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Volume 21, No. 3

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Convention 2002

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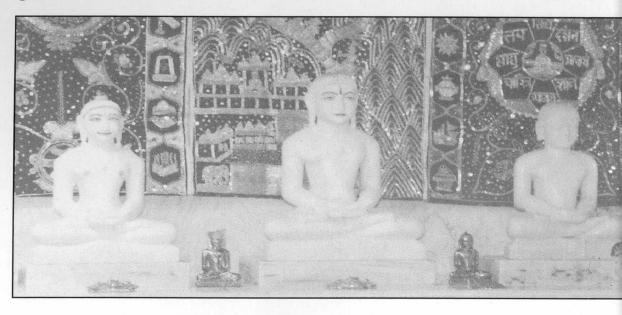
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Leonardtown Offices Shanti Medical Center P O Box 664 26840 Point Lookout Road, Suite 101 Leonardtown, MD 20650 301-475-5577 301-475-5524 St. Mary's Medical Arts Building P O Box 306 22650 Cedar Lane Court Leonardtown, MD 20650 310-475-5021 301-475-5023 Prince Frederick Office Calvert Medical Office Building 110 Hospital Road, Suite 303 Prince Frederick, MD 20678 410-535-4333 Lexington Park Office 22335 Exploration II, Suite 1030 & 1035 Lexington Park, MD 20653 301-863-7041 301-863-9000 California Office P.O. Box 540

23263 By the Mill Road California, MD 20619 301-863-5835 Charlotte Hall Office Charlotte Hall Medical Centre P.O. Box 507 29795 Three Notch Road Charlotte Hall, MD 20622 301-884-7322 301-884-7330 Mechanicsville Office Village Medical Annex 28160 Old Village Road, Suite A Mechanicsville, MD 20659 301-884-4666 Washington Area 831 University Blvd., #32 Silver Spring, MD 20903 301-445-4430

# JAIN TEMPLE, WASHINGTON, DO



## JAI JINENDRA

अहो! अहो! श्री सदगुरु, करुणासिंघु अपार आ पामर पर प्रभ 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)

्युं 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.

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

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

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# JAIN DIGEST

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

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Dharma Bandhu

Your JAINA is working very hard to facilitate your Jain living needs. Many activities have taken place during last Quarter. Following is only some of the activities.

- First of all I want to congratulate our new Grand Patron family. Namely, Mr. And Dr. P. V. Poonai from 300 Long Ave., Port St. Joe FL.
- The Pratishtha mahotsav at Boston was a great success. Also the Pratishtha mahotsav in Detroit temple for 24 tirthankars in Bhomti went well as planned.
- YJA Convention 2002 was a grand success. Every participant was happy that they could attend the convention in Mahwah NJ. Soon after that the YJA members selected the new executive board. The Co-chairs are: Ronak Shah and Suchita Shah.
- They have many new activities planned around the Internet and many regional conferences. Let us applaud a great job done by previous exec. Committee led by Chintan, Birud and Ronak
- YJP has planned their Fifth annual convention on October 12-14 in Montreal, Quebec. Please contact Sanjay Shah or their website.
- 12th Biennial JAINA Convention is planned for July 3-6 2003 at Cincinnati. Under leadership of Anop Vora, Dr. Surendra Singhvi and Soha Shah with Convention Board and many committees, all activities are progressing at full force. Don't forget to register soon in the early bird phase starting Oct 1 2002.

#### FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF

Jai Jinendra!

Jain community in North America is humming with spiritual, religious activities.

- -- A very successful Pratishtha in Detroit
- --YJA's Convention in New Jersey
- -- 2nd Pathshala Teachers' Conference
- --many many scholars visits and

Plans for the 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention is underway. Show your support by registering early for the convention. It eliminates all the guess work out of planning and gives a big boost to all the volunteers.

We are pleased to add in this issue an article in Gujarati. We will also be pleased to publish suitable article in Hindi. Please send them to me at latachampsee@usa.net

I ask for your Kshamapana for any of my actions knowingly or unknowingly which may have hurt your feelings in any way.

Lata Champsee, Editor in Chief

- Our world Community Services projects are progressing at designed pace. "Varthaman Nagar" near Bhuj has already started construction of houses and school plans are completed. The medical assistance program has shipped many containers full of hospital supplies to designated hospitals in India.
- In the same venue Veerayatan's Acharya Chandanaji's organization has set up 23 regular and vocational teaching institutes in Kutchh and Saurashtra. Some of our young adults, Shayana Parekh and Kimberly Parekh, are going there to teach vocational subjects for one or more years.
- To facilitate your donations we at JAINA have established credit card acceptance services.
   Please contact our treasurer Girish Shah for details.

Again, I thank you very much to let us (the Executive committee) serve you. And with your support, we plan to do much more. I want to build many sadhermic Bhavans near our Jain Centers.

Thank you, and Jai Jinendra.

Bipin D. Parikh,

President, JAINA

## JAIN DIGEST

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#### **EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Lata Champsee 21 Swiftdale Place Don Mills, ONT, Canada M3B 1M3 Phone: 416/441-2200 fax: 416/ 441-2211 email: latachampsee@usa.net

#### **COVER DESIGN**

Drumail Purohit email: dhrumilpurohit@mail.com

#### **REGIONAL EDITORS**

#### Canada

Dr.Mahendra Mehta email: mhmehta@sympatico.ca Phone/Fax 416/241-2044

#### Midwest, US

Manubhai Doshi email: Manudoshi@aol.com Phone: 847/735-0120

#### Northeast, US

Dineshbhai Chheda email: dchheda@pica.army.mil Phone: 973/394-1701

#### Southeast, US

Surendra Shah Phone: 770/422-1483 srshah@bellsouth.net

#### Southwest, US

Jadavji Kenia email: jkenia@msn.com Phone: 972/690-3593

#### West, US

Matrimonials

Chandrakant Parekh email: chandra.j.parekh@aero.org Phone: 562/865-1679, Fax: (562) 865-0851 engsys@aol.com

#### **ASSOCIATE EDITORS**

Young Minds Arpan R. Shah 646-339-7020, arpanr.shah@yja.org Chirag K. Shah 262-880-6918, chirag.shah@yja.org

Hasmukh Shah 304 Tall Oak Trail Tarpon Springs, FL 34688-7711 Phone: 727-934-6141 / 3255 hasmukh33@yahoo.com

#### MANAGING BOARD

Lata Champsee, Chair Dilip V Shah, Marketing Manager Keerti Shah, Circulation Manager

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

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#### Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA)

**HEADQUARTERS** 

PO Box 700, Getzville, NY 14068-0700 Phone/Fax: 716/636-5342 Office Hours: 2 pm - 5 pm Mon - Friday, jainahq@jaina.org

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Bipin D. Parikh

Phone: 847/699-1294, Fax: 312/726-4274

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Ila G. Mehta, Midwest US

Phone: 419/865-2727, Fax: 419/868-7476

Sushil lain, Northeast US

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Mahendra Mehta, Southeast US Phone: 941/561-273, Fax: 941-275-4432

Hasendra Shah, West US

Phone: 562/404-2851, Fax: 562/597-0648

Udai Jain, Southwest US

Phone: 281-980-0741, Fax: 281/980-2924

#### Secretary

Kirit C. Daftary

Phone: 254/776-4209, Fax: 254/753-1411

Phone: 408/378-8765, Fax: 650/694-6961

#### Immediate Past President

Mahendra K. Pandya

Phone: 718/816-0083, Fax: 212/319-6781

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Interfaith Activities/World Council of Jains Manoj Dharamsi 703/620-9837

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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.

#### **HEADQUARTERS NEWS....**

# Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting July 13, 2002 Cincinnati Dayton Jain Center

**Executive Committee Members:** Bipin Parikh, Anop Vora, Kirit C. Daftary, and Mahendra Mehta

Past Presidents: Surendra Singhvi and Tansukh Salgia,

JAINA directors and Guests: Ramesh Shah, Chandrakant Shah, Vinod Doshi, President of Cincinnati Dayton Jain Center, Keerti Shah and Samprti Shah

- 1. Meeting started with Navkar Mantra.
- 2. Two minutes of silence was observed for the speedy recovery of Amrender Muniji and Dr. Surendra Singhvi.
- 3. President's report: He stated that Temple Guideline committee would be working on multiple guidelines for Jain Temples. The committee's function will be to come up with a resource guide for people to go to for answers to building or expanding their Jain Center's facilities. This could include but not limited to locating multiple sources for purchase of idols, marbles, etc. They will also work on Hindu Jain Temple formats and guidelines for smoother operation.

YJA convention was successfully completed. He was exploring alternative ways to bring the message of Jainism and Teerth Yatra to all Jain households. He also mentioned about creation of JAINA scholarship fund and reported about few of Jain Centers being beneficiaries of the insurance policies and remainder trusts.

- 4. Secretary read Treasurer's report. It showed that as of Dec 2001 it had \$20,567 in JAINA General Funds. Total other amounts belonging to various committees amounted to \$494,777. The summary of financial report is available at JAINA headquarters, with the most current one printed in the latest issue of Jain Digest.
- 5. There was a motion on the table to increase the Jain Digest life membership from \$101 to \$151 and delete annual membership fees. The motion was made by Kirit Daftary and seconded by Dr. Bipin Parikh. The life membership first instituted in 1980 has not been changed ever since though the cost of printing and posting has increased many times since then. Suggestion was made to change format and printing and posting it from India.
- 6. JAANA (Jain Adhyatma Academy of North America) had made the formal request to distribute JAIN Tatva books and CDs to the convention registrants. The convention committee will look into the feasibility of the same
- 7. Kirit C. Daftary, Chairman of the Teerthodhar committee reported on the condition of Amrender Muniji. He is now recovering at the rehab center from recent stroke. The full report is available on other pagers. It was pointed out that all scholars coming in from India must have full health insurance. This should be

also supplemented by group coverage. Mahendra Mehta will look into such group coverage, if possible under JAINA.

- 8. Ramesh Shah, chairman of Wheels of hope reported about next Shram Yatra in December. World Community Service has formed a strategic partnership with AAPI and Share and Care foundation to help send equipment to hospitals and clinics in India. Each container costs about \$15,000. This covers cost of transportation and make ready charges for use of all these equipment in India. AAPI will pay for shipping cost and credit goes to JAINA for the good work.
- 9. Secretary read report from Young Jain Professional committee. They will hold their fifth annual convention in Montreal Canada on October 12-14, 2002. Visit their web site for information on the theme of convention, etc.
- 10. Other matters: JAINA focus is now published electronically to get the latest news. This can be accessed from JAINA.Org. Bipin Daftary, President of Rochester Jain Sangh will work with JAINA to promote availability of Jain food on international flights.
- 11. Convention Report by Anop Vora and Soha Shah: The convention will be held from July 3<sup>rd</sup> to July 6<sup>th</sup> 2003 at Cincinnati, OH. The contract has been signed with three major convention hotels for housing.

Anop Vora started the convention meeting with the budget. The initial budget is about \$825,400. Several suggestions were made to lower the fees to attract more attendance. The 2003 convention falls on long weekend starting with Thursday, unlike past. This would ensure higher attendance.

The current budget works with 4500 attendees. Planning committee expects to have 20% youth attendance with no deficit financing. For youth there are two boat cruises and a service project on the local level. They have arranged age specific seminars and workshops, essays and oratorical competition.

Registration will be available on line by Sept. 15, 2002, including acceptance of the credit card. The early registration fees will be \$60 for ages 5-17 and 62+, rest will be \$90 per person. Various fund raising schemes were suggested from Sanghpati to Patrons of convention to cover shortfall from registrations.

Jainism – The art of living is the central theme of the convention.

Annual Directors and Executive committee meeting will be held at Siddhachalm on September 28th, 2002.

Minutes prepared by Kirit C. Daftary, Secretary, JAINA

#### TWENTY-FOUR TIRTHANKARS PRATISHTHA MAHOTSAV IN DETROIT

In the history of Jain Society of Greater Detroit, Sunday, August 18, 2002 will be written as a glorious day for the joyous celebration of the twenty-four Tirthankars Pratishtha in the Temple. This is a dream come true for members of the society who had been waiting for Pratishtha of Twenty-four Tirthankars since the first Partishtha in 1998. Now, truly the Temple in De-



troit is complete with the Pratishtha of all thirty-five murtis including the twenty-four Tirthankars in bhumati.

The ten-day celebration started with Murti Pravesh on August 10th followed by various pujans, such as Uvasaggaharam and Guru Gautamswami pujan, Saraswatidevi and Navkarmantra Aradhnas and a cultural program and Shalibhadra Drama by adults and youth. Eighteen Abhishek and Ashta Prakari Puja followed for 24 Trithankars. On August 18th, the day began with a Pratishtha procession and Pratishtha Mahotsav followed by Laghu Shanti Pujan. The entire Pratishtha Ceremony was concluded on August 19th with a Bhumati Pradakshina. Over 1500 people attended the Pratishtha celebration blessed with perfect weather. Gurudev Chitrabhanu, Muni Shri Jinchandravijayaji, Samanijis Mudit Pragyaji and Mangal Pragyaji from Florida, Scholar Tarlaben Doshi, Pramodaben Chitrabhanu, Congessman Joseph Knollenberg, Farmington Hills city officials, JAINA President Bipinbhai Parikh and Past president Tansukh Salgia, Chicago Jain Society president Niranjanbhai Shah, and extended Jain families from other centers were present for the celebration of this joyous and auspicious event.

Shri Narendrabhai Nandu and his group including his son Kayvan performed all pratishtha vidhis, pujas and bhavnas. Their enthusiastic singing, dancing and music inspired Mr. Gunavantbhai Parekh of New Jersey to take the gheeboli for the Pratishtha of Shri Mahavirswami Bhagwan and other members of the society for signing up the remaining open slots for the Pratishtha. On July 28th, before the Pratishtha warm-up program, thirty fixed commitment slots were open for the Pratishtha and on August 13th - in just fifteen days all slots were filled for both

Murti Pratishtha and Murti Carving, leaving many families in waiting. Things moved at a pace beyond anybody's imagination. Members donated generously and participated in the event whole-heartedly – making us all believe that unseen forces were behind the course of the whole event. Over 200 families participated in religious activities during Pratishtha Mahotsav and members and well wishers of the Society committed over \$ 2 million in gheebolis, donations and pledges to help make the society debt free in a very near future.

Pratishtha Core Committee along with over 20 other subcommittees with many volunteers planned and executed a wide variety of tasks. All volunteers made sure that everyone attending the ceremony were able to enjoy all programs on time and safely.

The Jain Society of Greater Detroit would like to thank the City of Farmington Hills for permitting to hold the Celebrations, Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago for forgiving \$32,000 of interest on a long term loan, JAINA Organization & other Jain societies for helping in many ways and Swaminarayan Satsang Mandal of BAPS – for their help in food preparation during the



ten day event. The society would also like to thank all the families for donating generously and participating wholeheartedly in the celebrations to make it a great success.

In conclusion, the entire ceremony was economically well planned, showed wonderful participation by young people in religious activities along with donation of time and financial commitment and above all a great unity was displayed amongst Jains and non Jains around North America. We thank everyone for making the Pratishtha celebration successful and memorable one!

--Niranjan (Niran) Shah, Detroit ,IL --Dilip V. Shah, Philadelphia,PA



## 12th Biennial JAINA convention July 3-6, 2003, CIncinnati Hosted by: JAIN CENTER OF CINCINNATI & DAYTON

# Jainism...the Art of Living



Dear Jain Member,

August 30, 2002

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Jai Jinendra!

The Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA) in cooperation with the Jain Center of Cincinnati & Dayton is pleased to provide preliminary details on the 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial Jaina Convention to be held at the Greater Cincinnati Convention Center from July 3-6, 2003. The theme of the convention is Jainism: the Art of Living and celebrates the religious and cultural aspects of our everyday lives.

Grand scale preparation for the convention is now underway. We are fortunate to have the use of a world class convention center, a 300,000 sq.ft. multi-level facility located in the heart of downtown and connected to nearby hotels and downtown locations via a pedestrian skywalk. The Jaina Convention will utilize all three floors of the convention center, allowing for more than 6,000 attendees expected for the convention. Socialization space and facilities for friends and families are being planned as an integral part of the convention. The complete convention experience will tempt families to treat the convention as part of a family vacation to Cincinnati

In the day time, in addition to discourses from prominent international Jain scholars, there is a focus on participative events such as Yoga, Meditation, Art and Vegetarian cooking. In the evening, professional entertainment is planned in conjunction with participative presentations from Jain centers across North America for short drama, songs and dances.

The Youth committee has been extremely active. Planning is underway for a youth night event of music and dancing consisting of many conjoined halls featuring different styles of music and atmosphere. There will also be a coffee lounge where people can relax and mingle.

The food committee is promising mouth-watering food for each meal. To maintain the freshness and aroma, most of the food will be cooked on site daily by a team of cooks that will arrive in Cincinnati, specifically for this event. Each meal will have a choice of Indian or Western food including the availability of vegan food.

For your convenience, registration information: rates and forms are included. Also, online registration is available at <a href="https://www.jainaconvention.org">www.jainaconvention.org</a>. We encourage you to take advantage of the early bird registration savings and register now! This will ensure the success of our convention. Please visit our website, www.jainaconvention.org, for up-to-date information about the convention.

Contact information for the leadership group and each of the committees working on the convention is provided in this publication. The committees request and welcome your critical honest suggestions towards making this a great "must attend" event for your family and the Jain community as a whole.

We cordially invite you all to attend what is expected to be ONE OF THE BEST CONVENTIONS EVER and intend to leave you with a most memorable and pleasant lifetime experience.

We look forward to seeing you in Cincinnati!!

Anop Vora Convener Dr. Surendra Singhvi Co-Convener Soha Shah Co-Convener



July 3-6, 2003, Cincinnati, OH



#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE UPCOMING CONVENTION:

- Programs for all ages.
- ❖ Programs in all languages (English, Gujarati, Hindi)
- Sadhus, Munis, highly acclaimed scholars and digni taries to speak in general session, panel discussion and break out sessions.
- Debates, discussions, seminars and workshops
- Cultural program (Group dances, group songs, Solo/Duet songs, Skits) with Jain Centers of North America participating
- Professional entertainment programs and Bhavana to be performed by professional artists from India
- ❖ Jain Networking Forum (JNF) formerly known as MIS
- Alumni reunions
- Jain art and exhibits
- ❖ Daily Pratikraman, Yoga and Meditation classes
- ❖ Businessmen's opportunities to explore
- ❖ Workshops on women's issues
- Creation of Temple
- Youth programs including seminars, discussions, and fun activities.

#### FOR THE FIRST TIME:

- Elegant but short opening ceremony
- ❖ Senior citizens to be honored at the opening ceremony
- ❖ Youth Service Project
- Senior Citizen Workshops
- Official breaks for all, each day with surveys and drawings
- Social Dinner-First day, Welcome Reception Dinner-second day, and Exhibitor's reception dinner-third day
- Professional Development Series, Career Fair and Personal Development workshops
- "Night Rhythms" for youth members. Come dance to the beat of any drummer you choose: Reggae, Hip Hop, Bhangra/Hindi or Latin/Salsa
- Dinner Theatre for youth members. Sit back and enjoy
- Delicious food cooked at convention hall daily
- ❖ JAINA Quilt: Share the unique aspects of your JAIN Center with the attendees at the 2003 Convention. For the first time, a quilt that identifies all Jain Centers around the nation will be created and displayed during the convention. To find out how your Jain Center can participate, please contact Ranjan Punatar at punatar@hotmail.com

#### SOUVENIR BOOK AND EXHIBITION BOOTHS

The following rates apply for placing an advertisement in the Souvenir book.

Back page (color only) = \$ 4500.00

Inside front cover = \$ 3500 (color only)
Inside back cover = \$ 3500 (color only)
Full page = \$ 1000 for B & W

Half page = \$ 600 Quarter page = \$ 400 Business card = \$ 250 Rates for Exhibition booths will be as follows:

Corner booth = \$ 1250 Any booth = \$ 1000 Non-profit organization (non-Jain) = \$ 550 Non-profit organization (Jain) = \$ 300

All exhibitors will get a 10 ft x 10 ft booth with drapes and organization name, one 8 ft table, and two chairs. All exhibitors will have to register for the conference.

#### Add \$500 for color ads for any full or cover pages

Please contact Vinod Jain at (937) 435-9950 or via email at vinod.jain@notes.dayton.edu both for the advertisement in the Souvenir and renting a booth at the convention:





July 3-6, 2003, Cincinnati, OH

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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Convention Board	Name	Phone	e-mail
Convener	Anop Vora	585-473-9290	FirstVP@JAINA.org
Co-convener	Dr. Surendra Singhvi	937-885-7414	ssinghvi@att.net
Co-convener	Soha Shah	937-773-3906	sohashah@hotmail.com
Member	Dr. Bipin Parikh	847-699-1294	president@jaina.org
Member	Keerti Shah	630-837-8716	knshah@att.net
Member	Samprati Shah	847-524-0463	Samprati.shah@att.net
Member	Dr. Mahesh Shah	937-836-8080	mmshah@aol.com

#### **Local Convention Committee**

Committee	Name	Phone	e-mail
Finance & Accounting	Bipin Shah	513-232-6987	Bipin.shah@hksystems.com
	Sumi Chordia	937-291-0909	chordias@hotmail.com
Program & VIP Invitation	Dilip Punatar	937-848-3228	Punatar@hotmail.com
	Jayantilal Shah	937-773-3906	Jkshah1918@yahoo.com
	Damaroo Shah	937-773-3906	damarooshah@hotmail.com
	Vina Jhaveri	513-984-0637	Vina787@hotmail.com
	Jyoti Mehta	937-885-1857	Mehta_jyoti@yahoo.com
Fundraising	Dr. Mahesh Shah	937-836-8080	mmshah@aol.com
	Mahendra Vora	513-759-5007	mvora@intelliseek.com
Facility & Hospitality	Mayank Shah	937-773-3906	shah@woh.rr.com
Registration	Haren Punatar	937-848-3228	harenpunatar@hotmail.com
	Nikki Shah	513-754-0512	shahnikki@hotmail.com
Youth	Bhavin Shah	513-851-3975	Bhavin.shah@delphiauto.com
	Ruchi Shah	937-773-3906	ruchis@rocketmail.com
Food Services	Vir Singh Jain	513-769-7964	royalgems@zoomtown.com
	Pravin Shah	513-984-9553	pravin@99up.com
Souvenir & Exhibit	Dr. Vinod Jain	937-435-9950	Vinod.jain@notes.udayton.edu
	Ashwin Parekh	513-860-9839	parekhash@aol.com
Communication & Planning	Panna Chordia	937-291-0909	Jaina2003@hotmail.com
	Gita Pancholy	937-339-7322	gpancholy@yahoo.com
Temple Tour & Puja	Harshad Shah	513-792-9909	Mahavir23@hotmail.com
	Vina Shah	513-271-0383	Vina727@hotmail.com
Publicity & Marketing	Haresh Hemani	513-671-2217	4cs@fuse.net
	Pramod Jhaveri	513-984-0637	Diamondpj007@hotmail.com
Ad-Hoc	Prem Jain	937-436-2800	premjain@aol.com
	Kishor Parekh	513-984-9739	ksparekh@one.net
	Vijay Doshi	513-779-2112	vkdoshi@fuse.net
	Dr. Chandra Varia	606-285-9575	606-285-9223 (fax)
	Dr. Tansukh Salgia	614-899-2678	tsalgia@att.net
	Jayshree Dutt	513-336-9909	jgdutt@hotmail.com

Names in Bold are Contacts for each committee



July 3-6, 2003, Cincinnati, OH



#### **FUND RAISING**

Show Your Generosity and Love to Jainism. We cannot charge exorbitant fees and turn away a large segment of our Jain population and youth, we depend upon your donation. Help us to keep the tradition of Jainism through generations.

#### SANGHPATI \$50,000

(Usually 1, unless multiple families decide to share)

Leading the Opening Procession

Seating with dignitaries on a stage in the opening ceremony

Short speech to audience

Recognition in the Opening and Closing sessions

Special badges/Gold Sash/Gold Lapel Pin

Picture and message (letter) in the Souvenir Book

Special preference in Seating, Registration & Accommodation

#### **GRAND PATRONS** \$15,000

One morning session, seating with dignitaries on a stage Recognition in morning session on the stage Special badges/Silver Sash/Gold Lapel Pin Picture in the Souvenir Book Special preference in Seating, Registration & Accommodation

#### **PATRONS \$10,000**

(Swamivachhal Jaman) Banner on a dinning hall recognizing the patron for the donation

Recognition in morning session on the stage

Special badges/Silver Sash/Gold Lapel Pin

Picture in the Souvenir Book

Special preference in Seating, Registration & Accommodation

#### Grand Benefactors \$5,000

Recognition in morning session

Special badges/Gold Lapel Pin

Picture in the Souvenir Book

Special preference in Seating, Registration & Accommodation

#### Benefactors \$2,000

Recognition in morning session

Special badges, Picture in the Souvenir Book

Special preference in Seating, Registration & Accommodation

#### Sponsors \$1,000

Recognition in morning session Picture in the Souvenir Book

#### **OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:**

Sponsors for Events \$25,000

Jain Centers or individual donors will be recognized by a banner at the Cultural or Entertainment Events.

Sponsors for Scholars	\$1,000	Recognition in Souvenir
Friends	\$500	Recognition in Souvenir
Corporate Donors	\$1,000	Recognition in Souvenir
Ghee Boli	\$125	Each for Pooja, 2 or 3
		High Dollar Bets

Temple Ceremony at the Convention Hall (for donation details please call us)



July 3-6, 2003, Cincinnati, OH



#### HOSPITALITY

- 1. Hotels listed and the convention center are located within 20 minutes of the Cincinnati Northern Kentucky International Airport.
- 2. Please mention, "The JAINA Convention" when making reservations to receive the reduced rate at the hotels listed based on availability.
- 3. The hotels are all connected to the convention center via the Skywalk.

# Directions to Convention Center and Hotels:

Greater Cincinnati Northern International Airport

Take I-275 East to I-75 North. When crossing the Ohio River, follow signs for I-75 North and Downtown, Exit 1G (5th Street) and follow map from there.

#### I-71/I-75 Northbound

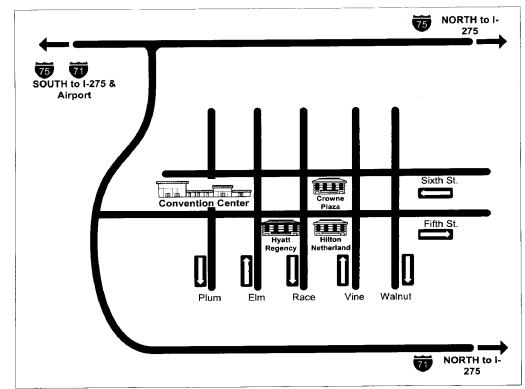
Take I-75 North. When crossing the Ohio River, follow signs for I-75 North and Downtown, Exit 1G (5th Street) and follow map from there.

#### I-75 Southbound

Take I-75 South to Exit 1E (5th Street) and follow map from there.

#### I-71 Southbound

Take I-71 South to Exit 2 (Gilbert Ave.) Follow Gilbert Avenue and it will change to 8th Street. Follow 8th Street to Walnut Street and turn left onto Walnut Street and follow map from there.



#### **CONVENTION CENTRE:**

Cincinnati Convention Center 525 Elm Street Cincinnati, OH 45202 Tel: 513.352.3750

Tel: 513.352.3750 Fax: 513.352.6226

#### HOTEL INFORMATION:

#### **Hyatt Regency**

151 W. Fifth St., Cincinnati, OH 45202 Rate: \$95+tax, Upto 4 people per room

AAA Rating: 4 Star Ph: (513)-579-1234

#### Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza

35 W. 5th Street Cincinnati, OH 45202

Rate: \$95+tax, Upto 4 people per room

AAA rating: 4 Star Ph: (513)-421-9100

#### Crowne Plaza

15 W. Sixth St.

Cincinnati, OH 45202

Rate: \$89 + tax, Upto 4 people per room

AAA Rating : 3 Star Ph: (513)-381-4000

# JAINISM: THE ART OF LIVING

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PHONE: 937-848-3	<u>n@jainaconvention.c</u> 228	org			*CVV	Code is the	e last th	ree num	bers on <u>ba</u>	ck of cr	redit card.	
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**JULY 3-6, 2003** 

# JAINISM: THE ART OF LIVING 12<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION

CINCINNATI, OH

# JAIN NETWORKING FORUM (JNF) REGISTRATION FORM:

Register online at www.jainaconvention.org

Last Name First Na		ame Midd		lle	Gender	
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UIDELINES						
Participants for th	e JNF activ	ities <u>must</u> have rec	istered	for JAINA Convention	2003.	
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		t and Questions:				
	JN	F Committee			JAINA CONVENTION   200 Cincinnati, Ohio	

# પર્વાધિરાજ પર્ચુષણનો મહિમા

– ડૉ. કુમારપાળ દેસાઈ

પર્યુષણ એ માત્ર પર્વ નથી, પરંતુ પર્વાધિરાજ છે. પર્યુષણનો અર્થ છે સમસ્ત પ્રકારે વસવું . એટલે કે આ પર્વ સમયે સાધુજનો ચોમાસાના ચાર મહિના એક જ સ્થળે સ્થિર વાસ કરીને ધર્મની આરાધના કરતા હોય છે, પરંતુ પર્યુષણનો લાક્ષણિક અર્થ છે આત્માની સમીપ વસવું . આત્મવિજય માટે આત્મઓળખ અનિવાર્ય છે. એ આત્મતત્ત્વને જોવા માટે એકાંત અને શાંતિ જોઈએ. બાહ્ય પ્રવૃત્તિથી નિવૃત્તિ જોઈએ અને એ નિવૃત્તિમાં આત્મવિશ્લેષણની આંતરપ્રવૃત્તિ જોઈએ.

આત્માની સમીપ રહેવું એ લે શું ? અનંતકાળથી આત્મા મોહ અને મિથ્યાત્વમાં અથવા કષાય અને અજ્ઞાનમાં જ વસતો આવ્યો છે. પોતાના સ્વ-ભાવને ભૂલીને વિભાવને જ નિજ સ્વરૂપ માની બેઠો છે. પરિણામે માનવી પારાવાર પીડા, દુઃખ, કંકાસ અને કલેશમાં ડૂબેલો છે. ભૌતિક લાલસાના મૃગજળ તરફ આંધળી દો લગાવી રહ્યો છે.

આવા માનવીને પર્યુષણ પર્વ પૂછે છે કે આ પર્વ સમયે વિચાર કર કે તું કોણ છે ? તેં શું મેળવ્યું છે ? અને શું પામવાનું તારું લક્ષ્ય છે ? દોડધામ કરતો માનવી છેક મૃત્યુ જુએ ત્યારે જીવનનો વિચાર કરવાનો પ્રારંભ કરે છે. એ માનવીને ભૌતિક સમૃદ્ધિની મૂર્છામાંથી જગાડતું પર્વ તે પર્યુષણ પર્વ છે. ચિત્તશુદ્ધિ, હૃદયશુદ્ધિ અને આત્મશુદ્ધિનું આ પરમ પવિત્ર પર્વ છે. અજ્ઞાનમાંથી સમ્યક્જ્ઞાન તરફ, સ્વહિતને બદલે પરહિત તરફ અને વિભાવ દશામાંથી સ્વભાવ દશામાં લઈ જનારું પર્વ છે.

આ મા ેનું પ્રથમ કાર્ય છે ભાવનાશુદ્ધિનું. જૈન ધર્મ ભાવનાનો ધર્મ છે, આથી નમસ્કાર મહામંત્ર કોઈ વ્યક્તિને નહીં, પણ અરિહંતને નમસ્કાર કરે છે. અરિહંત એ લે જેણે આંતર શત્રુઓને જીત્યા છે. આત્મભાવનાની શુદ્ધિ પર જીવનની વિશુદ્ધિનો આધાર છે. ચિત્તમાં મૈત્રી, કરુણા, મુદિતા અને ઉપેક્ષા એ ચાર ભાવોને આપણે ધારણ કરવાના છે.

જીતે તે જિન. જિનને પૂજે તે જૈન. જીતે એ લે વિષયોને નમાવે. અહમ્નો અંત આશે અને ચંચળ મનને કાબૂમાં રાખે. પર્યુષણ પર્વના દિવસો એ આત્માના શુદ્ધ ભાવો તરફ પ્રયાણ કરવાના દિવસો છે, કારણ કે જૈનધર્મ એ આત્મધર્મ છે. સંયમ એની લિપિ છે. અહિંસા તેની પરિપાી છે ને અનેકાંત એની પરિભાષા છે. આત્માને જાણવો ને ઓળખવો ને એને માે પ્રયત્ન કરવો એ એના સિદ્ધાંતનું મૂળ છે.

નમસ્કારમાં જેમ નવકાર મંત્ર મોટો છે, તીર્થમાં જેમ શત્રુંજય તીર્થ મહાન છે, દાનમાં અભય મહાન છે, ધ્યાનમાં શુક્લધ્યાન મહાન છે, રત્નમાં ચિંતામણિરત્ન મહાન છે એમ પર્વમાં પર્યુષણ પર્વ મહાન છે.

ભગવાન મહાવીરની આવી છે આ પર્વ વિશેની અનુપમ વાણી ! હજારો જીવો આકંઠ સ્નાન કરી મનચિત્ત દ્વારા આત્મા પર લાગેલા એક વર્ષના મેલને દૂર કરશે. આ મહાપર્વની આરાધનામાં પાંચ કર્તવ્ય તો કરવાં જ જોઈએ. એ વિના આખી ય આરાધના અધૂરી રહે.

(૧) અમારિ પ્રવર્તન : જૈન ધર્મનો મર્મ અહિંસા અને અભયમાં છે, મનથી કોઈને હણીએ નહિ. વચનથી કોઈને હણીએ નહિ. કાયાથી કોઈને હણીએ નહીં. હું કોઈને ઈજા કરીશ નહિ. મને કોઈ ઈજા કરશે નહિ. આ સાચો અભય ! મને જેમ સુખ પ્યારું છે, ભોજન પ્યારું છે, જ્યારે વધ અને બંધ અપ્રિય છે. એમ દરેકને પણ પ્રિય- અપ્રિય હોય છે. આ જ સાચી અહિંસા. યથાપિંડે તથા બ્રહ્માંડે એવી માનવીની ભાવના.

અભય એ સંસારની સર્વશ્રેષ્ઠ બિક્ષસ છે. અભયદાન એ મહાદાન છે. જૈન ધર્મમાં સંપૂર્ણ અહિંસામય જીવનને ઉચ્ચ આદર્શ તરીકે સ્થાપવામાં આવ્યું છે. વ્યવહારમાં આ આદર્શનું અમલીકરણ કરવા માે જેવો પ્રયોગ જૈન પરંપરામાં થયો છે એવો બીજે ક્યાંય થયો નથી.

સંસારમાં વેરઝેરની સળગતી હોળીને અભયદાનથી દિવાળીમાં પલ ાવવાનો આજે નિશ્ચય કરીએ.

(૨) સાધર્મિક વાત્સલ્ય: સાધર્મિક એ લે અહિંસા - સત્ય - આદિ પાળનાર એ માનવી ભલે કોઈ છાપવાળો ન હોય. અહિંસા-સત્ય આચરનાર ભલે પછી તે ગમે તે સંપ્રદાયનો હોય પણ એ સાધર્મિક છે. એ સાધર્મિક તરફ વાત્સલ્યભાવ-પ્રેમભાવ પ્રગ કરવો. આ આચરણમાં એને યેનકેન પ્રકારેશ મૂકવો એનું નામ સાધર્મિક વાત્સલ્ય છે.

સૂક્ષ્મમાં સૂક્ષ્મ જંતુ તરફ આ આત્મતુલ્ય દૃષ્યિ જોતો માનવી પોતાની નજીકના જ સાધર્મિકને કઈ રીતે ભૂલી શકે ? પોતાના સાધર્મિકની બાહ્ય અને આંતરિક મુશ્કેલીઓ દૂર કરવા માે તન, મન અને ધનથી તૈયાર રહેવું જોઈએ.

(3) ક્ષમાપના : મન ભારે અ ૫ ો પદાર્થ છે. કોઈવાર ખેંચતાણ થઈ જાય, કોઈવાર અજાણે ભૂલ થઈ જાય, આવે સમયે ક્ષમા માંગી લેવાય, ક્ષમા આપી દેવાય. બસ, ફેંસલો આવી ગયો.

અવેરભાવ જ્યાં હોય, ત્યાં કોણ શત્રુ રહે ? પોતાના ગુણને રજસમાન અને પારકાના ગુણને પહાડ સમાન જોનાર તેમ જ પારકાના પહાડ જેવા અવગુણને રજ સમાન જોનારો માનવી સાચો ક્ષમાપ્રાર્થી છે.

ભગવાન મહાવીર કહે છે કે જે ઉપશમે છે ઉપશમાવે છે જે ખમે છે, ખમાવે છે તે જ સાચો આરાધક છે.

આત્મશુદ્ધિ અને આરાધનાનો સાચો સરવાળો છે ક્ષમાપના.

(૪) અક્રમ તપ: જૈન ધર્મમાં તપનું ખૂબ મહત્ત્વ છે. જૈન દર્શને તપના વિજ્ઞાનની ઊંડી ચકાસણી કરી છે. બાહ્ય તપના છ ભેદ અને અભ્યંતર તપના છ ભેદ એમ કુલ તપના બાર પ્રકાર બતાવ્યા છે. આમાં નાના-મો ા, સશક્ત-અશક્ત, સ્ત્રી અને પુરુષ સહુ કોઈનો સમાવેશ થાય છે. યથાશક્તિ તપનો આદેશ આપીને અતિ તપનો વિરોધ બતાવ્યો છે, મન પર કાબૂ રહે અને ચેતના જ્વલંત રહે એ લું તપ.

આ તપસ્યા એ લે એક દિવસ કે વધુ વખતની અન્નબંધી નહિ પણ એ તપ ઇન્દ્રિય શુદ્ધિ અને મનશુદ્ધિ કરનાર અગ્નિનો તાપ હશે. એમાં એ તપશે. તપ્યા પછી એનું કુંદન, કથીર વિહોણું બનશે. માયા ગળશે, મદ ઓગળશે. મન નિર્મળ થશે.

(૫) ચૈત્યપરિપા 1: ચૈત્ય એ લે જિન મંદિર. તેની પરપા ી એ લે યાત્રા કરવી. પર્યુષણના આઠ દિવસોમાં સાંસારિક કાર્યોથી નિવૃત્તિ મેળવીને ધર્માનુષ્ઠાનમાં જોડાઈ જવું. બિમારને જેમ વૈદ્ય આરામ લેવાનું કરે છે એમ ધમાલ અને ધાંધલમાંથી નિવૃત્તિ લઈ પ્રભુદર્શન, વંદન, પૂજનમાં મન, વચન અને કાયાનો મેળ સાધીને ભાવપૂર્વક જોડાઈ જવું.

આ છે આત્મશુદ્ધિ અને જગત કલ્યાણને ચીંધતાં પર્યુષણ પર્વનાં પાંચ મુખ્ય કર્તવ્ય !

#### JAINISM IN A NUTSHELL:

#### A Way of Life, Neither a Dogma, nor a Belief

F. J. Dalal

THE FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPT: 'AHIMSA PARAMO DHARMA': NONVIOLENCE (Harmlessness) is the foremost Religion. Ahimsa, a nebulous term, includes SATYA (Truth), ASTEYA (Non-Stealing), BRAHMACHARYA (Celibacy, Restraint), and APARIGRAHA (Non-possession, Detachment)

**THE GOAL:** The ultimate purpose of life is to purify the immortal Soul to Perfection such that the cycle of birth and death is ended.

**THE PATH:** 'LIVE AND LET LIVE.' It is the PRACTICE of Non-Violence in daily life at every step of the way.

#### THE BASIS:

- 1. It is a logical, scientific, rational, and natural way of life for every Living Being.
- Every Living Being has an Indestructible SOUL that can be perfected. SOUL has no distinction of sex, status or form. Only the BODY that every soul takes is different.
- 3. THEORY OF KARMA: ACTIONS (Purushartha) are the basis of attachments to soul. 'As you sew, so you reap.'
- 4. THEORY OF REINCARNATION: Soul takes different bodies of one to five Senses, such as human being, animal, bird, insect, plant, etc. based on Karma attached to it.
- 5. UNIVERSE is Begginingless and Endless. It transforms and perpetuates. 'MATTER IS INDESTRUCTIBLE.' Otherwise, 'Who created the Universe? And who created the creator of the Universe?
- 6. The GOD is neither the Creator, nor the Sustainer, nor the Destroyer. Otherwise, 'Who created God?' Temples, Idol Worship, Rituals, etc. are extensions of the Belief in God as Trinity/Trimurti in other Religions.

- 7. Some violence is inevitable for Survival of Life. This violence can be reduced infinitely through Restraint. The ultimate Goal is Perfect Purification of the Soul totally detached from all Karmas.
- 8. DOGMAS/Scriptures (Shastras and Sutras) are written by People in the NAME of GODS, perfectly purified Souls, whose lives are the basis of their Philosophy. This, in turn, propounds Theories and Principles. When Formalized, Dogmas form the basis of Structured Religions that emphasize and prioritize them. When proved outdated, they need to be revised.
- 9. ANEKANT (Multiplicity of Views) and SYADVAD (Relativeness of the Truth): Practice of Principles of any Religion is purely a Personal Matter. Therefore, there is no need to CONVERT any one. Each one practices according to its abilities (Yatha Shakti). These practices have various different facets, aspects and angles that need not be the cause or ground for CONFLICT.
- 10. **STRUCTURED RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS** create Hierarchies and Vested Interests to sustain them. Therefore, we see numerous sects and sub-sects in all of them. Power, Position, and Authority are their Hidden Motives.
- 11. **RELIGION AND SCIENCE** are inherently the different phases of unfolding and evolving universal Realities, **The TRUTH**. They are neither against nor contradictory to each other.
- 12. **TRADITIONS** are Practices prevalent at certain times in the PAST. There cannot be any SACROSANCT about them. To-day's practices will become tomorrow's Traditions. Nothing remains constant, except CHANGE. Meaningless and Wasteful Past TRADITIONS, CELEBRATIONS, and RITUALS (Ceremonies) are not the Religion.



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#### COMMITTEE NEWS:....

#### TEERTHODHAR COMMITTEE

Most of us has heard of Amrender Muniji. He has visited many of our Jain Centers in the past. Amrender Muniji is a disciple of late Shree Aacharya Sushil Kumarji Maharaj.

In late June, Amrender Muniji had stroke and was admitted at Hackettstown Community Hospital, close to Siddhachalm under the care of Dr. Sanjay Jain. He recovered but his left half of the body was paralyzed. He was admitted to acute rehab center close to Siddhachalm.

Amrender Muniji was released from Rehab center on August 8th. He went to Siddhachalm and stayed there for a short time. He is able to take bath on his own and can walk with a walker with special wheels. To expedite his recovery, he is currently staying with Dr. Subhash Jain's home.

Dr. Sanjay Jain has been his attending physician at Hackettstown Community Hospital. He has been instrumental in getting many of his major bills written off. But even after all these write offs, his current bills up to August 7th is estimated at about \$25,000. He still needs more rehab to be on his own. We are estimating maximum expenses of 15,000 for future treatments. Mr. Naresh Jain is currently responsible for all his medical bills. We must help him with muniji's medical bills.

JAINA Teerthodhar committee has so far received \$14,000, which includes \$5,000 from JAINA Charitable trust. We still need \$26,000 to cover all past and future medical expenses. If you have not sent in your support, please do so at your earliest.

In the past Nirmal Dosi of Scholar Visitation committee had sent in guidelines to all Jain Centers who are sponsoring Scholars from India. He had requested that all Scholars should get medical insurance from India. Sponsoring entities must emphasize to our scholars to get them insured from India.

JAINA is currently examining group medical insurance available for scholars. This would help us get quality coverage at a reasonable cost. But in the meantime, we should get individual coverage for those who are already here in this country.

Teerthodhar committee and Scholar visitation committee will jointly provide new guidelines to all Jain Centers. In the meantime, please make a donation check of \$2,000 or more payable to JAINA Teerthodhar committee to cover the short fall of \$26,000.Mail your check to:

Kirit C. Daftary Teerthodhar Committee Chairman 3322 Woodlake Drive, Waco, TX 76710 Phone: 254-756-3200 (Office) 254-776-4209 (Residence)

E-mail: netrat@att.net

#### **CALENDAR & MINI-LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the JAINA Calendar & Mini-Library Committee and JAINA, I sincerely thank all of you for your generous contributions towards the JAINA 2002 Calendar and distribution of the JAINA Mini-Library Books. People like you, so thoughtful and committed, have helped us successfully carry out and sustain such projects.

Since the last 3 years, we have been able to distribute 10,000 copies of the JAINA Calendar free of cost to all Jain families in North America, and to some around the globe. For the year 2002, because of excessive demand, we printed an additional 1,000 calendars, altogether totaling 11,000. We have also been able to distribute free of cost 1,200 sets of the JAINA Mini-Library consisting of the following three books:

- 1. JAINISM A Pictorial Guide to the Religion of Non-Violence by Mr. Kurt Titze
- 2. JAINA Religion and Philosophy by Dr. Nagin Shah
- 3. ASPECTS OF JAINA RELIGION by Dr. Vilas Sanghve

We recently received an additional 1,000 sets of JAINA Mini-Library, which will soon be distributed to Jain families who have responded to the JAINA 2002 calendar. We have received over 750 responses to the JAINA 2002 Calendar. As always, we try to implement as many suggestions and recommendations as possible, to improve each future calendar. The majority of the responses favored keeping the present size of the calendar, and the desk calendar. As per your responses the *Theme for the JAINA 2003 Calendar will be Jaina Temple Architecture pre-12th Century, temples geographically dispersed throughout India. Each month will focus on twelve architecturally important Jain Temples, Temple Cities, Cave Temples, Mountain Carvings, Mana-stambhas and Towers.* 

As always we welcome your comments and suggestions, please email us at *jainacalendar@yahoo.com*. We would also like to thank Mr. Kamlesh Amin, at JAINA HQ for handling the logistics of mailing the JAINA Calendars and Mini-Library. He can be reached at *jainahq@aol.com*.

I am sure you will continue supporting our efforts to preserve our rich Jaina heritage and culture for our young generation for a long time to come.

Rajeev Pandya Chairman JAINA Calendar & Mini-Library Committee

#### **WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICES:**

## Shrama Yatra II (Labor of Love)

For Youth, By Youth, Of Youth

Place: BIDADA, Kutch, Guj, INDIA Date: Dec. 15,2002- Jan. 15, 2003

Voluntary Work of Your Choice in Medical/Dental/Occupational Therapy and/or Education & Teaching and/or Building Houses (H4H)

#### Your Ground Package for \$ 121/ includes:

Return ticket from Mumbai to Kutch, Min. 7days Lodging & boarding Transportaion to Sites, Visi to Temples, Entertainment & Home going Gift

Please Contact for More Info.

Ramesh Shah 440-442-4596 or Dilip Shah 215-567-3025

#### Vardhman Nagar Progress Report:

Below is latest status of our project in Bhuj, Kutch, Gujarat

#### Construction

Excavation for foundation

P.C.C. laying in foundation

& Anti Termite Treatment

Foundation Construction

120 Units

Foundation Coping

Const up to sill level(3' height)

100 Units

50 Units

Civil work of 2 sample houses completed. Next we will undertake flooring, electrification plumbing etc.

Boring of our new tube well completed and fetching of water started for construction work.

We are pleased to inform that we have since received permission from the Government of India for receiving Second part of donation (Rs. 1,30,00,000/-) from JAINA. I am sending following by post

- 1 Drawings for school & Dispensary.
- 2 Latest photographs of construction.
- 3 Copy of letter received from Government of India.

(R. C. Shah),

Secretary, Vardhman Nagar Owners' Association

#### WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF

World Medical Relief makes a Major Break, through JAINA, resulting in a million dollars worth of American equipment to aid sick and poor patients in INDIA.

USA based, World Medical Relief from Detroit, MI has donated electrical equipment to JAINA to facilitate aid for the sick and poor in central India. JAINA is shipping the equipment and supplies to Ujjain Charitable Trust Hospital and Research Center, Ujjain, MP (India) for a 500 beds new hospital now under construction. In addition, to serve the needs of patients, the hospital will educate 150 students every year.

"This equipment from World Medical Relief will help equip 20 departments-such as: Pathology, Microbiology, Pediatrics, Chest Disease, Surgery, Ophthalmology, Ear/Nose & Throat, OB/GYN, and Kidney just to name a few." Said Dr. Rashmi Gardi from Chicago, Chairman of Governing Council. This state of art equipment will help to better treat the needs of our patients.

Dr. Gardi also noted that the donated equipment would save the hospital significant capital expenditures in the amount of more than 5 crores of Rupees. That is equivalent to one million dollars. We will use this savings most judiciously to help those in need."

"This is a history I was waiting for. World Medical Relief since it was founded in 1953, hasn't made any shipment to India." Said George Samson, Director of International Program." We've just opened up the bridge to India through JAINA.

"In last 10 years we have shipped a Mammogram machine, a Radiology machine, an Emulsification machine; But since Ramesh Shah has taken over this project in last 2 years, he has accelerated the shipments in huge quantity by container loads." Said Dr. Dhiraj Shah, Founder of JAINA World community Services program. "This is our 6th container this year. We have supplied to 10 hospitals in India. And there is a huge potential of this program."

World Medical Relief, Detroit, MI is a non-profit, non-political humanitarian organization founded by a Detroit housewife named Irene Auberlin in 1953. Its primary purpose is to provide medicine, medical supplies and equipment locally and internationally. They average 70-100 humanitarian shipments a year. For more information & volunteer opportunities at World Medical Relief call: 313-866-5333

JAINA's World Community Services serves the poor, disadvantaged and disaster victims worldwide, with special emphasis in India. For more information and volunteer opportunities at JAINA, call: Dr. Dhiraj Shah at 716-773-1314

#### **REGIONAL NEWS....**

#### **CANADA**

Dr. Mahendra Mehta, Regional Editor

#### TORONTO: ON

The elections for 2002-2004 were held in Spring of this year and following Office bearers were elected.

Arhant Jain(President), Jaswant Shah(Vice President), Pratik Shah(General Secretary), Harish Kothari(Treasurer), Committee Members- Pritam Mehta, Minesh Shah, Rohit Shah, Samir Shah, Shailesh Shah, Bhavin Vakharia and Sonal Patel(Women Rep.) Lily Jain(Youth Rep.) Lata Champsee(Ex.Off)

The new committee reflects a welcome change of younger members in their 20s and 30s taking charge of our equally young and maturing 28 years old Society. We shall look forward to many new ideas and innovations Jain Society will develop in next two years. The combined efforts of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee have started the renovations of the Jain Centre.

Panditji Dhirajlal Mehta came to Toronto in June and gave a beautiful well attended discourse on Upadyaya Yashovijyaji Maharaj's "Aatha Dratini Sajjay". His scholarly and erudite explanations of Yashovijayji's couplets, which contained the essence of voluminous writings of great Acharya Haribhadrasuriji Maharaj, was not only illuminating but entertaining too.

The Paryushan Parva celebrations next month will see the participation of Vir Sainiks. Muniji Bhanuvijayji Maharaj, originally slated to lead our 2002 celebrations, is ill disposed and can not travel to Toronto from India. This was a great disappointment to everyone everyone but we are all looking forward to a wonderful period of Tapascharyas, Kshamapna, Das Laxana and of course the Swamivatslya when we have an opportunity to meet everyone in the spirit of goodwill towards one and all.

Acharya Sushil Kumarji's Birthday celebrations were held at the Jain Centre on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2002.

The IMJMC Youth Camp at the Loretto Centre in Niagra Falls took place on the weekend of July 25-28 2002. About 40 young Jains attended the camp and they came from Ontario, Quebec, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. They had sessions in meditation, recitation of Namokar Mantra, Yoga and of course Cricket and other sports. Everyone enjoyed the four day retreat.

#### EDMONTON,AB.

-A Jain Pathsala Workshop has been planned to take place in a quiet resort for 2 days in September. Regular monthly Pathsala is taking place on the 1st Sunday of the month.

- Edmonton Interfaith Centre, The Hindu Society and Jain Society are organizing an Interfaith Dialogue on Rituals in early new year.

#### WEST

Chandrakant Parekh, Regional Editor

#### LOS ANGELES, CA

Jain Center of Southern California (JCSC) celebrated the 14th anniversary of Jain Bhavan on July 4 with Snatra puja. "Satterbhedi" puja and change of "Shikhar Dhawaja" ceremony. Shri Narendrabhai Nandu and his party participated in the event. Paryushan Mahaparva will be celebrated Sept 3-10 and Das Lakshana will be celebrated Sept 11-20. Jain dignitaries visiting ICSC include Dr., Bharill, Shri Babubhai Kadiwala, Samanijis Charitra Pragya and Sharda Pragya, Shri Dalsukhbhai, Sunandaben Vora, Dhirubhai Pandit, Nautambhai Vakil, Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, and Sadhviji Shubhamji. JCSC is in the process of finalizing the selection of a General Contractor to begin

the construction of Phase 1 of the expansion plan.

Information about activities and programs are posted on JCSC's website at www.jaincenter.net. For additional information, please contact Nitinbhai Shah, JCSC President, at 714/506-6699 or nitin.shah@med.va.gov.

#### SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Jain Center of Northern California (JCNC) celebrated the 2nd anniversary of Jain Bhavan on Aug 3-4 with "Eighteen Abhishek" ceremony for all pratimas, "Satterbhedi" puja and change of "Shikhar Dhawaja" ceremony. Shri Narendrabhai Nandu and his party participated in the event. A youth workshop led by Sadhviji Shilapiji and Shubhamji from Veeraytan was scheduled on July 20-21. The pathshala program has been expanded to included Gujarati and Hindi language classes. Jain dignitaries visiting the JCNC include Sunandaben Vohra, Narendrabhai Nandu, Dhirubhai Pandit, Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, and Shantibhai Kothari.

Information about activities and programs are posted on JCNC's website at www.jcnc.org. For additional information, please contact Jay Itchhaporia, JCNC President, at 408/263-8739 or e-mail: Itchhaporia@yahoo.com.

#### SACRAMENTO, CA

Jain Center of Greater Sacramento (JCGS) conducts monthly swadhyay. A retreat under the guidance of Samanijis has been planned at Sausalito on Aug 16-18. Saminijis will stay with the host families in the Sacramento area during the months of August and September and will direct the Paryushan activities. A quarterly newsletter is published for the members. JCGS organizes a number of activities, religious celebrations, and lectures by visiting digni-

#### **REGIONAL NEWS....**

taries. For additional information, please contact Mohini Jain, JCGS President, at 530/756-4655 or mohini\_jain@msn.com.

#### SAN DIEGO, CA

Regular activities organized by Jain Society of San Diego (JSSD) include - a monthly Jainshala for children, adult classes, swadhyay by Girishbhai Shah, a weekly pooja every Saturday at Shri Mandir, and feeding the homeless. For additional information, please contact Kokilaben Doshi at 858/679-7645 or kdoshi@sandiego.edu.

#### SEATTLE, WA

Jain Society of Seattle (JSS) has been formally organized and registered with IRS and the State of Washington as a non-profit organization. Board of Directors includes Devkumar Gandhi as President; Sudhir Shah as Secretary/Treasurer, and Satendra Jain, Narendra Jain, and Simmone Misra as Committee Members. Mailing address is Jain Society of Seattle, 14915 NE 75 CT, Redmond, WA 98052. Feasibility of establishing a Jain temple within the Hindu temple in Bothell is under consideration.

For additional information about JSS and programs in Seattle area, please contact Devkumar Gandhi, JSS President, at 425/235-4848 or visit the website at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jainsocietyseattle/.

#### **MIDWEST**

Manubhai Doshi, Regional Editor

#### CHICAGO, IL

The religious classes are held on the third Sunday of every month. The attendance is maintained at a very high level. Gujarati classes and meditation classes are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday.

Health and fun fair were organized on June 9. More than 150 people took advantage of the health fair. The fun Fair was marked by several game and food stalls installed by the participants.

The 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the temple was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Babubhai Kadiwala performed Siddhachakra Poojan on that occasion. That was followed by Swamivatsalya. Jain youth forum and Pathshala students rendered help in serving and collecting the dishes for recycling.

The annual picnic of the Society was organized on July 14. About 250 people took advantage of outdoor games and good food etc.

Religious discourses of Dr Hukumchand Bharill were held from July 15 to July 21 and those of Dhirajlal Pundit from August 10 to August 13. They also talked to the adult class on July 21 and August 11 respectively.

The youth camp was organized at Whitewater in the University of Wisconsin from July 26 to 28. 57 youths and 17 adults enthusiastically took part in it.

Guru Poornima was celebrated on July 28 when devotion songs etc. were recited in adoration of Shrimad Rajchandra.

The drive for collecting usable clothes was successful. About 400 packages were made ready for sending to the JAINA community committee for onward transmission to India. Niranjan Shah, Dilip Shah, Uday Mehta, Falguni Gosalia, Miten Sheth, Champakbhai Shah, Prakash and Sangita Paharia and their son Madhu were helpful in packing the material for transportation.

#### SOUTHEAST

Surendra Shah, Regional Editor

#### ATLANTA, GA

The summer has been busy for the society. Several scholars visited Atlanta. Sunandaben Vohra was here in July and gave discourses in scriptures. Nautambhai Vakil is will be at the society during the later

part of August. The Paryushan Parva will be celebrated in the presence of Sadhviji Shubhamji. The donations of over \$55000 have been received towards temple and building additions.

(Continued from Page 28)

AF121: Exceptionally beautiful & fair, very loving and family oriented daughter with Indian values, 5'6", 29, 110 lb, JD. Gujarati Jain family invites photo with biodata. Email: reply234@yahoo.com

**AF129:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, charming, highly accomplished, vegetarian, never married, US raised daughter, born April 69, 5'3", MD. In a group practice with leading hospital of USA, from well educated, professional boys. Call: 410/882-9697.

AF251: Alliance invited by Jain parents for beautiful, slim, attractive, successful, virtuous, US born daughter, March 76, 5'6", BS (Chem.Eng), pursuing MS, very well employed with multinational co., from cultured, well educated, professional boys. call:810/750-0999. deelipkumar@aol. com

**AF370:** Gujarati parents invite correspondence for pretty, talented, professional, US born daughter, Oct 74, 5'5", 115 lb, BS (biology/business), from open minded, east-west blend, vegetarian boys. Call: 201/222-0948.

AF371: Gujarati parents invite responses from well educated professionals for their charming, talented, athletic, US citizen daughter, born Oct 71, 5'1", BS (Indl Eng), well employed with reputed co., Call: 770/638-9223.

#### **PEOPLE IN NEWS:**

#### HIRA RATAN MANEK (HRM)



Shri Hira Ratan Manek is presently in Orlando, Florida. He is currently fasting as per Jain tradition and September 1st was his 50th fast. He plans to do 130 days of fast and parna is scheduled to be on November 17th,

2002. This will longest tapasya outside of India.

The Tibetan (Alice Bailey's teacher) predicted that in the near future, we shall become the next race of men/women. At that time we shall operate upon mental energy, magnetic energy, sun energy. Scalpels and chemical agents will no longer be necessary. There is some evidence that this shift is beginning, and I have met an individual, whom I believe is a realized being, hinting at the fact that this movement forward may be happening NOW. I have had the privilege of meeting, and spending personal time with HRM (Sri Hira Ratan Manek Ji). HRM has come to the United States in order to offer himself for study at various institutions. More than that, he offers his body as an experimental station for the betterment of humanity. He is well-known in his native country, India, for having fasted on water alone, for 411 days! He has done this by training himself, to look into the sunlight at dawn (carefully, and very little by very little) and to walk on the hot earth, in this way absorbing energy from both earth and sun. He believes this is an ability that can be cultivated in all people. He believes and hopes that this will lead to a higher and greater civilization, and most certainly a purer body. I had the opportunity to spend personal time with him because of the generosity of his host, Dr. Anil Patel. Dr. Patel is well known in the field of herbal research and Ayurvedic Medicine. He is on the steering committee of the University of Pennsylvania (amongst other credits) for the incorporation of Ayurvedic Medicine into the roster of Integrative Medicine.

Sri HRM's story is as follows. He had studied the ancient literature and had learned of advanced humans (throughout the ages) who had the ability to fast for extremely long periods of time, and who had taken their Energy from the sun. This was the highly regarded literature of the Vedas and Upanishads. He was, by training, a mechanical engineer. In 1962, he stumbled upon Sri Aurobindo's ashram in Pondicherry. There he met The Mother (Aurobindo's partner, who carried on Aurobindo's work after his death). The Mother looked at HRM and said, "You must bring

down the sun's energy to the earth, in order to help the Supermind to descend upon humanity." He did nothing with that for quite a while. Much later he met a Rishi. A Rishi is a human (or someone beyond human) so advanced that he has extraordinary powers and knowledge. Many people were visiting him (for he made himself accessible). He looked over the crowd, and his gaze rested directly on HRM. He told him that he must bring the sun's energy down to earth. This stirred HRM, his imagination and his excitement and his commitment. But - he was puzzled about what to do next. He walked in the sun for long periods of time. He left his profession and dedicated himself entirely to his spiritual commitment. As he kept walking in the sun, he felt progressively energized. He also felt less and less need to eat food. There was no compulsion to do a fast; no will power was necessary, - just lessened desire for food, but an increase in energy. One day, he came to the conclusion that he must bring the sun's energy directly into his brain and the best way to do that would be through the eyes. This was something that was not unknown, and I have heard of Mikhael Aivanov, a famed Hungarian teacher who advocated to his students, that they must look into the sun. Certainly whole civilizations have given themselves to the worship of the sun. Rudolph Steiner (recent Western Spiritual Scientist and originator of Anthroposophy) taught that the Christ Being inhabited the Sun and spread His energy, thus, from the sun to us. Aurobindo taught that the sun was the seat of the Supermind energy, as quoted by Georges Van Vrekehm in Overman pg. 97 Rupa & Co. (2001); New Delhi: "It (the Mind) always vaguely remembers the fundamental Unity at its base; therefore it cannot but persistently try to recover that Unity, which is the clouded Sun behind all human strivings. It is that Sun, that Unity, the Supermind which upholds all existing things, even when they apparently seem to be separated or selfexistent."

HRM decided to experiment cautiously. He also submitted himself to medical study as he began to look at the sun for seconds at a time, during the early dawn when the sun was weakest. He increased his ability little by little, until he was able to gaze for a full thirty minutes. At the same time he made it a point to walk the earth barefooted, the hot Earth. His explanation is that not only was he able to absorb energy, the sun's energy, through the eyes (to have it energize the brain and the commanding endocrine glands such as the pineal and the pituitary) but also that he was able to draw force up from the earth - and especially through the feet; the feet, where every organ of the body is represented in reflexology. He found that there is a North-South flow; the earth being the North, the sun being the South, - and flowing through the central, governing vessel of the body. He made certain that he was followed by and advised by physicians, who constantly stud-

#### **PEOPLE IN NEWS:**

ied him. When asked if he would be willing to give a year of his life to Science, he said, "Yes." Accordingly, he left his family (with their full consent) and was asked to fast for 365 days. However, because of certain indications in the Hindu literature, he felt that 411 days was a more auspicious time. And so the date was set. In the beginning he lost perhaps 90 pounds, but no muscle tissue. He found himself to be progressively healthier, calmer, happier. Former disorders such as anxiety, fear, worry and self-occupation left him. Physical ailments were no longer present. He lived on water and sunlight alone. Now he has come to this country by invitation, and is being studied by Dr. Patel, by Jefferson University, and by other institutions in our Country. I was struck during the time I spent with him, by the fact that his body looked so whole: slender, but graceful, firm, with smooth and elegant movements. He had a calmness about him that was also accompanied by a quiet self-assuredness. His dedication to bringing this to our civilization is real. He feels that anyone can accomplish what he has. In fact he has perhaps 4000 or more followers throughout the world, who have incorporated this new way of life, and this new source of energy. It is his offering of himself to the service of humanity that is the mark of a realized being. It is his absolute faith in the process, in the bringing down of the Supramental (as Aurobindo described it) through the sun. It is his desire to give a gift to humanity in that disease, disorder and hunger can be wiped out. And this seems to have achieved a solid start in other countries. Dr. Patel, amongst others, will study this gentleman, and I will participate, to understand the changes in psychology and spiritual reach, which accompany this type of evolutionary adventure. The very fact of being amongst such realized humans, is in itself a gift. We are on our way to becoming the next race of men and women.

Maurie D. Pressman, M.D.

200 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

Tel: 215-922-0204 Email: mauriedavid@earthlink.net

www.mauriepressman.com

JAINA Congratulates **Parveen Jain\*** on being conferred the Jain Ratna Award in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, India. The award was conferred with the recommendation of Manojbhai Haran and the approval and blessings of Acharya Padma Sagar Ji Maharaj, Acharya Praghumanvimalsuri Ji Maharaj, and Acharya Navratna Sagar Ji Maharaj. The award was conferred on behalf of Shri Jain Ratna Award Committee of Ladhi, Gujarat. The Award ceremony took place in Indore, Madhya Pradesh on July 17, 2002 and was organized by Arihant Charitable Trust in conjunction with the inauguration of Arihant Hospital in Indore. The ceremonies graced by Acharya Ji, the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, the Mayor and other dignitaries of Indore. Over 4,000 people attended the ceremony. In addition, Parveen Jain was also honored as the Chief Guest of the Arihant Hospital Opening Ceremonies by Arihant Charitable Trust, and was asked to help inaugurate the hospital.

(\*Dr. Parveen Jain is a former President of Jain Center of Northern California (JCNC), former Chairperson of BOD of JCNC and under whose leadership and with the help from hundreds of volunteers the dream of Jain Bhawan was realized in 2000. He is currently providing his voluntary services to JCNC in various capacities including as a member of BOD of JCNC.)

#### **JAINA YATRA 2003 -SAMETSIKHAR**

The Pilgrimage Committee of JAINA is planning a pilgrimage of Sametsikhar and other nearby Trthdhams. The sixteen day Samet Sikhar Yatra will also take us to the temples of Delhi, Hastinapur, Shoryapuri (Agra), Ayodhya, Ratnapuri, Varanasi, Rujubalika, Lachhwad, Rajgir, Nalanda, Kundalpur, and Pawapuri. Alltogether, we will be paying homage to 87 Kalayanakbhoomis. Additionally, we will be visiting Vererayatan (Acharya Shree Chandanaji) in Rajgir and Manglayatan — a new Teerthdham inspired by Shri Kanjiswami in Aligadh. In Lachhwad, Birthplace of Shri Mahaveerswami - today there are no Jain families living there. Shree Jinchandraji (Triputi Bandhau) with his entourage is planning to join our yatra if their schedule permits. We are planning to charter a special air-conditioned train for this pilgrimage if sufficient number of Yatris signup. We will be traveling by train or by bus. The Yatra will begin from Delhi and end in Patana. Yatris will be able to fly to Delhi or Bombay at the end of yatra. Yatris will have to make their own arrangmentd for their travel to and from India.

If you would like to join the yatra or obtain more information, Please write soon to: Dilip V. Shah, Chairman: JAINA Pilgrimage Committee, 1902 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 or email dilipvshah@aol.com. No phone calls please.

#### DARSHANÄCHÄR, THE CODE OF RIGHT PERCEPTION

Manubhai Doshi, Chicago, IL

Doubtlessness, absence of expectation, unflinching faith, not being unduly influenced, adoration and encouragement, stabilization, affection and creating favorable impression are the eight aspects of Darshanächär.

#### Panchächär Sutra

The term Darshan has different connotation. For a common man, Darshan would mean a scene, a devotional glance, bowing to some deity etc. For others, it would mean an ideology. Here, the term is not used in any of those senses. For our present purpose, Darshan denotes perception, faith, conviction and realization. These four aspects convey an increasing level of Darshan. When a person knows something, he may tend to believe it. That is termed as perception. Then he has to gain the faith. For instance, we come to know from books or teachers that soul is everlasting and we try to believe it as such. But so long as we are not convinced of that nature, our perception of soul remains vague. For gaining conviction, we have first to keep faith in the concept. The faith would easily arise, if what has been learnt has come from the reliable sources. Contemplating and pondering over the same with faith would bring the conviction and thereafter comes the realization. Such realization is true Samyagdarshan or the right perception.

The code, that lays down the method of gaining the right perception, is called Darshanächär. Jainism lays down the following eight aspects thereof, 1) staying above all doubts, 2) absence of expectations, 3) unflinching faith, 4) not to be influenced or swayed by glamorous shows etc., 5) adoration and encouragement, 6) stabilizing the faith of others, 7) affection for the co-religionists and 8) raising esteem of the true faith. Of these eight, the first one, which denotes the conviction, is of utmost importance. The remaining seven, which are helpful in heightening the intensity of conviction, can rather be considered augmentary. Let us now examine the eight aspects one after another.

1) The first is called Nissankiya or Nihishankitva. Some people interpret it as not raising any doubt about the scriptural precepts. The term really means conviction beyond any doubt. When a person comes to know about soul or something else. he might feel some doubt about it. This aspect therefore lays down that one should know it thoroughly so that no doubt lingers about it. For that purpose, Jainism lays down the following five stages.

The first stage is known as Vächanä, The learning from the books or from the teachers is termed as Vächanä, The second stage is known as Pruchchhanä. It means asking the questions and supplementary questions pertaining to what has been learnt so as to know

the truth from different angles. The third stage is known as Parävartanä. It means learning repeatedly so as to gain the lasting impact. The fourth stage is known as Anuprekshä. It means reflecting, contemplating and pondering over what has been learnt so as to make out its underlying meaning. The fifth stage is known as Dharmakathä. It means relating in writing or by orally narrating what has been learnt. When a person goes through these five stages, he can gain thorough knowledge. He does not then harbor any doubt about it.

- 2) The second aspect is Nikkankhiya or Nihikänkshitva. It means not to expect any material gain. Most of the people may try to gain knowledge that would be helpful in getting worldly benefit. The study of different subjects undertaken in schools and colleges at present falls in the category of expectation. That is undertaken with a view to gain proficiency, which would make the student better marketable. That may be all right for gaining the worldly success. We are, however, concerned here with the spiritual aspect. It therefore needs to be remembered that as long as one retains any worldly expectation, his knowledge and perception are bound to remain shallow. That shallowness would not help in gaining the inner insight, that is required for the right perception.
- 3) The third aspect is Nivitigichchhä or Nirvichikitsä. It means the unflinching faith and the absence of wavering mind. The true conviction does denote the absence of wavering. This aspect is, however, separately stipulated, because even after gaining conviction, a person may come across some new knowledge or information that may be at variance with what he has learnt. That may tend to waver his mind. He may then not feel sure whether what he has learnt is right or wrong. This aspect therefore stipulates having firm faith in what one has learnt.

The term also has one additional significance. Jain monks may be unclad and if they are clad, their clothing may not be neat or clean. As such, one may have a sense of disgust or disaffection by looking at such clad or unclad monks. The spiritual aspirant has, however, to realize that outward cleanliness is not the criterion for internal purity. Since the monks are expected to have gained internal purity, there is no reason for being disaffected by their out-

#### Darshanachar.... (cont)

ward appearance. Such absence of disaffection also is a part of Nirvichikitsä.

- 4) The fourth aspect is Amudhaditthia or Amudhadrishti. It means not to be influenced or swayed by outward shows, displays etc. One may happen to witness a splendid procession of some sect, which is not based on truth. It is possible that he may be impressed by such a show and may think that the Jain performances are rather dull and dry. That would tend to shake his faith. This aspect therefore lays down that his conviction of the true faith should be so strong that he would not be unduly influenced by such outward shows and displays, however glamorous they may be.
- 5) The fifth aspect is Uvavuha or Upabruhan. It means adoring the virtues of others. That covers appreciating even the small qualities so as to encourage the persons concerned. Such a healthy encouragement works as an incentive that helps in raising the faith of such persons. But that should never verge towards undue praise. Otherwise, it would amount to flattery and that has to be avoided under all circumstances.
- 6) The sixth aspect is Thirikaran or Sthirikaran. It means stabilization. The unflinching faith has been mentioned above while discussing Nirvichikitsä. The difference between Nirvichikitsä and Sthirikaran lies in the fact that the former deals with one's own faith, while the latter deals with stabilizing the faith of others. That can be done by providing the right information or by otherwise extending help in understanding the true essence. Religious classes, training camps, bringing out publications, audiovisual discussion, study circles, discourses, seminars etc. are helpful in this respect. The various types of encouragement mentioned in the fifth aspect also helps in stabilizing the faith and can therefore be considered the parts of this aspect.
- 7) The seventh aspect is Vachchhal or Vätsalya. Literally it means affection. But it also denotes sharing, caring, loving, helping etc. The person having the right perception would have innate affection for those belonging to the true faith. He would therefore try to help those, who are in distress or are any way afflicted. Such help can take the form of financial, medical or educational aid. That needs to be extended secretly so that the person getting the aid is not embarrassed in availing the same. The help can also be extended in solving their problems or in redress of the grievances etc. Swämivätsalya, health fair and collection of clothes for distribution among the poor and needy are illustrative of such help.
- 8) The last aspect is Pabhävane or Prabhävanä. It means raising the esteem for the faith. That can be done by undertaking the activities that would make favorable impression. Thereby, the people can be attracted towards the true faith and they can be

induced to realize the importance of truth. Pratishtha Mahotsav, processions, conventions, cultural programs, exhibitions and other displays, giving awards, distribution of publications and other gifts to the people, participation in the religious functions are the different modes of Prabhävanä. The purpose is to make favorable impression in the minds of the people.

These eight aspects are vital to attainment of the right perception or Samyaktva on which Jainism lays all possible emphasis. The reason is that it is impossible to have the proper insight without gaining the right perception. The knowledge obtained without gaining the right perception is therefore termed as Äjnän. It should be noted that the term 'Äjnàn' is not the same as ignorance. It means wrong or misdirected knowledge. Jainism lays down three types of Äjnän. The knowledge obtained by intellect without gaining the right perception is termed as Mati-ajnän; that obtained from books etc. without the right perception is termed as Shrut-ajnän; and acquisition of Avadhijnän in absence of the right perception is termed as Vibhangjnän

#### JAIN DIGEST LIFE MEMBERS UPDATE:

List of new USA Jain Digest life Members

663U	Suresh and Gita Hemani, Cincinati, OH
664U	Hasmukh and Chandrika Doshi , Katy, TX
66 <b>5</b> U	Darshan and Swati Mehta, Chicago, IL
666U	Chandrakant and Ila Shah, Beckly, WV
667U	Dinesh and Ragini Lakhia, Sugarland, TX

List of new Canada Jain Digest life Members

61C Lalit and Jyotsna Vora, Doral, C	31C	a. Doral.QC
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62C Subhash and Bhanu Shah, Scarborough, ONT

63C Manish S. Dhami, Mississauga, ONT

This is a list of new Jain Digest life members whose dues were received upto August 5, 2002

Please send your S101.00 Jain Digest life membership dues to Keerti Shah,

842 Lakeside Drive,

Bartlett Illinois 60103.

Phone: 630-837-8716.

#### Acharya Haribhdara's 8 Yogdrastis

#### A Scientific Barometer to Measure the 14 Stages of Spiritual Progress

Dr. Pravin L. Shah – Reading, PA

INTRODUCTION: Acharya Haribhadra who lived in India in the eight century is considered the most authoratative and scholarly Jain Master after Lord Mahavir. Haribhadra was born in a Brahmin family and was considered a great scholar of all Hindu scriptures. He believed no one could defeat him in philosophical debates. He had taken a vow that if he lost in a debate he would become the winner's disciple for life.

One time he heard a Jain monk named Yakiniji reciting a Jain Sutra that Haribhadra could not understand. He asked Yakiniji monk the meaning of this sutra who then referred Haribhadra to talk to her Guru Jindat Suri. After understanding the Sutra, Haribhadra accepted Jain Dixa under this new master. This was a turning point in Haribahdra's life, he eventually become a great scholar and most eminent Acharya. Haribhadra composed 1,444 scriptures in his life and is considered an authority on Jain philosophy and Adhyatma Yoga. Even though many of his texts are not available, we are still very fortunate to find more than one hundred (100) of Haribhadra's epic scriptures today including Lalit Vistra, Shodshak, Dharama Bindu, and four unparallel texts on Jain Yoga.

His biggest contribution is in the area of Spiritual Yoga. Haribhadra integrated Adhyatma Yoga of other masters including Patanjli and Gopendra Muni into a new and revolutionary Yoga system of his own and composed four most authoritative texts on Yoga: (1) Yogdrastisamuchaya, (2) Yogbindu, (3) Yogshatak, and (4) Yogvisintika. Each text is unique and original in nature representing his enormous mastery on the subject.

In his most remarkable epic Yogdrasti Samuchhaya, Haribhadra designed a unique scientific system to correlate the eight yoga Drasti with fourteen Gunasthanks of Accarya Umasvati. The eight yoga Drasti provides a barometer to measure ones spiritual growth and allows one to measure his own progress in spiritual pursuits for liberation of soul from the bondage of Karma.

The eight yogadrastis are: Mitra, Tara, Bala, Dipta, Stihra, Kanta, Prabha, and Para. In this essay I have provided a scientific summary with a correlation of each yogadrasti with the evolvement of new dimensions of spiritual growth to determine ones progress with respect to the fourteen Gunsthanks. Each yogadrasti is described in terms of characteristic self-awareness and qualities of one's spiritual developments representive of each ascending Gunsthankas. First we will review the state of a layman's vision (Ogdrasti) who is totally ignorant of self-awareness followed by his entry and growth into various stages of spiritual growth as measured by each yogadrasti. Table 1 at the

end of the text provides a summary of eight yogadrasti and their correlation with the fourteen Gunsthanks.

#### PERIOD OF INTENSE DARKENESS (MITHYATVA)

- · Soul bound with self-ignorance from beginning
- Ignorance is the root cause of life cycles: Birth Pain Misery -Illness - Death - Rebirth
- Clouds of darkness very intense this condition is called Tivra Mithyadrasti
- Person lives in intense fear, passion, greed, ego, anger, lust, de ceit, paranoid, suicidal, completely ignorant of self knowledge
- no interest in spiritual reality
- Ogdrasti (layman) immersed in "Maya"

#### 1-ENTERING MITRA DRASTI

- Awakening from intense self-ignorance (Mithyatva)
- Moxen Yujayte Iti Yogah Haribhadra's divine Mantra opens up the door to heaven and the ultimate reality
- Develops keen liking for personal spiritual growth and strong passion for understanding cosmic consciousness
- Soul awakens with inner light sparkling like a lightning bug (Trun Agni Prakash)
- Ready to initiate into five Yams or vows: Non-violence (Ahimsa), Truth (Satya), Non-stealing (Achorya), Celi bacy (Brahamcharya), and Non-attachment (Aprigraha)
- Develops genuine interest in spiritual study and Satsang, Bhakti, and Swadhyaya
- Practices four Bhavanas: Maitri, Pramod, Karuna, Equa nimity in every day life
- Intense search for a self realized teacher begins
- Seeds of first Yogdrasti Mitra are planted here and they unfold into: (A) Jin-Bhakti, (b) Sadguru Bhakti, (C) Vairagya, (D) Regular Swadhyay
- Here one enters into the first Gunsthanak Mithyatva GNS; and Mithyatva begins to decrease in intensity

#### 2-TARA DRASTI

- Inner light shines like a match box to see the "Formless Unseen"
  - Nityakram vow is taken to do Swadyaay, Bhakti and Dhyan regularly
  - A new virtue develops called "Jignasa" or keen interest to know Tatvagnan

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#### Acharya Haribhdara's 8 Yogdrastis(Cont.)

- · Nirved or detachment from Sansara develops strongly
- Follows obedience (Agna) of the Master (Sadguru)
- Darshan Mohniya becomes weaker but not extinct; this soul is still in 1st (GNS) Gunstahank (Mithyatva)

#### 3-BALA DRASTI

- Inner light shines more intensely like wood fire.
- New virtue develops called "Shusrusha" or a strong de sire to listen to Tatvagnan.
- Self study intensifies
- Mind and sense control develops
- A new zeal for spiritual life is attained with incredible enthusiasm to understand and digest Tatvagnan
- Life takes a U-turn from worldly pleasure & pain pur suits to inner peace and true happiness from within.
- The Mithyatva Mohniya Karma begins to thin out and one prepares for Samyakdarshan but still one is in 1st GNS.

#### **4-DIPTA DRASTI**

- Inner light shines like a Deepak or a lantern and lasts longer
- A new virtue develops called "Shravana" or extreme de sire to listen to Jinvani and immerse in Tatvagnan
- Life fully transforms from a "Bhavabhinandi" into "Apunarbhadhank". One becomes fully prepared to at tain self-realization in the next Drasti.
- Mithyatva is ready to melt away fully as soon one enters the next Drasti. One is about to ascend from 1<sup>st</sup> Gunsthank to the fourth – Samkit Gunsthank
- In this Drasti, one has attained Vyavhar Samkit but has not yet experienced the self-realization.

#### 5-STHIRA DRASTI – SAMKIT DRASTI – 4TH GNS

- One attains true self realization and becomes Avirati Samkiti in this Drasti
- Light now shines like a Ratna or a diamond that can not be destroyed any more
- Life transforms completely: He views world events as stages of drama and he becomes the observer.
- He always knows his spirit is different from body, family, wealth and the worldly possessions.
- The new virtue called "Suxma-bodha" develops here which clearly shows ones inner self is different from every one and he lives with inner bliss and happiness.
- He has partial control over his mind and senses due to a new virtue called "Pratyahar"

- One has entered into 4th Gunsthank and is guaranteed to attain Moxa in a short time.
- In this stage one can be a householder or a monk to attain 4<sup>th</sup> and the most important Samkit GNS.
- Darshanmohniya is melted away and one is now preparing to conquer Charitramohniya in the next Drastis.

#### 6-KANTA DRASTI

- Inner light shines like a brilliant star all the time
- New virture develops called "Mimansa" due to which he constantly reflects on Tatva Vichar to always know his self is everlasting, ocean of happiness, and he is the pure consciousness.
  - He is now fully immersed in Prem-Samadhi
- In this Drasti one can osccialte beween 4-5-6-7 Gunsthanks
- New virtue develops called "Dharana" which allows him to store Tatvagnan in his memory for ever

#### 7-PRABHA DRASTI

- The inner light shines constantly as bright as sun light
- He has absolute clarity about self and experiences the Atmagnan on an on going basis
- New virtue develops called "Pratipati" which allows him to have effortless Dhyana of pure consciousness
- One knows without a doubt that true happiness comes only from one's spirit and it is like a bottomless ocean
- Here one dissolves all the passions and gets ready to start the "Xapak-Shreni" or take-off in Shukla Dhyana to attain Keval gnan in the next Drasti
- All the Kashyays are shed from the self and one is truly a Mahamuni.
- This is stage for  $7^{th}$  to  $12^{th}$  Gunsthanak and the Yogang is "Dhyan"

#### 8-PARA DRASTI

- The final stage has arrived in this Drasti with "Samadhi " as the Yogang in this Drasti
- The new virtue is "Pravruti" which enables one to enter into the "Xapak Shreni" for 48 minutes to destroy all the karmas and to attain Kevalgnan and the omniscient stage
- This is the home of 13th and 14th Gunsthanak which results in liberation of soul from all Karmas and one attains Moxa
- Soul attains its original state of infinite :knowledge, perception, energy, and happiness, and never returns to earth for a new birth.

Je Savrup Samjya Vina, Pamyo Dukha Anant; Samjavyu Te Pad Namu, Shri Sadguru Bhagavant (Atmasiddhishastra – 1 by Shrimad Rajchandra)

#### REHABILITATION CENTRE IN PUNE



A State-of-the-Art Hospital and Research Centre had been built in Pune, India, by the legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar, popularly known as *The Nightingale of India*, in memory of her beloved late father Master Deenanath Mangeshkar.

In February of 2002, a Rehabilitation Centre, which is the first of its kind in India, has been added with the contributions of Devendra and Meeta Peer, MD. Dr. Peer practices Rehabilitation Medicine in Philadelphia, PA. This rehabilitation center has been built in memory of her Father Dr. Pralhad M. Bhanagay, who practiced medicine for sixty-five years. He believed in the values of physical fitness and discipline. This Rehabilitation Center will cater for the patients of strokes, spinal cord injuries, head trauma, joint replacements, muscular-skeletal disorders, and will also provide physical, occupational and speech therapies.

The Centre was inaugurated at the auspicious hands of Param Pujya Gurudev Chitrabhanuji in the presence of chief guest Dr. N. P. Jain - the former Indian Ambassador to the U. N. - and a distinguished gathering of citizens, leading members of the medical profession, corporate world, hospital organizers and staff. Gurudev added that a doctor's help in positive thinking and developing physical skills is very important in the recovery of a patient.

Prayers and offerings followed the inauguration. The function closed with blessings by Gurudev Chitrabhanuji.

Table 1
CORRELATING HARIBHADRA'S

#### EIGHT YOGDRASTI WITH 14 GUNSTHANAKS

Yogdrashti	Yogang	Light Intensity of Self	Development and Indicator of new virtue	GUN-STHANAK
Mitra	Yama	Lightning Bug(trun-agni)	Adevesh-Awakened interest for spirituality	1-Mithyatva GNS
Tara	Niyam	Matchbox(Gomay-agni)	Jignasa-Keen interest for Tatvagnan	1-
Bala	Aasan	Woodfire	Shusrusha-Desire to listen to Tatvagnan	1
Dipta	Pranayam	Lantern(dip)	Shravana - Strong passion for listening to Tatva	1+
Sthira	Pratyahar	Diamond (Ratna)	Suxmabodha- Self realization	4-5 Samkit GNS
Kanta	Dharana	Star-Like	Mimansa-on-going Tatvik reflections	4-7
Prabha	Dhyan	Sunlight	Pratipati-effortless bliss state	7-12
Para	Samadhi	Moonlight	Pravruti-pure consciousness-Kevalgnan	13-14 Kevali GNS

#### JAINA BOOK STORE .....

It gives us immense pleasure in welcoming you to Jaina Book 12. TEERTH DARSHAN: Store. The following Books are now available by mail. A Three volume Encyclopedia of Jain Places of Pilgrimage (750 pages, 700 detailed color photographs) Title US\$ 13. JAIN TEMPLES: In India and around the World (184 pages Large size) \$60 \$20 1. Bhaktamara Stotra (G,H,E) + CD & VCD 14. Jainism and the New Spirituality Vastupal Parikh P.hD. \$20 Tirthankara Bhagawan Mahavira (G,H,E) +CD \$20 13. 24 JIN TIRTHANKARS- Audio tape in English. A childs Tribute Tirthankara Bhagawan Mahavira (G,H,E) +VCD \$20 to 24 Jin Tirthankars: Excellent Prayers for all 24 Tirthankars set to the Jain Symbols (Pramoda Chitrabhanu) {E} \$ 5 tune of Nursery rhymes. 7. Set of Five books by Pandit Dhirajlal D. Metha on 13. Shatrunjay - a celestial Song. set of 4 audio casset Gujrati (Chaityvandans, Hymns, prayers, Devotional songs & Bhav Yatra of 1) Karma Philosophy 2) Shatrunjay) Booklet included KatmaVipaka \$20 3) KarmaStava 4) BandhaSwamitvanama Languages: H= Hindi, G =Gujarati, E=English: 5) Shadshiti Minimum Order \$10, No cash please. All Price includes S&H Paribhashik Shabdakosh (all in G) \$20 Please make Check Payable to JAINA BOOK STORE 8. Set of Two books by Pandit Dhirailal D. Metha ROHIT DOSHI, 1) Navsmarana 505 AFRICAN ROAD, VESTAL, NY 13850 2) Aath email: Rohit Doshi <doshi505@yahoo.com> \$10 Dhrasthini Sajhai {all in G} 9. Set of Two books by Mr. Herman Kuhn on Tattvartha Sutra Please ship requested books to: 1) The Key of The Center of The Universe \$30 Karma - The Mechanism (both in E) Address 10. Jain Shaasan-na Chamaktaa Sitaraa 108 Jain Stories (V. V. Shah) {G} \$5 City State Zip 11. Jin Shaasan-Ka Chamakte Hire Phone email

#### FEDERATION OF JAIN ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA APPEAL

\$5

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.



108 Jain Stories (V. V. Shah) {H}

Mail this completed form and your financial contribution to: JAINA Headquarters PO Box 700 Getzville, NY 14068

☐ I want to be a Trustee of JAINA Charitable Trust and will	
donate \$500 every year	Name
☐ I want to be a JAINA Patron and will donate \$251 every year	Address
$f \square$ I want to be a Life Member of JAIN DIGEST and will donate \$101	
$\square$ I want to subscribe to JAIN DIGEST for one year (Winter 2002	Phone ( )
to Fall 2003) for \$11	Thone ( )
☐ 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.

#### MIS REGISTRATION FORM - PAGE 1

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

# Hasmukh M. Shah, 304 Tall Oak Trail Tarpon Springs, FL 34688-7711 Phone: 727-934-6141 / 3255 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 N	O D	o you smoke? YES 1	NO Do you drinl	k? YES NO				
Have you been married befo	re? YES NO							
If yes, indicate the name of	your divorced	spouse.						
Your visa status in the USA/	Canada?	When did you	enter the USA/Canada? _	MONTH/YEAR				
What languages do you speak? What is your religion?								
What languages do you read	]?							
What languages do you writ	e?							
Education:								
DEGREE YEAR RECEIVED	) MAJOR NA	ME OF UNIVERS	ITY/COLLEGE					
Work experience:								
COMPANY'S NAME POST	TION DURAT	ΓΙΟΝ						
Father's Name:		Occu	pation:					
Mother's Name:		Occu	pation:					
Brother(s) and/or Sister(s) _								
NAME(S) AGE(S) EDUCATION OCCUPATION								
Do you have other relatives !	iving in the N	orth America?						
NAME RELATIONSHIP O	CCUPATION	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:		Market	
	Address:		***************************************	
	Phone:		Apr. Acres 1	
	Member of:_			Market .
		ORGANIZAT	'ION'S NAME	
В.	Name:			
	Address:			
	Phone:			
	Member of			
			TION'S NAME	
2. I	ndicate your	personal preferer	nce of these criteria f	or the match
Ago	e: Betwee	n the ages of	and	_ or open.
He	<b>ight:</b> Betwee	n the height of _	and	or open.
We	<b>ight:</b> Betwee	n the weight of	and	or open.
Edı	ication:	Bachelo <b>R</b>	Masters Degree	Other
Ma	jor:			
Veg	getarian: YES	NO Wor	k experience: YES N	Ю
Res	idence: (state	e)		
Vis	a Státus:			
Ler	igth of time	in North Americ	ca: years.	
Lar	nguage. Engli	sh: YES NO		
Ot	ther (specify)	:		

#### Congratulations!

#### Female: 145, Male: 130 (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 WORKS

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**

M489: Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for handsome, fair, highly accomplished, personable, vegetarian, US born son, March 71, 5'9", 153 lb, MS Comp. Eng., (Cornell Uni), very successful Entrepreneur in Computer consultancy business, from pretty, cultured, educated girls. Call: 410/771-0251. ketan\_mehta@yahoo.com

M939: Jain parents invite proposals for handsome, vegetarian, US raised son, born Oct 72, 5'9", MD, doing residency in Surgery, from pretty, cultured, vegetarian, educated girls. Call: 732/679-7473. Email: bc\_jain@yahoo.com

**M940:** Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, intelligent, vegetarian son, born Dec 74, 5'6", 140 lb, MS, well employed, from cultured, educated girls. Call: 770/287-3205 ext 369 anjanb25@yahoo.com

**M941:** Alliance invited for handsome, talented, vegetarian, US citizen, Gujarati boy, born July 75, 5'11", 135 lb, MS (Comp Science), well employed, from cultured, educated, vegetarian girls. Call: 732/516-1212. shahjigar@yahoo.com

M942: Gujarati parents invite proposals for handsome, intelligent, athletic, successful, vegetarian son, born Jan 72, 5'1", 145, well employed as Civil Engr, working towards his MBA. Call: 650/964-7648. Email: nshah24@yahoo.com

M943: Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome, brilliant, vegetarian, US citizen son, born Aug 78, 5'7", 130 lb, BS (EE), well employed, from cultured, educated, pretty girls. Call: 630/736-7601. Email: bashah878@yahoo.com

M944: Alliance invited for very handsome, accomplished, vegetarian Gujarati boy, born Aug 78, 5'10", 150 lb, MS (Elect & Com Sc), well employed with a reputed co., from cultured, vegetarian, educated, pretty girls. 734/367-0960. rameshrshah@yahoo.com

M945: Gujarati parents invite proposals for a very handsome, highly accomplished, vegetarian, US born son, June 73, 5'10", MD, doing residency at Harward, from pretty, cultured, vegetarian, educated, with east-west blend girls. Call: 410/882-9697.

**M946:** Alliance invited for handsome, successful, vegetarian, Gujarati boy, born Dec 76, 5'10", 135 lb, BBA, MBA, MS (Telecom), from cultured, educated girls. 614/833-6774.writetonishu@hotmail.com

M949: Gujarati parents invite responses for very handsome, talented, accomplished, vegetarian, US born son, Sept 74, 5'9", MS (EE / MIT), well positioned, from pretty, cultured educated girls. Call: 954/340-9291.Email: sunitashah@msn.com

AM179: MS EE, making over six-figure income, on a high position, financially successful, very handsome, very fair, 6'1", 31, highly accomplished son. Gujarati Jain parents invite photo & biodata. Email: adresponse101@yahoo.com

AM253: Jain parents invite proposals for handsome, outgoing, accomplished, US born son, March 74, 6'2", BE (IE), MBA, well positioned with multinational co., from pretty, cultured, cultured girls. Call: 810/750-0999. Email: deelipkumar@aol.com

AM358: Gujarati parents invite proposals for handsome, accomplished, vegetarian US born son, April 75, 5'6", 150 lb, MD, 3<sup>rd</sup> year resident, starting Cardiology Fellowship from 2003 (Brown Uni), interested in music, Indian culture, from pretty, caring, well educated Jain girls. Call: 410/771-0251 sbm\_1975@yahoo. ccm

**AM369:** Alliance invited by Jain parents for good looking, talented, US born son, Aug 76, 6'0", BS (chem. Eng), planning MBA next fall, well employed, financially secured, from educated girls. Call: 304/776-1662. manorama2001@hotmail.com

AM363: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for handsome, talented, vegetarian, US born / raised son, May 79, 6'0", 170 lb, BS (MIS), pursuing MBA, well positioned in a large Int'l corp., from US raised, cultured, family oriented, professional, vegetarian girls. Call: 937/848-3228. Email: punatar@hotmail.com

#### **FEMALE**

**F947:** Alliance invited for beautiful, charming, accomplished, vegetarian US raised Jain girl, born July 76, 5'6", 125 lb, BS, MBA, well positioned in a reputed co., from well educated professional, boys. Call: 309/692-8158 or 773/348-1597. Email: shelubhandari@yahoo.com

**F948:** Alliance invited by Sister from cultured, educated boys, for pretty, attractive, talented, vegetarian sister, born Feb 79, 5'6", Bcom, Dip. Comp Sc, working as Webmaster in India and willing to settle in USA. Call: 916/984-9628. Email: pallavishaha@hotmail.com

**F950:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful, charming, successful, vegetarian, US born daughter, March 77, 5'4", 110 lb, 3<sup>rd</sup> year D.O. student, from cultured, professional preferably MD / DO boys. call: 248/335-1341. saisathya@netzero.net

**F951:** Jain parents invite alliance for attractive, educated, outgoing, cultured, US raised / citizen, daughter, born Jan 76, 5'1", employed Registered Nurse, from well-educated cultured boys. Email: dshah4567@msn.com

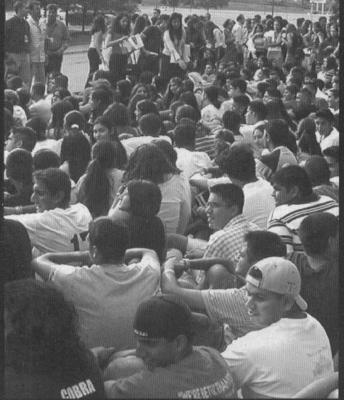
**F952:** Gujarati parents invite proposals with photo / biodata for pretty, charming, slim, vegetarian, cultured, US born daughter, Nov 72, 5'4", MD, doing residency, from cultured, vegetarian, professional/MD boys. call:617/739-1319. sjdoshi72@ yahoo. com

(Continued on Page 17)

# Walking the Path of Jainism MEMORIES

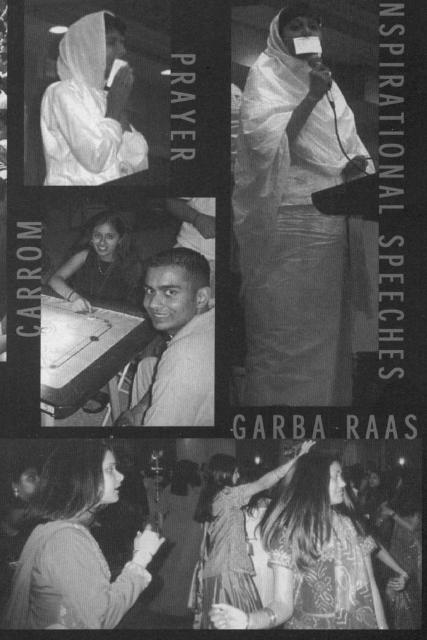
Take a look back at the 5th biennial YJA Convention held July 4th - 7th at the Sheraton Crossroads in Mahwah, New Jersey where over 800 youth gathered to

Walk the Path of Jainism.



# GROUP PICTURE

With a mix of Indian culture and the Jain religion, participants were able to play CARROM during the afternoon and dance GARBA RAAS at night while still learning during the day through PRAYER and INSPIRATIONAL SPEECHES by speakers like Samanijis and Sadhvi Shilapiji. All 800 participants gathered once to take the GROUP PICTURE with new friends.



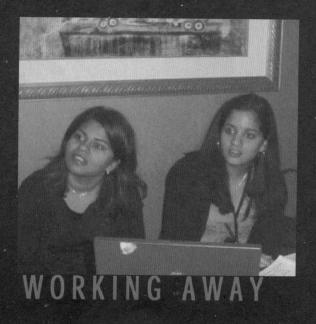
# Convention 2002 Young Jains of America

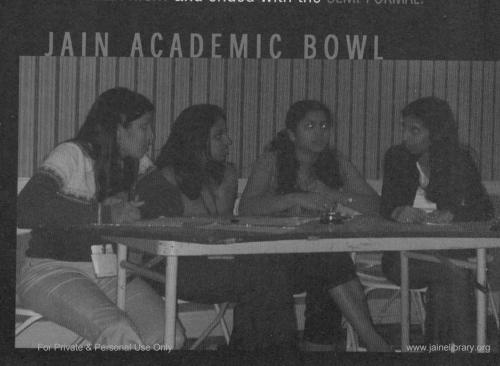




SEMI-FORMAL

Every YJA Convention attendee participated in 12 SESSIONS during the day time. Towards the evenings they would participate in recreational hour where participants could fly a kite outside or watch a game of JAIN ACADEMIC BOWL inside, while board members would be WORKING AWAY to answer questions and make sure each participant had everything they needed. Each night there would be an activity, which began with MELA NIGHT and ended with the SEMI FORMAL





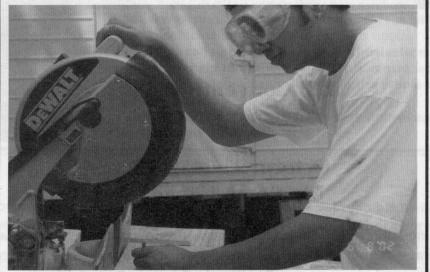
# Young Jains of America | Habitat for Humanity

# Building Homes & Building Friendships BY SUCHITA SHAH

Region gathered in Battle Creek, MI to help the local Habitat for Humanity. After morning introductions and icebreakers, the group went to the site.

The H4H organization had two major projects in the area. The first was the complete building of one house, which would house a family with 6-8 kids. It was two stories with two full baths and rather

large for a Habitat project. The second house was just a repair job of the roof.



Working hard: Veeral Ajmera works at the Austin

So, the Michigan and Chicago youth split into two On July 27, 2002, 16 youth from the Midwest groups. One group headed to the roof of the house and

> nailed shingles in the roof. The other group did various tasks hammering in siding, cutting trees, and cleaning up glass around the site. It was hot and humid, but the groups worked on through the day.

In the end, not only did the group gain the satisfaction of helping the unfortunate, each person had 15 new friends. Whether it was the unloading of the jungle, or watching moths chase people, the group enjoyed

each other's company and vowed to make this an annual event. We can't wait until next July!

# Quotes from H4H participants:

"Altogether it was a wonderful experience. We came together for a great cause, to help better a community, and had a great time doing it."

- Neha Shah, NJ

"Habitat for Humanities was a lot of work, but very fun. It was a great way to bring youth together to teach them how to care for their community."

- Bijal Shah, 71

"This project was a great experience for all of us, teaching us the value of working together, as well as helping others. Aside from being an extremely fun weekend, the youth felt they accomplished something great, by helping to give homes to the less fortunate, as well as making new friends."

- Mirali Vora. 71

"Habitat for Humanity is one of the best and probably most life-changing events anyone can ever partake in. You step back and you can physically see the way you have helped someone's lives. I have to admit that I was scared to climb up on that roof, but I kept in mind that I would be helping eight people who would be living in that house, and that gave me the courage to climb up that ladder. I went home aching and tired, but it is a good pain, knowing that I have touched someones life. Give a little, and you walk away with so much more its an awesome feeling."

- Rinku Kapadia, M7

For more information, please visit www.yja.org



# YOUNG JAIN PROFESSIONALS

## **Minds Wide Open**

**YJP Convention 2002** Jainism in Practice

October 11-14, 2002 Montreal, Canada

YJP is a network of Young Jain Professionals whose mission is to increase awareness and understanding Jain principles and heritage. If you are a Jain person 24-39 years of age, there is an excellent opportunity to mingle with other like-minded young people in a relaxed environment. When you attend the 5<sup>th</sup> YJP Convention, you get a chance to have intellectual and spiritual stimulation through discussions, lectures, and forums and to form lasting friendships or relationships.

#### Here are some key reasons to participate

- It is during Columbus Day/ Canadian Thanksgiving long weekend.
- It is in the exciting city of Montreal.
- It is guaranteed to have interesting, interactive sessions with erudite speakers and informed panelists revolving around the theme "Jainism in Practice".
- Formal/Informal Networking Sessions with plenty of opportunities to network both professionally and socially
- Three days of fun AND you will have gained Jain ideas you can use in your everyday lives and many friends from all over N. America.

And here is one reason why you need to register now.

Early Bird Registration (all inclusive) before August 31,2002 is US \$ 259

After August 31, 2002 it will cost you US \$ 299.

Go to <a href="https://www.yiponline.org/conferencereg.html">www.yiponline.org/conferencereg.html</a> to register today.

Be sure to check out our very interesting sponsorship opportunities. Get free passes to the conference and get a bang for your buck. For more information see <a href="www.yjponline.org/sponsorship.html">www.yjponline.org/sponsorship.html</a> For any questions regarding the convention, send us an email at yjponline@yahoo.com

#### II OM SHREE PARSHWANATHAY NAMAH II



233 Runnymede Road, Essex Fells, New Jersey 07021

E-mail: jaincenternj@yahoo.com Web: www.come.to/jaincenter



## Coming together is a Beginning, Staying together is Progress, Working together is Success

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP JAIN CENTER PROJECT

This temple site is located at 111 Cedar Grove Lane in Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey. This project will facilitate the needs of all the established Jain sects such as Shwetamber, Digamber, Sthanakwasi and Shrimad Rajchandra. Areas will be designated under this project to accommodate everyones needs.

We call upon you for your enthusiastic support and firm determination to help fund this project. This center will then become a landmark of Jain Relegion and Culture in the whole of North America for ages to come.

Bhoomi Pujan & Shilanyas ceremonies are being planned for 2002. Please donate generously.

#### DONATION SCHEMES

#### **Brick by Brick Program**

Under this program, everyone can support the building of the Jain Temple by donating a brick. Brick donors will be recognize on brick donation listing. Denominations of brick purchases are as follow:

Platinum Brick \$751

Gold Brick \$501 Silver Brick \$251

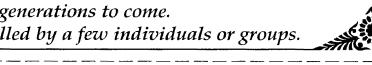
#### **Founders Recognition Program**

Platinum Plaque \$11,111 & over • Gold Plaque \$5001 & over • Silver Plaque \$1001& over

#### **Room Naming - Minimum Donation**

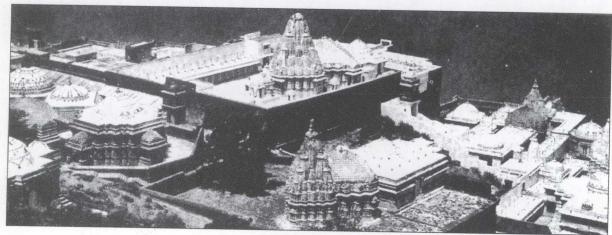
Assembly Hall \$1,000,000 • Dinning Hall \$500,000 • Four Class Rooms - each \$100,000 Shrimad Rajchandra Hall \$251,000 • Library \$151,000 • Audio Visual Room \$101,000 Digamber Hall \$151,000 • Kitchen \$101,000 • Caretaker's House \$101,000 • Sthanakvasi Hall \$51,000

All we need now is an awakening for ourselves and for the sake of future generations to come. It is a task, which cannot be fulfilled by a few individuals or groups.



Pledge Form I pledge my support for the Jain Center of New Jersey's Franklin Township Project					
Name:	Spouse's Name:				
Address:					
		Zip Code:			
Daytime Phone: _	Evening Phone:				
Email Address:					
Donor of \$1,000 and above will be recognized on a special founder's plaque.					
I will donate \$	for this project.	My check is enclosed herewith. All Donations are tax deductible.			
1	* <del>*</del>	enter of New Jersey – Building fund and mail to h, 25 Gary Court, Dayton, NJ 08810, Phone: 732-329-3236			

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