. All letters must include the sender's name, address and phone number to be considered for publication.

### JAINA COMMITTEES

**Ahimsa Day Celebration**  
Surendra Singhvi 937/885-7414

**Community Leadership Council**  
Ramesh Shah 440/442-4596

**Environment and Ecology**  
Nancy Jain 416/447-1650

**Essay Competition**  
Chhaya Kapadia 516/829-3316

**JAINA Convention Board**  
Bipin Parkhi 847/669-1294

**Govt. & International Organizations Relations**  
Dhiraj H. Shah 716/773-1314

**Interfaith Activities/World Council of Jains**  
Manoj Dharamsi 703/620-9837  
Rashmi Gardi 847/428-4298

**Jain Poojas**  
Naresh Shah 516/741-9269  
Arhant Jain 905/827-7494

**JAIN DIGEST Membership**  
Keerti Shah 630/837-8716

**JAINA Bulletin Board Service**  
Pravin Shah 919/469-0956

**JAINA Temple Guidelines**  
Jagat Jain 716/688-0104

**Jiv Daya**  
Ratibhai Shah 817/430-8081

**Library and Education**  
Prem Gada 806/794-4777

**Long Term Planning**  
Prabodh Vaidya 630/985-9144

**Mahavir Memorial**  
Dr. Manoj Dharamsi 703/620-9837

**Marriage Information Service**  
Hasmukh Shah 727/376-7989

**Media Watch/Public Relations**  
Sushil Jain 301/670-0519

**Membership**  
Kamlesh Shah 301/838-9778

**N. American Jain Families Assistance Program**  
Ila Mehta 419/865-2727

**Pilgrimage**  
Dilip V. Shah 215/561-0581

**Senior Citizens**  
Kantilal Shah 949/831-8687

**Scholar Visitation**  
Nirmal Dosi 732/390-0296

**Tirthodhdhar**  
Kirit Daftary 254/776-4209

**V. R. Gandhi Scholarship Fund**  
Pravin C. Shah 516/248-8265

**World Community Service**  
Bachubhai Ajmera 301/924-8070  
Bhadrash Dila 301/589-4610  
Prakash Mehta 703/318-8252

**Young Jains of America (YJA)**  
Shubhra Jain 314/345-3296  
Naishadh Shah 732/651-8734

**Young Jain Professional (YJP)**  
Mona Kothari 905/820-0659

### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

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

CANADA	NORTHEAST	SOUTHEAST	SOUTHWEST
<i>Regular</i>	<i>Regular</i>	<i>Regular</i>	<i>Regular</i>
Toronto	Boston	Atlanta	Dallas
<i>Associate</i>	Buffalo	Miami	Houston
Edmonton	Cherry Hill	<i>Associate</i>	Phoenix
Montreal	Essex Fells	Augusta	<i>Associate</i>
Ottawa	Hudson Valley	Charlotte	Tulsa
Vancouver	New York	Fr. Meyers	Lubbock
	Orange	Jacksonville	Colorado
	Philadelphia	Memphis	
<i>Regular</i>	Pittsburgh	Middle Tennessee	<i>WEST</i>
Chicago	Rochester	Morgantown	<i>Regular</i>
Cincinnati/Dayton	Washington, DC	New Orleans	Los Angeles
Cleveland	<i>Associate</i>	Orlando	San Francisco
Columbus	Albany	Palm Beach	<i>Associate</i>
Detroit	Allentown	Raleigh	Portland
St. Louis	Elmira	Tampa	Sacramento
<i>Associate</i>	Harrisburgh		San Diego
Kansas City	Hartford		
Minneapolis	Syracuse		
Milwaukee			

### AFFILIATES

Brahmi Jain Society, US and Canada  
International Alumni Association of Mahavir Jain  
Vidyalaya, Rochester, NY  
International Mahavir Jain Mission, US and Canada  
Jain Meditation International Center, US & Canada  
Jain Social Group, LA and Toronto  
Kutchhi Gurjar Jain Society, Grand Island, NY  
Kutchhi Oswal Samaj, San Francisco  
Shri S. S. Jain Foundation, Toronto, Canada  
Shri Mahavir Jain Foundation, Santa Ana, CA  
Jain Academic Foundation of N. America, Lubbock, TX

### 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 th of each month:  
Dilip V. Shah  
1902 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-4678  
Phone: 215/561-0581, Fax: 215/567-3146  
dilipvshah@aol.com

## Meet your committee chairpersons:

Ahimsa Day Celebration  
Dr. Surendra Singhvi



Community Leadership Council  
Ramesh P. Shah



Environment/Ecology  
Nancy Jain



Essay Competition  
Chhaya Kapadia



Govt. & International  
Organizations Relations  
Dr. Dhiraj H. Shah



Interfaith Activities/WCJ  
Manoj Dharamsi



Interfaith Activities/WCJ  
Rashmi Gardi



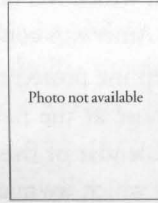
JAIN DIGEST Membership  
Keerti Shah



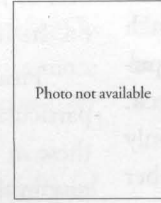
Jain Poojas  
Naresh Shah



Jain Poojas  
Arhant Jain



Jain Poojas  
Anand K. Jain



JAINA BBS  
Pravin K. Shah



JAINA Charitable Trust  
Dr. Dhiraj H. Shah



JAINA Convention Board  
Bipin Parikh



JAINA Patrons Program  
Dr. Surendra Singhvi



Jaina Co-ordinator to  
United Religion Initiative  
Ramesh P. Shah



Jaina Coordinator  
YJA and YJP  
Pravin K. Shah



Jaina Coordinator  
YJA and YJP  
Vinay Vakhani



JAINA Temple Guidelines  
Dr. Jagat Jain



Jiv Daya  
Ratibhai Shah



Library and Education  
Dr. Prem Gada



Long Term Planning  
Prabodh Vaidya



Mahavir Memorial  
Manoj Dharamsi



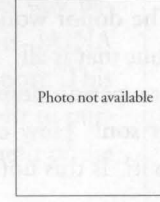
MIS  
Hasmukh Shah



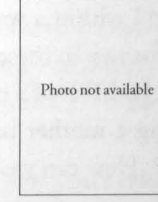
Media Watch/PR  
Dr. Sushil Jain



Media Watch/PR  
Anant K. Jain



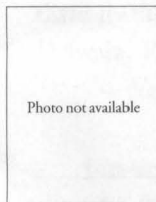
Media Watch/PR  
Manoj Jain



Membership  
Kamlesh Shah



Nomination and Election  
Dr. Vinay Jain



NA Assistance Program  
Ila Mehta



Pilgrimage  
Dilip V. Shah



Scholar Visitation  
Nirmal Dosi



Senior Citizens  
Kantilal Shah



Tirthodhdhar  
Kirit Daftary



V. R. Gandhi Scholarship  
Pravin C. Shah



World Community Service  
Bachubhai Ajmera



World Community Service  
Bhadresh Dhila



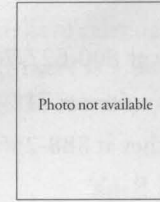
World Community Service  
Prakash Mehta



Young Jains of America  
Naishadh Shah



Young Jains of America  
Shubhra Jain



Young Jain Professionals  
Mona R. Kothari



Young Jain Professionals  
Saurabh Dalal



Dear Editor:

I am the desperate mother of a 14 year old son who has leukemia. The only cure for him is a bone marrow transplant. With a good matching bone marrow transplant, he will be cured of the leukemia, otherwise he could die.

For the past five months, we have called hundreds of people to organize bone marrow drives in their city's temples or other functions. We have been only moderately successful in organizing bone marrow drives, but we have yet to find any matching bone marrow for my son. We are exhausted, frustrated and very scared.

Since we are Indians and Jain, the possibility of finding a match is higher among Jains and Indians. Even within the Indian population, the odds are one in 100,000 of finding a perfect match. On the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) there are only about 6,000 Indians registered. We need to increase the number of Indians in a NMDP registry to save some lives.

To organize a bone marrow drive call one of the numbers below or call us at 217/787-7739 and we will help you set up a drive. The NMDP staff would come to your function, party or Puja and take blood samples from participants in bone marrow drive. The result of your blood test is entered into the National Registry. When a person needs a bone marrow transplant, they contact the National Registry who in turn contacts you (if your bone marrow matches) asking for your bone marrow. Giving bone marrow is not dangerous or very painful. Through a simple surgical procedure (usually as an outpatient) blood is drawn from your bone marrow, from the hip and not the spine. Your body regenerates that blood within a week. The donor would experience some soreness for two to three days but that is all. In return, you are SAVING THE LIFE of a child or a person desperately in need. You are giving a mother back her son! How can we go wrong in doing this? How can we not do it? Is this not what our religion is all about?

Bone marrow is a gift of life. Please give. I am appealing to all your readers to organize a bone marrow drive in your city or temple. Even if you have organized a drive in the past, every new person who registers has a potential to save my son's life; so please help organize a bone marrow drive – big or small. I hope and pray that no other parents have to go through what we are going through right now. This would help save my son's life.

Jai Jinendra!

Kalpana Desai

## Numbers to call

- National Bone Marrow Registry at 800-627-7692, or
- South Asian Marrow Assoc.of Recruiters at 718-592-0821
- Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches at 888-236-4673, or
- Your Local Red Cross or Blood Bank

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your beautiful Year 2000 Calendar. The Calendar is a depiction of the rich culture inherited by the Jain community in different parts of India. I am sure, it would be welcomed by all Indian Americans.

I am aware of the good work being carried out by the Federation of Jain Associations in North America in keeping the community abreast with spiritual, artistic and cultural developments. I had earlier received the diskette containing the addresses of members of JAINA, which has been added to the Embassy's data base on the Indian American community in the US.

Please keep me posted regarding the various cultural events, particularly, those at the national level to enable me to include these in the Calendar of Events of the Indian American community in the US which we maintain.

Wishing you and all members of JAINA a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Anil Chowdhry, Minister (Community Affairs)

Embassy of India, Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Editor:

Great congratulations for having decided to publish the JAINA calendar. Many times in the past I have asked to publish information on Jain Festival dates. With this a calendar you have added to the usefulness of such information. It has splendid photography of Jain temples. JAINA have also achieved the wish of Jain devotees to have their own calendar and to make their presence better known in our world. May your initiatives be greatly appreciated and be continued for many many years to come.

Pierre Amiel, Nice, France

## COVER CAPTIONS:

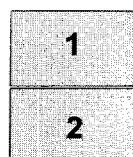


Photo 1: Ceiling - Ranakpur temple

Photo 2: Yatra 2000 yatries looking at the ceiling

Cover Design: Rajesh Arora

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The calendar is most beautiful. The photos should be collected over the years from all calendars and it would make a very beautiful book.

– *Brigitte M. Walker, St. Petersburg, FL*

Calendar is very good. It gave us chance to pay respect to Bhagwan every morning, afternoon and evening. Bigger pictures of Tirthankars would be nice.

– *Nita Kapadia, Lakeworth, FL*

Calendar was very informative for youths to understand our religious sites. Youths liked it very much.

– *Surendra Jain, Toronto*

We are very happy to receive calendar and we are thoroughly enjoying it. We suggest that next calendar should feature more of our temples.

– *S. Dalal, Bridgewater, NJ*

This was a great idea. It has been well received in our friend circle. Just a suggestion, in future please try and improve the clarity of the pictures, make them more vivid and variant.

– *Shanti Satra, Crite, IL*

If possible please write brief history of our and give more importance on vegetarianism and non violence for our next generation. Please continue with the project.

– *Kishore Parekh, Elmhurst, NY*

Write principles of Jainism either on the temple pictures or create a space on each month or replace it with Navkarmantra. Thank you very much for the calendar and appreciation for your hard work.

– *H. Shah, Las Vegas, Nevada*

Excellent attempt. Could include artistic features of temples in Mount Abu, Delwara, Ranakpur. Include overseas temples as well.

– *Navin B. Shah, Sinking Spring, PA*

Instead of publishing calendars which only has pictures, Jaina should publish educational materials including CDs etc specially aimed at the youner generation to understand the fundamental Jain philosophy.

– *Chand and Niroo Chandaria, Toronto, Canada*

It is a beautiful calendar. I have not been to most of these temples, so it was a treat to see the pictures of them. Please try to include more detailed descriptions of our temples next time.

– *Nitin Shah, Albuquerque, NM*

Please do not include Tirthankars' pictures. Pictures can be discarded into rivers and streams. It is most difficult to find the waterways. It is against the Jain principles to discard pictures into the garbage etc.

– *Pravin Shah, Naperville, IL*

Our sincere compliments to you and the Executive Committee for outstanding quality of the calendar. You have ignited a genuine interest in our family to visit the Jain temples in India. Please continue the project.

– *Dhanu Kothari, Unionville, Canada*

The calendar should focus on educating people – Jains and Non-Jains. A theme may be selected each year and calendar can be based on that theme. Too many pictures of Tirthankars causes a moral problem at the time of disposing.

– *Nalin Jain, Fairfax, VA*

Excellent idea of producing Jain calendar. This calendar consisting of Jain temples is very beautiful.

– *G. & C. Rosenberg, Escondido, CA*

It is very good to idea to keep calendar like this all year around to our children. I am proud of you to have very brilliant idea like this. Continue with the project next year.

– *Shashi Bhavsar, Oceana WV*

Another calendar might include symbols and ceremonies of the Jain practice, with explanations. Another idea might be to display Jain temples around the world.

– *Ila Shah, Oak Brook, IL*

Next year's calendar with more photos of our temples, if possible bigger. Please include some pictures of Jain Acharyas of all sects.

– *Babulal Banthia, Greenwood, IN*

My daughter has suggestion to convert the pictures of temple in to screen saver CD also, she would like that on her computer.

– *Kumar Khona, Placentia, CA*

Please have calendars ready by Sept-Oct 2001. One can send out and if there is a set price, people can order to give as gift to their friends.

– *Nayna Doshi Flipse, Williamsport, PA*

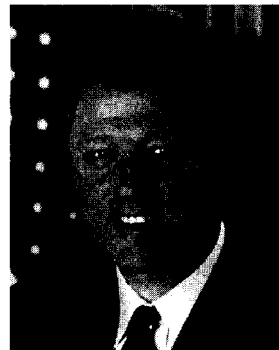
On behalf of Dr. Mahendra Pandya and the JAINA Executive Committee, I would like to thank the Jain Community overwhelming response to the Calendar Project. Many of you came forward, sent us generous donation and some of you even took the time to write a note of appreciation. It was way beyond our wildest expectations. JAINA is very grateful for your support. This gives us a lot of encouragement to pursue other projects for the benefit of the community.

Anop Vora, JAINA Treasurer

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 24, 1999



Dhiraj H. Shah  
President  
Federation of Jain Associations  
in North America  
135 Morningside Drive  
Grand Island, New York 14072

Dear Friends:

Warm greetings to all those observing Ahimsa Day, sponsored by the Federation of Jain Associations in North America.

Violence, in one way or another, affects every individual in every community around the world. By promoting tolerance and understanding, Ahimsa Day reminds us that every citizen must play a role in ending the scourge of violence in our world and fostering peaceful cooperation.

My Administration is working hard to confront both the effects and the fundamental causes of violence by helping to restore distressed communities, strengthen families, and sustain an economy that creates jobs for our people. But no government program will be truly successful without the commitment of every individual to restore civility and compassion to his or her community. Only through shared responsibility and a willingness to change can we turn the tide against the forces of violence.

I commend all those participating in Ahimsa Day activities for your leadership in this endeavor. You are helping to forge a brighter, more secure future for us all.

Best wishes for a successful observance.





**JAIN PRATISHTHA MAHOTSAV****Bharatiya Temple of Lansing**

955 Haslett Road, Haslett, MI 48840

Phone: (517) 339-6337 <http://www.nscf.msu.edu/~raman/btl>

Jain Community of the Greater Lansing area and the Board of Trustees of Bharatiya Temple of Lansing are pleased to announce the Jain Pratishtha Mahotsav, **May 26 – May 29, 2000**. This most auspicious, festive, and once-in-a-lifetime event for our Jain Mandir will include a series of religious ceremonies (both Svetambar and Digambar), spiritual discourses, and cultural programs including music recitals by internationally acclaimed artist Shri Purushottam Das Jalota. The deities in the temple are of Mahavir Bhagwan and Parshwanath Bhagwan. The main Pratishtha events will be on Saturday, May 27 and Sunday, May 28. The ceremonies will be performed with the blessings of Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji. Pradhana priest will be Shri Narendrabhai Nandu. Please support this auspicious celebration by making plans to attend it and by your generous sponsorship of various events.

For additional information, please contact any member of the Pratishtha Coordinating Group: Mahendra Jain (517-349-2867), Anil Jain (517-349-9153), Ramesh Dedhia (517-349-8213), Madan Lalwani (517-337-2086) or Navin Jain (517-347-4168).

**SHREE BIDADA SARVODAYA TRUST****1.6 MILLIAON PATIENTS TREATED IN 26 YEARS**

The 26<sup>th</sup> Medical camp was organized from January 3 to 17, 2000 covering 18 medical specialties. 15,573 patients were treated, 2,314 patients went for special investigations or operations, 101 patients were referred to Mumbai for major surgeries. Trust extended the medical activity in Atmavallabh Hospital, Idar, Gujarat, and plan to continue every year.

Urologist Dr. Manibhai Mehta from CA inaugurated the camp and it was sponsored by Radiologist Dr. Naresh Shah from Wilkesbare, PA. 53 volunteers and donors from America participated in the camp including 9 doctors and 5 resident doctors.

England's Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. Michael Bates inaugurated the cardiac and rheumatic heart camp, which was sponsored by Jain Center of Southern California and JAINA.

Highlight of the camp was a major surgery of a 7 year old Manjula for a 10 pound tumor in the abdomen. The girl was operated by Dr. Ila Meisher, Dr. Rashik Shah, Asst. Dr. Bela Chheda (USA), and Team of Medical people.

Thank you for your kind support for the humanitarian activity and please plan to attend Medical Camp in January 2001, Village Bidada, Kutch, Gujarat, INDIA.

**PARLIAMENT OF THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS**

The Third Parliament of the World's Religions was held in Cape Town, South Africa from Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 1999. There can not be a better selection of site like Cape Town, a location where two oceans, the Atlantic, and Indian meet. A location, which has historical significance of uniting west and east since Vasco-De-Gama in 1548, found the sea route to travel from Europe to India. While the world is becoming a global village, there cannot be a better choice than Cape Town where the process of globalization began, way back in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

More than 3000 delegates from all over the world representing Christians, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim Bahai, Sikh, Zoroastrian and Jain religion attended the Parliament. There were 32 Jain delegates from all over the world including India, North America, U.K., and Kenya. The 'JAIN' delegation was coordinated by Nemu Chandaria of the 'Institute of Jainology', U.K. JAINA was represented by immediate past presidents, Dhiraj Shah, Manibhai Mehta, and Pravin and Aarati Shah of Raleigh, NC, Narendra Shah and Vijay Shah of Atlanta, GA, Savita Mehta of LA and C.A. Patel of Gaithersburg, MD.

Jain speakers included Dr. L.M. Singhvi, Dr. N.P. Jain, Mr. Niraj Jain, Sadhvi Shilapiji, Dr. Kumarpal Desai, Dr. Vinod Kapashi, Dr. Sohanlal Gandhi, and Mr. Pravin Shah. Gurudev Chitrabhanu's lecture was read by Dr. N.P. Jain in the absence of Gurudev, because of his health.

The conference covered a wide variety of subjects including discussions on the environment, health, non-violence, global understanding, earth charter, and different faith traditions.

The Parliament was held at very appropriate time when "Today there is a broad and deep movement towards openness, goodwill, and warm-hearted and loving engagement among religious and spiritual communities around the world. Sustained encounters between people of different religious, spiritual and cultural traditions have created heightened momentum towards actualizing our many visions of a better world as well as stronger possibilities for establishing ethical common ground. New awareness and shared ethical principles opens the way into a new era of creative engagement, where we find and implement new modes of outreach, cooperation, and constructive common action, not only among the world's religions but among all of the world's guiding institutions." (From Gifts of Service to the World).

The Parliament ended on positive note. Anglican Archbishop Ndungane called for a New World order that puts people ahead of profit.

*(Headquarters News Continued on Page 20)*

## SOUTHWEST

*Jadavji Kenia, Regional Editor*

### Phoenix, AZ

Jain Center of greater Phoenix organized its 6th Annual Jain Camp "Jainism in the next Millennium" during February, 2000 at Camp Shadow Rim Ranch in Payson. Sixty eight Jain members attended the camp. There were sessions on Happiness, Jain Universe, Soul's relationship with matter and Karma Theory.

Separate sessions were held for children and adults. Pathshala teachers Kirit Gosalia, Varsha Shah and Mital Gosalia conducted the above sessions. Children 18 years and under participated in essay writing competition. The topics were "Practice of Jainism in day to day life" and "Why one should be compassionate to others". Debate moderated by Mahendra Shah on "Parent-Child Relationship" was well participated. Other activities included session on Body Mechanics by Lata Desai, Mital Gosalia and Varsha Shah. Kusum Savla shared her knowledge of Yoga with the group. Ashok Jain and Piyush Shah lead Team building activities. Center would like to thanks all the volunteers. Special thanks to Asha Jain for coordinating camp activities. Jain Center of GreaterPhoenix Email address is jain\_phoenix@hotmail.com (Bhakti Gosalia at (623) 561-2148)

### DALLAS, TX

44 teenagers gathered for Thanksgiving Convention of 1999 entitled Back to the Future. The Jain Youth Groups of Tulsa, Houston, Lubbock, and Dallas congregated to remember their Jain roots. This convention united the Jain principles and practices from the venerable past into our modern world. Knowledgeable speakers, such as Dr. Gada, Dr. Gosalia, and Shardaji, explained relevant aspects of core Jain philosophies, Jain Eras, Role of Thirthankars, Soul, and Jain Meditation. Introspective discussions were then organized to utilize these Jain principles into the daily lives of Jain Youth.

workshops such as the Snaatra Puja and Six Essentials workshops, analyzed traditional Jain practices to assist Jain Youth to integrate these practices into their lives. Overall, the convention provided a place of reflection for young Jains to discover what aspects of Jainism they wanted to carry with them into the new millennium. Some internet enthusiasts are working on a web page. Check out [www.dfwjains.org](http://www.dfwjains.org) after mid-March. JSNT contact is current president Kirit Daftary at 254-776-4209.

## SOUTHEAST

*Surendra Shah, Regional Editor*

### Atlanta, GA

Jain Society of Greater Atlanta held elections for the Society held on December 12, 1999, the following were elected:

President: Madhuben Sheth

Vice President: Shirish Gandhi

General Secretary: Hitesh Shah

Treasurer: Bharat Shah

Members: Anil Shah and Rajesh Shah

Youth Coordinator: Virbala Jain

Sapanaboli was conducted on Mahavir Jayanti during Paryushana Parva celebrations and about \$35,000 was collected. Lectures by Rajmohan Gandhi (grandson of Mahatma Gandhi) and Janice Leosko (University of Texas at Austin) are planned in upcoming months. Dr. Narendra Shah and Surendra Shah participated in the Parliament of World Religions held in Capetown, South Africa in December.

### Raleigh, NC

Jain Study Center of North Carolina (Raleigh, North Carolina) Mr. Pravin and Arti Shah attended the Parliament of World Religions at Capetown, South Africa. Mr. Pravin Shah made several presentations on Jain theory of Karma that were very well received by Jains and non-Jains alike.

## Orlando, FL

The Jain Society of Central Florida, Orlando has selected a new committee for the year 2000. The new members are as follows:

President : Bhupendra Shah 407-352-0225

Treasurer :Bakul Kamani 407-345-4973

Secretary : Hina Shah 407-330-1413

New Trustee : Suryakant Dawawala

Existing trustees :Kishor Tolia, Kumud Mehta

The permanent address for the Society is

C/O. Rajendra Mehta,

1689 Grange Circle, Longwood, FL 32750

## NORTHEAST

*Dinesh Chheda, Regional Editor*

### Essex falls, NJ

Gyan Pancham, Dev Diwali/Kartaki Poonam, and Maun Ekadashi were celebrated at Caldwell Derasar during November/December. Members, particularly students were briefed about the importance of Gyan Poojan in their lives and its aaradhana eliminates Gyanavarniya Karma. Monthly Pooja, Samuh Samayik and Pathshala classes at two locations are continuing with very good response from members. Regular Swadhayay classes are held on Friday evenings and they are given by local Jain Scholars. A Health Fair was a great success. More than 15 doctors had volunteered their services for EKG, Blood Tests, Dental Care, Diet guidelines, children's health, Bone Marrow donation drive etc. Bone Marrow donation has yielded one match for a fortunate person. For more information contact President Diwakar Shah at (908) 754-0891.

### Cherry Hill, NJ

The executive committee and the board of trustees will present the Temple extension plan and seek approval of the general body to proceed with the construction on 27th February, 2000 meeting. The plan was

presented on December 12, 1999. The plan drawings have been placed on the wall in the Temple house. The plan has been submitted to the township for zoning approval. A hearing was held on 7th and 28th December '99. The committee has promised the following to the neighbors and the township to resolve complaints from the neighbors:

1. Temple members will not park on the street in front of the houses and driveways.

2. Temple will receive a formal letter from Safety Bus Co., to allow parking up to 25 cars during major events in their parking lot (Completed).

3. Temple will make an effort to seek parking permission from the Masonic Hall on Park Ave. (across the rail tracks).

4. Temple will hire an off-duty officer to direct and control parking during major events.

Temple committee requests everyone to park their vehicles in the authorized parking lots only and not in front of any driveways. The organizer request members to log on website at [www.jainsangh.org](http://www.jainsangh.org) to provide input for improvement in writing to the secretary or president. For further information contact President Kirti Shah at (856) 983-2974.

## Washington, DC

The Annual general body Meeting was held on Sunday, December 12, 1999 at the Jain Center. Manu Shah, Treasurer presented the un-audited financial report for the year 1999. He also presented the audited financial statements for the year 1995 and 1996 and they were approved by the members. Next motion was made and it was unanimously approved to appoint S. N. Majmudar as an independent auditor.

Himmatlal Desai, the election officer announced the results of the election for the year 2000. Following members were either elected or subsequently appointed. Executive committee:

President; Pravin Dand Vice President; Kanta Dharamsi, Secretary; Shilpa Mehta

JT. Secretary; Dr. Pawan Jain, Treasurer; Manu J. Shah, JT. Treasurer; Ashok Shah\* Members-At-large Dr. Sushil Jain, Bipin Pancholi, Kamlesh Shah,

Youth Committee: Coordinator; Hariti Shah\* Members Arpit Doshi\*, Ameer Mehta\*, Mr. Jatin Shah\* Sejal Vaywala\*

Board of Trustees:

Chairman Dr. Manoj Dharamsi

Trustees Mr. Bachubhai Ajmera

Dr. Arvind Mehta, Mr. Vasant Gala

Pravin Dand, president, appealed to all the members to participate actively in the management and all other activities of the society. He also emphasized on the importance of members for their participation in Swamivatsalya dinner during major functions. He expressed it is difficult to guess the number of members that will attend the dinner, so that adequate food can be prepared." The members made several suggestions and it was decided that the executive committee should take the appropriate steps to resolve this issue. The meeting ended with a prayer.

## MIDWEST

*Manubhai Doshi, Regional Editor*

## Chicago, IL

The Jain Religious Center of Wisconsin presented a fund raising drama in JSMC Center on November 14 1999 for the benefit of the proposed Jain temple in Milwaukee. About 600 people took advantage of that presentation. All the proceeds were earmarked for the benefit of the said Center of Wisconsin.

The biennial election of the JSMC for the two positions of Trustees and for Executive Committee was held in November. The following members were elected.

Kishor C. Shah and Samrati Shah, Trustee President; Prabodh Vaidya, Vice President; Kanti Ravani, Secretary; Jagat Shah, Treasurer; Girish Shah, Jt. Treasurer; Ajay Shah, Education Dr. Mukesh Doshi, Membership; Hitesh C. Shah, Youth; Hitesh K. Shah Food; Arvind Shah

## Detroit, MI

The Society celebrated on February 6th (The Meru Terash) as Lord Rushabhdev's Nirvan Kalyanak day. Bhaktamar Pujan was performed at that time. The function was attended by more than 200 people. Sur Sadhana program was organized on February 12th and was well structured by Narendra Sheth of Geetmala Radio Program. Beginning with the new year, the study classes are now conducted twice a month. The theme of the second class in January was 'Learn with Fun'.

## WEST

*Chandrakant Parekh, Regional Editor*

## Los Angeles, CA

Following an election, the new Board of Directors for the Jain Center of Southern California consists of Sumati Shah, President; Nitin Shah, Vice President, Shailesh Desai, Secretary; Ashok Savla, Treasurer; Ramesh Doshi, Public Relations; and nine Members-at-large - Vijay Chedda, Dhiraj Dedhia, Chandrakant Parekh, Dina Parekh, Dinesh Shah, Prafulla Shah, Virendra Shah, Vipin Vadecha, and Harkishan Vasa. A number of sub-committees have been organized to plan and implement various programs, activities and administrative functions.

The Planning Commission of the City of Buena Park unanimously approved the JCSC's proposed project for a new Jain Bhavan. The proposed plan includes the renovation of the existing building, a new auditorium building with underground parking, and the exterior renovation of the Post Office building. The exterior and the interior of the existing and the proposed new buildings will be fully integrated as a single, homogeneous facility. The exterior of the integrated facility will resemble the distinct architectural style of a Jain temple.

Nearly 80 children and 20 adults participated in an annual JCYC Winter Camp. An interesting aspect of the camp



was that several of the past JCYC students, including my son Sheetal and daughter Shayna, volunteered as teachers and/or counselors. With over 850 participants, the 4th Bi-Annual YJA Convention 2000 to be held in Los Angeles from June 30 to July 2 will be one of the largest gathering of the Jain youths. Registration details are available at <http://www.yja.org> website. The Jain Center members participated in a multi-ethnic parade on February 5 in Santa Ana celebrating the Black History Month.

Schedule of various activities and events is available at [www.jainbhavan.com](http://www.jainbhavan.com) website. For further information, please contact Sumatibhai Shah, JCSC President, at [sumati1@hotmail.com](mailto:sumati1@hotmail.com) or (562) 926-4075.

### **San Francisco, CA**

Jain Bhawan which is being built in the City of Milpitas. So far a total of 4 million dollars have been raised. Jain Bhawan is estimated to cost more than 6 million dollars and will be ready in August 2000. JCNC has set a goal of having Akhand Tap Ārādhana of 2501 Tapascharyā until our Jain Bhawan is built of which over 2200 Tapascharyā are completed. Shrimati Sarojben Dagli, Shri Himatbhai Dagli, Shrimati Taraben Patel, Shri Bharatbhai Shah and Shrimati Vibhaben Vora are performing Varsitap for this upcoming Pratishthā Mahotsav. On behalf of entire JAIN Sangh, we're asking for their sukh-shātā.

**Prathishtha Mahotsav:** Jain Center of Northern California invites everyone to join in celebrating Pratishthā Mahotsav of Jain Bhawan on August 4<sup>th</sup> through August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2000 at Jain Bhawan, 722 South Main Street, Milpitas, California. This will be the First Jain Temple in the North America to have Pratimājis with Prān Pratishthā, uniting all Jains under one roof – Shwetāmbar, Digambar, Schānakwāsi, Terāpanthi and the inspired ones by Shrimad Rajchandraji.

**Jain Bhawan:** Jain Bhawan's authentic design and architecture makes it a unique

landmark, in North America. This 24000-sq. ft. 2-story structure sits on a 1.7 acre lot in the heart of the Silicon Valley. The 6,000 Sq. ft. second floor will be reserved for religious activities, and it will include a temple with Pratimājis of all Jain Tirthankars. The 18,000 sq. ft first floor houses a multi-purpose Community Center for educational, social, cultural and religious activities.

The Prān Pratishthā of Mahavir Swami Pratimāji, which is going to be placed in the Jain Bhawan, was performed by H. H. Acharya Vardhamansagarji in Jaipur, India on February 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>. In parallel, JCNC held Bhavnā, Bhakti and Jāp here in Bay Area. The auspicious Anjan Shalākā of Mulnayak Adinath and Parsvanath Pratimājis is scheduled to be performed by H. H. Acharya Padmasagarji in Pune, India on April 13<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome to attend the most auspicious Anjan Shalākā in India.

JCNC has a very comprehensive Education Plan, which consists of 35 pages outlining all the details by our Education Committee Coordinator and Vice-President Harendra Shah. JCNC has specifically developed education material for High School and older youths, and for adults in a simple American language. In addition to JCNC, this material is used in Chicago, Los Angeles and other areas. The material can be accessed from our website. We have about 15 books to support our education curriculum. In addition, JCNC has compiled Samāyik and Pratikraman in English with meanings. In addition, we have acquired Samāyik kits for children and youths.

For additional details and educational material, please visit JCNC's website: <http://www.jcnc.org> which is continuously updated. In addition, significant amount of useful Jain Reference material is posted. The website gets over 13000 hits per month. or contact Jitendra B. Shah at (408) 729-7916 or Harendra Shah at (510) 651-5284.

### **Sacramento, CA**

Information about the regular activities and forthcoming programs organized by the Jain Center of Greater Sacramento can be obtained by contacting Manoj Desai, JCGS President, at (916) 791-4111 or e-mail: [m.desai@pbnc.com](mailto:m.desai@pbnc.com).

### **San Diego, CA**

Regular activities organized by the Jain Society of San Diego 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 about the forthcoming programs, please contact Kokila Doshi at (858) 679-7645 or e-mail: [kdoshi@acusd.edu](mailto:kdoshi@acusd.edu).

### **Canada**

*Dr. Mahendra Mehta, Regional Editor*

### **Edmonton, AL**

Shree Padamvati Devi's Murti arrived in the middle of January, 2000. The Murti was made in Jaipur under the directions of our Dr Mahendra Jain who personally went to India to place the order and visited the site several times during his stay. The concept of the Murti was derived from photo of Padamvati Devi supplied by Sharadbhai & Naliniben Shah of Jain Society of Greater Detroit. A new temple of Padamavati Devi was constructed next to the current Jain Temple at a cost of \$1,500 under guidance of Shree Sushil Kalia and Pandit Shiv Shanker Dwivedi. The Pratishtha Ceremony will be performed on Mahavir Jayanti, April 16, 2000. Donations are accepted and cheques should be made in favour of Hindu Society of Alberta and mailed to Jain Society of Alberta, 2136 - 104 B Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6J 5G8. For more Info, please contact Jasvant Mehta at (780) 435 - 9070.

-Dr. Pravin L. Shah, Reading, PA

Today we are very proud as Jain community to have Jain centers in every state and in every metropolitan area, thanks to the vision of JAINA and visionary leaders like Gurudev Chitrabhanu and Acharya Sushilkumarji.

As we are on the threshold of the new millenium, we may stop to do some soul searching to reflect on what is our purpose on earth, whom am I, what is my true form, and how can I fulfill my dreams spiritually, socially, emotionally, economically and be worthy to my fellow Jain brothers and sisters. We need to examine our inner soul to answer some questions. For example, we as Jain community are spending millions of dollars and countless years of devoted effort to build very valuable Jain centers and beautiful Jain temples all over America. Are we making good use of those centers for the benefit of Jain community? Are we advancing spiritually every year? Or are we falling into power struggle and routine rituals with irrational faith?

According to the most respected Jain texts, Tatvarthsutra, the main objective of this human life is to attain self realization by devoting major portion of our time to study of the scriptures.

It says

*Samyag darshan gnana charitrani mokshmargah  
tattvartha shraddhanam samyagdarshanam*

(Tattvartha Sutra- Acharya Umaswati)

In other words, first we must prepare ourselves to study the Jain philosophy including the properties of soul and matter, theory of karma, and perform all our activities in such a way that it allows us to grow spiritually. This would only happen if we change our course of religious practices from simplistic rituals to study of scriptures and self introspection.

Let us examine typical activities of a Jain temple. It mainly consists of conducting monthly pujas, Mahavir Jayanti celebrations, Paryushana activities with big event being the Swapana Darshan and Diwali and New Year Manglik jap. If we take the percentage of time and effort we spend in temples, it appears like almost 75% of our activities are mostly ritualistic, which also includes playing of dandiya raas and gheeboli. In performing these rituals, we seem to ignore the real purpose of the pujas. Various pujas, such as Snatra or Antray Karma Nivaran were designed by great Jain acharyas with a depth of spiritual meaning. Unfortunately, they are performed as means of social entertainment with major emphasis on mundane aspects of how well we are dressed up to stand up with a divo or how fast we can recite them.

Does it not seem like we have been following the rituals blindfolded without giving much thought to spiritual meaning of each puja or event? Do we want to spend valuable time in simply rituals or do we really want a true spiritual awakening? Great Jain

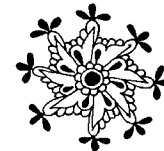
teacher Srimad Rajchandra cautions us on overly ritualistic activity in Atmasiddhi Sastra as follows:

*Koi kriya jad thai rahya, shushkagnanma koi  
maane marag mokshano karuna upaje joi*

(AtamasiddhiShastra-Shrimad Rajchandra)

Following seven point program would allow our generation to understand the purpose of rituals and begin a new journey to spiritual awakening in the new millenium.

- ♦ Change the emphasis of our temple activities from ritualistic and entertainment events into spiritual activities stressing more on Swadhyay, meditation and reading of scriptures.
- ♦ Schedule puja events with emphasis on understanding the meaning of each verse of the puja away from the current accent on how well we sing or be entertained by music.
- ♦ Invite local Jain scholars from different centers to conduct truly spiritual Shibirs and Swadhyay activities year round. We need not depend upon four months of “scholars – imported from India”. Summer activities to transform us from ritualistic society into a spiritually oriented Jain community. There is plenty of talent in America; let us utilize it and appreciate it.
- ♦ Use some of the gheeboli funds and donations to help needy Jain families, battered women and children, and set up funds for Jain scholarships on merit basis for youngsters in North America. We need to stay in touch with the community in North America.
- ♦ Develop keen interest among all Jain families to devote at least one hour every day at home to read Jain scriptures regularly. This habit can transform a ritualistic mind into a spiritual person in due time.
- ♦ Each family should make a habit of involving all the family members in a religious discussion at home on a regular basis. When children are young it is the best time to get them interested in family worship. Remember the saying “the family that prays together stays together”.
- ♦ Encourage youngsters to participate in all temple activities by being good role model and organizing special events for them. Time that we invest in our children to have them understand our religion will benefit us all. Let us strive to make Jain community thrive spiritually.



## JIV DAYA COMMITTEE

Jiv Daya Committee supports a large (4,000 children) school in Maharashtra and have "a *sponsor a child*" program. Over 200 children are sponsored by U. S. residents. Listed are some of the activities of Jiv Daya Committee:

- 1) AHIMSA - with only 4 active volunteers, have networked with hundreds of animal right groups to educate general public on the plight of animals in the USA. We are networking with many groups to stop the killing of healthy innocent animals at animal controls and shelters. We encourage and educate the public to spray and neuter their pets so unwanted animals will not be killed.
- 2) In the name of Jiv Daya and Ahimsa, we have dedicated the Dharma Donkey Sanctuary at a school in Maharashtra and this sanctuary will be used to not only care for sick and abused and aged donkeys but to educate 30 surrounding villagers on care and kindness to animals. \$1800 was raised from Jains last year and that money was used to drill the water wells and create natural fencing for this sanctuary. So far the 145 acres of land, the spray and neuter clinic, sterilization clinic for people, health clinic, computer center etc. have been funded by us personally and 2 computers donated by the Indian Lions Club of Dallas.
- 3) At least 12 Jain families are sponsoring needy children annually.
- 4) We invite the local Jain Temple youth groups to visit our 30 acre sanctuary and learn more about the animals who live here with us and educated them about the needs of all animals and how they can help. We try to involve them to do work with their local humane societies.
- 5) Our presence at many Jain temple meetings makes people aware of the needs of animals.
- 6) By working with PFA of India and represent them in the USA we are starting a program where any Jain family can donate money via Jiv Daya committee and earmark it for anywhere in India - their native village or city. We can guarantee that the money will be delivered via PFA and us to someone who will use it to help animals. They will hear directly from that person and be assured that every rupee of their money is being used properly.
- 7) Our other accomplishment is education. We have been preaching to Jain groups in both India and U.S. that giving money to panjrapoles in India is a total waste of money. Instead we ask them to give money to Jiv Daya so the money is used for the animals. The vast majority of panjrapoles do not provide proper veterinary care for the animals. They do not sterilize and so more animals are born into miserable conditions in the panjrapoles.

Ratibhai and Bonny Shah  
Jiv Daya Committee

## SHOULD YOU BECOME A LIFE MEMBER OF JAIN DIGEST ?

Jain Digest, our quarterly magazine is a lifeline of the Jain community living in North America. It reaches every Jain in North America free since 1985. It provides the news about activities of all 57 Jain Centers of North America and their members. It educates us in the field of religion by publishing religious articles. It provides us the news about the activities of our youth. It also brings together Jain Youth of marriage age by publishing a matrimonial column. It publishes news about Jains living in other parts of the world.

The most important task of Jain Digest is to provide identity to our youth who are born and brought up in North America.

Each issue of Jain Digest is a result of love for scores of volunteers. The Editor in Chief is assisted by members of the Editorial Board, regional editors, associate editors, regular and guest columnists all living in different parts of continent. They all work by fax, phones and E-mail to put together a snapshot of our community in timely fashion producing the most visible evidence of unity among Jains of North America.

Without placing monetary value on time and efforts of the volunteers, it costs about \$40,000 per year to publish four issues of Jain Digest and send to every family in North America and Jain Sanghs abroad free of charge.

The JAINA has created an endowment fund for this purpose. So far \$60,000 has been collected in this fund. More than 500 Jain families have contributed \$101 (tax deductible) by becoming a life member of Jain Digest. The principal of endowment fund is never used to support Jain Digest, only the interest income is taken out every year to support Jain Digest. At the moment it amounts to about \$4000 per year. Advertisements bring about another \$6000 per year leaving \$30,000 deficit per year.

JAINA is committed to continue quarterly publication of Jain Digest with the help from generous donors. It is essential for all of us to become life members of Jain Digest, by contributing tax deductible donations of \$101. It will assure all of us and our future generations to continue to receive Jain Digest.

List of all life members was published in fall 1999 issue and updated in last issues. Please check last two issues of Jain Digest to verify your name. Please fill out the Jain Digest Membership Form and mail it along with \$101 check to Keerti Shah, at 842, Lakeside Drive, Bartlett, Illinois 60103-4718, Tel. 630-837-8716.

Dr. Mahendra K. Pandya,  
President, JAINA

Dr. Bipin Parikh  
1st Vice President, JAINA

Keerti Shah, Chairman,  
Jain Digest Membership Committee

Dr. Dhiraj Shah, Member  
Jain Digest Committee



## JAINA PATRON PROGRAM UPDATE:

The following individuals have become JAINA patrons:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CITY, STATE</u>		<u>NAME</u>	<u>CITY, STATE</u>
Mr. & Mrs.	Mahesh & Priti Badani	Irvin, CA	Dr. & Mrs.	Bipin & Rekha Parikh	Des Plaines, IL
Mr. & Mrs.	Vinod M. & Rekha Badani	Fremont, CA	Mr. & Mrs.	Girish & Kokila Parikh	Reynoldsburg, OH
Mr. & Mrs.	Yogesh & Smita Bakhai	Williamsville, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Bipin & Harsha Patadia	Upland, CA
Mr. & Mrs.	Ashok & Anjali Bhaiji	Strongsville, OH	Dr.	Chandrakant C. Patel	Turlock, CA
Dr. & Mrs.	Narendra & Chitra Bhandari	N.Brunswick, NJ	Mr. & Mrs.	Pravin & Manjula Patel	Clarksville, TN
Mr. & Mrs.	Bipin & Bharati Bhayani	Bourbonnais, IL	Mr. & Mrs.	Devendra & Meeta Peer	Huntingdon Valley, PA
Mr. & Mrs.	Dilip & Suman Bobra	Tempe, AZ	Dr.	M. Raivhand	Downer Groove, IL
Mr. & Mrs.	Mukesh & Priti Chatter	Hopkinton, MA	Mr. & Mrs.	Jayant & Hansa Sanghvi	Hicksville, NY
Mr. & Mrs.	Pradeep & Rashmi Chhadva	Pembroke, FL	Mr. Mrs.	Dilip & Shashi Sethi	New York, NY
Mr. & Mrs.	Ashok & Deepika Dalal	Cooper City, FL	Mr. & Mrs.	Ajit C. & Darshana Shah	Westlake, OH
Dr. & Mrs.	Bipin J. Dalal	Fairfield, CT	Dr. & Mrs.	Anil B. & Bharati Shah	Burr Ridge, IL
Mr. & Mrs.	Harish & Asha Dand	Bedford, TX	Mr. & Mrs.	Ashok & Nirmala Shah	Morton Grove, IL
Dr. & Mrs.	Prakash Doshi	East Hanover, NJ	Mr. & Mrs.	Ashok & Sunanda Shah	Attleboro, MA
Mr. & Mrs.	Vijay & Nalini Doshi	Charlotte, NC	Mr. & Mrs.	Ashvin & Jayashree Shah	Orange, CT
Mr. & Mrs.	Ram & Neena Gada	St. Paul, MN	Mr. Mrs.	Ashvin & Sushila Shah	Baldwinsville, NY
Mr. & Mrs.	Mulraj & Sarla Gala	Hopewell Jnct., NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Bipin & Ketki Shah	Ft. Myers, FL
Ms.	Minaxi Gandhi	Forest Hills, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Chandrakant & Leena Shah	Macungie, PA
Dr. & Mrs.	N. & Hansa Hadpawat	Woodmere, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Chandu & Pushpa Shah	West Chester, OH
Mr. & Mrs.	Adish & Asha Jain	Avon, CT	Mr. & Mrs.	Damaroo & Jyoti Shah	Piqua, OH
Mr. & Mrs.	Amar Jyoti Jain	New York, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Deepak & Sampurna Shah	Roswell, GA
Dr. & Mrs.	Jagat & Urmila Jain	Williamsville, NY	Dr. & Mrs.	Dhiraj & Pratima Shah	Grand Island, NY
Mr. & Mrs.	Lakhpatt & Neera Jain	Pembroke Pines, FL	Dr. & Mrs.	Dhiren & Sushila Shah	Dallas, TX
Mr. & Mrs.	Mohan & Mohini Jain	Allentown, PA	Dr. & Mrs.	Dilip & Tara Shah	Oakbrook, IL
Mr. & Mrs.	Navin & Madhu Jain	Los Gatos, PA	Mr. & Mrs.	Girish & Datta Shah	Campbell, CA
Mr. & Mrs.	Pawan & Nisha Jain	Rockville, MD	Mr. & Mrs.	Harshad K. Shah	Guttenberg, NJ
Mr. & Mrs.	Piyare & Sulakshna Jain	Williamsville, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Hemendra & Alka Shah	Schaumburg, IL
Dr. & Mrs.	Pratap Singh Jain	New York, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Jagdish & Sonal Shah	Cheshire, CT
Mr. & Mrs.	Pravin & Neeraj Jain	San Jose,CA	Mr. & Mrs.	Jitendra & Panna Shah	Port Jeferson, NY
Mr. & Mrs.	Prem & Sandhya Jain	Fremont, CA	Mr. & Mrs.	Kantilal & Bhanuben Shah	Clementon, NJ
Dr. & Mrs.	Raj K. & Kiran Jain	Forest Hills, NY	Mr.	Kantilal T. Shah	Laguna Hills, CA
Mr. & Mrs.	Sunit & Seema Jain	Schaumburg, IL	Mr. & Mrs.	Kaushik & Gita Shah	Orchard Park, NY
Dr.	Vinay Jain	Wellesly, MA	Mr. & Mrs.	Kirti & Vasant Shah	Houston, TX
Mr. & Mrs.	Yawantraj & Sampurna Jain	North Hills, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Mahendra & Kusum Shah	Maple Grove, MN
Mr. & Mrs.	Ramesh & Nisha Jhaveri	Cypress, CA	Dr. & Mrs.	Mahesh & Chandrakala Shah	Dayton, OH
Mr. & Mrs.	Bharat & Bharati Kamdar	Monte Sereno, CA	Dr. & Mrs.	Nalin & Jyoti Shah	Greenwood, IN
Mr. & Mrs.	Bhavesh & Panna Kamdar	Clarence, NY	Dr. & Mrs.	Narendra & Hansa Shah	Athens, GA
Mr. & Mrs.	Kirit & Urmila Kamdar	St. Charles, IL	Mr. & Mrs.	Naresh & Minaxi Shah	Garden City Park, NY
Mr. & Mrs.	Yogesh & Bhakti Kamdar	Hamden, CT	Mr. & Mrs.	Navnitlal & Manjula Shah	Martinez, GA
Drs.	Shantilal & Rukhmani Kenia	Westfield, MA	Mr. & Mrs.	Paresh K. & Meeta Shah	Westwood, MA
Dr.	Chandra K Khasgiwala	Lowell, MA	Mr.	Praful Shah	Arvada, CO
Mr. & Mrs.	Mayur & Purnima Kothari	Roslyn, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Raju & Manjula Shah	Bowling Green, KY
Mr. & Mrs.	Santosh & Sarala Kothari	Rosewell, GA	Mr. & Mrs.	Ramesh & Rekha Shah	E. Amherst, NY
Mr.	Vinay Kothari	Forest Hills, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Ramnik & Hansa Shah	Wilmington, DE
Mr. & Mrs.	Hans & Usha Maru	Brookfield, CT	Mr. & Mrs	Satish & Debra Shah	Elkhart, IN
Mr. & Mrs.	Jayanti & Jaya Maru	Norwalk, CT	Mr.	Satish R. Shah	Glendale Heights, IL
Mr.	Bachubhai Mehta	Syosset, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Shashikant & Smruti Shah	Naperville, IL
Mr. & Mrs.	Bansi & Sushila Mehta	Gloversville, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Sudhir & Ketki Shah	Paramus, NJ
Mr. & Mrs.	Gunvant & Ila Mehta	Maumee, OH	Mr. & Mrs.	Vinod & Anila Shah	Burnsville, MN
Dr. & Mrs.	LabhShankar&Kumud Mehta	St.Catharines, ON	Drs.	Vinod & Rasila Shah	Huntingdon Valley, PA
Dr. & Mrs.	Mahendra & Neela Mehta	Islington, ON	Mr. & Mrs.	Surendra & Sushila Singhvi	Dayton, OH
Mr. Mrs.	Prakash & Kirtida Mehta	Herndon, VA	Dr. & Mrs.	Bhupendra & Chandrika Tolia	Norwood, NJ
Dr. & Mrs.	Pradip & Jayashree Morbia	Port Neches, TX	Mr. & Mrs.	Jit & Manda Turakhia	Liverpool, NY
Mr. & Mrs.	Vasant & Jyotsna Nagda	Newton, MA	Mr. & Mrs.	Vinay K. & Vimla Vakani	Oradell, NJ
Mr.	Bipin Pancholi	Herndon, VA	Mr. & Mrs.	Vinod & Suman Vakhariya	Grosse Ile, MI
Mrs. & Dr.	Asha & Mahendra Pandya	Staten Island, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Anop R. Vora	Rochester, NY
Mr.	Rajeev K. Pandya	Staten Island, NY	Mr. & Mrs.	Kishor & Rashmi Vora	Owensboro, KY
			Dr.	Kishor N. Vora	Owensboro, KY
			Mr. & Mrs.	Mahendra & Sangita Vora	West Chester, OH

## JAIN MEDITATION INTERNATIONAL CENTER

### MESSAGE OF AHIMSA IN MIDDLE EAST

Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji's first visit to Dubai was a unique event. The lectures attracted a lot of interest among Jains and non-Jains alike. In a series of lectures Gurudev highlighted *Ahimsa Parmodharma* as basic to all religions. The Dubai group discussed with him their plans for a place of worship where they will install a statue of Mahavir.

The visit to Muscat was truly memorable as well. The local Jain Community took the initiative for organizing events which involved a number of public lectures that attracted Jains, Hindus, Sikhs and all others. The visit was made possible by the efforts of B.S. Mehta and Dileep Mehta among others. Gurudev praised the achievements of the community and counseled them about the need for spreading compassion and fostering brotherhood/sisterhood in this haven of peace.

**Visit to Nairobi:** Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji and Pramodaben visited Nairobi on the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Muni Suvrat Swamy Temple – a magnificent and unique replica of the Jain Delwara Temple in Mount Abu. The temple's setting is impressive and has been an inspiration because of its multifaceted activities. The temple complex was first initiated in 1971 with guidance of Guruji. The dedicated Oshwal Jains of Nairobi have enriched a vibrant cultural centre, a school from kindergarten to graduate levels, a hospital established by M.P. Shah provides free treatment to underprivileged Africans. During this visit, Guruji delivered eight lectures and thousands of people took advantage of it. Pramodaben also gave talk on Jainism and its Importance in Today's time.

**Asia Pacific Regional Conference:** The Conference on "Reverence for All Life" was held in Mumbai on November 20, 1999. It was inspired by Sadhu Vaswani Mission. Guruji was invited to give valedictory address for this successfully arranged conference at which more than 1000 people participated. The emphasis was on the idea that the "Reverence for All Life" permeates all aspects of our growth. The question that Gurudev posed was "How can one grow, who does not have the reverence for the Self, for one's existence and for one's living?".

**Annual Vegetarian Awards:** The Annual Awards Ceremony of The Vegetarian Society was held on Nov 19, 1999 in Mumbai. The function was attended by leading dignitaries involved in the cause of vegetarianism. The Society gave The Indian Award to Shri Ratanlal Bafra. The International Award was given to Dr. Pichai Tovovich, a Thai scholar and dignitary who has been considered for a Noble Prize in Chemistry and has given -by his towering stature- legitimacy and prestige to a vegetarian event in Thailand. Gurudev lauded the work of the Society and particularly the work of the Secretary General Jashubhai Shah, a leading solicitor, who has been a driving force behind the efforts of the Society.

## INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF SHRI MAHAVIR JAIN VIDYALAYA

IAAMJV (International Alumni Association of Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya) has awarded 14 scholarships each worth \$2,000 during 1999 to the following students from India. Their names and fields of studies are listed below:

Name	Field of Study
1 Maulik R. Shah	M.S. Environmental Engineering
2 Gaurav M. Shah	M.S. Computer Science
3 Nehal N. Shah	M.S. Computer Science
4 Chirag S. Shah	M.S. Computer Science
5 Nikunj B. Shah	M.S. Bio Medical Engineering
6 Bhavesh J. Shah	M.S. Industrial Engineering
7 Sunetra D. Maniar	M.S. Computer Science
8 Pankil R. Shah	M.S. Computer Science
9 Ankit M. Shah	M.S. Mechanical Engineering
10 Rahul M. Zaveri	M.S. Environmental Engineering
11 Jignesh H. Shah	M.S. Computer Science
12 Keyur Shah	M.S. Pharmaceutical
13 Sanjay Kapasi	M.S. Chemical Engineering
14 Kulin N. Kothari	M.S. Computer Science

IAAMJV has awarded loan scholarships worth \$83,000 since its inception in 1991 to deserving Jain students irrespective of sect. These loan scholarships are for a duration of 2 years and once the loans are refunded, they are recycled for the benefit of other students. If you wish to support this cause, please contact Anop Vora, President, IAAMJV at 716-473-9290 for further details.

### GURUDEV CHITRABHANUJI'S SCHEDULE FOR 2000

April 7	Westbury, NY	Nishadh Shah	732-501-6515
April 15	Atlanta, GA	Madhu Sheth	404-325-0627
April 22	San Jose, CA	Girish Shah	408-373-3564
May 6	Williston Pk, NY	Pravin Vakani	516-741-2820
May 13	Whitmore Lk, MI	Chetna/Cathy	313-449-2101
May 14	Detroit, MI	Niranjan Mody	248-851-3965
May 21	Lincrift, NJ	Ari K. Jain	732-842-5805
May 27	Lansing, MI	Suman Kashyap	517-349-5220
June 11	Chicago, IL	Kinnaben Shah	847-426-1088
June 18	Blairstown, NJ	Niraml Dosi	732-390-0296
Jn 30-July 1-3	Los Angeles, CA	Subhra Jain	314-345-3296
July 10-16	Toronto, Canada	Ashok Shah	416-221-5347
July 23	To be Determined		
July 26	Gurudev's 78th Birthday		
August 4-7	San Jose, CA	Girish Shah	408-729-7916

## JAISALMER TO PALITANA - YATRA 2000

*By Dilip V. Shah, Philadelphia, Chairman,  
JAINA Pilgrimage Committee*

A Tirthyatra is an opportunity to wash away sins of many previous lives. In the footsteps of the spectacularly successful first ever JAINA pilgrimage of October 98 covering Samet Sikhar and nearby Tirths, JAINA executive committee created a Pilgrimage committee with the responsibility to organize at least one pilgrimage every year. This time, Dr. Dhiraj Shah suggested to cover Tirthdhams of Rajasthan and Gujarat, hence a preliminary itinerary JAINA YATRA 2000 - was distributed at JAINA convention in Philadelphia.

Several suggestions poured in resulting in the final Yatra plan which was presented in September. Very ambitious 2 week itinerary including temples of Kesariyaji, Ranakpur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Nakodaji, Mt. Abu, Ider, Mehsana, Patan, Sankheswara, and Palitana was just the first agenda. This Yatra was also designed to cover the second type of Jain Tirths- our Sadhus and Sadhvis. Vandans and Vaiyavachcha of our monks were to be the integral part of this Yatra. To achieve this goal, JAINA's Tirthodhdhar committee's help was sought. Mr. Kirit Daftary, Chairman of the Tirthodhdhar committee readily agreed to join hands and during October JAINA meeting at Siddhachalam, detailed plans for collaboration between the Pilgrimage committee and Tirthodhdhar committees were formulated. Kiritbhai proposed a medical camp in Palitana for Sadhus and Sadhvis for the two days we were planning to be there. Our Yattris will have opportunity to perform a fundamental duty of Shravaks and Shravikas- serving our Sadhus and Sadhvis.

The third aspect of this Yatra was visiting some Jain institutions along the way to observe how Jainism is practised. To this end, we chose to visit a Pathshala, a Panjarapol, couple of Poostak Bhandars, a research institute, a hospital run by a Jain charitable trust, couple of ashrams, a Jain primary school and a Jain art museum. We also planned to meet with local Jain communities through local chapters of Jain Social Groups. Thus began a stream of letters, faxes, phone calls and e-mails making contacts in India and selection of travel agents, contractors for land arrangements, hotels, dharmshalas etc. We entrusted Metro Travel of Eslin, NJ to arrange air travel to and from India and flights within India. Meena Shah of Metro Travel also helped with details of the itinerary and she was so committed to the success of the yatra that she also traveled with us all the way to Udaipur just to make sure that all the air travel went smoothly.

Altogether 84 Yattris registered from many different states. Our youngest Yatri was 22 year old and few in their sixties and up. We had a good mix of all the different sects fairly represented. Our Sangh looked like a true delegation of JAINA.

Offers of help came from many sides. As they had done last time, Jit and Manda Turakhia donated special Yatra 2000 badges

with colorful ribbons for Yattris for easy identification. Dr. Jaya Shah from Cleveland gathered cartons of surplus medical supplies (syringes, I.V. insertion kits etc.) from area hospitals for donations to Orissa relief program and other hospitals. Gurudev Chitrabhanu offered to come to the Bombay airport, at the beginning of the Yatra for Manglik Vachan. Navkar Sarvar Kendra of Ahmedabad agreed to hold the medical camp in Palitana for Sadhus and Sadhvis. They also provided musical group for couple of evenings for Bhakti Geets. Federation of Jain Social Groups in Bombay requested their chapters in the cities we were going to be to help us in any way they can. We got warm cooperation from every organization we contacted.

Day of departure January 18 was a beautiful day (We dodged a brutal snow storm on the east coast by a whisker). At the New York JFK terminal, many prominent members of New York Sangh along with the newly elected President Dr. Sumtibhai Shah came to bid ceremonial send off. Arrival in Bombay was uneventful except the customs- We did not have sufficient paperwork for the medical supplies we were carrying in 7 huge cartons but in the end, after 4 hours of negotiations, cooler heads prevailed and our precious cargo was permitted to go through. During this time another Air India flight from Chicago with 30 Yattris arrived and we all proceeded to the domestic airport for flight to Udaipur.

Two of our Yattris, Dr. Kantibhai Shah of Oklahoma and Dr. Anil Shah of Chicago, veterans of the Samet Sikhar Yatra agreed once again to serve as medical officers for the Sangh. Dr. Anil Shah also served as one of the 6 group leaders. Other group leaders were - Kirit Daftary of TX, Madhukar Mehta of NC, Keerti Shah of Chicago and Sevanti Shah of Phoenix, AZ. These leaders and their wives worked hard to look after Yattris and assured smooth functioning of the Sangh. Anil Shah of NJ was appointed as the treasurer for our Sangh. He and his wife Hemlata disbursed donations to temples and other institutions in the name of JAINA from the special Yatra fund created with voluntary contributions of Yattris. From Bombay we had purchased sets of Poojapo (Traditional offering of Snatra Pooja Samagris, saffron, new pooja clothes etc. to temples from visiting Sanghs as an effort to replace temple items used by Yattris). Chandrakant and Bhanuben Shah of NY took charge of distribution of these items at each temple.

On the morning of 20th January, we reached Udaipur and settled in a country style hotel with cottages. This was designated as a day of rest but instead, in the evening, Yattris took the opportunity to visit the City Palace, a lake and a temple of Shri Padmanabh who will be the first Tirthankara of the next Chauvisi. A special Yatra souvenir prepared by Diptiben Shah of Bombay with information on all the Tirths, maps and Stavans was distributed to the Yattris and it proved to be very useful at every juncture



in the Yatra. At night a special musical group from Ahmedabad arrived for a spiritually uplifting singing of Bhakti geets.

We divided Yattris into 6 groups of 14 Yattris each with a team leader. We started next morning in 3 air-conditioned luxury buses for Kesariyaji temple. Shri Adinath temple in Kesariyaji is over 600 years old but the black idol is believed to be from the era of Shri Munisuvratswami. This town is the Dhuleva Mandap town we sing in Aarti. Traditionally people (Jains and Non Jains) offer lots of Kesar (saffron) and as a result, the temple is known as Kesariyaji. After Darshan and Pooja, we proceeded to Ranakpur.

It was a night of full moon and at 8:30 the temple had just closed. It would take at least an hour before we could get rooms but our Yattris were not disheartened in any way. Outside the temple they all set down on the floor and under the moonlight enhanced the quiet of the serene atmosphere with the sounds of Bhaktamar Stotra and other Bhakti Geets. There was no doubt that this Yatra was going to be a spiritual extravaganza. Next morning Yattris were in the temple before 7:00 A.M. for Darshan and recitation of Bhaktamar Stotra. Splendor of Ranakpur temple at sunrise slowly sank into yetis. The architecture for which Ranakpur temple is most famous is amazing – the 1444 carved marble pillars designed in such a way that from any given point in any direction you look, one of the idols is visible.

Jodhpur was our next stop. The long bus trip was made bearable by group singing and chanting in the buses. We settled in a hotel for the night and next morning visited a 250 year old Parswanath temple on a lake. Inside the compound in front of Padmavati Devi, we all sat down to listen to Dr. Jwala and Aruna Prasad of Cincinnati, as they recited stotras and narrated story of Jindattcharaya of Humcha. Together they also sang Padmavati Stuti in Sanskrit in a beautiful melody. This was a very moving scene. Many of us, not familiar with south Indian languages are not aware of how deep rooted Jainism is in the southern part of India. Learning from each other is an added bonus of a Sangh Yatra and this was a very good example of how JAINA is bringing Jains of all stripes together. Yattris were developing new bonds with others on their bus and in anticipation of reaching Jaisalmer that night smiles were all over. On the way, we visited Osianji temple and Falodi. Luckily for us, the hotel in Jaisalmer where we were to spend two nights was a beautiful fort like complex just recently opened for the tourists. After breakfast early next morning we proceeded to the fort and the temple.

The tour guide at the Chintamani Parswanath temple was very knowledgeable and he explained some of the fundamentals of Jain Moorti Shastra and temple construction particularly the 12 dancing Devis in the Rangmandap. In the next temple, he pointed out a carving in the size of a rice grain of a temple and an idol within. We saw stone carving of Jain cosmology and many more salient features and also visited the Poostak Bhandar underneath the temple. – a true treasure of ancient Jain manuscripts. Because of the special arrangements made on our behalf, three

trustees of the Jaisalmer Teeth were present to provide a rare access to the inner sanctum of the vault. This is where most of the manuscripts are carefully guarded in steel cabinets and aluminum boxes of various sizes customized for the size of manuscripts. A small window at the bottom of the floor is the only entrance to the wall and one has to crawl to enter. But rewards of the effort to get there were immediate and immense. We also saw a mysterious pillar containing hidden knowledge believed to be waiting for appropriate person (Yug Purush) to come and for whom the pillar will open and the knowledge will be bestowed upon him.

After coming down from the steps of the fort and the emotional high, we visited Parwa Haveli – world famous tourist attraction with exquisite stone carvings that take your breath away. In the evening, we went to Thar Desert. Unlike other tourists, we did not ride the camels but instead hired the camels just to walk with us or take pictures with. On couple of sand dunes Yattris watched the sunset and contemplated on the very uplifting day that had just ended.

Back at the hotel, with dinner we were entertained by Rajasthani folk singers and dancers. Next morning we went to Amarsagar for Darshan and Lodravaar for Darshan and Pooja of Sahastrafeni Parswanath. After lunch before we started long journey to Nakodaji, everyone posed for one group photograph in front of the hotel. To foster friendship between Yattris, half the Yattris changed buses to meet new people.

On our way to Nakodaji, we stopped at three temples of Badnasar for Darshan and dinner and arrived at Nakodaji Dharmasala late at night. Next morning on January 26, after darshan and pooja at Nakodaji, few of us went to a local school for flag hoisting ceremony. Shanti Niketan School, run by a Jain Trust was a very gracious host to our Sangh and kids presented variety entertainment program filled with such items as Yoga demonstration, patriotic songs and regional dances. We all joined kids on stage singing “Saare Jahan Se Achha Hindustan Hamara”. Some of our yattris wanted to donate funds to the school but were politely turned down.

On the way to Mt. Abu we stopped near Jhalore where a new Shantinath temple in the shape of a Ship is being built. From there we went to Bramanwada where Bhagwan Mahavir had Upsarga – nails driven through his ears. We saw the mini Samet Sikharji and reached Mt. Abu late at night.

Morning was reserved for visit to the Adinath temple at Delwara. The world famous artistry and carvings in marble spellbinds you eternally with dreams of white marble clouds journeying you to salvation. From the Delwara temples we went to Adinath temple at Achalgadh. In the evening we went to the sunset point, a very prominent tourist spot and Nakhi lake.

On the way to Ider next morning we stopped in a small town near Vadali where a new Tirth is being built to install 23 of the many idols unearthed from Samprati Maharaj time. In Ider

we first stopped at Atmavallabha hospital run by a Jain trust. A warm reception at the gate of the hospital was arranged and we entered the compound singing "Maitri Bhavnu Pavitra Jharnu". We presented a carton of medical supplies and doctors among the Yattris took a tour of the hospital. In the lobby of the hospital we saw a huge sign on the wall acknowledging donations from JAINA and Jain Centers of Chicago, New York and New Jersey.

In the afternoon we went to Shrimad Rajchandra's ashram on a small hill. Shantibhai Kothari gave a very inspired talk about Shrimad's teachings. Yattris spent some time meditating and listening to one Sadhu. Some of the yattris visited Ider Gadh - Shri Shantinath temple established by Samprati Maharaja. On the way to Mehsana from Ider, although **not** on our itinerary, we took a chance to visit Mahudi. But it was not to be, the temple had just closed and disappointed we proceeded to Mehsana.

The Water Park hotel outside Mehsana complex was one of the best accommodations during the Yatra. We visited Shri Simandharswamy temple for Darshan and pooja and Choumukhi Adinath temple. In the same temple complex, there were some Sadhus and we paid our respects. The local Jain Social group had arranged a reception and refreshments for the Yattris.

In the afternoon we visited Yashovijay Jain Sanskrit Pathshala. Here students live and study Jain scriptures for four to six years. Most Pathshala teachers in India are graduates of this school. North American Jain community is familiar with Pandit Dhirajlal who is a former student of this institution. We were so mesmerized by the talk given by a young student that we invited the entire student body to our hotel at night for more interaction with them. From the Yatra fund, we donated Rs25,000 for sponsoring a student for full four years. This inspired three others among us to sponsor one student each and raised enough money for a fifth student.

In the evening we visited Linch Mahajan Panjarapol. Many Yattris confessed to have never seen a panjarapol before. Jain principle of Karuna for all living beings is practiced in these institutions that run entirely by charity. This Panjarapol just outside Mehsana is in a poor town. Harsh weather of last two years have put this Panjarapol in financial straits. That night after dinner at the hotel, the Jain Social Group of Mehsana had arranged a Bhavna program at the hotel. We were lucky to have Jain Social Group's support in various cities as they helped with logistics, emergency medical help and smoothing our paths.

Next morning we proceeded to the 1200 years old Panchasar Parswanath Temple in Patan. This 52 Jinalay temple was last rebuilt in 1955. This is one of the 108 Parswanath Tirth and just outside the temple is the Gyan Mandir of Kalikal Sarvagna Shri Hemchandracharya. Patan Jain Mandal had kindly arranged for a very knowledgeable scholar to show the rich collection of old manuscripts and artifacts. Some of our Yattris spent four hours in this revered house of knowledge. In the afternoon we went

sightseeing. Ranki Vaav - a well with seven story stone carving was awe-inspiring. Patan is most famous for Patola weavers of Patan. This is a vanishing art as there are only 5 families that are still producing Patolas and one has to order them three to six months ahead as each Patola takes three months of weaving.

From Patan we started for Sankheswara and arrived at the Dharmasala late at night. Darshan and Pooja at the main temple was eagerly awaited by many Yattris. Individually, Yattris also went to Agam Mandir and 108 Parswanath temple. At the 108 Parswanath temple, Acharya Labdhisuri Maharaj was present. The temple was celebrating completion of his 50th year of monkhood. An exhibition of books and musical Pooja in the Rangmandap was added bonus to the Yattris.

We started for Palitana that afternoon and the six hour journey became a ten-hour affair. We reached Palitana Dharmasala at two in the morning. Most did not retire until 3:30 A.M. but Pahad Yatra early that morning was not something anyone was going to miss. Mysteriously, every one was energized and present in Dada's Darbar for Pooja and Darshan. Also at 9:00 am in Palitana, 2-day JAINA Medical Camp with help of Navkar Sarvar Kendra was inaugurated. Bharatbhai Kothari, the 70 year old leader of Navkar Sarvar Kendra was present for the inauguration of Medical camp although that day was his birthday. Instead of celebrating his birthday with his grand children, he spent that day and the next in service of the cause he has championed. Many items like tiger balm, magnifying plastic sheets, cotton socks, kambliis etc. were distributed to the Sadhus and Sadhvis as they were also examined by Vaidrajs. Only Ayurvedic medicines that are also acceptable to Jains is carried by the Navkar Sarvar Kendra. Many of our Yattris got to meet and talk with our holy Sadhu/Sadhvis in the bhakti atmosphere. This was quite a learning experience as well as rewarding one to the Yattris.

At night we had a Bhavna Geet program arranged by Navkar Sarvar Kendra and during that program, the Yattris thanked the 46 member staff of Patni tours for wonderful food and service provided during the yatra. Each staff member was called by name, applauded and handed an envelope with cash as further sign of gratitude. Dr. Kantibhai Shah, in celebration of his birthday distributed a book by Shri Anandghanji to all the yattris and Navkar Sarvar Kendra gave a two volume set on Tirthdhams to each Yatri families. Kirit Dafrary and his wife Pramilaaben also presented a check for \$7,000 from the Tirthodhdhar committee of JAINA to Navkar Sarvar Kendra.

After a good night's sleep, next morning was free for yattris to visit other temples in Palitana and after lunch we started towards Ahemdabad. Our first stop was Songadh where beautiful temple complex with a model of Nandi Dwip and Shri Kanji Swami's Ashram is located. Next, we stopped at Bagodra, where a 12' Pratima of Parswanath is installed in what one day will be a mini Samet Sikhhar Tirth. The last stop of the day was Koba. Al-

though we were one hour late arriving Koba, Shri Atmanandji addressed the assembly and gave his blessings. They had also made very comfortable arrangements for night stay of all the yatri and the Patni's staff.

In the morning, the last day of our yatra, once again the Yatri got to hear Atmanandji as he participated in Bhav Pooja. Next door to the Ashram stands a beautiful temple, Jain art exhibition and Poostak Bhandar. Koba is commendable job of cataloging old manuscripts of other Poostak Bhandars like that of Jaisalmer and Patan in the country. Their plan is to copy the material digitally for preservation and world wide distribution. It would be a fitting memory of this Sangh to fund latest equipment (Scanners, computers and a CD burner) so that our Jain heritage is preserved for the future generations.

From Koba, we proceeded to Tapovan. The serene atmosphere in this Jain Boarding School for about 350 students is a sight to behold. A neat and clean establishment with a Goshala, beautiful temple, and learning halls with names like Nalanda. Bright young boys Veer Sainiks of tomorrow in their white uniforms won hearts of the yatri. We saw their computer class room and noticed many of their computers were so old that they could not load Windows on them and students were using WordStar for word processing! Outside the classrooms Yatri raised within minutes enough money to buy one Pentium II based computer. We also donated money to sponsor one student for full four years. Students presented an inspiring program on the stage and as we left Tapovan with the feeling that institutions like Tapovan will assure bright future for Jainism.

This last day was now looking like a very long day. By the afternoon as we reached Hathesingh Temple everyone was tired. Yatri Rashmikant and Bakula Jhaveri sponsored the lunch and that did revitalize us. A small ceremony was held to thank 11 member Patani family who had made all of our travel arrangements. Our Sangh's resident poet, Ila Mehta of Ohio dished out a very moving poetry praising their efforts and expressing feelings of the Yatri. They fed us wonderful meals, took care of us and arranged 15 day Yatra very comfortably, not just as customers but as though we were members of their family. We presented a JAINA plaque of "Excellence in Service" to them. Tears were on many faces as every one realized that yatra 2000 was about to end, and separation from newly acquired friends was inevitable.

Our last stop was L D institute of Indology. Jain art exhibition at the institute could not possibly be seen or enjoyed in the couple of hours we had on hand. Lalit Kumar, curator of the museum was so knowledgeable and so giving that the Yatri felt guilty rushing out to the library and the research facility next door. Again, time was short but the elderly gentleman at the library patiently showed how they were preserving the old manuscripts and showed some old writings on palm leaves.

The Yatra was now complete. Conscious efforts and goodwill of all the yatri to achieve something great did result in

a memorable experience of a lifetime. The success of the yatra was also a result of excellent teamwork of the group leaders.

After dinner at a restaurant, many stayed behind in Ahmedabad and others took train to Bombay. Soon planning for the 2001 Yatra will have to begin.

(The writer wishes to acknowledge gratefully very valuable help of Dr. Jwala Prasad of Cincinnati in preparing this article )

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS..

### SAMANS VISIT USA AND AFRICA

Saman Sthitpragya and Saman Ashwanipragya, disciples of Anuvrat Anusashta Acharyashri Mahapragya, successfully completed a six-month tour of USA and Africa. After a three-month stay in USA, Samans left on a tour of several African countries that included Nigeria, South Africa, Mauritius, Harare, Tanzania, Kenya and Dubai. In Nigeria, the Samans presented lectures on Stress Management and Preksha Meditation to the Nigerians. In South Africa, they addressed the Indian communities in Johannesburg and Durban on the topic of Anuvrat Lifestyle. The Samans had an opportunity to give a presentation on "Preksha Meditation" to nearly 8,000 participants who attended the Parliament of World Religions in Cape Town. In Mauritius, the Samans were interviewed on the topics of "Anger Management" and "Peaceful Family Life" which were aired on the radio and TV. In Harare, nearly 600 students attended their program on "Science of Living". A workshop on meditation and yoga was well received by the Indian community in Tanzania. The Samans participated in an eight-day program hosted by the Jain Samaj in Mombasa, Kenya. In Dubai, the Jain community had an opportunity to learn from them about the teaching of Lord Mahavir. Following such an extensive tour, the Samans returned to India on January 9, 2000.

### GURUDEV SHRI KANJI SWAMI CELEBRATION OF 111<sup>TH</sup> JANMA JAYANTI

Mumukshus in North America and UK will celebrate the 111<sup>th</sup> Janma Jayanti of Gurudev Shri Kanji Swami, during Memorial long week end (May 27 – 29) this year at Siddhachalam, NJ. Three days Adhyatmik Shibir is the main feature of this event. Eminent scholars from India will conduct the Shibir. Besides this, multimedia presentation, Pooja, Bhakti and other programs are also included. Many Jains from North America and also from UK are expected to participate. For more information, please contact Jyotsana V. Shah, Phone: 570-287-7457 or Hasmukh M. Shah, Phone: 734-394-1731. Email. kahanguru@hotmail.com



## 10TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD JAN 1, 1999 TO FEB 29, 2000\*

#### UPDATE ON 2001 JAINA CONVENTION

The Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago (JSMC) has agreed to host the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial JAINA Convention in Chicago. JAINA and JMSC are actively engaged in finalizing the agreement on the JAINA Convention Guidelines that will be followed in organizing and managing the upcoming Convention.

At the invitation of the JSMC, JAINA Executive Committee will meet on March 18, 2000 in Chicago. The appointment of JAINA Convention Board comprising of representatives of JAINA and JSMC will be finalized at this meeting. JSMC will present its plan for the Convention that will include among other things selection of site for the convention. JAINA Executive Committee intends to visit the proposed Convention sites with a view to finalizes the selection.

JAINA Executive Committee, along with the JSMC and invited guests, will discuss the ideas to develop the theme of the 2001 Convention. All programs such as religious discourses, seminars, cultural programs and youth oriented programs will be organized around the selected central theme of the Convention. Jain Community of North America can participate in developing the theme of the Convention by forwarding ideas to the JAINA Headquarters, by Fax or E-mail.

Vinay K. Vakani  
Secretary, JAINA

Bipin D. Parikh  
First VP, JAINA



INCOME:	AMOUNT
Registration	\$ 365,203
MIS	13,450
Cruise	35,550
Temple Donations	46,565
Donations	150,716
CME	21,600
Banquet, Youth Dance & Dandiya	6,054
Paintings	12,753
Exhibition, Frames, Books & Murti	34,295
Raffle	27,496
Souvenir Advertisements	116,511
Swamivatsalya	32,952
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>863,145</b>

EXPENSES:	
Registration	20,164
Valley Forge Convention Center	372,027
Temple Installation at Convention	25,635
Temple Reconst. Res (Siddhachalam)	20,000
Speakers	57,002
Cultural Programs	40,941
Youth Cruise	37,500
Misc. Food Expenses	14,087
Paintings	35,355
Exhibition, Frames, Books & Murti	20,539
Advertising & Publicity	18,121
Bus & Transport	20,597
Audio/Visual	49,677
Souvenir Printing & Production	39,919
Other Printing	23,345
Secretarial Services	21,602
Furniture & Equipment	4,564
Postage & Telephone	11,777
Insurance	1,843
Security & Professional Fees	16,280
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>850,975</b>

<b>CASH BALANCE</b>	12,170
Add: Accounts Receivable - Collectible	29,756
Less: Accounts Payable for expenses	-54,375
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$ (12,449)</b>

Submitted by:

Devendra T. Peer

Convenor

Samarpan Jain Sangh

Rajnikant S. Shah

Chairman, Finance Committee

Samarpan Jain Sangh

1. \*This covers all the Income and Expenses for the Convention.
2. No payment for any services were made to any members of the Convention Board or our Sangh.
3. Temple reconstruction reserve is for reinstallation of temple at Siddhachalam.

**Note: All donors/advertisers are urged to make payments of their pledges, to allow completing of the accounts.**

# PANCHAMRUT

**Twelve Facets of Reality – The Jain Path to Freedom**

**Realize What You Are – The Dynamics of Jain Meditation**

**The Psychology of Enlightenment – Meditations on the Seven  
Energy Centers**

**The Philosophy of Soul and Matter**

**Ten Days Journey Into The Self**

A 5-book set by Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanu

For the new millennium the elder Jain master - Gurudev Chitrabhanu - has bottled the keys to enlightenment in this set of five books, a foundation for all seekers of truth, the basic principles of Jainism and inner happiness. In his characteristic clear English and succinct examples, he has distilled very complex subjects into a readable delight.

**Twelve Facets of Reality:** is "Shant Sudharas Sagar" of Mahopadhyaya Vinayvijayji- 12 Bhavnas in capsule form. This book is the preface to his immortal song "Maitri Bhavnu Pavitra Jhurnu". If you like the song, you will love this book. The concepts of Anitya, Asharan, Aashrava, Nirjara, Nitya, etc. routinely take thousands of words and a great deal of contemplation but the Gurudev has magically converted them into twelve facets of the most precious of gems – Mukti.

**Realize What You Are:** is a collection of instructions given by Gurudev on the fundamentals of Jain Meditation: a primer for a 5-week meditation course. This step by step approach for the uninitiated is heaven-sent. He describes meditation not as a religion but as a means of learning the art of living, growing and communicating. As a first step, he has prescribed 24 minutes a day for practice. For those whose life is so busy that they cannot find one minute out of every hour of the day for themselves, he has just these words: "Reorder your priorities!" After a few preliminary matters of selecting the time and space for meditation, the book quickly gets down to the serious business on hand and soon the reader will be chanting Veerum and Sohum. The book goes on to philosophy of meditation and its role in our daily lives. He asserts that meditation will improve your communication skills and you will be at peace with yourself.

**The Psychology of Enlightenment:** advances his meditation instructions, dealing with each of the seven centers of energy corresponding to seven levels of awareness from which we can begin to discern our true nature. Practical meditation techniques for each center Muldhara, Swadhisthana, Manipura, Anahata, Vishuddha, Ajna and Sahasrara are described in simple steps. The book shows how the energy centers can be used for health and healing. The summary chart at the end of the book is a precious resource.

**The Philosophy of Soul and Matter:** is the heart of Jainism. From the laws of Karma to the matters of soul, in his anecdotal style. Gurudev has presented in less than 75 pages, eight types of Karma, a complex theory in simple and clear terms. In the most modern lan-

guage he has shown the oldest path to liberation: Samvara and Nirjara. Here he calls for self cleansing – evicting the old tenants (negative thoughts) and getting in touch with the latent energy within.

**Ten Days Journey Into The Self:** is an elaboration of Gurudev's Immortal Song "Maitribhavnu Pavitra..." He considers the four virtues amity, appreciation, compassion and equanimity as four pillars on which life can be built. He moves on to the glory of Navkar Mantra as the universal Mantra and how meditating with Navkar Mantra can overcome our inner enemies.

The set of five books is available for a special package price of \$35.00 (postage included) Order from:

Jain Meditation International,  
P.O. Box 230244 Ansonia New York, NY 10023 – 0244.  
Phone or fax (212) 362 6483

*By Dilip V. Shah, Philadelphia*

## COMMITTEE NEWS (Continued from page 7)

### JAINA CHARITABLE TRUST UPDATE

The Trust, established in 1994 with 24 Trustees and \$26,006 in donations, now has 98 Trustees and \$170,000+ in donations and trust income after spending about \$86,500 on various activities of JAINA Charitable Trust. Congratulations, and thanks to the to the following new members for their generosity.

<u>Name</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ST.</u>
Mr. Ishwarlal Bhuta	Montgomery	AL
Mr. Kirit Daftary	Waco	TX
Mr. Rajendra Jain	Manhasset	NY
Dr. Rajendra Jain	Barboursville	WV
Mr. Ramesh Jain	Monaca	PA
Dr. Sushil Jain	Gaithersburg	MD
Mr. Vinay Jain	Parsippany	NJ
Mr. Bhavesh Kamdar	Williamsville	NY
Mr. Kirit Kapadia	Great Neck	NY
Dr. Vasantha Kumaraiah	Olympia Fields	IL
Mr. Prabodh Mehta	Houston	TX
Dr. Babulal Paragani	Martinsburg	WV
Mr. Virendra Sethi	Houston	TX
Mr. Dinesh G. Shah	Stone Mountain	GA
Dr. Mamta Shah	Kings Point	NY
Dr. P.C. Sogani	Cresskill	NJ
Mr. Ajit Vora	Syosset	NY

*Dr. Dhiraj H. Shah, Chairperson*

## JAINA CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### JAINA FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF 2/15/00

JAINA General Fund	\$18,386.21
Various sub-committee balances:	
Education Committee	\$6,169.92
Jiv Daya Committee	0.00
World Community Service	38,184.21
Temple Guideline	1,401.00
YJA	786.11
Virchand R. Gandhi Fund	8,129.00
N. American Jain Family Assistance Program	5,484.00
Tirthoddhar Committee	957.55
Pilgrimage Committee	0.00
JAINA Book Source Committee	29,449.63

**COMMITTEES TOTAL \$90,561.42**

Money Market fund for JD Endowment	\$11,214.80
CD for JAIN Digest Endowment Fund	\$55,123.25
JAINA Charitable Trust as of 11/22/99	\$170,361.53

*as per information supplied by Jagat Jain*

**GRAND TOTAL \$345,647.21**

*submitted by  
Anop R. Vora, Treasurer*

## JAINA DIGEST LIFE MEMBERS UPDATE

525U	ANIL KUMAR & ALKA JAIN, DESPLAINS, IL
526U	DILIP & BHAVNA SHAH, OAKBROOK, IL
527U	ARVIND & KALPANA SHAH, DESPLAINS, IL
528U	ASHWIN & KIRTIBALA SHAH, LOMBARD, IL
529U	DIPAK & JYOTI SHAH, GLENVIEW, IL
530U	PRADIP & DARSHNA SHAH, BOURBONNAIS, IL
531U	MUKESH & USHA DOSHI, SCHAUMBURGH, IL
532U	HITESH & USHA SHAH, SCHAUMBURGH, IL
533U	PRADIP & JYOTI SHAH, SCHAUMBURGH, IL
534U	SURENDRA & VASANTI SHAH, NAPERVILLE, IL
535U	VIJAY & PARESHA SHAH, ROCKFORD, IL
536U	H. & CHANDRIKA MEHTA, NAPERVILLE, IL
537U	PINAKIN & PALLAVI SHAH, MT. PROSPECT, IL
538C	AMIT ARYA, COQUITLAM, B.C.

## V. R. GANDHI FUND UPDATE

1. Chandrakant & Bhanu Shah Floral Park, N.Y. \$ 301
2. Dilip & Rita Doshi Rego Park, N.Y. \$ 101

## FEDERATION OF JAIN ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA APPEAL

*I want to help retaining 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 if you wish 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.

**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 Phone: 727/376-7989  
kahanguru@hotmail.com OR shahsam2@hotmail.com

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: \_\_\_\_\_

**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.



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): \_\_\_\_\_

### Congratulations!

**Female: 103, Male: 90 (Married / Engaged)**

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. 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.

### 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 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 the completed form + a check in the amount of \$25 payable to Hasmukh M. Shah. Leave the Memo or For column blank.
3. A recent, full-length photo of yourself with your name printed on the back.
4. 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.

## MATRIMONIALS

### MALE

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

**M548:** Jain parents seek responses from educated, attractive, vegetarian Girls, for very handsome, fair, talented, highly educated son, 30 yr., 5'8", MS, currently completing MBA at a prestigious school in USA & will settle in NY area upon completion. Call: 716/473-6035. Email. Ajain2025@aol.com

**M639:** Gujarati Jain parents invite responses for handsome, vegetarian, US raised / citizen son, born Aug 68, 5'8", 168 lb, BS (comp sc), Computer consultant, well employed with multinational company in Chicago, from pretty, educated, vegetarian girls. Call: 847/541-4155.

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

**M699:** Alliance invited by prestigious Gujarati parents for handsome, fair, bright, vegetarian, US born / raised son, July 74, 5'7", BS (Fin. with accounting), pursuing CFA, well positioned in National co. from US raised, educated, pretty, slim, Gujarati girls. Call: 708/493-2300.

**M718:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for handsome, fair, talented, successful, vegetarian son, born Jan 71, 5'6", 138 lb, MBA, well employed with reputed co., from cultured, educated, vegetarian girls. Call: 770/690-9166.

**M730:** Alliance invited for handsome, bright, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, born Nov

72, 5'6", 140lb, MS (comp sc), MS (ME), well positioned with reputed co., from pretty, educated cultured girls. Call: 248/608-8990.

**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. Phone: 516/365-2769.

**M768:** Proposals invited for handsome, talented, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, born Nov 74, 5'6", 150 lb, MS (EE), well employed with well known co., from educated, pretty, cultured girls. Call: 414/717-0971.

**M769:** Gujarati parents invite proposals with biodata / photo, for handsome, fair, Intelligent son, born April 71, Third year Medical student, from professional, preferably MD, vegetarian girls. Call: 407/366-8810 or 407/366-7439.

**M772:** Gujarati parents well settled in Geneva, Switzerland invite correspondence for very handsome, fair, accomplished, vegetarian son, born March 74, 5'9", 138 lb, HEC, well positioned in Fin. dept. of an International co., from cultured, educated girls. 17 Rue De La Dole, CH - 1203 Geneva, Switzerland. Phone: 0041-22-3456372. email: sanghvi\_arat@infomaniak.ch

**M774:** Alliance invited for handsome, fair, intelligent, vegetarian Gujarati boy, born March 70, 5'11", 164 lb, DDS, practicing Dentist, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 909/898-0652.

**M775:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for handsome, fair, bright, vegetarian son, born May 74, 5'8", 160 lb, pursuing BS (comp sc), Dip. Comp programming, well employed as programmer, from cultured, vegetarian girls. Call: 609/347-6713.

**M776:** Correspondence invited by Gujarati parents for handsome, fair, successful, vegetarian son, born Jan 73, 5'7", 158 lb,

MBA / MIS, well positioned in a reputed multinational co., from cultured, vegetarian, educated girls. Call: 732/596-1114.

**M786:** Gujarati parents invite responses for good looking, bright, vegetarian, US citizen son, born June 75, 5'8", 150 lb, BS (Fin), well employed with reputed corp., from cultured, educated girls. Call: 941/561-2731.

**M787:** Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for handsome, talented, vegetarian son, born April 72, 5'10", BS (Fin), well employed & also having own business, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 847/296-9796.

**M788:** Proposals invited for handsome, sincere, vegetarian, US citizen, Gujarati boy, born Dec 73, 5'8", 160 lb, BS (criminal justice), well employed, from educated, cultured girls. Call: 909/264-0885.

**AM179:** Very handsome, fair, 6'1", 29, MS (EE), CEO in a large Internet co., son. Loving Gujarati Jain family seeks a compatible match. Call: 714/730-1570.

**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.

**AM248:** Alliance invited by parents for handsome, fair, intelligent son, born June 74, 5'11", 145 lb, BS IE, pursuing MBA (part time), employed as Material Manager with a successful electronic co., Call: 972/473-7417.

**AM253:** Jain parents invite proposals for handsome, outgoing, US born son, March 74, 6'2", BS IE, pursuing MBA, employed with multinational co., from attractive, educated girls. Call: 810/750-0999.

**AM254:** Rajsthani Jain parents invite correspondence for handsome, athletic, US citizen son, born Jan 67, 5'7", MS (ME), employed at Ford Motor co., as Product development engineer. Call / Fax: 219/865-9504. Email: Mehta@netnitco.net

**AM255:** Gujarati Jain parents invite responses for their 6'2", 170 lb, vegetarian, Physician (MD) son, completing residency at Harvard University, Boston, MA. Born 25 September 1973. Call: 617/278-9187.

**AM257:** Brother invite responses for handsome, successful brother, born Oct 64, 5'10", MBA, well settled with franchise business near Boston, MA, from good looking, educated, cultured girls. Call: 978/392-4533.

**AM260:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for their good looking, intelligent, vegetarian son, born Aug 74, 5'6", BS, Comp. Engineer, well employed by a High Tech. co., in NJ, from suitable match. Call: 732/568-0660.

## FEMALE

**F355:** Alliance invited for Gujarati, beautiful, talented, caring, North American born daughter, Dec 71, 5'2", blend of east / west, BA, BAS, pursuing CPA (2000), well employed with CPA firm in USA, from professionals (Doctors, Lawyers etc). Call: 416/290-6908 or leave message 416/618-6485. Email: Banos12@yahoo.com

**F564:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for their beautiful, fair, charming, bright, vegetarian, US born daughter, Dec 75, 5'3", Occupational Therapist, from vegetarian, cultured, professional, Gujarati boys. Call: 4 2 5 / 8 8 5 - 3 3 3 5 . e m a i l . Sudhir.shah@attws.com

**F569:** Gujarati parents invite responses with biodata / photo for their pretty, fair, caring, well rounded, highly accomplished, vegetarian, US born daughter, June 73, 5'7", 120 lb, BS, well employed as MIS specialist, from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 610/670-9919.

**F621:** Gujarati parents invite responses for beautiful, talented, vegetarian, US born daughter, Dec 73, 5'7", 3<sup>rd</sup> year Medical

student, from professional boys, preferably MD or Medical student. Call: 407/366-8810.

**F628:** Alliance invited by Gujarati Jain family for beautiful, slim, charming, caring, vegetarian daughter, born April 74, 5'3", MS (Inf. Management), well employed as Manager in a reputed co., Blend of east / west, family values, outgoing with good sense of humor, from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 732/596-1114.

**F636:** Jain parents invite proposals with biodata / photo from well educated, professionals for their beautiful, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born Jan 73, 5'4". 115 lb, MSEE, well employed with multinational co., Call: 815/397-3740.

**F655:** Jain parents invite alliance for pretty, highly accomplished, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born Jan 73, 5'1", BA (Harvard Uni), well employed in a worldwide financial organization, from well educated, professional boys. Call: 916/488-2601.

**F670:** Alliance invited with biodata and returnable photo for a bright, beautiful, caring, US raised vegetarian girl, born May 73, 5'3", MD, doing residency, from well educated, professional boys. Call: 440/357-6148.

**F675:** Jain parents invite correspondence for their slim, beautiful, charming, US born daughter, Oct 75, with MS degree, well employed, from Gujarati / Marwari families. Call: 1-800-241-7720. Pin # 00.

**F729:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for slim, pretty, talented, accomplished, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born June 75, 5'1", PharmD (Doctor of Pharmacy), well employed, from cultured, professional, vegetarian boys. Call: 847/965-4718.

**F737:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for very beautiful, attractive, talented, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born Oct, 75, 5'4", BS (Accounting), well employed

by multinational large Corp, from educated, cultured, US raised boys. Call: 818/349-5254.

**F739:** Brother invites an alliance from cultured, educated boys for his beautiful, slim, vegetarian sister, born Dec 72, 5'5", BS, well employed in Bombay and willing to settle in USA. She is currently on a visit to USA. Call: 201/325-9202.

**F748:** Correspondence invited for 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.

**F751:** Responses invited for beautiful, cultured, vegetarian Jain Gujarati girl from well settled family, born March 74, 5'6", studying MD, residency beginning in June 2000. She is fun-loving, well-rounded, east / west balanced, compassionate, sociable, Seeking similar-valued, vegetarian, professionals. Call: 248/926-0863.

**F770:** Brother invites correspondence from well educated, cultured boys, for pretty, fair, bright, cultured, vegetarian, India raised sister, born Dec 72, 5'4", 114 lb, MS (comp sc), working as software engineer in Silicon Valley. Call: 812/944-6682. Email: ghyav@yahoo.com

**F771:** Alliance invited for pretty, talented, vegetarian, Gujarati girl, born Feb 67, 5'4", 125 lb, MS (comp sc), well employed as software consultant, from cultured, well educated, never married boys. Call: 423/954-1734. Email: surbhi.m@usa.net

**F777:** Alliance invited by Gujarati family, for pretty, cultured, vegetarian, permanent resident daughter, born April 67, 5'0", 105 lb, DCA, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 856/692-6376.

**F778:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for pretty, attractive, US raised daughter, born June 71, 5'5", 110 lb, MD (2000), 4<sup>th</sup> year

## MATRIMONIALS

Medical student, from cultured, well educated, professional boys or MD / medical student. Call: 626/810-3002.

**F779:** Alliance invited from cultured, well educated boys for beautiful, attractive, brilliant, vegetarian, British citizen girl, born Aug 71, 5'3", LLB Hon, practicing as Solicitor in London and willing to settle in USA. Email. kamini@lineone.net. USA contact phone: 512/335-4563.

**F780:** Correspondence invited for beautiful, charming, intelligent, vegetarian, British citizen girl, born Oct 69, 5'3", BS (biochem / pharmacology) Hon, born Oct 69, 5'3", from well educated boys. She owns IT consulting co., head of E-commerce in international medical & insurance co., in London and willing to settle in USA. Email. alka.amit@lineone.net USA phone: 512/335-4563.

**F781:** Alliance invited for pretty, intelligent, slim, vegetarian, Gujarati girl, born Dec 69, 5'4", 107 lb, BS (Pharmacy), registered pharmacist, working with reputed co., as Pharmacist in charge, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 512/502-1981. Email: nanmehta@yahoo.com

**F782:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, slim, charming, vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born Oct 76, 5'4", 103lb, pursuing Bachelors in Nursing (RN, 2001), from well educated, cultured, boys. Call: 4 4 0 / 2 8 4 - 3 9 4 7 . E m a i l : SHAHResi@AOL.com

**F783:** Uncle invite proposals from Gujarati, cultured, educated boys, for beautiful, fair, attractive, virtuous, vegetarian niece, born Oct 75, 5'2", 110 lb, BS (micro biology), DMLT (Bom Uni), well employed as Lab Tech. In Bombay, and willing to settle in USA. Call: 973/428-1407.

**F784:** Correspondence invited for pretty, attractive, charming, Gujarati female, born Oct 66, 5'5", 125 lb, MD, 2<sup>nd</sup> year resident in Int. Medicine, innocently divorced,

marriage not consummated, from suitable cultured, family oriented Match. Call: 718/575-2972. Email. Aash1000@aol.com

**F785:** Jain family invite proposals with biodata for beautiful, intelligent, professional, multi talented, family oriented, vegetarian daughter, born Aug 74, 5'3", BS (IndEngg), MCSD, from professional boys. Call: 519/474-3355.

**F789:** Jain parents invite alliance for their beautiful, attractive, slim, bright, vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born July 74, 5'3", MD, 1<sup>st</sup> year Resident, from professional boys preferably MD. Call: 718/740-3397.

**AF121:** Exceptionally beautiful, very fair, charming, 26, 5'7", 112 lb, MS, pursuing JD (law) with full scholarship, talented, highly virtuous, family oriented daughter. Loving Gujarati Jain family invite photo & biodata. Call: 714/730-1570.

**AF217:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, attractive, talented, vegetarian, east / west blend, US born daughter, Feb 70, 5'1", 100 lb, PharmD (Doctor of Pharmacy) 2000, professionally well employed, from well educated, professional, cultured boys. Call: 908/526-1328.

**AF235:** Gujarati parents in Singapore invite responses for very beautiful, slim, bright, vegetarian daughter, born June 74, 5'3", CPA, well employed, from cultured, well Educated boys. She lives in Singapore, visiting USA during March 2000, willing to settle in USA. Call: 972/208-9828. Singapore Ph. 065-4424567.

**AF251:** Jain parents invite proposals for their good looking, slim, US born daughter, March 76, 5'6", BS (physiology), studying chemical engineering, from cultured, well educated, professional boys. Call: 310/750-0999.

**AF256:** Caring, independent, well-settled, vegan, non-drinking, fun-loving, US raised, Gujarati female, age 29, 5'1", MA psychology, seeking friendship and

companionship from sweet, compassionate person, age 26-31, vegetarian, raised in the west, with a sense of humor, high moral values and spiritual foundation. E-mail: ahimsa1000@hotmail.com

**AF258:** Gujarati parents invite correspondence, for their beautiful, fair, intelligent, outgoing, US raised daughter, born Nov 71, 5'6", MS (Finance), well employed, from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 248/349-5130.

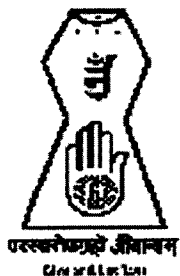
**AF259:** Gujarati parents invite responses for slim, pretty, talented, vegetarian, US born daughter, Dec 72, 5'6", 4<sup>th</sup> year Medical student, from professional boys, preferably MD or Medical student. Call: 617/739-1319.

**AF261:** Alliance invited by aunt from well educated, cultured boys, for her beautiful, intelligent, vegetarian, Gujarati niece, born Feb 72, 5'2", BS (Microbiology). Currently in Ahmedabad and willing to settle in USA. Call: 410/750-6426.

**AF262:** Gujarati parents seek responses for pretty, slim, vegetarian, US born daughter, Feb 76, 5'1", 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical student in DC, well rounded, venturesome, cultured, compassionate, from well educated, similar valued boys. Call: 302/645-7669.

**AF263:** Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for beautiful, charming, bright, cultured, east / west blend, caring, vegetarian, US born daughter, April 73, 5'3", 110 lb, JD (Law), professionally well employed, from well educated, professional boys. Call: 908/526-1328.

**F773:** Gujarati parents well settled in Switzerland, invite correspondence for exceptionally beautiful, fair, charming, attractive, virtuous, vegetarian daughter, born Oct 76, 5'6", 119 lb, MD (2001), Medical student, from well educated, professional, cultured boys. She is willing settle in USA. 17 Rue De La Dole, CH 1203 Geneva, Switzerland. Ph: 0041-22-3456372 email: sanghvi\_arat@infomaniak.ch



# 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/>

## CHAIRS

Shubhra Jain  
(314) 345-3296

shubhrajain@mail.com

Naishadh Shah  
(516) 609-8098

naishadhshah@mail.com

## DIRECTORS

### Education

Monica Shah  
(312) 587-1241

monicashah@mail.com

### Finance/Fundraising

Vishal Ghiya  
(215) 882-0787

vishalghiya@mail.com

### Membership/Records

Mudita Shah  
(405) 329-1465

shahmudita@mail.com

### Publications

Rajan Mehta  
(510) 704-5683

rajmehta@mail.com

### Public Relations

Nirav Shah  
(313) 598-6754

nirav\_shah@mail.com

### Webmaster

Pinkesh Shah  
(248) 324-4442

pinkeshshah@mail.com

## REGIONAL COORDINATORS

### Mid Atlantic

Anita Shah  
(516) 873-7104

anitashah@mail.com

### Midwest

Reshma Modi  
(248) 851-3965

reshmamodi@mail.com

### Northeast

Shefali Parekh  
(504) 862-8000 x3945

shefaliparekh@mail.com

### South

Jay Doshi  
(713) 790-1259

jaydoshi@mail.com

### Southeast

Heerain Shah  
(404) 206-4338

heerainshah@mail.com

### West

Milan Mehta  
(408) 436-1522

milanmehta@mail.com

Jai Jinendra!

Many of you know that YJA Executive Board and the Los Angeles Convention Committee (LACC) are diligently planning and preparing for the 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial YJA Convention 2000 in Los Angeles, CA. The theme of this year's convention is **Four Days Journey Into The Self**. This is a reflection of YJA's commitment to provide an educational forum for discussion regarding the importance and application of Jainism while living in a contemporary society.

The high standards set forth by past conventions in Chicago, San Francisco and Houston continue to serve as a guideline for the upcoming one. The LACC hopes to organize a conference that is not only fun and educational, but also gives the attendees, especially older youth, an opportunity to engage in events not normally found at a YJA conference. For example, we are currently researching the possibility of doing community service at local organizations and dance lessons in salsa and swing.

Since YJA wants to facilitate attendance at the convention for as many youth as possible, fees were kept to a minimum. In fact YJA is subsidizing \$125 for every youth attending the convention. In addition, we have expanded the convention capacity from 700 to 800, which brings our overall budget to well over a quarter of a million dollars. In order to make this a successful event, our target fundraising goal is \$100,000. As you can see, it is clear that the execution and success of this convention depends on the support of the Jain community.

Thus, we are asking you, our Jain community friends and pro-youth supporters, for a \$150 donation to support YJA. We trust that you would like the youth to have continued educational opportunities, such as this convention, to extend our Jain heritage into the future. As a sign of our appreciation, we will acknowledge your support with an acknowledgement in the 2000 Convention souvenir edition of Young Minds.

Please keep in mind that this is only a suggested amount. We will sincerely appreciate any donation that you are able to make. All donations are tax-deductible. Please make your check payable to YJA Convention 2000 and send it to,

YJA Convention 2000  
650 N. Rose Drive #174, Placentia, CA 92870

We encourage youth of all ages (14-29) to participate in the conference in any way possible. If you, or someone you know, is a creative person with graphical expertise, willing to write an article for the souvenir book, interested in moderating a discussion, participating in a debate, or would like to assist with general convention activities, please send an email to [chairs2000@egroups.com](mailto:chairs2000@egroups.com).

Thank You!

Shubhra Jain and Naishadh Shah

Co-Chairs



# 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial YJA Convention 2000

Hosted By the Los Angeles Convention Committee and Young Jains of America

## REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Registration for the convention begins on February 1, 2000. The registration form is available in several locations:

1. On the Internet at <http://www.yja.org/convention2000>
2. In the latest issue of Young Minds
3. At your local Jain center
4. By contacting Bhumika Khona at [bhumikalacc@email.com](mailto:bhumikalacc@email.com) or 714-579-3356

Based on experience and feedback from past convention attendees, the YJA Executive Board has decided to reorganize the registration process to ensure Convention 2000 is a rewarding experience.

Six categories have been designated based on age and gender. There will be approximately equal numbers of each gender in the following age groups: 14 – 17, 18 – 21, and 22 – 29. Attendees will be distributed geographically as well; this will ensure that Jains are represented in an equal manner. The registration committee will collect all applications sent in with a postmark no earlier than February 1st and no later than March 7th. After the initial collection period, if a category has more than its allocated applications, spaces will be filled by the earliest postmarked applications. Therefore, it will still be advantageous to send in your application as early as possible. Subsequent to March 7<sup>th</sup>, all remaining spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis.

If you have any questions regarding the registration process, please contact Birud Jhaveri at [birudjhaveri@mail.com](mailto:birudjhaveri@mail.com) or at (503) 292-1965.

## Donor Form

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Time Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please refer to the following table to determine your donation.

Donor Level	Donation Amount	Advertisement Space
Patron	\$125	One-eighth page (business card size), black & white
Benefactor	\$251	One-quarter page, black & white
Grand Benefactor	\$501	One-half page, black & white
Bronze Sponsor	\$1,001	Full page, black & white
Silver Sponsor	\$5,001	Full page, color
Gold Sponsor	\$10,001	Front side of back flap (4 ½" X 11")
Platinum Sponsor	\$12,501	Inside back cover, including backside of flap (12 ¾" X 11")
Diamond Sponsor	\$15,001	Front side of the front flap (4 ½" X 11")

Donations of \$5000 or more will be recognized in opening ceremonies.  
(A receipt for your tax-deductible donation will be sent to you.)

☐ Please fill in the amount that you wish to contribute: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Donations of all amounts are appreciated.)

☐ If you would like to make a contribution in kind such as merchandise, printing, etc., please contact Sneha or Shital.

Please make your check payable to YJA Convention 2000. If you have any questions, contact Sneha Dedhia at (949) 552-8089, Shital Gala at (714)956-5998, or Vishal Ghiya at (215)882-0787. Mail your form and check to YJA - LACC, 650 North Rose Drive #174, Placentia, CA 92870.

# Y2J-CALL FOR CREATIVE WORK

Are you a writer, artist, poet or photographer? Is your work inspired by Jainism? Does it depict Jain images? This is your chance to be published! We are looking for creative works to be included in the Convention 2000 Souvenir Book entitled *Four Days' Journey into the Self*.

This book is a serious undertaking. Books from previous conventions have been archived by the U.S. Library of Congress. We need your help in making it great! You can: SPARK AN INTEREST in youth power for national and community development. INSPIRE US THROUGH STORIES of the courageous lives and exploits of prominent Jain figures of history. EXPRESS YOUR INNER BEING through poetry. TELL US ALL ABOUT the special things your youth group does. Who are you, and what makes you guys unique? RESOLVE THE CONTROVERSY of our individual and community practice of Ahinsa: Why is Ahinsa foremost? Where do we comply and where do we compromise? How can we best practice what we preach? ADDRESS THE ISSUES which relate to the male and female genders. Is it important to marry Jain? Tell the guys and gals what they need to hear. ENLIGHTEN US on the cardinal virtues of forgiveness, self-control, and vigilance. PROFESS TO THE WORLD why you choose to be Jain. PROVE WITH YOUR EXPERIENCE the importance of learning Jainism and practicing its teachings. EDUCATE US on the meanings of the Jain traditions, rituals and practices. SHARE YOUR WISDOM AND INSIGHT into how we can explain our philosophy to non-Jains: How does one address a hard-core meat-eater? A devout Christian? A Hindu acquaintance? An atheist? CONNECT Jainism with how one makes a living. How can Jain thinking (and conduct) set us up for success? How does it show in the material "wealth" of the Jain community? Can one be a Jain and Bill Gates at the same time? HELP US PRACTICE AHIMSA with your vegan and veggie recipes. ANSWER THE QUESTION: Why does life suck without Jainism? Or write and be heard on whatever Jainism- or community-related issues are important to you. Written pieces need to be in electronic form and should not exceed 1500 words, but we'll try to be flexible.

**we are also looking for cover art for the souvenir guide**

Send us your written submissions by May 8, 2000 to [yja2000souvenir@yahoo.com](mailto:yja2000souvenir@yahoo.com)

## YJA 2000 -ILLUSTRATION CONTEST

We want to *see Jainism through your eyes*! If you or someone in your youth group has interesting ideas and a creative eye, and would like to express them through photography, drawing, painting, pencil art, or any other two-dimensional medium, we want to print your work. Submissions will be accepted both from youth groups and from individuals. (No more than two (2) entries per youth group or per individual, please.) You'll see the "best" entry (or two) published on a **full page** in the souvenir book and in **full color**. All entries received will be placed on display at the LA convention. Share your insight with the world through the visual medium. Awe us with your originality, dazzle us with your creativity, and enlighten us with your message!

**To Send Art Work: contact us first by email [souvenir2000@yahoo.com](mailto:souvenir2000@yahoo.com).**

For more information contact us first by emailing [souvenir2000@yahoo.com](mailto:souvenir2000@yahoo.com). Or, call us: Pina Shah (714-343-0772) or Amar Salgia (310-542-0414). All entries need to be RECEIVED by **May 8, 2000**.

Also, contact us for any research, reference, illustrations or other materials you'll need to make your article the best it can be. We'll send you whatever you need free of charge.

## Young Jain Professionals Summer 2000 Event (YJP)

**Jai Jinendra!**

We regret to inform you that we have to change our next event. Though many people told us that the April event date was better for them, we did not get the kind of turn-out expected. By the close of the early registration period, the number of registrants was significantly lower than we required to sign the contract with the resort. We negotiated based on a larger event given our turnout at the cruise and at the Leadership Session at JAINA as we felt that it was our responsibility to plan an event for up to 200 people. If the Board had gone forward with the contract we would have incurred a substantial financial risk with the resort. We hope that you understand the tough decision Board had to make. Again, we extend our sincerest apologies to you that we have had to create a change and hope you will join us at our new event. Young Jain Professionals Board (Mona Kothari, Jugna Shah, Shilpa Shah, Saurabh Dalal, Manav Jain, Birju Patel, Ronak Shah)

### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE: "LIVING JAINISM ON THE AMERICAN RIVER"

**DATE: Friday June 9, 2000 to Monday June 12, 2000**

**PARTICIPANTS: Geared Towards Jains Between The Ages Of 24 And 39**

Come join us on a white water rafting and camping trip set in a naturally beautiful setting in northern CA (near Sacramento) for the next YJP gathering. This will be a unique opportunity for you to escape your hectic schedules for a weekend in the great outdoors where you will enjoy rafting, camping, sessions on Jain related topics, and socializing. We truly envision this event being a living exploration of the importance of Jain principles and their relevance to us today. Sessions will reflect on our relationships with the natural world and how we can incorporate simple living into our daily lives. You will use your rafting teams for discussions and enjoy social and fun activities with the whole group.

The package includes: a Friday night hotel stay at quad occupancy in Sacramento where we can dine out and enjoy the city, transportation to/from the hotel to the river/campsite; all vegetarian and vegan meals from Saturday breakfast to Monday breakfast; use of tents (2-person tents), sleep kits, rafts and related equipment. O.A.R.S. is the largest and most popular rafting outfitter in the region, offering the highest levels of safety and convenience for rafting and camping. Not only do their guides have tremendous experience navigating the river and rapids, but they will also cook our vegetarian and vegan meals which they have experience in doing.

#### **Friday**

We expect that most people will be able to arrive into Sacramento for a late dinner. We plan on hanging out and relaxing after a hard workweek and before two days of camping and rafting. Everyone will stay in Sacramento Friday night and we'll organize a trip into the city to have some fun. For those of you arriving late and missing the icebreakers, don't worry, there will be plenty of time to get to know your fellow rafters and campers once we hit the river.

#### **Saturday**

Saturday morning will begin very early as we have an hour and a half ride to the rafting/camping grounds. Our day will include rafting on Class III Rapids (beginner to intermediate level) to challenge us physically, discussions in the sun about the reality of living the vrats to challenge us mentally and spiritually, and veggie meals for sustenance for the day's journey. Evenings will be spent chatting around the fire, going for a walk and generally enjoying everyone's company. We will retire to tents (2 per tent). While this all seems very nature based, there will be hot and cold water bathing facilities and flush toilets. J

#### **Sunday**

Sunday will start with Yoga, a hearty breakfast and then back to the rapids for a few hours of rafting through the scenic gorges of the American River. After lunch, we will take our personal exploration deeper by expanding our conversation to include some of the Vrats that are harder to grasp and incorporate into our daily personal and professional lives. After stimulating our minds, we will complete the final leg of our journey down the American River. For those who still have lots of energy, you may be interested in volleyball or going for a hike after we are done. The rest can freshen up and relax until dinner, which will linger into more conversation for the evening.

#### **Monday**

We will head back to Sacramento, knowing things about one another that you can only learn from working hard together, and sharing stories by the campfire. In addition to learning some things about others, we hope that this nature-based trip will have given

## Young Jain Professionals Summer 2000 Event (YJP)

you an opportunity to learn some new things about yourself. We will realize all too soon that almost as quickly as it began, our time together is over until the next event...

Please visit: [www.homestead.com/yjp](http://www.homestead.com/yjp) to download the registration form and link to the rafting outfitter we have selected. Don't Forget to attend the YJA Conference in Los Angeles in July. We encourage you to attend because there will be age specific programming and YJP will participate in the development of content for this conference. Please see <http://www.yja.org/> for more information.

### PLEASE REGISTER ME NOW FOR THE JUNE YJP EVENT!

Registration is limited to 66 people, based on the number of rafts available. Please complete the form below, and submit it by March 22, 2000 to qualify for EARLY registration pricing. All registrations submitted between March 23 and May 1 will be subject to late registration pricing and availability. A portion of the spots will be held for existing members until March 22. Therefore, we encourage everyone to sign up early, as space is quite limited. After March 22, all unused "member spots" will be in the general pool. No registrations will be accepted after May 1. Reminder: YJP events are geared towards Jains between the ages of 24 and 39.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Profession: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M or F

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip / Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_ All food will be vegetarian. Additional dietary needs: Vegan (no dairy) \_\_\_\_\_ Jain (no root vegetables) \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Co.: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Limitations: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Step 1: Applicable Registration Fee

\_\_\_ \$330 USD or \_\_\_ \$400 CAD YJP dues paying members - registered by March 22  
\_\_\_ \$370 USD or \_\_\_ \$440 CAD Non-members - registered by March 22  
\_\_\_ \$360 USD or \_\_\_ \$430 CAD YJP dues paying members - registered between March 23 and May 1  
\_\_\_ \$410 USD or \_\_\_ \$480 CAD Non-members - registered between March 23 and May 1

**Note:** Your YJP membership dues must be paid to qualify for the member rates listed above. If you would like double occupancy on Friday night, please contact us as your price will be higher. **Refund Policy:** If you contact us prior to May 9th to cancel, we will refund you the amount paid MINUS \$120 which represents our fixed costs associated with your not being able to attend.

#### Step 2: Identify Roommate(s)

(A) If you have selected roommate(s) for Friday/Saturday/ Sunday night, list their names below and ensure they list your name on their form: Friday \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday/Sunday \_\_\_\_\_

(B) If you need a roommate(s) for Friday or a tent-mate for the weekend please indicate your preference: Male Female

Suggestions/Comments (continue on back): \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail the form and check to payable to YJP: YJP, C/O Ronak R. Shah, P.O. Box 130481, St. Paul, MN 5113-0005  
For more information, contact: Shilpa Shah, 404-321-4637, [shilpashah@attglobal.net](mailto:shilpashah@attglobal.net), Saurabh Dalal, [sdalal@erols.com](mailto:sdalal@erols.com)  
or Mona Kothari, 905-820-0659 [monesk@yahoo.com](mailto:monesk@yahoo.com)

**“Rejoicing Jain Dharma”**  
**PRATISHTHA MAHOTSAV**

**August 4 – 7, 2000**

**Of Pran Pratishthit-Anjan Shalaka Pratimaji of  
Bhagwan Shri Adinath(Mul Nayak),  
Shri Parshwanath,Shri Mahavirswami**

with Pratimajis of all 24 Tirthankaras, Simandharswami, Bahubali, Gautamswami, 9 Dev  
Devis and Shrimad Rajchandraji in a Uniquely Architected Temple.

The Jain Center of Northern California with the blessing of Bhagwan Shri Adinath, cordially  
invites you with family and friends at this once in a lifetime event of auspicious Pratishtha  
Mahotsav which will create a history at our landmark Jain Bhawan in Milpitas, CA  
(San Francisco Bay Area).

**Jain Bhawan**

(Jain Temple and Community Center)



The Pratishtha Mahotsav will be conducted under the spiritual guidance of Shri Jinchandraji  
Maharaj, Shri Devendrakeerti Bhattarakji; and will be graced by prominent religious leaders  
including H.H. Acharya Chandanaji, Muni Roopchandji, Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanu  
and many others.

We are inviting articles, poems and other Jainism related material for the Mahotsav  
Souvenir book. Please send your material by April 30, 2000  
to Jay Kamdar, 10080 Carmen Road, Cupertino, CA 95014  
Phone: 408-343-1177, Fax: 408-343-1010, email: [jay@jeditech.com](mailto:jay@jeditech.com)

For further Information Call:  
For latest info. visit our web site: [www.jcnc.org](http://www.jcnc.org)

Dr. Parveen Jain 408-559-6987  
Jitendra B. Shah 408-729-7916



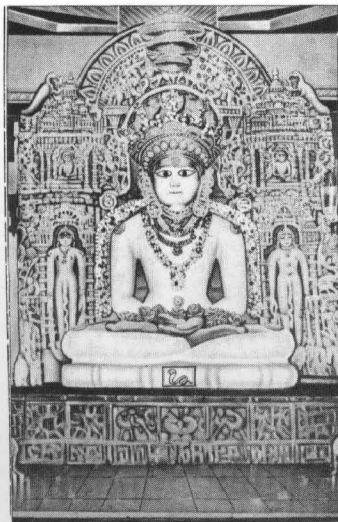
With best compliments to JAINA

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

**EAR, NOSE & THROAT  
HEAD & NECK  
FACIAL PLASTIC &  
RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGEON**

**ADJUNCT SURGEON  
NEW YORK EYE & EAR INFIRMARY  
ASSISTANT CLINICAL PROFESSOR  
NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE  
& AFFILIATED HOSPITALS**

**303 2nd AVENUE, SUITE 10  
NEW YORK CITY, NY 10003  
(212) 505-9640**



Tirthankar Parsavnath

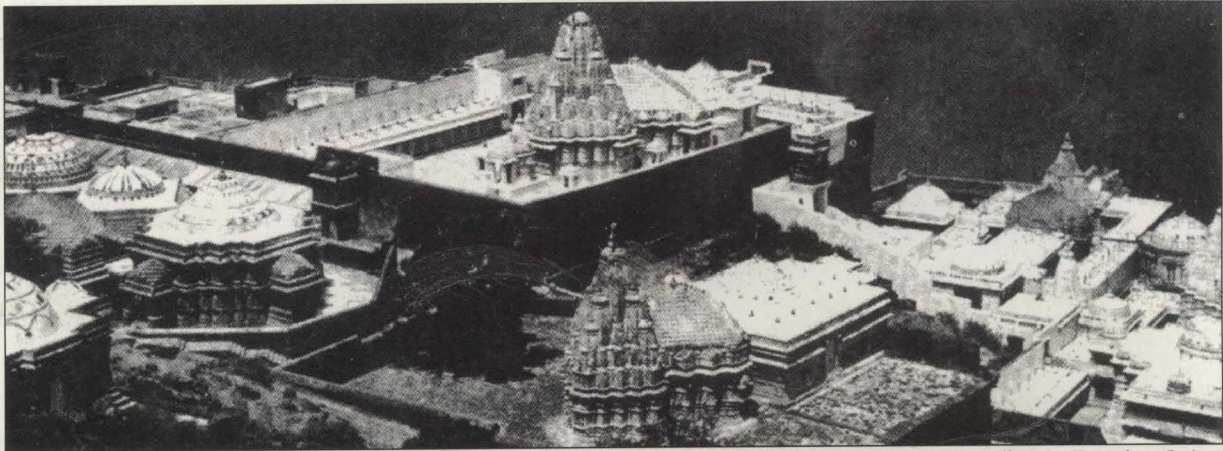


Tirthankar Mahavir

**Jain temple format**

*This cover is sponsored by*

# Jaya Travel and Tours



*Girnar Hills Jain Temples, Gujrat*

*Visit our North American office at:*

26500 Northwestern Highway  
Suite 260  
Southfield, MI 48076  
USA

**TELEPHONE**  
248/358-9100  
**FAX**  
248/372-4806

*Visit our Indian office at:*

Rizvi House  
34 Hill Road  
Bandra (West), Bombay 400050  
INDIA

**TELEPHONE**  
6423031  
6420402  
6425222  
**FAX**  
6436421

*Also visit us at [www.jayatravel.com](http://www.jayatravel.com)*

**JAIN DIGEST Circulation**  
Federation of JAINA  
PO Box 700  
Getzville, NY 14068-0700

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
NIAGARA FALLS, NY  
PERMIT NO. 142

Moving? Receiving duplicate copies?  
Send your address corrections to:

**JAIN DIGEST Circulation**  
Federation of JAINA  
P.O. Box 700  
Getzville, NY 14068-0700