The Magazine of the Federation of Jain Associations in North America

JAIN DIGEST

FALL 2000

VOLUME 16, NO. 3

YJA Convention 2000



4 Days' Journey Into The Self June 30th - July 3rd Los Angeles, California

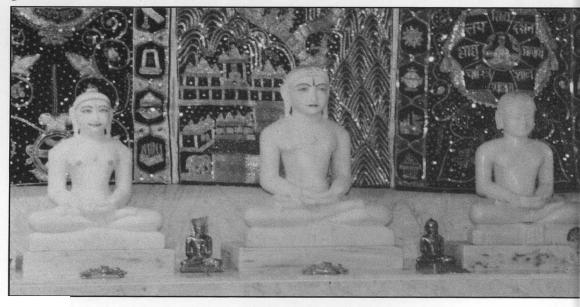
Trit Biognis Janua Convention

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Endocrinology

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JAI JINENDRA

अहो! अहो! श्री सद्गुरु, 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 सह हीन, ते तो प्रभुअे आपियो, वर्तु चरणाधिन (१२५)

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

Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra, Srimad Rajchandra -

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

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Sahdharmic Brothers and Sisters:

Jai Jinendra! Recently we celebrated the Mahaparva of Paryushana and Das Laxan and I would like to seek for your forgiveness on behalf of entire JAINA organization for any transgressions that might have been caused by any of us...*Micchami Dukkadam!*

This summer we celebrated an event that the Chairman of the Jain Center of Northern California appropriately called "the most auspicious event of our life." We should all be aware that the approach of the Californian organization was to maintain unity and openness in all their activities, while being respectful of our diverse traditions. This was the key to the success of such a large project. I am confident that we will all continue to follow this JAINA tradition.

During this summer when I was in India, I attended several meetings of the International Mahavir Memorial Committee (IMMC). The purpose of IMMC is to plan the celebrations commemorating the 2600th Janma Kalyanak of Bhagwan Mahavir. It was distressing to discern that the representatives of all Jain traditions were very much concerned about the deteriorating status of the Jain community in India at social as well as governmental levels. They seemed to attribute it to the disunity among Jains in India. At the same time, we can be proud of the fact that Jains all over the world are looking towards JAINA and the Jains of North America in our experiment of "Unity amongst Diversity". This shows that we are still the best example of Jain unity in the Jain world today. Some of our Jain Centers are involved in expansion or building new organization or temple and we have to be very concerned and vigilant about maintaining our precious unity. I appeal to all involved in planning new temples and other such activities, and request to all religious leaders and scholars visiting from India to help us in preserving our fragile unity. We should be well aware that if we loose this unity, then whatever we may be left with will not be acceptable to our young generation.

The Board of Directors of JAINA held its meeting at the newly inaugurated Jain Bhawan in Milpitas, CA. on August 5th, 2000. Among other things, we agreed to expand the existing Education Committee, into four separate committees, namely JAINA Publication Committee, JAINA Education Committee, JAINA Library Committee, and JAINA Web Site Committee. I am very hopeful that these committees will soon take charge and increase our educational activities.

Last month, I attended the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders at the United Nations in New York. All attendees strongly felt that this was the time to sit together with respect and tolerance for each other, and work for world peace, environmental preservation and poverty elimination. Among the Jain representatives were Acharya Chandanaji, Muni Roopchandji, Muni Ahmendraji, Bhattark Davendra Keertiji, Br. Ravindraji, Mrs. Indu Jain and Mr. L.M. Singhvi. A meeting in honor of Mrs. Induben Jain, Chairwoman of the Times of India Group and the Working Chairperson of the International Mahavir Memorial Committee was organized by Mr. Arvind Vora of Multi Faith Forum of Long Island, New York. There was a lively exchange of ideas on need for JAINA and Jains in North America to become actively involved in interaction with other faiths.

I want to congratulate our YJA and YJP Committees for holding successful convention and gettogether this summer. Their determination to maintain the Jain heritage and to practice Jainism in their daily personal as well as professional life was very evident in all of their programming and activities. Jains in North America also celebrated Srimad Rajchandra Deh Vilaya Centennial and 111th Janma Jayanti of Sri Kanji Swami with major emphasis on the Adhyatmic aspect of Jainism.

I invite all Jain Centers and Jains of North America to plan with JAINA to celebrate the biggest international event of our life, the 2600th Janma Kalyanak of Bhagwan Mahavir that will start on April 6, 2001.

The JAINA Convention Board is working very diligently in planning the 2001 JAINA Convention to make this convention very educational and enjoyable event. Please register early and donate generously for its various activities.

Cerclandya

Mahendra K. Pandya, President, JAINA

JAIN DIGEST

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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:

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR OF JAIN DIGEST

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

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LETTER TO EDITOR

OUR 'WASTE' AND 'THROAWAYS' CAN SAVE LOTS OF LIVES IN INDIA!!

For last 12 months, my wife Jaya and I have been going to a warehouse where all kinds of 'waste' and 'throwaways' medical items and supplies are being collected on a regular basis from all major hospitals of Greater Cleveland area. A group of volunteers get together first Saturday of every month to sort out and store these items; afterwards these items are being shipped out to various underdeveloped countries. In the past, we have managed to send 36 boxes of medical supplies, worth about \$40,000, to 10 hospitals

JAINA Calendar 2001 will be mailed to all Jain families on mailing list by the end of this year. If you have not received JAINA Calendar 2000 or want to send JAINA Calendar 2001 to your family member or friend, please send their mailing address to JAINA HQ (jainahq@aol.com). This will help JAINA to evaluate the number of calendars needed and have them mailed in time for the New Year.

in India with our 'Jaina Pilgrimage' group. Most of the items are medical and surgical supplies such as: Hand Gloves, Syringes, Insulin Syringes, IV' sets, Butterfly IV Needles, Scissors, Catheters, Chest Tubes, Tracheostomy-tubes etc. These items become 'rejects' or discarded because of change in suppliers or specifications.

On behalf of JAINA-World Community Services- I urge you all to keep your eyes and ears open, look around where you work and HELP us and our NEEDY Jains in INDIA to locate more 'waste' items. We can help to make arrangements to ship them to Baltimore, MD and JAINA can make arrangement to ship them to hospitals in India For information call Jaya or Ramesh Shah Ph: 440-442-4596 . or at JAINA World Community Services (Dr. Dhiraj Shah or Bachubhai Ajmera)

Ramesh Shah, cleveland, OH

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JAINA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET IN MILPITAS, CA.

JAINA Board of Directors held the meeting on August 5, 2000, at the newly inaugurated Jain Bhawan, during the Pratishtha Mahotsav in Milpitas, CA. The meeting started with recitation of Navakar Mantra. At first JAINA Secretary Vinay Vakani read the minutes of the meeting held in Chicago on March 18, 2000 and the notes were adopted by the attendees. JAINA President Mahendra Pandya then presented his report covering his visit to India and meetings with the Mahavir Memorial Committee, presentation of Bodha Kathai (stories related to Jainism) on Door Darshan television, and preparation of calendar for next year. He also touched on planning of the next JAINA Convention. A proposal was put forth to expand the existing Education Committee to cover activities such as conducting seminars of continuing education for adults (as well as Jain youth), publication of books under JAINA sponsorships, maintaining JAINA Library, and updating and maintaining the JAINA Website. After some discussion, it was proposed that the four committees should be set up replacing the existing JAINA Education Committee. These are JAINA Continuing Education Committee, JAINA Publication Committee, JAINA Library Committee, and JAINA Website Committee. Further discussion changed the name of JAINA Continuing Education Committee to JAINA Education Committee. The attendees unanimously approved the creation of these four new Committees. JAINA Merit Scholarship: A discussion on instituting JAINA Merit Scholarship ensued with input from the attendees. JAINA Secretary Vinay Vakani summarized the previous discussion on this subject- Approximately 10 scholarships of \$1000 each will be awarded to Jain youngsters graduating from high school and planning to attend colleges in United states and Canada. The scholarships are to be awarded based on scholastic achievements. The attendees commented whether this should be need based, who will decide, scholastic achievement as well as some Jain education requirements may be necessary, how will this be financed, when it will be awarded, etc. The representatives of YJA who were present participated in the discussion and were of the opinion that the scholarship should be solely based on scholastic achievement rather than any financial need criteria. There are other organizations, such Alumni Association of Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya, also involved in awarding loan-grants and scholarships and, it was recommended that JAINA coordinate this activity with them as much as possible. JAINA Secretary Vinay Vakani was entrusted to develop the concept with the help of JAINA Treasurer Anop Vora and Jain Digest Membership Committee Chairman Keerti Shah.

JAINA Treasurer Anop Vora then presented his report. He touched on the impressive success of the Calendar program and partial success of JAINA Patron program. He expressed concern about the current financial situation since there is only a trickle of

direct contribution coming into JAINA. The financial report presented by the Treasurer was accepted by the attendees.

JAINA Convention Board Chairman Bipin Parikh presented details of the planning that are underway for the 2001 JAINA Convention in Chicago. He anticipates about 10,000 attendees to the 2001 Convention; rooms will be available for \$99 a day at Hyatt Regency and other nearby hotels; registration for the Convention will begin in October 2000; construction of replica of Pavapuri Jalmandir is being considered; cruise for youngsters planned; etc. He assured the attendees that registration fees will be made reasonable and affordable, and the convention will be the most enjoyable and memorable in JAINA's history.

Media Watch Committee Chairman Sushil Jain briefed the attendees in detail about the legal matter related to the trademarking of the word JAIN and proposed a line of action. After some discussion, it was agreed to authorize the Committee Chairman to proceed with the action proposed by him.

Various JAINA Committee Chairmen also presented their reports. Ahimsa Day Committee: October 1st will be proclaimed as the Ahimsa Day. Patron Program: Additional membership is required, and JAINA Directors and Regional Vice Presidents can help in enlisting more Patrons. YJA Committee: YJA is planning to initiate more local chapters to increase direct participation and develop Website in coordination with JAINA's Website. Senior Citizen Committee: Senior Citizen Group has been organized in Los Angeles area. It is planned to encourage establishment of such groups at other Jain Centers and coordinate the activities of these groups, seeking the benefits provided by federal and state governments. Media Watch Committee: It was suggested that certain protocol need to be followed in contacting VIPs to be invited for participation in 2001 Convention. Also the media contact should be done discreetly to achieve the desired goals. Virchand Gandhi Scholarship Committee: Arrangements are made with Jitendra Shah of Institute of Indology in Ahmedabad, India, to advertise inviting application for and submit recommendations for awarding the scholarships to the deserving candidates for advanced study in

A group from Los Angeles led by Sangeeta Kumar made a presentation explaining the activities they have been doing promoting vegetarianism in Southern California. JAINA President Mahendra Pandya encouraged the group to contact various JAINA Committees for possible participation in such activity. The meeting was adjourned after reciting the benediction prayer of Khamemi Savva Jeeve...

JAINA's North American Jain Family Assistance Program is available to help needy Jains in emergency situation. Please call toll free – Mrs. Ilaben Mehta 800-203-3590

SAMET SIKHAR PILGRIMAGE January 16 – February 2, 2001

JAINA is very happy to announce once again a pilgrimage to Samet Sikhar and nearby Tirths. This 15 day Yatra of many holy places is in cooperation with Veerayatan. Jains consider Shree Samet Sikhar as their most sacred place of pilgrimage and hold a lifelong dream of being there at least once in their life. Samet Sikhar is where 20 Teerthankars of Vartman Chauvisi attained Salvation (Nirvana).

Traveling through Bihar has always been considered a difficult endeavor and a Sangh Yatra is the only real choice for most people. For those of us living in North America this is a rare opportunity to join a Sangh organized from this land to Shree Samet Sikharji and other nearby Tirths.

We also plan to visit Temples of Delhi, Shouryapuri (Agra), Ayodhya, Banaras, Vaishali, Rajgir, Guniyaji, Pawapuri, Kundalpur. Lachhwad (Kshatriyakund), Champapuri and Calcutta. Total capacity for our Yatra is 111 Pilgrims and JAINA is offering this opportunity to residents of North America only. We expect that we will be fully subscribed and presently, we are unable to accept relatives or friends living in India. In case of over subscription, preference will be given to JAINA supporters like Trustees of JAINA Charitable Trust, JAINA Patron or Life Members of the JAIN DIGEST in that order. Act soon to avoid disappointment later.

In addition to the above-mentioned temples, we will be spending 3 nights at Veerayatan and participate in their annual celebration on January 26th. On that day, there will be an opening of Polio Clinic at Veerayatan and Yatris will get a chance to see "Compassion in Action" – message of Mahaveer put in practice by Acharya Chandanaji and other Sadhwis of Veerayatan in the poorest region of the country. Historically, Banaras (Kashi) has been attraction for scholars for religious studies. We will be visiting Jain Studies department at Banaras Hindu University and Parswanath Vidyapith.

Our tentative date of departure from here is January 16 from either New York or Chicago. We will fly to New Delhi and begin our Yatra from New Delhi on 18th January. Our Yatra will end in Calcutta on the evening of February 2. The cost of the land portion of the pilgrimage within India is \$825. This includes all traveling within India by bus or train, accommodation in hotels or Dharmsala, tips, \$30 registration fee and all the meals. \$100.00 of the \$825 will be earmarked for "Yatra Fund". The Yatra Fund will be used for donations to temples and institutions we visit. The Airfare from New York or Chicago on Air India is \$1,125 including flight from Calcutta to Bombay at the end of our Yatra. Arrangements have been with METRO TRAVEL of Iselin, NJ for ticketing. If you choose to, you may reach India ahead of us, purchase your Air ticket on airline or Travel agent of your choice and meet us in New Delhi on the morning of the 18th January.

If you plan to join us in this Pilgrimage, please fill out the attached registration forms and mail to Mr. Anil Shah of East Brunswick, New Jersey. Confirmation of you registration, final itinerary and other details will be mailed to you after receipt of completed forms and full payment. Please do not purchase air tickets until you receive a written confirmation from JAINA that you have been booked for the Yatra. You must check with your travel agent regarding refund policy for the airfare.

For more information contact:

Dilip V. Shah, 1902 Chestnut Street Philadelphia PA 19103 Phone (215) 561 0581, or dilipvshah@aol.com Dr. Anil Shah, 4 Hampton Ct. Burr Ridge, IL 60521 Phone (630) 323 9409

Ck. Number ____

Contacts in India:

Name

I will purchase my air ticket from

METRO TRAVEL

Registration Form A Please mail completed form along with Check made out to JAINA before October 25 to:Anil Shah, 18 Stout Ct., East Brunswick, NJ 08816, Telephone: (732) 651-8734 Passport Number Passenger Names Age

state___Zip____Ph:Res:_____Work___Email____

My own Travel Agent

Address

Address: _____City____

Total Number of Yatris _____ X \$825 = ____

Contribution to Yatra Fund (Optional)

Please list any diet requirements or special medical condition_____

Registration Form B

City

Please mail completed form along with Check made out to METRO TRAVEL of Iselin Mail to: 1433 Oak Tree Road, Iselin, NJ 08830

Passenger Names	Age	Passport Number	Departure	Departure	Returning	Return
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Contribution to Yatra Fund (Optional)

Ck. Number _____ Total

Important Notes:

- 1. Please include Photo copy of passport of each person showing photograph and passport validity date.
- 2. You must specify date of return and city from which you will be returning
- 3. Check in the amount of US \$ 1,125 for each person and any additional charge if you wish to purchase Additional air ticket from your hometown to New York or Chicago. Call Kalpana or Meena at Metro Travel at 732 283-0200 or (800) 587 1630
- 4. AIR INDIA tickets are non-endorsable. There Is a \$200. Charge for cancellation or any changes once the ticket is issued.
- 5. JAINA is not responsible for any unexpected delay, cancellation or events beyond our control.

Please Note: JAINA is not responsible for any unexpected delay, cancellation or events beyond our control.

Citizen of

Are you a

JAIN DIGEST life member? Yes/ No

Trustee of JAINA Charitable Trust? Yes/ No

JAINA Patron? Yes/ No.

Phone (include area code)

Please send me information on the

above mentioned programs.

A NEW JAIN BHAWAN IN MILPITAS, CALIFORNIA

Jain Center of Northern California(JCNC) organized a very successful and historical Pratishtha Mahotsav from August 4-7, 2000 for inauguration and consecration of its newly built Jain Bhawan (Jain Temple and Community Center) at 722 South Main Street, Milpitas, California 95035.

Jain Bhawan houses the first Jain Temple in the entire North America to have Pratimäs with Prän Pratishthä (Anjan Shalakha), and unites all the Jain traditions under one roof - Shwetämbar, Digambar, Sthänakwäsi, Teräpanthi, and the inspired ones by Shrimad Rajchandra. This shows that we are not only united but we respect everybody equally.

A Modern Facility: Completed in less than 14 months, from ground breaking to completion, the Jain Bhawan is perhaps the fastest Jain temple ever built. The total cost of the project is approximately \$7.4 million, which includes the cost of organizing the Pratishtha Mahotsav. Our building and construction committee did a splendid job in coordinating the efforts in such a short time.

This is a two-story structure with 18,000 sq. feet community center on the first floor, and 6,000-sq. ft. religious area on the second floor. The community center consists of an auditorium, classrooms, kitchen, dining hall, library and Pujari/caretaker room along with classroom and child care center in a contemporary modern facility. The religious area consists of a traditional Digambar/Shwetambar temple, a Bhakti-Sthanak and upasharya rooms. The all-white-marble temple is designed and built according to the Jain Vastushastra. The religious area consists of over 100,000 pounds of marble items including 44 Pratimas and a Namokar Maha Mantra Shila, all carved in India in less than 5 months.

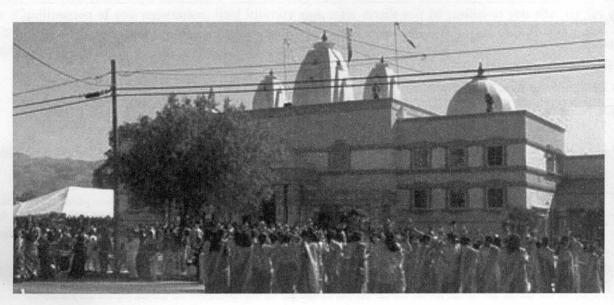
Jain Bhawan is also a virtual temple fully wired for the Internet. In one sense, our temple never closes and does not have any geo-

graphic boundaries. Anyone who would like to do Darshan can log on to the Internet and can do Darshan any time of the day from any place around the world.

Spiritual Inspiration: From the initiation of the project in April 1997, our community decided to hold at least one upvaas (Tapsaya) every day until the temple is built. We far exceeded that goal with more than 3100 upvas already completed at the opening of Jain Bhawan. This includes 7 to 10 people doing Varshi Tap In a true sense, these Tapasvis are the spiritual and silent force behind the realization of our Jain Bhawan.

Widespread Community Participation With No Ghee-Boli: JCNC conducted Pratishtha of 44 Pratimas and Namokar Maha Mantra Shila with no gheeboli for any entity. Over 300 families participated in the Prathishtha with pre-assigned religious activities. All participants signed up for Prathishtha of their chosen Pratima with a designated amount in advance, and paid their pledges in installments in three years. This approach allowed multiple families to participate with lower amounts than those in Ghee-Boli, and it provided the needed funds ahead of time to cover the construction costs. More importantly, it provided a community-wide sense of participation, ownership and belonging by the families who participated in Prathishtha.

A Unique Pratishtha Mahotsav: We started planning for the Pratishtha Mahotsav with the objective of doing the best we could, we ended up "Setting Up Another Set of New Standards" as said by many of our guests representing organizations from India, the UK, Canada, other parts of the world and within the US including JAINA President, JCSC President, and many more. During the August 4-7, 2000 period approximately 10,000 people from all over the world visited Jain Bhawan and attended the Prathishtha Mahotsav events at one time or the other. This included Jain from all traditions, non-Jains and non-Indians. The peaks were over 4,000 people at cultural program on August 5th, and over 3,000 "young people" at Raas-Garba program on August 6th. The Pratishtha Ceremonies were attended and graced by religious dignitaries including Sadhus, Sadhvies, Samanijis, Pratishtha Acharyas, Vidhikaars, scholars, and other experts from all traditions.



A NEW JAIN BHAWAN IN MILPITAS, CALIFORNIA

We held the first ever Pratishtha Mahotsav in modern times with no Ghee Boli and widespread community participation with over 300 families participating in various Prathishtha vidhies on pre-assign basis. We held one of the most complex puja ceremonies event with flawless planning completely addressing all needs and requirements of all of our traditions. Various Prathishtha committees including religious and logistics committees did an exemplary job in planning minute details to make our event a memorable one in the history. According to all the visiting Sadhus and Sadhvies, ours was the most organized and peacefully held religious ceremony and pujas they had ever witnessed. Particularly, they were stunned by the pin-drop silence during Saturday cementing event in the temple with over 600 people on the temple floor, and the same thing in tents around the Bhawan where over 2,000 people watched the ceremony.

The hospitality committee made the necessary arrangements for all dignitaries for their accommodation, transportation, bus shuttle services for all people from Jain Bhawan to our tents, medical services, traffic management and registration services for the guests. It was a huge task and was extremely well done.

The Public relations committee did an extra ordinary job in developing a souvenir, program guide, puja books and Prabhavana kit. In addition, they sent out invitations to more than 8000 Jain families throughout United States and Canada as well in other countries. In addition, they handled all the publicity in newspaper and television coverage.

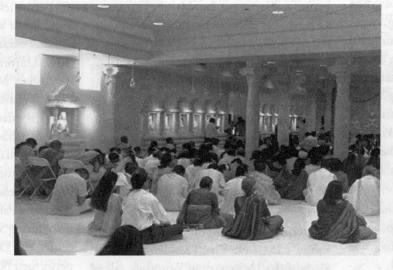
The cultural program was close to a professional program held by local artists and was attended by more than 4000 people. In addition, we held one of the largest and most colorful Indian Parades in the Bay Area, and certainly the largest Jain Parade in the US with over 14 units and over 1,000 people walking. Then there was Raas Garba program on Sunday night in which more than 3000 people participated.

We served over 18,000 lunch and dinner meals, and in addition over 9,000 breakfast and afternoon snack meals, all served by

volunteers. We had over 300 Pratishtha Mahotsav, spendof the four day event.

This was the first ever audience in real-time via live For the first time, a Jain event including some of the nations news channels including local CNN and perhaps BBC

The backbone of our efing volunteers. Almost every in organizing this event. Evadmiration for our team — ways professional, and always community's dedication and Dharma.



volunteers working during the ing over 12 hours a day on each

Jain event viewed by worldwide Webcasting from Jain Bhawan. was covered by major news media largest newspapers, and major affiliates of ABC, NBC, CBS; and worldwide.

fort has been our team of untir-Bay Area Jain family was involved eryone had nothing but words of always there, always at service, alsmiling. We are truly proud of our commitment to the service of Jain

We believe our biggest achievements of our Jain Bhawan Project and Pratishtha Mahotsav are unity, mutual respect and love, teamwork, professionalism and dedication of our community members. These are shining example of the strengths of our community and unity with diversity. This is the best way to practice to our great religion. Many of our religious dignitaries from India and around the world said "This is a great new milestone, and it will be written in golden letters in Jain History". For us at JCNC, this certainly has been the proudest moment.

Dr. Parveen Jain President, Jain Bhawan Committee Chairman, JCNC Board of Directors Jitendra B. Shah President, JCNC Executive Committee

CANADA

Dr. Mahendra Mehta, Regional Editor

Toronto, ON

The Toronto Jain Sangh celebrated the Paryushan Mahaparva of 2000 with great piety and dedication. Our Jain centre was buzzing with religious activities almost 24 hours a day from the start of Paryushan to Parna and followed by Daslaxana Parva which concluded on Tuesday 12thSept.

The spirit of Paryushan started much earlier with series of lectures, pujas, screening of video movies and other group activities. Diptiben Shah gave daily discourses on subjects as varied as 'Let us learn our Mahamantra Navkar' to more related to daily living as 'Rasoda ni Jayna'. She is a popular speaker and her talks were well researched; made use of all audio visual aids and started and concluded in time. She involved the audience in self testing, questions and answers. She has good command of English and impressed the young as well as the elders. The Samvatsari Pratikraman was conducted for children in English by Meenaben Shah, an early Pratikraman at 2pm for those who could not make it in the evening for various reasons and the regular evening Pratikraman attended by almost 500+ individuals.

The afternoon program of Sapna and gheeboli was a great success A full page article on the importance of Paryushan was published in The Globe and Mail, a National Newspaper.

Earlier in August, Pujya Atmanandji and Shree Nalinbhai Shah gave a series of talks on Shrimad Rajchandra. Later on a 2 hr. film on Shrimad's life was shown in Jain Centre and was attended by a large audience.

Rajendra Kamdar visited Jain Centre and gave evening discourses on Karma Theory. Dr. Atul Shah, Editor of Jain Spirit visited Toronto and made a pitch for his new magazine. He was well received and won many subscribers.

The Young Jains have organized a camping weekend at Lake St.George from Sept.29 to Oct.1. The YJT also had their annual picnic on July 29th. The Jain Society Picnic was held on August 13th at Donald M.Gordon Chinguacousy Park.Prakash Mody was appointed to the Community Editorial Board of Toronto Star.

Hamilton, ON

The International Mahavir Jain Mission of Canada (IMJMC) had several activities during the past several months. These were:

1. Bhagwan Rishabdev's Nirvana Mahotsava and Acharya Sushil Kumarji's Birthday Commemoration on June 11 at the Jain Centre in Toronto. The program included 3 selected short video segments of several of the Children's Camps, under the spiritual guidance of the late Acharya Sushil Kumarji interspread throughout the program; a discourse by Muni Amrender Kumarji; an address by the Consul-General of India, Mr. Bhandari.

Adult Religious Retreat in Niagara Falls. This year's annual religious retreat was held at the Loretto Center overlooking Niagara Falls from July 22 to 23rd. One of the main speakers this year was Dr. Christopher Chapple of Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. His talk focused on the topic of "Ecology and Jaina Tradition". Other speakers included Dr. Anne Vallely of the University of Toronto on the topic of "Jain Ethics"; IMIMC Vice-President, Dr.Kirti Shah of the University of Waterloo, talked about "Reflections on Jain faith and practice" and Shanti Parakh, former Vice-Chair of the IMJMC and renowned Yoga teacher, spoke on "Practical Techniques of Reflexology" and led Yoga and meditation on both

Edmonton, AL

Jain families participated in the following Interfaith Prayer Service:

• Celebration of 100 years of establishment of Misercordia Hospital founded by the Grey Nuns.

- Roman Catholic Jubilee Celebration Prayer Service led by a 5 year old boy - Jainil Doshi
- Samvatsari Pratikraman was celebrated twice in Edmonton and Calgary.

Several Christian individuals showed interest in learning Jainism in Edmonton & Calgary.

SOUTHWEST

Jadavji Kenia, Regional Editor

Houston, TX

Summer months were busy months as our center was blessed by scholars like Tarlaben Doshi, Dr. Atul Shah, Dr. Soneji and other dignitaries like Samanjis and muni Rupchandji who preached to us on Jain principles. We are very fortunate that two of the Samanijis are staying in Houston permanently. Under Samniji's guidance some locals are going to perform a drama called "Chandanbala" at Hermann hall (Rice University) on October 27, 2000. Paryushan Mahaparva started on August 26th. Samanijis gave us lectures everyday. We celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on Sunday 27th. We had two sets of swapans. Adults did the usual ghee-bolis but the Jain fellowship children participated by pledging points instead of ghee. They earn points by attending Pathshala, help out in the library, help during Sangh Jaman, help cleaning the center, etc. During Paryushan Dayro group performed Bhavna geet program, which was inspirational as well as enjoyable. Children did their pratikraman (in English) A noteworthy and memorable event this year was that under the guidance and encouragement of Samanijis we had over twenty people participate in Paushadh on the last day of Paryushan. As good news - bad news, on Mahavir Jayanti celebration day, we had many more people show up than we had anticipated which was good but it was a very hot day and our air-conditioning system could not maintain the cool temperature inside, as a result people were a bit uncomfortable - nothing unusual as we have learned to maintain *Samata* or equanimity. One of our members Rupaben Mehta did 16 upvas, Priti Mehta did 11 upvas. We had other six athais. Overall we had lots of tapasyas. Lots of children also were involved in tapasya this year. JSH contact is our current president Bhupesh Sheth at 281-261-4030. or Parimal Desai at 281-859-3661 Perry Desai jacobs.com

DALLAS,TX

Jain Society of North Texas had many dignitaries in summer starting with Dr. Bharill in July who covered chapter 7 of the Moksha Marg Prakashak by Pandit Todarmalji. Sunandaben Vohra also came in July and covered several chapters from "Mangalmay Yog." Atma with Samyak Gyan discriminates properly between Bhav or spiritual aspects and Pudgal or material aspects of Yog. Bhattarak Shri Devendra Kirtiji came in August and gave discourses on Daslaxana (10 types of Uttam or best Yati Dharma), on Namokaar and Uvassag Haram mantras and on Shravak's Sadachar or proper day-to-day conduct by a lay person. Paryushan Parva celebration began on August 26th with daily Pratikraman and Tapasya for eight days and with a continuation of Daslaxana Parva until September 13th with Pujas and Swadhyay sessions. Swapna ceremony was held on Sunday, August 27th with usual Ghee bolis and presentation of symbolic swapna pieces. Samvatsari Pratikraman was done twice (at 2:30 and at 6:00) on Sep. 2nd. Pratikraman in English (for our youth) was conducted on Sunday, Besides 9 upvas by Bhupendra Shah there were 8 Athais and various other Tapasya. Swamivatsalya meeting and lunch is scheduled on Sep. 24.Several members are going to visit Tulsa Jain Sangh on Sep 16-17 to meet with and assist Jain members there in observance of a Jain tradition called Chaitya Paripati. JSNT contact is our president Kirit Daftary at 254-776-4209 (netrat@att.net).

Phoenix, AZ

Jain Center of Greater Phoenix hosted Attamanandji (Dr. Soneji) during July. Many members participated during Bhav Pooja and daily swadhyay. During August, as many as 50 Jain members from Phoenix area participated in Northern CA Pratishtha Mohotsav. Organization of the event was excellent. The Derasar marvelous.Rajendrabhai Kamdar, a wellknown Jain scholar, visited Phoenix during Paryushan Parva. Paryushan was celebrated from August 26-Sep.02 followed by Daslaxana Parva from Sep. 02-12. Many Jain families participated in lectures and in Pratikraman. The Swapna vidhi was celebrated on August 27th. During Paryushan Parva, several individuals did different kinds of "Tapascharyas," the most notewothy being 30 Upvas by Prem Gandhi and 45 ekasana by Jainy Savla. There were two Athais and other various upvas and ekasanas. We are proud to announce that 5 Pathshala children in the age group 11 to 14 years completed JAINA Education Committee's Level-3 curriculum at the Jain other details, Center.For www.azindia.com > Jain Center Of Greater Phoenix web page. Contact for JCGP is Bhakti Gosalia at (623) 561-2148, email:

jain_phoenix@hotmail.com.

Tulsa, OK

Very learned Scholar Sunandaben Vohra and 2 of the Samanjis visited Tulsa during July and August. Their daily discourses enhanced members' religious and spiritual knowledge as evidenced by the progress made by the members. During Paryushan, besides Rita Sheth's 11 upvas there were 3 Athais (Niru Shah, Grishma Ajmera and Harsha Mehta) and 10 continuous Ekasana. The Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated on Sunday, 08/27/00 with a potluck lunch. The Tulsa Jain Sangh has crossed a major milestone by signing a construction contract on 09/04/00 for its New Jain Center. The Derasar area with Ghabhara and prayer hall

will be around 1,000 sq.ft. Social hall, 3 Jain study class rooms, and a library will be about 4,000 sq.ft. in total. Total projected cost of the entire project is approx. \$500,000. (Sangh consists of only about 20 families and about half the funds are on hand with the other half to be obtained by interest free loans mostly from the Sangh members).

The Tulsa Jain Sangh had a Chaitya Paripati visit by bus from a sister Sangh, The Jain Society of North Texas (Dallas area) on 09/ 16-17. On 16th afternoon there were some social/religious discussions such as topics for Pathshala, how to coordinate dignitary visits and how to keep the next generation within the Jain community matrimonially. It was agreed to expand regional communications and to have more frequent gettogethers. After dinner there was Bhavna led by Prem Shah and Dilip Shah for an enjoyable and spiritually uplifting evening. On Sunday a Panch Kalyanak Pooja was performed where many people from both Sanghs (and some from Oklahoma City) participated. After a delicious swami vatsalya lunch, the Dallas group departed in the late afternoon. It was felt by both groups, that this kind of meetings are not only beneficial but necessary to promote Jainism and strengthen on a regional basis. For any information about our Derasar, Sangh or the dignitaries, please contact TJS president Mukesh J. Shah at (918) 299-2873 or E-mail at: mukesh@galaxy-1.com.

WEST

Chandrakant Parekh, Regional Editor

Los Angeles, CA

Nearly 800 youths from the United States, Canada and United Kingdom participated in the Fourth Biennial Young Jains of America Convention in Los Angeles from June 30 to July 3. Following a theme of "4 Days' Journey Into The Self", Please see complete report on YJA pages.

Recent eminent visitors at the Jain Center included Pujya Atmanandji from June 24 to July 3, Shri Chitrabhanuji, Pujya Samani Madhur Pragyaji, Pujya Sunandaben Vohra, from July 4 to 20, Shri Narendrabhai Nandu from July 22 to 23, and Pujya Jinchandraji (Bandhu Triputi) from July 29 to 30. The Jain Bhavan Sthapna Day was celebrated on July 9 with Navkar Mantra Jap, Pooja, Dhvaj Ceremony, Pravachan by Pujya Sunandaben and Swamivatsalya dinner. Shri Narendrabhai Nandu and his group conducted two auspicious Pujans -108 Parshvanath Bhagvan Pujan on July 22 and Shree Parshva Padmavati Pujan on July 23. The six-year-old Megh Kishore's who recited several Mantras and Shlokas enchanted the sangh. Pujya Jinchandraji (Bandhu Triputi) gave impressive discourses on July 29 and 30. An exhibition of paintings and movies about the life and teaching of Shrimad Rajchandra was organized at the Jain Center on August 8-9 by Nalinbhai Kothari, Rasikbhai Shah, and Vinayakbhai Shah of Shri Raj Sobhag Ashram of Sayla. The event organizers are on a Dharma Yatra to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Deh Vilay of Param Krupalu Dev Shrimad Rajchandra.

Paryushan Mahaparva will be celebrated from August 26 to September 3 under the direction of Dr. Kumarpalbhai Desai, an eminent Jain scholar and author who received the prestigious Diwaliben M. Mehta Award in 1999. Das Laxna Mahaparva will be celebrated from September 3 to 12 under the direction of Pujya Tarlaben Doshi, also an eminent Jain scholar and author who is an editor of Jain Prakash, a publication of All India S. S. Jain Conference. Details of various activities and events are available at www.jainbhavan.com website. For additional information about various activities and events, please contact Sumatibhai Shah, JCSC President at 562/926-4075 or by e-mail: sumati1@hotmail.com.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

The Pratistha Mahotsav and inauguration of the new Jain Bhawan in Milpitas, near San Francisco. Complete report on Pages 8-9.

Jin Chandraji Maharaj will present religious discourses during Paryushan Parva. and Dr. Pravin L. Shah will direct bhakti and swadhyaya. Das Laxna Mahaparva will be celebrated from September 3 to 12 when Roopchandji Maharaj will present the religious discourses. A gathering to recognize all the Tapasvis is scheduled for September 16. Details of various activities and events are available at www.jcnc.org website. For additional information about various activities and events, please contact Jitendra B. Shah, JCNC President, at 408/729-7916 or by e:mail: jbshah@electroglas.com.

Sacramento, CA

Samani Mangal Prajnajee and Samani Sharda Pragyajee from Ladnau, India are in Sacramento from July 20 to September 12. Many people are taking advantage of their Pravachans on every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at the residences of the host families. Under the guidance of the Samanijis, the Jain Center of Greater Sacramento (JCGS) has organized a "Jain Shibir" on September 8-10 at Point Bonita, Sausalito - a beautiful place near Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. Everyone is invited to participate in this event. For additional information about various activities and events, please contact Manoj Desai at 916/791-4111 or by e-mail: manoj.desai@nec-computers.com.

SAN DIEGO, CA

Regular activities organized by the Jain Society of San Diego (JSSD) include - Navangi Puja at Shri Mandir every Saturday, a monthly Jainshala, and a monthly Jain adult class. For additional information about such activities and events, please contact Kokilaben Doshi at 858/679-7645 or by e-mail: kdoshi@acusd.edu.

SOUTHEAST

Surendra Shah, Regional Editor

Orlando, FL

The Jain Society of Central Florida, Orlando held Paryushan (eight to ten days) and celebrated Mahavir Jayanti on September 3rd. More than 100 people from all around Florida attended the event.

On the agenda was stavans (bhajan) singing and the cultural program presented by children. It was followed by a gheeboli (auction of 16 dreams of Bhagwan Mahavir's mother) and dinner.

One of its members, Mrs. Darshana Shah completed eleven fasting days. Mr. Mukesh Shah completed nine days of fasting. Four of its members, Mrs. Rita Parikh, Mr. Shailendra Parikh, Dr. Dhiran Shah and Mr. Dipak Shah completed atthais (eight fasting days) and Mr. Sanjay Vora completed six fasting days.

MIDWEST

Manubhai Doshi, Regional Editor

Chicago, IL

A Chaitya Paripati program of senior citizens was organized on behalf of Indira Mansukhlal Doshi Memorial Trust on July 8th in which 60 senior citizens enthusiastically participated. They were taken round the private temples of Dr. Rashmikant Gardi, Niranjan Shah, Dr. Mukesh Doshi and Kishor Shah. At all those places they were warmly received and well treated by the hosts.

The installation anniversary of the temple was celebrated on July 9TH when flag changing and 18 bathing ceremonies were performed.

Dr. Hukumchand Bharill, revered Atmanandji, revered Jinchandraji and Kiran Parikh came to Chicago during July and August and gave talks at the Jain Center.

REGIONAL NEWS AGRIFTMENT

The representatives of Raj-Sobhag Satsang Mandal came to Chicago with the Video movie and exhibits prepared on the occasion of Shrimad's Nirvan centenary. The same were displayed at the Jain Center on August 12th and 13th.

The Paryushan Parva was celebrated from August 26th to September 2nd under the guidance of Mafatbhai Doshi, who was invited for the purpose. Discourses and Bhavana were held on all the days. Bhavna program was performed by Swarkinnari group of India. The display of Mother's dreams was organized on August 27th which was attended by more than 1200 people. The Gheeboli on that day amounted to more than \$88000, Samvatsari Pratikraman in Gujarati as well as English was performed on the last day. About 1300 people took advantage of that.

Many people observed different austerities during the Parva. 41 observed fasts for eight days or more, of which one person observed 9 days' fast, one 10 days' and three 11 days' fast. They will be honored on September 17th. Daslaxana Parva is being celebrated from September 3rd in the presence of Pundit Paramatma Bharill.

NORTHEAST

Dinesh Chheda, Regional Editor

Washington DC

Rushi Mandal Pooja:

Narendra Nandu and his party of 7 members performed Rushi Mandal Pooja for the first time in Metro Washington. The Pooja was held on Saturday, June 17th at the Temple. Members attended the Pooja with deep spiritual bhavna and interest. The Pooja concluded with Swamivatsalya dinner sponsored by 72 member families.

PARYUSHAN: Arunbhai Jhaveri from Bombay helped us to celebrate the Paryushan Parva from August 26 to September 2, 2000 with a series of lectures, preksha dhyan, swapna ceremony, and samvatsari pratikraman. Swapna ceremony attended by about 600 members was held on August 27th. Kalyanji Haria, Mansukh & Niranjana Haria, Gunvanti Bhavsar, and Navin & Nirmala Vora sponsored Swamivatsalya dinner. Samvatsari Pratrikraman (for adults and children) was held on Sept 2nd, followed by Sanjji to felicitate the Tapasvis. Following members did 8 or more Upvas. Jyotsna Goda (Mas Khaman, 30 upvas), Pravin Dand (9 upvas), Rekha Chheda, Shefali Dalal, Dilip Dharamsi, Manoj Dharamsi, Prakash Mehta, Rupa Mehta, and Manoj Shah did Atthai (8 upvas). The Parnu was held at the Temple on Sept 3rd and was sponsored by Narendra and Jyotsna Goda.

Panch Tirth Yatra: Jain Society has reserved two 50-seater luxury buses for Panch Tirth Yatra to temples in Philadelphia, Cherry Hill, Essex Fells, Siddhachalam, and New York. The Yatra will be held on September 16th and 17th and currently both the buses are completely full. Members are eagerly waiting for the Panch Tirth Yatra.

Essex fells, NJ

Sangh members were fortunate to hear the lectures given by Pujya Shri Jinchandraji Maharaj, Pujya Dr. Jitendrabhai Shah and swadhaya conducted by Pujya Shri Kiranbhai Parekh.

Mahaparva Paryushan was celebrated with vigor and enthusiasm under the auspicious presence of Pujya Shri Kiranbhai Parekh. Many people came to his Paryushna Parva Vyakhyanmala everyday. Jain Center set another record for number of Tapasyas (minimum eight days fasting) this year (A total of 80 people). Master Ronak Savla, Age 13, did a "Maskhaman". Tapasvies will be felicitated at the Derasar. One of Center's life member and a Jain Scholar Shri Chandrakantbhai Mehta was Paryushna Mahaparva guest speaker at Jain Center of America in New York City. Also another Jain scholar and Center's life member Dr. Kirtibhai Shah was guest speaker at Jain

Sangh of Connecticut for a few days during Paryushna Mahaparva.

A 2nd Health Fair has been organized for Sunday September 17, 2000. More than 15 doctors will volunteer their services for EKG, General Patient Care, Dental Care, Diet guidelines, children's health, etc.

Dedicated members keep the Derasar open on every Sunday in the afternoon. If you are visiting New Jersey / New York City area and would like to visit or attend a program, please call Shri Diwakar Shah at 908 - 754 – 0891.

New York, NY

The summer of 2000 was a very eventful one with numerous memorable events. The derasar (temple) was graced by the presence of numerous spiritual scholars and the Jain center is very thankful to all of them. Shri Kiranbhai Parekh, Smt. Tarlaben Doshi, Shri Subhasbhai Sheth, Munishri Rupchandji Maharaj, Shri Atmanandji, Jitendra Shah and Muni Shri Jinchandji Maharaj.

We had a very successful youth camp conducted by Samanji Charitryapragnayaji & Sangpragnyaji. The camp was attended by about 80 youth. The 100th anniversary of Shrimad Rajchandra was celebrated and included an excellent video presentation, painting exhibits depicting his life and discourses by Shrimad scholars.

Paryushan Mahaparva & Daslaxna were celebrated with great enthusiasm & Tapascharya, with 40 atthai, under the guidance of Chandrakantbhai Mehta, Acharya Chandanaji, Mahasati Subhamji, Bhattarak Swamiji, and Dr. Shekharchand Jain.

Swapna Darshan was celebrated on Aug 27th, Paranas at the temple on September 3rd and Samuhsanji on September 9th were all well attended by a large gathering.

By Dr. Pravin L. Shah – Reading PA

Acharya Kundkund (112 B.C.) is an unquestioned authority on Jain metaphysics, and his name is revered and enumerated next only to that of Lord Mahavir and Gautam Swamiji. Acharya's original name was Padmnandi which was latter changed to Kundkund possibly due to his native place Kondkunda in south India. During his life time of ninety years, this great Master composed more than ninety scriptures. Acharya Kundkund's contributions to Jain literature and philosophy is unsurpassed in last 2000 years. Most authoritative and prominent of Kundkunds' epics are: (1) Samayasar, (2) Pravachansar, (3) Panchastikay, (4) Niyamsar, and (5) Ashtaprabhrut.

Samayasar is a paramount work of Acharya Kundkund composed in Prakrit more than 2000 years ago at age 85. Samayasar has been brilliantly commented in Sanskrit by Acharya Amratchandra in the 10th century A.D who is also considered as one of the greatest Jain Masters and scholars of Sanskrit and the metaphysics of soul and matter. Acharya Jaysen also commented in Sanskrit on Samaysar in 12th century A.D. A Hindi poetic translation of Samayasar's Sanskrit verses of Amratchandra was done by Banarasidasji five hundred years ago. Hindi and Gujarati and English translations of the entire text are now available.

Out of the twelve Agam Sutras composed by Gautam Swami, the last Agam text called *Drashtivad* is no longer in existence which contained fourteen *Purvas*. Fortunately, the scholarly works of Acharya Kundkund have given us the essence of some of the *Purvas* that contained the depth of real Jain metaphysics or *Dravyanuyog*. The five texts (mentioned above) composed by Acharya Kundkund are no less than the original *Purvas* to describe the complex subject of Jain metaphysics or *Dravyanuyog*.

The word "Samayasar" means the essential nature of the soul or *Dravya*. In fact the word "Samayasar" is made of two Sanskrit words: The word 'Samay' means Atman or the knower, and the word 'Sar' means pure or essential nature. The combined word "Samayasar" thus means characteristics of the pure soul or pure consciousness. Samayasar is the most authoritative and brilliant thesis of Acharya Kundkund on the nature of pure consciousness and the metaphysics of soul and matter. As a highly self realized Yogi, Kundkund presents a unique science of separating soul from matter to attain the self realization.

The Essence of Samayasar:

Acharya Kundkund has scientifically described the nine elements (*Tatvas*) in Samayasar: *Jiva, Ajiva, Papa. Punya, Ashrava, Nirjara, Samvara, Bandha, and Moxa.* The author states that until one can understand the true significance of these nine elements from Absolute reality point of view or *Dravyarthic Naya*, one can not know the true nature of the self.

Acharya Kundkund explains Jain metaphysics from Nischaya Naya or Absolute reality point of view as follows:

- ❖ True nature of Self from *Dravyarthic* point of view is always pure consciousness in the state of knowing all the time.
- ❖ The most important scientific characteristic of soul or *Atman* is its intrinsic property of self illumination as well as illuminating the entire universe. Each soul is everlasting, ever existing, self illuminating, and filled with infinite knowledge, perception, and eternal bliss and happiness.
- ❖ One needs to consider three aspects of soul; Soul as a *Dravya* is never changing and is everlasting and always knowing. Soul has infinite *Gunas* or attributes like infinite knowledge, perception, bliss, joy etc. and soul as *Paryay* is in transient state undergoing changes all the time.
- The Karmic impurity resides in the *Paryaya* of the soul but does not enter inside the *Dravya* or pure consciousness. According to Jain science, our soul as a *Dravya is* as pure and full of consciousness as that of Lord Mahavira. For example, a gold ring may have some impurity mixed with it but gold as a *Dravya* is absolutely pure gold in the eye of the jeweler all the time.
- From the absolute point of view or *Nischaya Naya*, pure consciousness is not touched by the Karmic matter nor does the soul give up His purity in any life cycle. The Karmic matter and the various transformations are experienced only in the *Paryaya* or transient state. The root cause of the Karmic bondage is the ignorance of the Self.
- Atmaic inflow called Ashrava are absolutely different from each other, so long will the person be devoid of Self knowledge and will identify himself with baser emotions of anger, greed, lust, etc. As soon as one recognizes the true difference between the pure consciousness or the knower and the transient nature of good or bad emotions, one is set on the journey for self realization.
- Acharya Kundkund has given us the greatest gift of Lord Mahavir in Samayasar by explaining the independent nature of each element or *Dravya*. According to Jain metaphysics, one element (soul or matter) can not create, change, or destroy other element nor one *Dravya* can give or take pain or pleasure from other person or element. Each element, each atom, and each soul is self sufficient and is completely independent of other entitles. This knowledge of inertness and completeness of soul and matter at atomic level helps one destroy ones ego and one begins to turn within ones self for happiness and peace since each soul is potentially filled with infinite happiness and bliss.

- Dr. Mahendra H.Mehta

❖ If each soul has all these qualities of infinite knowledge and bliss, why do we not experience it? Acharya Kundkund answers this question—with an example of cloud covered sun. When thick clouds cover the sun, we may experience darkness during the day—as if sun is no longer in existence. However, as soon as the storm is over and the rays of sun—shine again, we can be sure of the presence of the sunlight. Similarly, for a person with—thick clouds of ignorance or *Mithyatva*, it is not possible to see or experience the self knowledge until the ignorance of the self is destroyed by the teachings of a self realized Master. As soon as a student understands and experiences the true nature of the self, the clouds of ignorance vanish and the light of knowledge shines within one's heart to—know the difference between the pure Self and the—feelings of emotions related to the Karmic—forces.

❖ Verse 73 in chapter three of Samayasar is a divine Mantra of Kundkund for meditation and self realization:

Pure consciousness I am, unattached, full of infinite knowledge; Meditating on Pure Self, shall I destroy all the Karmic bondage.

I am pure consciousness, one without any sense of ownership of external possession, and full of complete knowledge and perception. Meditating and contemplating on the true nature of my pure consciousness, I will attain self realization and destroy the bondage of karma.

Acharya Kundkund gives us his life time of divine experience of self knowledge in Samayasar in a very convincing and scientific way: Without true knowledge of pure self, one can never attain self realization no matter how many years of ritualistic worship or dogmatic practice of religion is done. According to this great Jain Master, true spirituality begins with knowing the self and becoming detached from all the worldly matters. As long as our mind is filled with ego and worldly possessiveness, it will be bound with Karmic matters due to good and bad emotions resulting from our attachments. Our mind is restless due to our attachments and desires of worldly things. With the help of a right teacher, when one begins to study and understand the true nature of soul, the curtain of darkness will be lifted and the rays of divine knowledge will shine within.

In concluding this epic, Acharya Kundkund says that any one who studies this scripture with keen interest and enthusiasm shall attain the self realization and ever lasting happiness and bliss. A serious student of Samayasar will find the essence of Lord Mahavir's entire Dravyanuyog or science of metaphysics of soul and matter in this scripture as a master key for self realization for thousands of years to come. In Acharang Sutra Lord Mahavira said: Je Egam Janei Se Savam Janei or one who knows his true Self knows every thing. May the Yogic powers of Lord Mahavir and Acharya Kundkund bless all the living beings to attain the self realization and eternal happiness.

Whenever I visit any country, I have developed an urge to seek out any source of information that might enhance my understanding of Jain Darshan, be it a mandir, a library or an archeological site and this time it was Jain Manuscripts.

Through the good offices of my friend Nemu Chandaria, I landed at British Library, a remarkable repository of anything printed from the first Bible by Guttenburg in 1400s to anything written in any language dating back as far as dawn of Christian era. I was very proud to see Jain Manuscripts(Jain MMS) feature as one of the oldest in the British Collection.

At British Library, I met three remarkable individuals with whom, I spent almost a whole day. Dr. Michael O'Keefe from Oxford University, a Sanskrit scholar and expert on Jain MSS showed me around and talked at great length how the work is being done to preserve Jain MSS which he said is heritage of the whole human race. He also introduced me to two scholars from Amdabad's L.D.Institute. Dr. Kanubhai and Mrs. Kalpana Sheth, who are working on Jain MSS at present at British Library.

In preparation of celebrations of 2600th anniversary of Bhagwan Mahavir's birth, the British Library and Institute of Jainology will publish jointly a catalogue of Jain MSS in British Library. The catalogue was begun by the great Jain scholar Professor Chandrabhal Tripathi, who sadly passed away in 1966 before its completion. It is now in the capable hands of his former student and collaborator Professor Nalini Balbir of University of Paris, France, assisted by Dr. Kanubhai Sheth and Mrs. Kalpanaben Sheth.

Professor Nalini Balbir gave an illustrated lecture on Library's Jain collection, which is one of the richest outside India and particularly strong in the commentarial literature in Old Gujarati. Traditional Prakrit and Sanskrit works are also well represented. Texts, as early as the thirteenth century, range from the Kalpasutra and Uttaradhyanasutra to cosmologies and katha(legends), many of them superbly illustrated in the varied styles and genres of Jain miniature painting.

To be published later this year in two richly illustrated volumes, the catalogue will contain detailed descriptions over 1,000 items, many of them of great rarity. It will be a lasting monument to Jain scholarship and witness to the continuity of the great Jain tradition.

Dr.Michael O'Keefe added that he would be delighted to get North American Jains involved in this Herculean task of preserving Jain MSS, also at Wellcome Foundation, Oxford and Cambridge Universities, in Germany, Holland, France, Belgium and of course in India.

For more information on how you can help, Dr. Michael O'Keefe at:Michael.O'Keefe@bl.uk Dr.Kanubhai Sheth at kanusheth25@hotmail.com or Dr. Mahendra H. Mehta at mhmehta @sympatico .ca

THE ENVINE HOLD TO EMAKERS

Samani Bhavit Pragyaji

A Mantra is a collection of mystic sound, radiant energy, and sacred word or words. The literal meaning of mantra is the force which protects a person from the bondage of the phenomenal world. The word mantra is derived from the root man in Sanskrit; the etymology of the word is Mananaat trayate iti mantra; Man (mananaat refers to meditation on an esoteric formula such as Om, Arham, Mahamantra Namo Arhantanam etc.), Tra (Trayate signifies to protect or free), and iti means thus or through. By combining these syllables, the word mantra is formed.

The King of all Mantras: Mahamantra is an extraordinary mantra which has evolved over the centuries; it is truly the king of all mantras. Each letter inherent in Mahamantra has inconceivable power; each single letter is a mantra in itself. It is a universal mantra which can be employed by anyone who aspires to develop mental, emotional and spiritual personality. One who meditates on it with a pure and stable mind becomes safe from any type of anguish, fear or misery. It protects like a shield. It subdues misinfluences of the planets and saves the meditator from the worries and hurdles of life. It invokes purity of soul and enhances well-being, happiness and awareness of life.

The Divine Souls: Within Mahatmantra there exists five great souls, namely, Arhats, Siddhas, Acharyas, Upadhyayas and Sadhus. Arahanta means the destroyer of vitiating karmas - Jnanavarniya (knowledge obscuring), Darshanavamiya (perception obscuring), Mohniya (deluding) and Antaraya (hindrance producing) - after which pure character, infinite potency, perfect knowledge, and perfect perception are manifested in the soul. Siddha (liberated soul) who has destroyed four vitiating karmas and four non-vitiating karmas - Nam (physical structure forming), Gotra (status forming), Vedniya (feeling causing) and Ayushya (life span determining). The eight inherent powers of the Siddha are perfect knowledge, perfect perception, eternal happiness, pure character, infinite potency, formlessness, statuslessness and eternal life. Acharya is said to be the leader of a sect which conducts a religiosocial organization consisting of sadhus and sadhvis lay-men and women. Upadhyaya (Up means near; Adhyaya means to study) guides others by imparting knowledge of the scriptures. A Sadhu carries five great vows - non-violence, truth, non-stealing, celibacy and non-possession.

The Proper Way of Mala: First, one must sit in a straight posture keeping the spine and neck erect. The mantras can be observed as mala (rosary) shifting the rosary beads between the thumb and the middle finger of the right hand while keeping the hand near the heart. The awareness of mind is fixed upon the movement of each bead. The mount bead should not be crossed. Start the mala facing east.

The Three States of Mantra Repetition: The process of saying a mantra over and over is known as Japa Yoga. Japa means the repetition of a mantra with devotion an faith. There are three stages of mantra repetition - verbal, upansu (whispering) and mental. In the initial stage the mantra is being pronounced verbally aloud with clarity of speech, intonation, and intensity of concentration. If these three requirements occur together in practice, the mantra will tend to work more effectively and it will alter the frame of mind, behaviour and attitude. Upansu means whispered sound. It consists of continuous silent repetition, but with moving lips. In the mental stage, the mind follows the pronunciation of the mantra, observing the meaning of the letters. The vision is moved through the letter or line that is being repeated, after which, involuntarily and without effort, continuous repetition occurs in the mind. The Japa of Mahamantra should be performed in this manner; first verbally, then whispering and then mentally.

The Power of the Word: The Mahamantra influences us immenselt. Weare familiar with the external effects of sunds. During foreign travel, Swami Vivekananda spoke on the great importance of words. A man in the audience told him that it was all unintelligible to him, and that words were meaningless sounds. The Swami called the man a fool and said "Did you not understand such a simple thing?" The irritated the man and he aked the Swami why he had used such abusive language. The Swami replied "It is you who have said the words are meaningless. Why do you feel perplexed? It shows that words contain infinite potentiality; words have power and create effects."

The Impact of Gem, the Sacred Mantra and Medication: Regarding the effect of the mantra, it is said in sanskrit that Achintyo Manimantrauashadheenam Prabhat. Achintyo means Achintyo means inconsiderable, Mani means gem, aushad means medication, and prabhah means impact. This means that the impact of gem sacred mantra and medication is beyond thought. Gem helps to remove the mis-influence of the planets upon a person. As an experiment, scientists covered a piece of coral with a silken cloth and put a burning coal on that cloth, but to their surprise, the cloth was not burned. The reason was that the heat of the burning coal was drawn into the gem.

Similarly, medication is effective. An Acharya named Padilipta Suri in Jain tradition used an ointment with a certain mixture of medication on his feet, and was able to fly in the sky. Due to this, he became known as 'Padlipta'. With the use of certain medications, a person can see far off lands and across the wall.

Methodology: With the repetition of the five great lines Om Rhim Namo Arahantanam, Om Rhim Namo Siddhanam, Om Rhim Namo Ayariyanam, Om Rhim Namo Uvajjhayanam and Om Rhim Namo Loe Savva Sahoonam while, at the same time visualizing a particular color, a person is able to stimulate and awaken the faculties of different centers of the body or chakras which are associated with particular sound vibrations.

Chant the line Om Rhim Namo Arahantanam while concentrating the mind on the center of knowledge situated at the top of the head and visualizing the white color of the full moon. This activates a grayish substance in the frontal portion of the brain which strengthens all the tissues connected with knowledge. Deficiency of white color in the body causes many ailments. By compensating for this deficiency through Namo Arihantanam, one increases resistance to disease and becomes healthy. White rays enhance, tranquillity and concentration.

Meditate over the line Om Rhim Siddhanam while visualizing the red color of the rising sun and with the mind focused on the center of intuition situated between the eye brows. The red color helps in regulating the pituitary gland and its secretion. It opens a third eye through awakening the inner vision and activates the entire structure of the body.

Occupy your conscious mind on the line, Om Rhim Namo Ayariyanam while focusing on the center of purity situated in the middle of the throat and while visualizing the golden yellow color of the sunflower. This center belongs to the moon. The position of the moon influences the mind because the mind and the moon are closely connected. Our body contains the complete solar system; the sun, moon, and planets. The color yellow gives momentum to our disposition towards good conduct and stimulates the thyroid gland. Physiologists believe that the thyroid gland. Physiologists believe that the thyroid gland, located in the throat, controls the emotions and instincts, and it is well known that a scarcity of thyroid secretions hinders the growth and development of the body. The color yellow also pacifies the feelings, improves the capacity for knowledge, and purifies the mind. Focus your vision on the line Om Rhim Namo Uvajjhayanam and on the center of bliss situated in the middle of the chest, twelve fingers above the navel while visualizing the green color of the leaves on the tress. This will develop super consciousness, subdue passions (anger, ego, etc.) and will awaken the consciousness of bliss. Real happiness comes through from the inner world.

Chant the line Om Rhim Namo Loe Savva Sahoonam with the mind focused on the center of bio-electricity situated at the navel while visualizing a black or dark blue color. The color black blocks the attack of vitiating influences from the outside and, for this reason, judges and attorneys used to weak black robes. It constitutes a shield which obstructs external influences from entering the body.

Visualization of Symbols: In the beginning it is impossible for most people to visualize the symbols such as Arhat, Siddha, etc.,

but beginners should attempt to visualize them. Gradually, as the intensity of concentration increases, the symbols will begin to take shape. These five centres of the body associated with the five colors are very influential on the human body. The Mahamantra consists of five lines and thirty five letters. Om, Hrimand Arham are the short form or abbreviations of Mahamanytra and the seat of the five benedictions, salutations, or supreme beings.

Obstruent of the Ill Effects of Planets: To pacify the ill effects of the planets, chant the following Mahamantra while visualizing the associated color:

The Moon and Venus - Om Hrim Namo Arahantanam
The Sun and Mars - Om Hrim Namo Siddanam
Jupiter - Om Hrim Namo Ayariyanam
Mercury - Om Hrim Namo Uvajjhayanam
Saturn, Rahu (Dragon's head), Ketu (Dragon's Tail) Om Hrim Namo Loe Sahoonam

A Marvelous Success: The Mahamantra works in a powerful way if the practitioner identifies himself with the mantra, but no benefits will be obtained from chanting the mantra without properly understanding its implications. The mere mechanical recitation of the mantra will be totally ineffective. The proper utterance of the mantra together with the concentration of the mind calls upon the spiritual force of the soul. The vibrations of this mantra produce electrical currents which provide wonderful results and achieve miraculous successes in every field of life.

King Srenika of Magadha built a new palace, but as soon as the palace was completed, it crumbled to the ground. The astrologer said that it would require the sacrifice of a man having thirty two auspicious signs in order to satisfy the demon (the haunting spirit). It was declared in the city that anyone having the thirty two auspicious symbols who was willing to give himself up to sacrifice would be rewarded with gold equivalent to his body weight. Tempted by the gold, the Lady Bhadra offered to give he son Amarkumar for sacrifice. Queen Chelana pleased with the king to dissuade him from carrying out the sacrifice, but to no avail. The Queen told Amarkumar about the effectiveness of reciting the Mahamantra while he was being brought to the sacrificial pyre (fire) and he was deeply engrossed in chanting the Mahamantra. A miracle occurred. The pyre subsided and a throne appeared in the blaze with Amarkumar seated unharmed on the throne.

Conclusion: The Mahamantra was recognized as a great mantra in ancient times as it is today. It is said of the Mahamantra that it has incredible force and destroys all sins. It is foremost in all that is auspicious with regard to physical, mental, emotional and spiritual matters. It is of great assistance in attaining desired goals.

V.R. GANDHI SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A sub committee was formed in India. The function of this sub committee is to publicize, invite applications, screen them and recommend for awarding of scholarships as per approved objectives and guidelines.

The first such sub committee consists as follows:

- 1. Dr. Jitendra B. Shah, Director, L.D. Institute of Indology, Chair Person.
- 2. Kanjibhai Patel, Professor, Ahmedabad, Member
- 3. V.P.Jain, Professor, Delhi, Member

The availability of this scholarship and invitation for the applications was published in India in late July 2000, in national newspapers (i.e. Times of India, Indian Express, Nav Bharat Times), regional dailies and 12 Jain publications. Prescribed application forms were also mailed out directly to 10 universities and institutions offering studies in Jainism.

As a result, we have started to receive applications. Dr. Jitendra Shah is now in U.S.A. on a visit of several Jain centers and will return back to India in early October. All the applications received will be reviewed and recommended for award of scholarships by the sub committee in late October, 2000. We expect to start awarding scholarships by November, 2000.

SCHOLAR VISITATION COMMITTEE

During PARYUSHANA/DAS LAXANA CELEBRATIONS - 2000 Following monks/scholars helped Paryushana-Das Laxana Celebrations in North America:

Atlanta: Dr. Jitendra Shah

Boston: Muni Roopchandraji, Sadhviji Shubhamji,

Dr. Shekharchandra P. Jain

Chicago: Mafatbhai Doshi, Manubhai Doshi, Jyotindra Doshi,

Parmatma Prakash Bharrill

Charlotte: Vijay Doshi and Prakash Jain

Cincinnatti:Samanji Sthit Pragya and Samanji Shrut Pragya

Cleveland:Pdt. Dhirajlal Mehta

Columbus:Dr. S.P Jain, Dr. Balbhadra

Connecticut:Dr. Kirtibhai Shah Detroit:Gurudev Chitrabhanuji

Florida: Samaniji Madhur Pragyaji and Jayanti Pragyaji

Houston:Samaniji Akshya Pragyaji and Sanmati Pragyaji

Indiana: Manak Muniji

Landsdale:Smt Sunandaben Vohra Los Angeles:Dr. Kumarpal Desai

Memphis:Muni Amrendra Kumarji

New Jersey North & Cntrl:Bhattarak Devendrakeertiji, Samaniji Charitra and Sangh Pragyaji, Pdt. Kiranbhai Parikh, Chandrakant Mehta, Dr. Kirtibhai Shah, Virendra Shah, Arvind Bhandari

New Jersey South: Sunanda Ben Vora, Rajnibhai Shah

New York:Acharya Chandanaji, Sadhviji Shubhamji, Sadhviji Shilapaji, Dr. Ravindra Kumar Jain, Manoj Jain, Dr. Shekharchandra P. Jain, Chandra Kant Mehta, Shri Naresh Shah

Raleigh, N.C.: Pravin Shah Pheonix: Rajendra Kamdar

Pittsburgh: Tarlaben Doshi

Rochester: Anup Vora

SanDiego: Manak Muniji Maharaj

Sacramanto: Samanijis Mangal Pragyaji and Sharda Pragyaji

San Fransisco: Muni Jinchandraji , Muni Roopchandraji, Dr.

Padmanath Jaini, Dr. Vimal Prakash Jain

Siddhachalam: Muni Amrendra Kumarji, Muni Bhuwneshji and

Muni Vivekji

St. Louis: Muni Amrendra Kumarji Maharaj

Toronto: Dipti Shah, Pdt. Dharma Chandra Shastri

Washington DC: Arun Zaveri, Ramnikbhai

World Religious Conference Summit at UNO –Discussions - Participations: Muni Amrendra Kumarji, Bhattarak Devendrakeertiji, Acharya Chandanaji, Sadhaviji Shilapaji, Samaniji Charitra Pargyaji and Sangh Pragyaji, Bawa Jain, Dr. Ravindra Kumar Jain, Pdt. Dharmachandji, Manoj Jain, Dr. Mahendra Pandya, Naresh Jain, Nirmal Dosi, Lata Dosi, Pukhraj Lunia.

It is requested that all Scholars Visitation committee members and contact persons and their monks/scholars to provide me their e-mail address for better and quick communications. Our thanks to all monks, scholars, committee members and contact persons for their time and selfless dedication. Our thanks also goes to Shri Bawa Jain , Kavita Shah and Susan for helping monks and scholars during World religious conference summit.

Nirmal Dosi, Chairperson Jaina Scholars/Monk Visitation Program Ndosi@bellatlantic.net, 732-390-0296(H), (973-649-3073)

JAINA LIBRARY

Please note: Jaina Library has been moved from Lubbock.* Texas to Los Angeles, CA. Kindly forward all inquiries to:

Prakash Gandhi 562-926-6798

Dhiraj Dedhia 909-444-7700

Ramesh Doshi rcdoshi@hotmail.com

SIDDHACHALAM AWARD

Shanti Jain Smith will be the first recipient of the SIDDHCAHALAM AWARD. The choice was so obvious that the decision of the Board of Trustees of Siddhachalam was quick and unanimous. The presentation of the award shall be made during Siddhachalam's Kshamapana and Ahimsa Day celebration on Sunday, October 1, 2000, at Siddhachalam.

Shanti Jain Smith met Acharya Sushil Muni on July 30, 1977. She joined the Ashram after six months and has since then has dedicated her life to Guruji's work and mission. She was always with Guruji, in all seasons and under all situations, helping Guruji in his life work of taking the message and teachings of Lord Mahavir to all the corners of the world.

The news of the award were warmly received at Siddhachalam by all. In the initial years at Yogeville, and at Siddhachalam, the core of the committed devotees who dedicated their lives to pursue the Jain path to liberation and became renunciates was comprised of main stream Americans. They were the real pioneers and their contribution to Siddhachalam has been unique and exemplary. The award to Shanti Jain Smith is also a recognition of all of these Ashram devotees of Guruji.

ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM CONCEPT OF DIVINITY IN JAINISM

The first symposium organised by the Acharya Sushil Kumarji Research Institute shall be held at Siddhachalam on September 29 and September 30 of 2000. The Symposium shall be conducted by Professor Wagle and Dr. Andhare.

Professor Narendra Wagle, of University of Toronto will chair the symposium. Dr. Andhare has had an illustrious career in the world of arts. He held the position of Curator at the Prince of Wales Museum in Bombay for many years and has also held several academic posts.

SHIBIRS AT SIDDHACHALAM

During this year Siddhachalam has organised three shibirs. The first one was conducted by Amrendra Muniji. This was followed by a four day shibir conducted by Acharya Shree Chandnaji, Shoobhamji and Shilapiji. The last shibir which was concluded on August 13, 2000 was conducted by Muni Shree Jinchandraji Maharaj. We owe a great debt of gratitude to our spiritual mentors, Acharyaji, Maha Satijis and Amrendra Muniji and Jinchandraji Maharaj for conducting the shibirs.

DINING HALL AND KITCHEN CONSTRUCTION

The construction work is in progress and the building will be closed in after the roof trusses are in place within the next two to three weeks. That will leave inside details and finishing work, which itself is very extensive. The projected completion date is end of December this year.

The slogan for the Building Fund is: Brick by Brick, we shall build the Dining Hall. The donation amount for one brick is \$ 21.00 and a lot of bricks are still needed. The Dining Hall af-

fords an opportunity to have portrait of your loved ones displayed in the picture gallery. The donation for one portrait is \$ 1,101.00. All donations are tax deductible. Please mail donation cheques to Siddhachalam 65 Mud Pond Road, Blairstown, NJ 07825.

Siddhachalam takes this opportunity to thank JAINA for the hospitality it has extended on the pages of its publication.

IAAMJV OFFERS LOAN SCHOLARSHIPS TO 42 JAIN STUDENTS

During the year 2000, International Alumni Association of Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya (IAAMJV) has given out 5 Loan scholarships to High School Senior Jain students residing the U.S.A.and a total of 37 to the graduate Jain students arriving from India for higher studies. Total loan amount involved was \$94,000. These scholarships are based upon merit and need and available to all Jain students irrespective of sect they belong to.

The primary mission of IAAMJV is to promote the cause of Professional Education in the Jain Community and it has supported over 85 students since its inception and extended educational loans worth \$175,000. Some of the past recipients have already started returning the loans allowing the association to recycle the funds to help other bright and needy students. If you are interested in supporting this very important cause, please contact Anop R. Vora, President (716) 473-9290 or Mr. Rasik M. Shah (847) 891-5674 or Dr. Dinesh M. Shah (323) 258-4010

JAIN VISHWA BHARATI CENTERS ESTABLISHED IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA AND HOUSTON, TEXAS

Jain Vishwa Bharti (JVB), established by Gurudev Shri Tulsi and Acharya Mahapragya in Ladnun, Rajasthan, India in 1970, inaugurated a new center in Orlando, Florida on May 6, 2000. JVB has been operating in Orlando for the past five years. The new center is directed by Samani Madhur Prajna and Samani Jayant Prajna and provides spiritual guidance all year round. Various spiritual uplifting activities at the center include Swadhyay (every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month), yoga and meditation classes, Pathsala for young Jains (twice a month), and celebration of Jain festivals. The center is well equipped with library books and audio/video cassettes on Jainism, Preksha Meditation and Yoga, Jain Scriptures and other topics in Prakrit, Hindi, English and Gujarati. Such items can be purchased through the center's bookstore. An annual camp directed by Samani Madhur Prajna and Samani Jayant Prajna is scheduled in Orlando from January 12-14, 2001 and anyone interested in participating is invited to contact Jain Vishwa Bharati, Orlando.

The JVB Center in Houston was established on December 11, 1999 and is presently guided by Samani Akshaya Pragya and Samani Sanmati Pragya. Regular activities at the center include Swadhyay, and classes on Preksha Yoga, Meditation, and Relaxation for adults and children. Various books and audio/video cassettes on Pravachan, Yoga, Meditation and Songs are available for purchase. Counseling services to address personal problems are also available.

The Orlando JVB Center is located at 7819 Lillwill Ave. Orlando, FL 32809 and can be reached at 407/852-8694 or by e-mail at jainvishwa@hotmail.com. The Houston JVB Center is located at 1712 Highway 6, South Houston, TX 77077 and can be reached at 281/596-9642 or at jvbhouston@hotmail.com. Additional information is available at www.jainvishwabharati .org website.

JAANA

A new organization, "Jain Adhyatma Academy of North America [JAANA] " has been started recently with focus to preserve, propogate and perpetuate Jain Adhyatma to the next generation. For infomation call: Atul Khara (O)972-424-4902 (H)972-867-6535; insty@airmail.net.Mahendra Shah (0)305-371-2149 (H)305-595-3833; bhitap@bellsouth.net

KOJAIN SAMMELAN-2000

KOJAIN (Kachchhi Oswal Jain Association of North America), an affiliate member of JAINA, had a very successful three day convention at Cherry Hill, NJ from July 28-30, 2000. More then 400 Kachchhi community members attended the convention.

The three day event was full of activities for adults and children. Some of the highlights of the program included a performance by Musical group "Khelaiya" with dandiya raas and a cultural program performed by young community artists. A panel discussion on career choices, parent and youth discussions on Interracial Marriages and Growing Up in the midst of two cultures, a medical discussion by community doctors, a Drought Relief presentation by community youths were also well attended during the weekend. "Who wants to be a Kachchhi Scholar" game, generated by Mr. Sudhir Shah, was a huge success. While young children enjoyed fabric painting and embroidery workshop, adult were fortunate to have yoga classes conducted by pujya samnijis, disciples of acharya Tulsi maharaj.

The gathering was addressed by keynote speaker Kantisen Shroff chairman of Vivekanand Research and Training Institute. Other speakers included Tulsi Gajra Managing Trustee of VRTI, Dr. Dhiraj Shah, past president of JAINA, Vijay Chheda, Dr. Chandravadan Haria, Hans Maru and Dami Rambhia, Tansukh Maru, Dinesh Chheda, secretary of KOJAIN, concluded the session. The food arrangement was monitored by Mr. Bhavanji Lodaya and his team.

UPCOMING MAGNIFICIENT JIN MANDIR AND TIRTH KSHETRA IN INDIA

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpai, Prime Minister of India inaugurated first Thirthankar Bhagwan Shri Rushabhdev Nirvan-Mahotsava Celebration on international level for one year, on February 04, 2000. at Red Fort, Delhi. Many dignitaries including JAINA President Dr. Mahendra Pandya were present on this occasion.

In the spirit of commemorating such grand international celebration, Shri Pawan Kumar Jain, well known Philanthropist, Industrialist is building a huge and open Jain Temple at Aligarh, U.P. with many attractions and facilities. Bhagwan Shri RUSHABHDEV statue in padmasan of 11 feet height, which will be placed on the artificial mountain of around 40 feet. "Manastambha" of Bhagwan Shri Rushabhdev, 63 feet height will be built in the entrance of the Jin Mandir. Besides this, domed temples of Bhagwan Mahavirswami and Bhagwan Bahubali will be built. This complex will have a big Swadhyay Bhawan / huge library wherein charans (footprints) of Acharya Kund Kund and other Acharyas will be installed with photos and "Paramagams". In the second phase, a Jamboo Dweep, Nandishwar Dweep, Samavsarn are proposed to be built.

Shri Pawan Kumar has compiled a huge volume "JINAGAMSAR" which is more like an encyclopedia on Jainism.

Shilanyas ceremony for the above project, which is named as "Mangalayatan", will be performed on December 27, 2000.

For more information please contact Hasmukh M. Shah. 727-376-7290.

Email: kahanguru@hotmail.com

SAMANS VISIT ASIA AND AFRICA

Saman Shrutpragya and Saman Sthitpragya has successfully completed a tour of several Asian and African countries from April 12 to June 10. The Samans were invited in Bangkok, Thailand. A ceremony to present Jain Agams (scriptures) to the Silpakorn University was jointly organized by the Jain Vishwa Bharati Institute, Ladnun, India and the Bangkok Jain Sangh. They spent two weeks in Malaysia and visited KaulaLumpur, Malaka, Johor Baru and Penang where they gave lectures on the teaching of Lord Mahavir. At the Birla Group in Johor Baru, the Samans directed a workshop on Preksha Meditation and health management. During a one-month tour of South Africa, the Samans visited Durban, Johannesburg, Pretoria and several other cities where they gave lectures on stress management, anger management, and on Anuvrat lifestyle. Following their inspiration and prompting, a Jain Sangh of South Africa has now been established in Durban.

BOOK REVIEW:

"GLORY of JAINISM" by Kumarpal Desai

Shree Jaybhikhkhu Sahitya Trust, (Ahemdabad) Hard Cover – 300 pages and 120 colorful illustrations

According to Shree Kumarpal Desai, the People who forget their past are condemned to a blighted future. From the deep oceans of Jain Shasan, he has compiled life stories of illustrious Jains that have added to the glory of Jainism. Through studying their lives, history and understanding of Jainism is made easy. This is a sentimental offering of a writer of so many books, magazine and newspaper articles on Jainism.

A Jain Sangh is considered as auspicious as a Tirthankar and Sangh is divided into four equal components: Sadhus, Sadhwis, Shravaks and Shravikas. Writer initially wrote about 108 such persons and has offered equal number of characterization of each of the four. This is the only religion in the world that has given equal importance to both men and women. In the newer edition of the book, he added 5 modern day characters – all men. One hopes that in the next volume, (already promised by him) he will even the score.

In the 2500 years since Mahavirswami's Nirvana, Jainism was preserved, propagated and prospered by our Sadhus and Sadhvis. Their selfless dedication, exemplary life and scholarly pursuits are the lifelines for us. Many Jains can recite names of 24 Tirthankars but naming 24 Acharyas let alone 24 Sadhwis is a rare soul. This book is a sourcebook for anyone who wants to study the great lives of Shrutkevali Shri Bhadrabahuswami, Shri Siddhasen Diwakarsuri (creator of Kalyan Mandir Stotra, Nyayavatar and sanmatitark etc.), Shri Mantungsuri (composer of Bhaktamar Stotra), Shri Haribhadrasuri (first commentator of Agmik literature and 1444 books), Kalikalsarvagna Shri Hemchandracharya (prolific writer on subjects as varied as gramer, history, puran, yoga. lexican, statecraft and much more) and Upadhyaya Shri Yashovijayji (author of 100 books in Sanskrit, Prakrit and Gujarati).

Life stories of Sadhvis like Chandanbala, Mandanrekha, Rushidatta, Mrugavati, Shiyalvati and Manorama reflect elements of miracle or trials faced by women to prove their spotless character or piety in the patriarchal society of those days. The book goes on to enumerate life stories of illustrious Shravaks like Mahamantri Abhaykumar, Puniya Shravak, Samprati Maharaj, Kumarpal Maharaj, Jagdusha Sheth, Senapati Abhu, Bhimji Sanghpati and Sheth Motisha.

Sterling characters of Revati, Sulsa, Manorama, Kosha, Anupama and Subhadra etc. can be inspiration for today's society. Jain heritage is full of such gems. As one reads and admires their character one's journey begins towards becoming better person. In the beginning of the book, a six page essay titled "Essence of Jainism" is worthy of memorizing for it is heart and soul of our

philosophy and beliefs. Another, longer essay — "The value and Heritage of Jain Religion" is a must read for all. The teacher in Kumarpalbhai is at his very best as he emphasizes how Jainism permits no distinction between religion and morality. The two essays are enough of a reason to own this book.

In the latest edition of the book, 5 more lives are characterized. Shri Kundkundacharya, Shrimad Rajchandra, Shri Ghasilaji Maharaj, Ganadhipati Shri Tulsiji and Virchand Raghavji Gandhi. These 5 stories add to our perception of how wide ranging Jain Philosophy is.

This handsome large size volume is laid out in a very readable format. In plain language, on the right page he has presented a brief life story of one of his selected character and the left page is full of colorful pictures pertaining to the story. These illustrations are works of Ashok Shaha (Padmaputra) and Prarthna Shaha. These paintings are on permanent display in the Samavasaran Mahamandir in Palitana.

Many overseas Indians and particularly Southern California and New York Sangh members aided publication of this edition in English. The book is also available in Gujrati and Hindi in India. English language books on Jainism do not sell very well but we in North America hunger for it. This book (The English edition) is available for only \$25 including postage by writing to Dr. Manibhai Mehta, 11403 Tortuga St. CA 90630 or call (714) 898 3156.

Dr. Navin C. Shah, Founder, Former President and Present Trustee of The American Association of Physicians of Indian

Origin (AAPI)was tinguished Service' AAPI annual conspecial award lunretary of State Mr. guest honored Dr. one physician for



presented it's 'Most Disaward on July 1st at the vention in New York. A cheon with Assistant Sec-Carl Inderfurth as chief Shah. This award honors outstanding service to

AAPI. At this function Dr. Shah was also awarded a prestigious 'Hinduja Award' presented by Mr. S.P. Hinduja, chairman of the internationally known multimillion dollar charitable 'Hinduja Foundation'. The award recognized Dr. Shah's efforts to improve healtn care and medical education in India.

567U	Vastupal& Varsha Shah, Sterling Heights, MI			
568U	Nalin & Jyoti Shah, Greenwood,IN			
569U	Narendra & Sushila Jain, Fairfax, VA			
570U	Rupal Mepani, Columbus,OH			
571U	Satish & Kinna Shah, S. Barrington, IL			
572U	Dinesh & Panna Shah, Monitowoc, WI			
573U	Pradip & Chandrika Shah, Norridge,IL			
574U	Kishor & Priti Shah, Lansdale,PA			
575U	Ashok & Nutan Parekh, Lawrenceville GA			
576U	Santosh & Bhakti Shah, Gretna, LA			
577U	Chandrakant & Shobhna Shah, Pt. Jefferson Stn,NY			
578U	Chandrakant R.Shah Glen Oaks,NY			
FOREIGN - LIFE MEMBERS				
19F	Mr. & Mrs. Bharwada, Quay, St. Katherin doc, UK			
20F	Neetish R. Doshi, Dubai, UAE			
21F	Lina Shah, Norwood, Middlesex,UK			
22F	Kishor Shah, Norbury, London,UK			

 Dalal Bipin J. & Anjana ,Fairfield, CT. Jain Ashok & Jamana, New Hyde Park, N.Y. \$ 101 	\$ 1,000
3. Gandhi Surendra & Tarlika, Forest Hills, N.Y.	\$ 151
4 Parekh Kishor & Ila, Elmhurst, N.Y.	\$ 125
5. Shah Krupesh & Jagruti New Hyde Park, N. Y.	\$ 151

Aruna & Rajni Shah, Dubai, UAE

JAINA FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF 9/01/00

JAINA General Fund	\$18,004.80
Various sub-committee balances:	
Education Committee	\$9,829.92
Jiv Daya Committee	0.00
World Community Service	3,066.31
Temple Guideline	1,401.00
YJA	6,470.01
Virchand R. Gandhi Fund	9,729.00
N. American Jain Family	5,484.00
AssistanceProgram	2,247.55
Tirthoddhar Committee	0.00
Pilgrimage Committee	22,639.75
JAINA Book Source Committee	
COMMITTEES TOTAL	\$60,867.54
	\$18,004.80
Money Market fund for JD Endowment	\$56,650.38
CD for JAIN Digest Endowment Fund	\$163,385.71
JAINA Charitable Trust as of 3/13/00	
as per information supplied by Jagat Jain	
	\$316,913.23

GRAND TOTAL

submitted by Anop R. Vora, Treasurer

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

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 Email	☐ 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	Phone ()
□ other amount: □ \$10 □ \$25 □ \$50 □	☐ other amount: ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐	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.

23F



Bhagyoday Tirth Hospital: A temple of health in the service of the "poorest of poor"

A brief on free surgical and medical camp held during 16-20 February 2000

1. Introduction: Bhagyoday Tirth Charitable Trust was established in the year 1993 with the blessings of great Indian Jain Saint Acharya Shri Vidya Sagar Ji Maharaj for setting up of a charitable Human welfare hospital and Research Centre at Sagar in the service of the 'Poorest of the Poor'. The endeavour of the Research Centre would be to carry out integrated research in various branches of Medical Science, besides stablishing Allopathic, Ayurvedic and Naturopathy hospitals.

Considering that adequate medical facility is not available within a radius of about 200 km of Sagar, Acharya Shree envisaged a modern centrally located hospital where people of all races and creeds, however rich or poor would have access to medical Aid for asking including diagnostic services like Pathology Lab., X-ray, Ultra Sound and Operation theatre etc.

Towards this goal 108 Bedded Allopathic Hospital, Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya, Naturopathy Hospital since October 1998 and Artificial Limb centre are already functional. An agriculture scientist has been appointed for growing medicinal plants in the farm house of the Trust for ensuring purity of the Ayurvedic drugs.

2. Surgical and Medical Camp - Achievements: With generous financial Assistance from JAINA, U.S.A. a free Surgical and Medical Camp was organized at the Bhagyoday Tirth Hospital, Sagar during the period 16-20 February 2000. JAINA, U.S.A. donated an amount of US\$ 21014.18 cents for the Hospital. In the light of the preachings of lord Mahavir - "Whoever serve the poor and sick serves me best", the camp was meant basically to provide succour to the 'Poorest of the poor' who could not other wise even think of receiving such an excellent medical aid.

The patients were provided free Bed, Diagnostic facilities, Operation, Medicine and food without their having to spend even a pennny for it. Free food was provided to the patients for the entire month of February 2000 out of donations received from Dr. M. K. Pandaya & Mrs. Asha Rani Pandaya for the purpose.

Dr. M. K. Pandaya, Cardiologist and Dr. Ishwar Bhuta Vascular Surgeon from America attended the Camp. In addition Dr. Mohan Tankwal, Professor & Head ENT Department, Medical College, Bhopal; Dr. Rajeev Choudhary, M.S (Retino Vitrial Surgeon), Indore; Dr. Vidyut Jain M.D. Cardiologist, J. Choith Ram Hospital, Indore and Dr. Deepak Jain, Neurophysician, M. D. D. N. B. Apollo Hospital, Indore, participated in the Camp besides BTH doctors and local doctors and Surgeons of Sagar. In all 1116 patients were examined and 55 operations were carried out i.e25 (general surgery); 22 (Eye surgery); and 8 (E.N.T. Surgery). Cataract operations were carried out by Phaco Emulcification System.

The benefit received by the poor patients from the Surgical Camp could be judged from the facts of few operations which could be carried out nearest to Sagar at Mumbai alone. Shri Prem NarainVishwakarma (Age 24) of Bijoura was suffering from Haemingeoma of fore head; Shri Mukesh Patel (Age 5) of kanera from Haemingeoma of leg; Shri Rakesh Raikwar (Age 22) of Sagar had the problem of Blood collecting in Blood vessels of leg; Mrs. Sia Bai (Age 45)had stone in gal Bladder. All these patients were operated by Dr. Ishwar Bhuta successfully and the patients have fully recovered from their disease.

Such an endeavour in future is certainly likely to benefit more number of 'poorest of the poor' patients when those benefited in the camp talk of their experience.

JAINA, USA is planning to have second free Surgical Camp at BTH, Sagar (M.P.) India, for the needy in Jan-Feb. 2001.

Generous donations for the camp are solicited. Please contact for details:

Dr. Mahendra K. Pandya Staten Island, N.Y., 718-816-0083 Dr. Ishwarlal Bhuta Montgomary, AL, N.Y. 334-263-1026



Validictory Function



Eye Operation in progress



Lighting Lamp in front of photo of Acharya Shri Vidya Sagar Ji Maharaj



ENT Operation in progress



Anaethetia in progress

This page has been sponsored by some individuals

JAIN DIGEST. FALL 2000 / 23

Nikolikkeis kikolikologiaan kasikeis (Keisi

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 hasmukh33@yahoo.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 1	NO D	o you smoke? YES I	NO Do you drink?	YES NO
Have you been married before	ore? YES NO			
If yes, indicate the name of	your divorced	spouse.		1484 1584 1584 1584 1584 1584 1584 1584
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What languages do you read	<u> </u> }			
What languages do you writ	e?			
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Brother(s) and/or Sister(s) _				
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Do you have other relatives	living in the N	orth America?		
NAME RELATIONSHIP O	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 respon-sibility 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.

MIS REGISTRATION FORM - PAGE 2

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:
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: 113, Male: 102 (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. Simulta-neously, 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.

MIS INFORMATION THIS IS HOW IT WORK

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 care-fully:

- 1. Fill out the attached <u>Registration FormPage 1 and Page 2</u>, 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 of less. Remember that the MIS reserve the right to edit all such ads. Follow step 2 above, but submit your own ad with phone number instead of a completed form and photo. Full Name, Address, Phone number of the candidate must be furnished with the ads for MIS records, without which MIS will not be able to process the ad for publication.

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

M558: Jain parents invite correspondence for their son BE (EE), MS (CS), 33/5'8", vegetarian, highly social, adjustable nature and family values, well employed in multinational corp. from educated and cultured girls.Call: 757/838-6377.

M625: Gujarati parents invite proposals for their Bombay born, handsome, talented, vegetarian son, born Jan 73, 5'6", 130 lb, MS, well employed as System Engineer, from pretty, educated, vegetarian girls. Call: 770/933-8076.

M638: Jain parents invite responses for their very handsome, highly accomplished, US raised, doctor son, born Feb 72, 6'0", MD, completing residency, from cultured, well educated, vegetarian girls. Call:763/383-0017.Email: kjain105@hotmail.com

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

M699: Professional parents invite proposals with biodata / photo for handsome, fair, bright, vegetarian, US born son, July 74, 5'7", 130 lb, BS (Fin./Acctg), pursuing CFA, vice president, in national investment co., from pretty, educated, slim, vegetarian, Gujarati girls. Call: 630/961-2828.

M720: Alliance invited for Gujarati, handsome, vegetarian boy, born July 76, 5'11", 125 lb, BS (comp sc), well employed with software co., from cultured, educated girls. Call: 860/673-7549. Email: gujboy@hotmail.com

M730: Proposals invited for handsome, bright, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, born Nov 72, 5'6", 140 lb, MS (comp sc), MS (ME), well positioned with reputed co., from pretty, educated, cultured girls. Call: 248/608-8990. Email: xarxsm@yahoo.com

M768: Alliance invited for handsome, talented, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, bornNov 74, 5'6", 150 lb, MS (EE), well employed with famous co., from educated, pretty,

cultured girls. Call: 414/717-0971. Email: nrshah78@hotmail.com

M769: Gujarati parents invite proposals with biodata/photo, for handsome, fair,intelligent son, born April 71, 5'11", Third year Medical student, from professional,preferably MD, vegetarian girls.Ph: 407/366-8810 or 407/366-7439.

M803: Gujarati parents invite responses for good looking, bright, US born son, Jan 73, 5'7", 150 lb, BS (architecture), well employed, from cultured, educatedGirls. Ph:773/973-1591 email:uropa2@aol.com

M804: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for handsome, intelligent, US raised son, born Sept 73, 5'6", 145 lb, MD, third year resident, from cultured, pretty, educated girls. Call: 813/962-7937.

M805: Alliance invited by Jain parents, for handsome, talented, vegetarian, US citizen son, born June 73, 5'9", 160 lb., JD (law), well employed as Attorney in a reputed legal firm, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 714/633-3609. Email: manayj@yahoo.com

M806: Alliance invited for handsome, brilliant, vegetarian, US raised Gujarati boy, born July 76, 5'8", 135 lb., BS, pursuing MS / PhD (chemistry), well employed with Fortune 500 co., from cultured, educated, vegetarian girls. Call: 302/731-1990. Email: rsheth@herc.com

M813: Gujarati parents invite proposals for very handsome, brilliant, vegetarian, US born son, Jan 75, 5'7", 155 lb, MS EE, well positioned with reputed co., from cultured, educated, pretty girls. Call: 281/955-8224. Email: paras_shah@email.com

M814: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for handsome, intelligent, vegetarian, US citizen, Gujarati boy, born July 74, 5'10", 166 lb, BS, well employed as physician asst., from educated, cultured girls. Call: 334/269-9611. Ex.201 or 200.

M817: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, fair, talented, US citizen son, born July 75, 5'11", 175 lb, BS, Biochemist,

professionally employed with biotech corporation, from beautiful, educated, cultured girls. Call: 562/531-3518. Email: nvu90706@yahoo.com

M818: Correspondence invited for personable, brilliant, vegetarian, US citizenboy, born Dec 68, 6'1", 6'1", 180 lb, MD, first year resident: internal medicine, from pretty, educated, cultured girls. Call: 570/825-7859.

M823: Alliance invited for handsome, intelligent, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, bornOct 72, 5'5", 154 lb, MS (chem engg), well employed as Development Engr with reputed co., in CA, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 714/523-1149.Email: kbshah25@hotmail.com

M824: Proposals invited for handsome, talented, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, born Sept 73, 5'10", 170 lb, MD, 3rd year internal medicine resident, from cultured, professional, attractive girls. Call: 773/878-3642.

M825: Jain Parents invite proposals for their handsome, brilliant, US raised, vegetarian son, born Dec 73, 5'8", 150 lb, MD, 3rd year radiology resident in NY State, from cultured, educated, pretty girls. Call: 518/725-1985.or/ banshimehta @hotmail. com

M826: Proposals invited for good looking, vivacious, talented, Jain boy, bornApril 72, 5'11", MS (EE), well employed as Sr Engr with international co., fromcultured, educated girls. Call: 916/447-7568. Email: ashah1972@hotmail.com

M828: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, talented, amiable, vegetarian, US born son, Oct 74, 5'10", 135 lb, BBA (mktg), well settled in business, from cultured, educated, vegetarian girls. Call: 281/277-5401.

AM124: JD / MBA with very successful career, 6'1", 30, exceptionally handsome, fair, athletic son. Gujarati Jain parents invite correspondence. Call: 949/371-0150.

MATRIMONIALS - MALE

AM179: For their very handsome, very fair son, 6'1", 29, MS (EE), CEO in a large Internet Co., loving Gujarati Jain family seeks a compatible match.Call: 949/371-0150.

AM264: Correspondence / photo invited for successful, adventurous, westernized professional MBA, born June 62, 6'2", from outgoing, independentladies preferably in California. Call: 650/854-7490. Email: Ken_Parekh@excite.com

AM269: Alliance invited from cultured, caring, educated, vegetarian girls with strong family values, for intelligent, handsome, virtuous, athletic, medical student,5'10", 180 lb, Oct 74, US citizen, Forth Worth, TX. Ph: 817/294-5755.Email: gettoknow74@hotmail.com

AM279: Proposals invited for accomplished, good looking, talented, vegetarian Gujarati boy, born Oct 72, 5'9", 152 lb, MD, 3rd year internal medicine resident, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 718/409-0635. Email: USMD2001@YAHOO.COM

AM281: Alliance invited for handsome, talented, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, bornNov 70, 5'10", 175 lb, MD, practicing in NY, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 212/249-9336. Email: vid27@hotmail.com

AM283: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for handsome, fair, talented son,born July 74, 5'8", 158 lb, BA, pursuing MBA (Technology Management), well settled in investment business, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 813/684-1321. Email: emalay@yahoo.com

M697: Gujarati parents invite responses for very handsome, fair, accomplished, vegetarian, US born son July 69, 5' 9", 140 lb, MS in Comp Sc, well positioned as software engineer, from cultured, educated, vegetarian girls. Call: 813/961-5483

M450: Physician, M D (emergency medicine), handsome, vegetarian, athletic, US born son Oct 73, 6' 3", 175 lb, Jain son. Parents invite proposals from good natured, educated, vegetarian girls Send biodata with photo to Dr, R. Kothari, 8551 Holmes Road, #73, Kansas City, MO 64131



F233: Alliance invited by Gujarati Jain parents for beautiful, charming, talented, caring, affectionate, vegetarian, virtuous US raised daughter, born July 66, 5'5", BS (chemistry), well positioned as chemist, from well educated professionals. Call: 919/776-9091.

F308: Gujarati parents invite responses for their beautiful, fair, slim, intelligent, accomplished, vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born Aug 66, 5'4", 120 lb, MBA, MS, well employed, from cultured, professional boys email: \$3612_2000 @ yahoo. com or pinakin @satyam

F436: Gujarati brother invites responses for very pretty, fair, charming, talented, Canadian citizen sister, born Nov 71, 5'1", BS, Software Developer, from never married, Gujarati Jain / Vaishnav Vanik vegetarian professionals. Call: 905/848-0903. Email: sdshah99@hotmail.com

F509: Jain parents invite responses from MD professionals, for their charming, pretty, caring, vegetarian, US raised MD (Cardiology fellowship) daughter, born Oct 69, 5'3". Call: 972/414-6506.

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 or Email: pshah@talon.net

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

F690: Gujarati parents in CA, invite proposals for very pretty, charming, intelligent, vegetarian daughter, born Feb 74, 5'4", 111 lb, BS, pursuing MS (Inf. system), well employed with reputed co., from cultured, professional boys.Call: 760/952-3841.

F696: Alliance invited by Jain parents for very beautiful, fair, slim, highly accomplished, vegetarian, virtuous, east / west blend, US born daughter, Aug 71, 5'4", JD, well positioned in a reputed legal co., from cultured, professional, vegetarian boys. Call: 540-608-4720.

F714: Alliance invited by Hindi speaking parents for pretty, slim, attractive, talented, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born Aug 74, 5'6", 125 lb, BA (comp sc), well employed in a multinational co., from cultured, educated, professional boys.Ph: 732/922-6274.or pearl_jain @yahoo com

F751: Responses invited for beautiful, slim, cultured, Gujarati vegetarian, well rounded, east / west balanced, compassionate, US born girl from well settled family, March 74, 5'6", MD, 1st year resident, from similar valued vegetarian professionals. Call: 248/926-0863.

MATRIMONIALS - FEMALE

F779: Alliance invited from cultured, well educated boys for beautiful, attractive, talented, vegetarian, British citizen girl, born Aug 71, 5'3", LLB Hon, practicingas Solicitor in London and willing to settle in USA. Email: Intrepid_diver @yahoo.com Phone: 805/980-4606.

F780: Proposals invited for beautiful, charming, intelligent, vegetarian, British citizen girl, born Oct 69, 5'3", BS Hon, 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: red_ardency@yahoo.com Phone: 801/505-7647.

F807: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for pretty, bright, charming, vegetarian daughter, born March 75, 5'0", 102 lb, BS, BA, well employed as Fin. Analyst, from cultured, professional boys. Call: 815/232-4950. Email: pparekh@ pol.net

F808: Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, attractive, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born Aug 76, 5'0", 101 lb, BA (communi. multimedia), well employed as Analyst, from cultured, educated boys. Call: 703/644-5770./payaljhaveri@hotmail.com

F809: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for beautiful, slim, talented, virtuous, US born daughter, Aug 72, 5'6", MS (biotech), well positioned in R & D of multinational co., from, cultured, compassionate professionals. Call: 630/355-5622.

F810: Gujarati parents from Singapore, invite responses for pretty, virtuous, vegetarian daughter, born July 66, 5'0", 95 lb, GCE, well employed as travel agent, from suitable cultured match. Currently she is in Singapore and willing to settle in USA. Singapore phone: 5842872. Email: shahome1@hotmail.com

F811: Alliance invited for beautiful, charming, vivacious, vegetarian, Gujarati girl,born June 68, 5'4", 126 lb, PhD (biology), Post Doctoral Fellow / Research Associate, from well educated, professional, cultured boys. Call: 858/558-8847.Email: Maithilishah@hotmail.com

F812: Alliance invited by Gujarati family, for very beautiful, attractive, talented, vegetarian, US citizen daughter, born Oct 75, 5'2", 120 lb, BS (accounting), Dip.comp. programming, well employed, from cultured, well educated boys.Call: 718/962-1069.Email: nehali_zaveri@yahoo.com or nehali1075@hotmail.com

F815: Gujarati brother invite responses from cultured, educated boys, for pretty, slim, intelligent, virtuous, caring, vegetarian sister, born Oct 78, 5'4", BS (com),Dip. Inf. System Management, Advanced comp sc dip (USA institute), currently learning Java with Tata Infotech in India and willing to settle in USA. Call: 916/984-9628. Email: pallavishaha@hotmail.com

F816: Alliance invited for pretty, charming, talented, vegetarian, innocent issueless divorcee Gujarati girl, born Dec 71, 5'4", 115 lb, BS BA (Info. Systems) well employed as programmer and analyst, from educated, cultured, suitable match. Call: 614/336-1880. Email: rsm108@hotmail.

F819: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for pretty, attractive, intelligent, vegetarian daughter, born Sept 76, 5'3", 110 lb, BS, employed as physical therapist, Bharat Natyam Visharad (7 years course), from well educated, cultured boys. Call: 847/884-9025.

F820: Brother invites alliance from cultured, educated Jain boys for pretty, bright, charming, vegetarian sister, born Sept 75, 5'3", raised in Mumbai, working as software engineer in Mumbai. She is well rounded, sociable, compassionate. Seeking similar valued

vegetarian professionals. Call: 203/595-0729.

F821: Jain parents from NY invite proposals for their very beautiful, fair, talented, charming, vegetarian daughter, born Oct 76, 5'4", 117 lb, AA, working in a family jewelry business, from well educated, cultured, vegetarian boys. Call: 718/897-4692.

F822: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for exceptionally beautiful, very fair, attractive, slim, virtuous, family oriented, vegetarian, US born daughter, Oct 76, 5'4", MD, final year student, from cultured, highly educated, professional boys. Call: 909/598-1777.

F827: Gujarati parents invite responses for their talented, pretty, charming, vegetarian daughter, born Jan 76, 5'3", BE (BS) Comp. Sc., well employed as Software Engineer on HIB visa, from cultured, professional boys.Call: 631/851-7899. Email: mehtasa@erols.com

F829: Jain parents invite correspondence from well educated professionals for their pretty, professional, accomplished, vegetarian daughter, born Sept 74, 5'1", 104 lb, MS (EE), well employed with a multinational co., Call: 919/264-6665.

F830: Gujarati Jain family in US invites proposals for their US raised / citizen, attractive, smart, vegetarian daughter, born Dec 71, 5'0", MBBS (India), studying USMLEs. Innocent divorcee – paper marriage only, not consummated. Respond directly to: vlt1234@ yahoo. com

F831: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for their remarkably beautiful, slender, intelligent, caring, virtuous, vegetarian, US raised daughter, 25, 5'4", BS, I.T. professional, from cultured, educated, handsome, professionals. Call: 313/271-0525.

MATRIMONIALS - FEMALE

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 and biodata. Call: 949/371-0150.

AF129: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for beautiful, charming, accomplished, vegetarian, US raised daughter, born April 69, 5'3", MD, In a group practice with leading hospital of USA, from well educated, professional, cultured boys. Call: 410/882-9697.

AF270: Gujarati parents invite responses for beautiful, intelligent, PharmD, well employed, US citizen, vegetarian daughter, born Aug 74, 5'0", 90 lb, from welleducated, vegetarian, non-smoker, professional boys, preferably Jains. Call: 215/673-3682. (evening & week ends).

AF272: Uncle invite correspondence from Gujarati / Kutchi, vegetarian, well educated boys, for attractive, talented, virtuous, caring, niece, born Dec 67, 5'7", 130lb, Bcom, 2nd year Law, owns jewelry business, and wish to settle in USA.Call: 215/361-1521. Email: Ishah@mccus.jnj.com Bombay Ph. 3649018.

AF273: Correspondence invited for pretty, charming, vegetarian, practicing MD,Born Dec 71, 5'2", US born and raised, from educated, fun-loving, vegetarian men, prefer Non-MD./idav99@h otmail. com

AF274: Gujarati uncle invite responses for pretty, slim, caring, virtuous, vegetarian widowed niece, 32 / 5'4", 110 lb, (with two beautiful daughters), BS, post graduation from Nirmala Niketan, Dip. Fine arts, doing web designing, from cultured, compassionate match (age 32 – 40). She is currently in Bombay & willing to settle in USA or in India. Call: 330/492-9215. Email: hpspjs@hotmail.com

AF275: Jain parents invite correspondence for their beautiful, intelligent, vegetarian daughter, born Feb 74, 5'2", Computer engineer, from cultured, welleducated professionals. Email: jsomil@yahoo.com or Call: 908/306-9788.

AF276: Alliance invited by Gujarati uncle for beautiful, attractive, slim, talented, vegetarian, Bombay raised niece, born Oct 78, 5'3", 108 lb, BA (Economics), Dip. Comp (NIIT) employed with Comp institute in Bombay and willing to settle in USA. Call: 909/654-9006.

AF277: Gujarati sister invite proposals for pretty, fair, intelligent, virtuous, charming sister, born April 73, 5'1", 112 lb, BCom, Dip. Com., well employed, from cultured, educated, vegetarian boys. She is in India and willing to settle in USA. Call: 909/654-9006.

AF278: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for their beautiful, fair, slim, talented, caring, US born daughter, May 74, 5'5", 125 lb, BS (Nutrition), RD(Regd dietitian), working in New York, from suitable cultured, educated match.Call: 908/757-7424. Email: jaivai@juno.com

AF280: Gujarati parents invite proposals from cultured, professional boys, for their beautiful, slim, charming, talented, vegetarian, Bombay raised daughter, born January 78, 5'6", 106 lb, MS (fin), well employed as financial analyst with reputed co., in Bombay and willing to settle in USA. Bombay phone: 6147560 / 6184004. Email: avani78@hotmail.com or shefali@bom3.vsnl.net.in

AF282: Gujarati Jain parents invite correspondence for their well settled, US citizen daughter, 27, 5'2", attorney, caring, east-west blend, seek well educated, vegetarian, kind-hearted match interested in San Francisco / Silicon Valley area. Call: 415/892-4819, evenings.

AF284: Alliance invited by Gujarati family, for pretty, virtuous, talented, vegetarian, family loving, caring, well rounded, unmarried daughter, born June 63, 5'2", 120 lb, MA, from, cultured, educated match. Call: 570/819-3441.

AF285: Proposals invited from suitable match for pretty, intelligent, family oriented, vegetarian, never married, UK citizen female, born July 46, 5'3", 115 lb, looks younger than her age, visited USA twice in the past, well employed as Accountant with Govt. Office in UK and willing to settle in USA. UK Phone: 0208-572-7833.

AF235: Gujarati parents in Singapore invite proposal for slim, pretty daughter, born June 74, 5'3". An auditor and pursuing CPA, from Gujarati Jain, vegetarian, professional boys. She is currently in US and willing to settle in US A call 970-282-7587 email: jesshah@yahoo.com.

F337: Physician, M D (internal medicine) slim, virtuous, vegetarian, 29 yrs, 5' 4", 115lb, Jain daughter. Parents invites bio data with photo from vegetarian educated boys. Send to 13660 Four Hill Rd, # 308, Shaker Heights, OH 44120

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YOUNG JAINS OF AMERICA

Federation of Jain Associations in North America

A Non-Profit Tax Exempt Religious Organization. IRS Code Section 501 (c)(3) E1#54-1280028 yja-exec@egroups.com • http://www.yja.org/

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4 DAYS' JOURNEY INTO THE SELF THE 4TH ANNUAL YJA CONVENTION

The Young Jains of America Biennial Convention was held in the Westin of Los Angeles over the Independence Day weekend where over 800 young Jains from the ages of 14 – 29 were in attendance.

The first day of the convention was spent settling in the attendees and in group icebreakers. After icebreakers, there was entertainment of a hypnotist enjoyed by each attendee as either a spectator or one of the hypnotized. They were followed by a young Hindi singing group from the East Coast called Dharma. The night came to an end at curfew and the attendants returned to their rooms.

Early Saturday morning, the actual convention began with the opening ceremonies, which were accompanied by breakfast. All were welcomed to the fourth biennial YJA convention. Once the opening ceremonies ended, attendees were on their way to a session/discussion filled day. The seminars were split into three age groups so that they would bring focus to specific topics faced by each. The seminars included speakers such as Ocean Robbins, the founder of the group Youth for Environmental Sanity; Atul Shah, the founder of *Jain Spirit*; Prem Jain, Vice President of Cisco Systems, and many others. In addition, discussion groups led by youths covered topics such as "The Jain Identity Matrix" and "Bodybuilding, the Jain Way". The keynote speaker on Saturday was Sadhvi Shilapiji who catered to youth of all ages and answered questions in a knowledgeable yet comprehensible manner for those with or without a great background in Jainism. The evening brought time for relaxation and fun, through the dancing of raas-garba. Most were dressed in their traditional Indian outfits to fit the occasion and as they danced in the garba circles, the colors of different dresses spun as attendants enjoyed the night.

On Sunday the convention continued with one seminar before the guest speaker Ingrid Newkirk, director of PETA, bringing awareness to the diets of each attendee. She brought forth ideas and facts that many could not imagine and brought forth compassion from her audience. She also gave importance to the Jain religion, as she mentioned it as what she always wished she could practice. However, Sunday will be remembered best by the three hour "real world" session where groups (broken up by age groups) of about twenty to thirty people are placed in a room with a moderator to discuss topics that members face in the real world. Though they were expected to be long or boring, the session actually played a vital role in the learning of what other Jain people across the country believe. This session was well received since it did not limit what could be discussed, allowing members of to bring up what may be occurring around them or in their life.

The formal was held Sunday evening where ladies were elegant dresses and gentlemen were suits. The night was banquet style, accompanied by dinner and entertainment with dancing to follow. The entertainment was a band that brought Indian flavor to musical styles of today. The band had the audience on its feet and on the dance floor it cheered them along. The night went on with dancing and lounging in the hotel lobby. The formal dresses and suits were replaced by pajamas and warm-ups for people to casually talk and enjoy themselves. The hotel lobby was filled until closing ceremonies when the YJA convention officially came to end and all that remained was the final checking out. Most were leaving with new friends from different parts of the country with whom technology would allow them to keep in touch!

YOUNG JAINS OF AMERICA.....

YJA Executive Board Meeting

YJA hasn't simply been resting on the success of the Los Angeles Convention. Soon after the convention's end a new executive board was elected, and the members of the new board met on August 11-13 in New York. New member Mansi Shah's account of the meeting follows:

Eventually we arrived in New York. All fifteen of us. Delays were plenty but somehow we managed to all get to Anita Shah's house in Old Westbury Friday night, It started off with a late dinner made by the hostess herself, who was a leaving board member.

We started off the night with some icebreaker type games to get to know the fifteen of us, we will be working together for the rest of the year. It was times of laughter and memories that we should remember for the rest of our lives and the beginning of bonds that will remain through the years.

The next morning we were woken up early to shower and be ready to be transported to New York Institute of Technology, where our previous co-chair Naishadh Shah goes to school. Our meeting was held in a lecture room at NYIT where we spent our whole day from 9 am - 12 midnight learning the ropes of YJA and planning upcoming events.

Naishadh's parents brought us an Indian home cooked meal for lunch. The basic brain food needed for a successful meeting. After lunch we proceeded with learning bylaws and understanding the different positions. Elections on positions were held and board members filled up the slots of the executive board. Afterwhich, we took a short break for dinner and headed to a local pizza place.

Upon returning, plans and goals for the next year were made by each individual in their position as well as the for the board as a whole. The past co-chairs Shubhra Jain and Naishadh had led the meeting leaving each new board member with the foundation to make next year successful. In their leading us, we decided on ideas like the 2600th Mahavir Jayanti celebration and the 101 Universities project. We ended breaking up into sub-committees where each committee was delegated one of the events for the next year and could oversee the project till its execution.

This last night was a continuation of getting to know people. The last day was filled with comments on the meeting, the present and the future. Proposals of new ideas were discussed and goals were finalized. And when it was finally over we went to a Buddhist restaurant for lunch. The meeting ended at Anita's house, from which everyone went their separate ways.

Mahavir Jayanti 2600

As the 2600th celebration of Tirthankar Mahavir's birth approaches in April 2001, YJA would like to see all the Jain youth involved in a unified celebration of the event. In coordina-

tion with JAINA, many activities are being planned for the entire year from 2001-2002. YJA plans to join in with various events for the youth. We plan to provide a complete program for celebration that each local youth group in the continent will carry out. Parts of the plan include events for the day of Mahavir Jayanti, a worldwide event for the upcoming year, and a large-scale celebration, of the grandeur of Jainism that Mahavir Bhagwan preached, at the JAINA Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

We hope that all youth will work to be a part of this celebration. For more information, contact any of the YJA Board members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

YJA and the local Jain youth groups are pleased to announce the 2000 Regional Conferences, which are to be held over the Thanksgiving Weekend from November 23-26, 2000. Jain youth from across each region are invited to join in for a lively weekend of discussions, presentations, and fun. The conferences will be held at the respected Jain Centers below. We expect 75-100 youth to come together at each individual location for these events. Please visit our website at www.yja.org for updated information.

Location: Dallas, Texas (held by the Jain Youth Group of North Texas). Please contact Pavan Zaveri (YJA South Regional Coordinator) at (713) 797-0217 or pavanzaveri@mail.com or Sudeep Shah (Jain Youth Group of North Texas President) at (972) 713-7755 or tweedershah@aol.com if you are interested or need more information.

Location: Milpitas, California (San Francisco Bay Area). Please contact Suken Jain (YJA West Regional Coordinator) at (714) 529-5874 or sukenjain@mail.com if you are interested or need more information.

Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Please contact Chintan Shah (YJA Midwest Regional Coordinator) at (608) 864-4126 or chintan_shah@mail.com if you are interested or need more information.

Location: New Jersey (exact location to be announced). Please contact Rahul Mepani (YJA Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator) at (508) 850-8906 or rahulmepani@mail.com if you are interested or need more information.

Location: Southeast US Region (exact location to be announced). Please contact Rina Shah (YJA Southeast Regional Coordinator) at (304) 255-1641 or rinashah@mail.com if you are interested or need more information.

Location: Northeast US/Southeast Canada Region (location to be announced). Please contact Sanjay Raisoni (YJA Northeast Regional Coordinator at (248) 651-1299 or sanjayraisoni@mail.com if you are interested or need more information.

Young Jain Professionals

Jai Jinendra!

We are very excited to share with you the details of Young Jain Professionals' weekend of "Living Jainism on the American River" where we stretched our bodies and spirits. It was a unique opportunity to escape hectic schedules for a weekend in the great outdoors to enjoy rafting, camping, yoga, sessions on Kashayas, and socializing. The Third Young Jain Professionals convention was held near Sacramento, California with participants from across North America plus a couple of visitors from England.

On Friday the group of 62 met for the first time. Icebreakers included a creative twist on a popular game show called "Who wants to be a "Mahavir"? Participants worked in teams to answer a variety of questions regarding Jainsim. In addition, the "Jain Experiment" of the weekend was launched. Participants were encouraged to monitor their own experiences of anger, ego, greed and deceit in thought, word and deed. Some of the group started this experiment at the beginning of the week to see how it affected their daily life and convention time.

Saturday started off early with a bus ride to the rafting site at 7 a.m. The rafting guides shared about the essentials of safe rafting and we spent the majority of the rest of the day on the river rafting. Our guides challenged us to work as a team to handle each set of rapids and it's unique attributes. Everyone who wanted to "body surf" jumped in to enjoy the refreshing water. There were a few involuntary adventures in the water.

Lunchtime discussion focused on how two Kashayas, Greed and Deceit affect us. The group shared approaches regarding how to deal with them. This included exchanges about what might be the cause of such behaviors, what do when it occurs and how to improve our reactions in subsequent occurrences. Issues included the difference between "greed" and "ambition", exploring the extent to which deceitful behavior includes partial truths, non-disclosure, outright lies and how our attachment to people and material objects can be the cause of greed and deceit in our lives. After a quick shower, we had a nourishing hot meal prepared by the guides. Informal discussions continued after dinner around the campfire and the desert table.

Sunday started out with a yoga session of 40 participants ready to stretch our bodies before our second day of rafting at 7:15 a.m. This was followed by a presentation about the start-up of a Jain camp for children run by Jains in our age group. We spent some time on more challenging rapids on Sunday morning and ended our day in the water with some gentle waves. Late afternoon gave us an opportunity to discuss the remaining two Kashayas, Anger and Ego. Exchanges included how to move in the continuum from controlling vs. acting out on these emotions to even thinking about them. This session also covered how pride in our accomplishments brings out ego and the inclination to blame others without considering our own part in instances of anger. This was followed by a leadership session to solicit input from participants about the direction of YJP, future events, and how they felt about the trip. We also took this opportunity to remind everyone of the upcoming elections and how they could contribute to the future success of this young organization. Finally after dinner, there was a slideshow of our adventures in the water and a campfire discussion about the experiences of the group in living the Kashayas experiment during the weekend.

Monday morning started with yoga and was filled with good byes as everyone headed back to Sacramento to depart for home. We know things about one another, and ourselves that you can only learn from working hard together, and sharing stories by the campfire. All too soon our time together ended until the next event.

Special thanks to our session facilitators: Sejal Doshi, Dipen Mehta, Shobhina Chheda. Avnee Shah, Shefali Chheda, Sanjay Mehta and Tushar Mehta as well as our Yoga leads Maneesh Kenia and Vivek Maru. Please visit www.homestead.com/yjp to keep up to date on YJP's activities.

We hope you are enjoying the summer. This will be the last note from the current Board members, whose term draws to an end this month. In addition to the Whitewater rafting trip in Sacramento the first official Board for YJP undertook many structural activities that will start the foundation for the organization:

- Creation of formal roles on the board (and "test driving" them)
- Formalizing a relationship with JAINA as a sub-committee
- Creation of initial Operating Guidelines for the organization (an evolving process)
- Creation of a formal membership base

Next event for YJP will be held from February 16th - 18th, 2001. Please go to our website (www.homestead.com/yjp) after November 20th for more information. If you wish to be added to the mailing list to receive regular updates, please email doshiam@hotmail.com.

Young Jain Professionals

Finally, we held elections during July. We are very pleased to announce the 2000-2001 Board:

Avani Doshi	doshiam@hotmail.com	708-848-6743
Manav Jain	manavj@yahoo.com	818-360-4178
Sejal Khandwala	Snk8274@aol.com	847-985-6858
Sanjay Mehta	Sanjaym@aol.com	718-347-3083
Mamta Shah	mshah@umdnj.edu	201-558-1684
Shilpa Shah	shilpashah@attglobal.net	404-321-4637
Viral Shah	viral@gobi-inc.com	917-822-4045

A retreat for the current and new boards will take place September 16 - 17, when we shall:

- Select the new Directorships;
- Transfer knowledge between current directors and new directors; and
- · Initiate planning for the next year

Shortly after the retreat, the structure of the new Board will be announced. It has been an exciting year and productive year and we wish the new team much success and our full support as they move the organization forward in meeting your needs.

The 1999-2000 YJP Board

Mona Kothari, Jugna Shah, Saurabh Dalal, Manav Jain, Birju Patel, Ronak Shah, Shilpa Shah. Please visit www.homestead.com/yjp for more information about YJP.

Participants of the rafting trip were asked to fill in the following survey before attending the trip. It asks about how you would act in various situations that would challenge your belief in the Kashayas.

The responses are noted beside each choice.

- **1.** After the success of a non-profit organization's annual gala fundraiser that you coordinated, the president takes all the credit at the press conference. Do you:
- a. Keep quiet for the good of the organization. -71%
- b. Tell everyone at the press conference you did the work. -10%
- c. Stop working with the organization. 10%
- **d.** Plot against the president within the organization. -0%
- e. Withhold key information from the president in the future. 10%
- **2.** You are going to leave your current employment. In your performance review discussion, your manager informs you about a promotion and 5 weeks of expensive training. Do you:
- a. Accept the promotion, knowing you will leave the job anyway. 5%
- **b.** Tell the manager about your plans but ask him/her not to reveal the information. -57%
- c. Decline the promotion. 24%
- d. Change your plans to leave the company. 14%

- **3.** You are supposed to help your son/daughter with their science experiment, but you end up taking over. The project wins first place and a valuable prize at the local science fair. Do you:
- a. Say nothing. 59%
- b. Tell everyone you, and not your son/daughter, did the project. -5%
- c. Say nothing, but quietly give the award to charity. 36%
- d. Gloat about your son/daughter's intelligence 0%
- **4.** A buyer test-drives your car with no problems. But, you know it has periodic engine trouble. Do you:
- a. Say nothing about the engine trouble. -9%
- b. Inform the buyer about the engine trouble, but insist on the purchase price. 83%
- c. Say nothing about the engine trouble, but reduce the asking price in the course of negotiations. 9%
- **d.** Tell the buyer that the car runs perfectly. -0%
- **5.** You make significantly more money than your spouse does. Taking a six-months to a year leave from work would not impact your career path significantly but a similar leave would negatively affect your spouse's career path. You and your spouse want to start a family. However, you both agree that one parent must stay home due the lack of suitable childcare. Do you:
- a. Stay at home once the child is born. -76%
- b. Ask your spouse to stay at home once the child is born. 6%
- c. Use the available childcare even though you are not completely satisfied with it. -0%
- d. Have one of your parents move in to provide childcare. 12%
- e. Defer having children to a later date. 6%
- **6.** Rank the Kashayas in descending order of difficulty for you to overcome. (1 being most difficult)
- **a.** Anger- 1) 76% 2) 14% 3) 5% 4) 5% Average response = 1.39
- **b.** Deceit 1) 10% 2) 5% 3) 20% 4) 65% Average response = 3.40
- c. Ego 1) 10% 2) 60% 3) 15% 4) 15% Average response = 2.35
- **d.** Greed 1) 5% 2) 15% 3) 60% 4) 20% Average response = 2.95
- **7.** Agree or Disagree: (1 = strongly agree, 5 = strongly disagree) After reaching a comfortable income level and job satisfaction in a demanding position, a more demanding, lucrative, and stressful professional opportunity presents itself. All other factors being equal, I would choose the new opportunity.

Average response = 3.64. The range is as follows:

1) 10% 2) 10% 3) 14% 4) 43% 5) 24%

Jai Jinendra!

The Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA) was founded to create conditions to foster our precious religion and preserve our heritage in North America. Jains all over this continent look forward to JAINA conventions as a useful tool to bring their families to one site for four days of spiritual advancement, assimilation, education, and socialization. 11th BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION is scheduled to take place from July 5th to July 8th, 2001 in Chicago.

Many exciting changes are taking place in the way our conventions are organized. The most significant change coming as JAINA enters third decade of its existence, is that now and in the future, JAINA will organize and will be responsible for all JAINA Conventions with the cooperation of a local Jain center.

Over the last 20 years, number of Jain Centers in North America have grown from Four to Fifty Seven. Attendance at the conventions has been growing and the task of holding the conventions is getting more complex each year. In the past, all financial and organizational responsibility was carried out by a local Jain Center. This reinventing of the wheel every two years at a different Jain Center was costly and inefficient. Over the time a pool of national talent has been developed and JAINA has decided to tap into this most precious resource - experience and dedication of national volunteers. The 11th Biennial JAINA Convention in July 2001, is first time a JAINA CONVENTION BOARD has been formed to bring about this change. The fifteen member Convention Board has JAINA's First Vice President as chairman of the Convention, seven members nominated by JAINA from all over the continent and seven members from the Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago((the host Jain Center).

By making our convention a national event, we are going to make this OUR CONVENTION. The issues affecting us, our children and our youth are national and international in scope. Now our agenda has to be set in larger context and is a responsibility of everyone. So please join hands with us in shaping our future. If you wish to contribute your time, talent or treasure to this noble endeavor, call one of the members listed below. The theme for the 2001 convention is "Practising Jainism in the 21st Century".

Rosemont Convention Center near the O'Hare airport is selected as the site of the convention and 1400 rooms at the hotels within walking distance of the Convention center have been reserved for the convention attendees. The convention center has room for Exhibition booths, lecture halls etc. To make sure that your visit is very pleasant and memorable, we would like to plan this event with you in mind.

Please help us by registering for the Convention as soon as possible and take advantage of the early bird special. Online registration will be available after November30th. A major Internet credit card approval company with secure and proper firewalls will handle Credit Card transactions so that privacy of your account will be maintained.

As the whole event is funded by registration fees, advertisement and donations, we appeal to you to make as large a contribution as possible. Please come with your family and friends and share the excitement of this great event.

JAINA CONVENTION BOARD

CHAIRMAN & CONVENOR Bipin D. Parikh

PH: 847-699-1294 dmdmrch@megsinet.net

CO-CONVENOR Kishor C. Shah Ph: 630-671-0001 kishcshah@aol.com

CO-CONVENOR Prabodh B. Vaidya Ph: 630-985-9144 pbvaidya@aol.com

ADVISOR Gyan Chand Jain Ph: 416-447-1650

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DOCUMENTATION

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FINANCE Keerti N. Shah Ph: 630-837-8716 knshah@uop.com

PROGRAM & VIP Samprati Shah Ph: 847-524-0463 sshahjain@aol.com

REGISTRATION Lata Champsee Ph: 416-441-2200 latachampsee@usa.net PUBLICITY Dilip V. Shah Ph:215-561-0581 dilipvshah@aol.com

SOUVENIR Virendra K. Shah Ph: 310-326-5268 jcornerllc@aol.com

HOSPITALITY - FACILITY Pravin M. Shah Ph:815-436-1312 goodroofer@yahoo.com

FOOD SERVICES Arvind M. Shah Ph: 847-699-7778 arvind699@aol.com **CULTURAL PROGRAMS**

Megha A. Doshi Ph:847-735-0120 akdoshi@aol.com

YOUTH ACTIVITIES Mukesh Doshi Ph:847-517-2505 mukesh52@aol.com

EXHIBITION & SOUVENIR Jagat J. Shah Ph: 630-529-5645 jshah32946@aol.com

CONVENTION HQ Priya M. Shah 847-397-8316

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAM

The 2001 convention will have programs for all ages of Jains and in all languages (i.e. English, Gujarati and Hindi).

 In addition to all sadhus and munies highly acclaimed scholars and dignitaries, which may include

Father Valles,

Dr. Hegde,

Induben Jain,

Shrenikbhai Shah,

- Debates, discussions, seminars and workshops,
- Cultural programs, Bhavna
- Marriage information service
- Alumani reunions
- Jain art and exhibition,
- Yoga and meditation classes,
- Daily Pratikraman,
- Businessmen's get-together,
- Workshop on women's issues,
- Matrimonial networking for adults,
- Creation of Jalmandir
- Youth programs including seminars, discussions, dance & cruise

For the first time

- A networking conference for the officers and trustees of Jain centers of North America is planned. This will provide a forum for attendees to discuss, exchange ideas and learn from each others, in areas like, creation of new temple, Pratistha Mahotsav, Fund raising, Scholar visitation, Newsletter, Pathshala etc.
- Individual families will be able to schedule a short private meeting with a scholar of their choice on first come first serve basis. This will provide hundreds of families memorable private moments with a monk or a scholar to seek advise or blessings.
- Many more exhibition booths and commercial booths that will provide a unique learning and shopping opportunities.
- Successful entrepreneurs from Silicon Valley will speak to our youngsters to appraise them of opportunities and challenges in the high technology industries. There are many successful Jains in the information technology field that can inspire our membership.
- From the academia, professors who teach courses on Jainism/ Sanskrit and Prakrit in the universities in the U.S. and Canada will be invited. JAINA would like to recognize them and at the same time make our children aware of the Jain education opportunities available on campuses.

For further information or suggestions call Samprati Shah at 847-524-0463 or write to him at sshahjain@aol.com.

SPONSORSHIP:

We need Donors for the 2001 JAINA Convention. The revenue from the registration will not be sufficient to defray the cost of the convention. Please help us by your generous donation. It will be highly appreciated and recognized. Following are the Donor categories.

Donor Designation		Minimum Donation		
Well Wisher		US\$500		
Friend		US\$1,000		
Sponsor		US\$2,000		
Benefactor		US\$5,000		
Grand Benefactor		US\$10,000		
Convention Patron		US\$15,000		
Convention Grand Patron		US\$25,000		
Sanghpati		US\$75,000		
Donation for	Swamivatsalya			
Breakfast	US\$2000	Lunch	US\$5000	
Dinner	US\$10,000	Banners in food area	US\$2000	

For details of privileges offered to the donors, please call Samprati Shah at 847-524-0463 or write at **sshahjain** @aol.com

SOUVENIR ADVERTISEMENT RATES

	Back Page Inside (Full Colour Ad) US\$10,000
	Front Page Inside (Full Colour Ad	US\$10,000
□	Full Page (Full Colour Ad)	US\$1500
	Full Page (Black & White)	US\$1000
	Half Page (Black & White)	US\$600
	Quarter Page (Black & White)	US\$400
	Best Wishes (Business Card Size)	US\$250

Souvenir Size 8 1/2" x 11" Provide ready to print artwork for all advertisements

I would like to advertise in the CONVENTION SOUVENIR as marked above. I am enclosing my check for US \$ in full payment, payable to JAINA CONVENTION 2001. Please print the advertisement as per copy enclosed and mail your checks and advertisement material to:

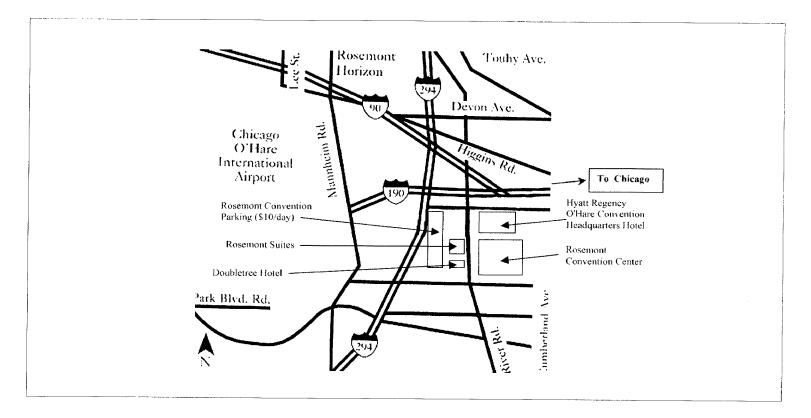
Jagat H. Shah

50 Founders Pointe North

Phone: 630 529 5645, Email: jshah32974@agl.com

Bloomingdale IL 60108

HOTEL INFORMATION



Hyatt Regency O'Hare

(Convention Headquarters Hotel)

9300 W. Bryn Mawr Ave(at River Rd.) Rosemont, IL 60018 (800) 233-1234 (847) 696-1234 US\$99.00 + applicable taxes

The Rosemont Suites At O'Hare

5500 N. River Road, Rosemont, IL 60018 (888) 476-7366 (847) 678-4000 US\$104.00 + applicable taxes

Notes:

- 1. Hotels listed and convention center are located 5 minutes from O'Hare airport.
- Please mention, "The JAINA Convention" when making reservations to receive the reduced rate at the hotels listed, based on availability. The discount rates are only valid for advanced room booking prior to April 1, 2001 and valid from July4th to July 9th.
- 3. There is a free shuttle from the airport to the hotels listed.
- 4. The hotels are all connected to the convention center via a skywalk.

Driving Direction to convention Center and Hotels:

Traveling from Milwaukee on I 294 South and Rockford on I 90 East: Exit at O'Hare (I 90 West), pay toll and exit at Mannheim Rd. South. Proceed to right lane. Reenter East to Chicago I190, Proceed 1 mile, exit Des Plaines River Rd. South. Convention Center and Hotels are within 1 mile.

Travelling from Indiana on I 294 North: Exit at O'Hare/River Road (I 90 West) Pay toll. Exit left after toll plaza. Turh right at River Road. Convention center and Hotels are within 1 mile.

Travelling from Chicago on Kennedy: Exit O'Hare on I 190 West. Exit at river road. Turn right at River Rd. Convention Center and Hotels are within 1 mile.

From O'Hare airport: For hotels call hotel for a free Shuttle bus.

Travelling from Midway Airport: Please make your own travel arrangement

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GUIDELINES FOR EXHIBITION BOOTHS

Who can participate?: JAINA, Member Jain Centers, Non-Profit Sales Organization and For-Profit Organizations or individuals if they meet the criteria as stated under, to conform to Jain Principles.

Eligibility Criteria: An exhibitor who may be involved in any activity, performance, presentation or sale of products or services that would violate the cannons of Jainism or such product or service is considered objectionable to Jain community as a whole shall be prohibited. Examples: (a) the product or the process of product manufactured that involves violation of tenet of Ahimsa would not be allowed. (b) If the product displays in-descent exposure objectionable to Jain community, it would not be allowed. JAINA Convention Board's decision in this matter will be final and binding to all parties involved.

Organization: There are four categories of participants. (a) JAINA, (b) Member Jain Centers, (c) Non-Profit Organizations and (d) For-Profit Organizations. Booth selection and participant selection will be done on first-come first-served basis in their respective categories.

An Exhibition Booth Selection Committee will consist of the following four individuals:

Chairperson: Jagat J. Shah (Exhibition & Souvenir)

Co-Chair: Rajnikant T. Shah (Exhibition) Member: Samprati J. Shah (Programs & VIP)

Member: Pravin M. Shah (Security & Hospitality)

This committee will review all applications and make recommendations for acceptance/rejection to the JAINA Convention Board. The Committee will work with the approved applicants and make necessary arrangements for providing space and other arrangements.

Charges: The following will be charges for 4 days - from July 5 to July 8, 2001.

(a) JAINA booths:	No Charge	30 booths
(b) Member Jain Centers	US \$250	25 booths
(c) Non-Profit Organization	US \$500	25 booths
(d) For-Profit Organization	US \$1500	100 booths

Additional charges will apply for tables, risers & chairs, and connection and electricity usage etc.

Chronology:

- 1. Application form can be obtained from the Booth Selection Committee Co-Chairperson (Phone 630-876-1297).
- 2. Each Organization will describe on the form the display items and/or the product(s) and services for sale.
- 3. After deliberation, the Booth Selection Committee will notify the applicant of the result (which will be in less than 15 days), and also send the registration form and other equipment and services contract blanks.
- 4. The applicant will submit the completed forms to Convention Head Quarters with full payment. The booth will not be reserved until full payment is received.
- 5. All booths will have to be ready before the July 5th Social Event. The booth cannot be dismantled until July 8th morning. Booths must be manned full time.



YOUTH (upto age 30)

Name:		Addres	s:	
City	StateZip Co	de		
Ph#(Res):	Ph#(Work):			
Fax#:	email:			
Date of Birth:	Age:	Height:	Weight:	
Visa Status:	Education:	*	***************************************	
University/College	INVESTMENT AND THE PROPERTY OF			
Job / Business Descri	iption:			
Are you: Vegetarian?: ((Y/N)Non-smoker?	: (Y/N)Non-dr	inker?: (Y/N)	
What part of India is ye	our family from?	How soon	are you looking to get mar	ried?
Are you willing to mov	ve to another city after you g	get married? (Y/N)		
What type of role does	Jainism play in your life?			
A)	My faith is represented	in every aspect of my li	e.	
B)	I give precedence to Jair	nism when making dec	sions.	
C)	I practice Jainism when	I can.		
D)	I am learning how to pra	ectice Jainism more.		
E)	Jainism doesn't play an	important role.		
Name 1 or 2 most impo	ortant qualities you are looki	ing for in your partner?	(3 sentences max)	
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Age:Height:	Weight:La	inguage:	Education:	
Must your Match be Ve	egetarian?: (Y/N)	_Non-smoker: (Y/N)_	Non-drinker: (Y/N	1)
Other Preferences and	comments about what you a	re looking for in a persp	ective mate:	
Would you like us to po	ost your information on the	MIS website? (Y/N)		
Are you submitting a p	icture to be posted on the w	ebsite w/info (Y/N)		
Fach candidate wi	ill have controlled access to	the MIS database when	ea ana ann canrah far narch	active norther and cahedule

- Each candidate will have controlled access to the MIS database, where one can search for perspective partner and schedule meeting to be held during convention.
- Please submit this form by January 31st to be listed on the web.
- Please make a check or web site register in the amount of \$50 payable to JAINA Convention (for MIS registration) and mail along with your registration package. See Registration form for mailing details.
- The last date for mailing is June 15, 2001
- You are required to bring pictures and copies of bio-data to the convention and also mail one copy of each with registration form.
- This information will be available to all the registered candidates at the MIS session.



Marriage Information Services Candidate Information Form

ADULTS

City		Adc	1000
	StateZip C	Code	
Ph#(Res):	Ph#(Work):		
Fax#:	email:		
			Weight:
	Education:_	_	5
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Children: (Y/N)	(If yes, How	many):	(If yes, Please list them on a separate paper)
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			-drinker?: (Y/N)
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	to another city after you get		
Vhat type of role does	Jainism play in your life	?	
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B)	I give precedence to Jair		
C)	I practice Jainism when	I can.	
D)	I am learning how to pra	actice Jainism more.	
E)	Jainism doesn't play an i		
Vame 1 or 2 most import	ant qualities you are lookin	g for in your partner?	(3 sentences max)
Vhat are some interesting	g qualities about yourself th	at you would like to to	ll prospective partners? (3 sentences max)
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- for perspective partner and schedule meeting to be held during convention.
- Please submit this form by January 31st to be listed on the web.
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- This information will be available to all the registered candidates at the MIS session.



						STRATION ww.jaina200							
Address: Street / apt #			City		State/Province			Zip/Postal code			Country/Region		
Residence Phone Business Phone			Fax		E-mail						Profession (Primary's)		
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Registration Fees:	Early Bird Jan 15, 2001			Jan 16 to April 15		April 16 to June 15	,	June 16 t July 07	0		Registration Fees < See chart		
Couple		US \$175.00		US \$200.00		US \$235.00	o	US \$275.0	0			Donation	
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email: 7hitesh@home						Name on Card: Exp. DT:/							
Phone for Convention Registration Rule				8316		Signature:Date://							
 Online registration t The registration fee be US \$ 175 + 60*2 June 15th 2001 is th Cancellation charges fee (whichever is hig refundable. Most programs are a Receipt of confirmed registration material On site registration is programs start Thur. You need to be registed. The cruise is schedular 	hrough \(\) is based 2=\$ 295) ie LAST is will be gher) from at convert if registra i. All con begins 12 isday ever istered for	Web site wwd on individual Additional DATE of prous \$50.00 m May31 to the tion hall, Hetion will be evention part 2:00 noon opening, conclusor the conve	w.jaina ual, co fees a e-regist for tota July 2 yatt ar mailed icipant n Thur ude on ention a	uple or apply for ration for regist, 2001. If d Rose to you s required Sunda and fill for apply for the register of the requires to the requirement of the requirement of the requirement for the requirement of the requireme	each add r Youth cr for Youth (tration fee Marriage I emont Suit . Registra re Picture re Picture re y afternoo out separa	ruise/Dance/Co Cruise and You a up to May 31 information Series Hotels (Sec ant must bring ID. 1. Only Cash on. ate Candidate	memonce uth I 1. Ca rvice e att reg or Ca	nber. (For exa ert/MIS. Regist Dance/Concer ancellation ch es (MIS), Yout ttached map) gistration letter tredit Cards w ormation Form	mple family of ered family of the transfer will be the Cruise & E and picture will be accepted to participal.	vith ch US \$ Dance/ ID at ed duri	Idren's up 50.00 or 2 Concert of registratio ng on site farriage In	to age 5 are F 25% of total regi- barges are non- n desk to collect registration. The	REE. stration : ne ce (MIS)
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Convention official Use	Only:												_
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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





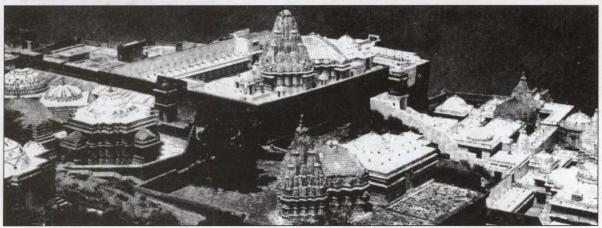


Tirthankar Parsavnath

Jain temple format

Tirthankar Mahavir

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