

# JAIN DIGEST

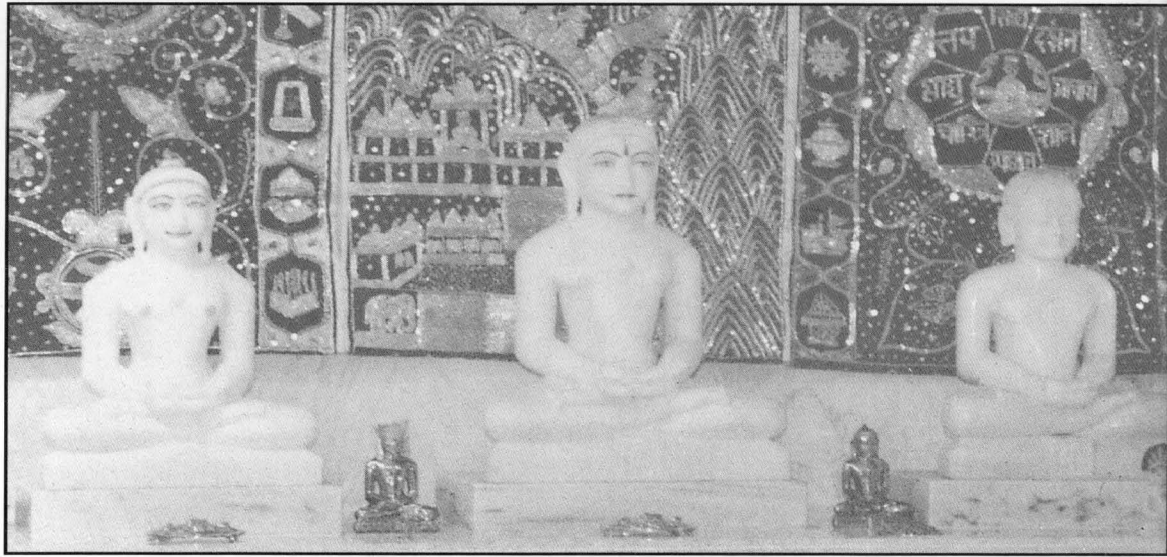
A Publication by the Federation of Jain Associations in North America  
Spring 2004  
Volume 23, No. 1

## JAINA & the Bidada Sarvoday Trust: *A Healthy Partnership*





# JAIN TEMPLE, WASHINGTON, DC



## JAI JINENDRA

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

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

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

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

- Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra, Srimad Rajchandra -

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

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

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT.....

### In this issue

Jai Jinendra!

I visited India in January of this year and represented JAINA at the Bidada Medical Camp, Vardhmananagar and at the functions organized by Jain Social Group, Samanvay Dhyam Sadhana Kendra and Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya alumni. I am pleased to inform you that JAINA is getting a lot of recognition in India for its efforts in uniting Jains together and providing humanitarian/educational/social/religious services to people in India. We have indeed become a showcase of unity and a role model of compassion!



The medical camps, educational books, earthquake relief activities, and supply of medical equipment have indeed generated a lot of publicity for JAINA in India. In fact, it has opened up new doors for us to join hands with like-minded people from well-known organizations such as WJC, Jain Social Group, Veerayatan and others and to open up new frontiers. I would like to thank Vijay Chheda, Dr.Dhiraj Shah, Dr. Manibhai Mehta, Jain Center of Southern California, Ramesh P Shah, Pravin K Shah, and the doctors and volunteers for making this happen.

Several good things are emerging at the domestic front since we restructured our committees in Oct, 2003. Let me recap some of them:

1. JAINA Executive Committee has decided to hold the 2005 Convention in Santa Clara, California. We would like to thank the Jain Center of Northern California for agreeing to host it. Kirit Daftary, Convener, 2005 Convention, will keep you informed.
2. Patron Program has generated over \$65,000 already. We are thankful to Mr. Udai Jain for his efforts in driving this program.
3. Senior Housing Project Survey has given us a green signal to keep it going. Dr. Bipin Parikh and his committee members are very excited with the response.
4. Your executive committee has screened the list of potential constitutional changes. Dr. Manibhai Mehta and his associates will start working on this project soon.
5. Membership guidelines are almost done. Kamlesh Shah will finalize them soon.
6. Girish Shah has come up with a lot of ideas to revamp our website. You will see many changes in the website before too long. Our goal is make it more appealing and useful to meeting your needs.
7. Interfaith Committee is extremely busy preparing for the participation in the conference organized by the World Parliament of Religions. JAINA delegation, including people from UK and India, could well exceed 30 people!

I believe we have made an excellent start but I also realize that we have a long way to go. If you feel that JAINA is doing a good job for you, please support it financially through our Patron Program. Remember financially healthy JAINA can do wonders for the entire community!

With Warmest Personal Regards,

Anop R. Vora, President

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Send your address corrections to:

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Cover: Photos of Bidada Medical Camp 2004

# JAIN DIGEST

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



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### PUBLICATION DATES AND DEADLINES

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

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

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## JAINA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AT ATLANTA

Executive Committee members present were as follows: Mr. Anop Vora, Mr. Kirit Daftary, Mr. Sushil Jain, Mr. Jit Turakhia, Mrs. Lata Champsee, Mr. Udai Jain, Mr. Sumati Shah, and Mr. Pravin Shah.

Directors, Center Presidents, Committee chairs and Co-chairs, and guests present were as follows: Dr. Narendra Shah, Mr. Dilip V. Shah, Mr. Girish Shah, Mr. Bipin Shah, Mr. Chirag Shah, Miss Nisha Jain, Mr. Anil Shah, Mr. Sameer Shah, Mr. Nilesh Chheda, Mr. Raju Shah, Mr. Kirti K. Shah, Mr. Vasant Kenia, Mr. Deepak Shah, Mr. Vinod Jain, Miss Shilpa Shah, Mr. Jitesh Mehta.

Mr. Raju Shah, President of Atlanta Jain Society, welcomed every one and announced events and activities for the next two days. Anop, JAINA President, called the meeting to order at 9:15AM with the opening prayer by all. After a brief introduction by each, Anop offered many positive accolades in favor of JAINA volunteers. He remarked that as a result of committee restructuring JAINA is proceeding with full speed ahead from many directions. He briefly outlined committee accomplishments and thanked the team members for their excellent service and achievement. In addition, he announced that during the February EC teleconference meeting, the JAINA 2005 convention location was awarded to Santa Clara, CA Convention center under the leadership of Kirit Daftary as the convener and Girish Shah & Bipin Shah as the co-conveners.

**Minutes of Executive Committee (EC)** meeting held on 3 Oct 2003 at Siddhachalam were approved. The minutes of Directors at Large meeting held on 4 Oct 2003 at Siddhachalam would be presented to Board of Directors for approval in Oct 04.

**Treasurer's report:** Jit announced that YJA has ~\$48K & YJP has ~\$6K. These monies are in separate accounts under the supervision of JAINA treasurer. Due to convention surplus and

patron program JAINA is financially doing well. A detailed report will be posted on JAINA web site. Jit commented that in cooperation with committee chair, he would issue a donation receipt for an amount exceeding \$250. If someone needs a receipt for an amount under \$250 they should write to him with request. A resolution (EC03-004) was passed that each committee and sub-committee chairperson should submit quarterly financial activity reports to the treasurer even if the report is negative (no financial activity).

**Convention 2005 presentation:** Kirit Daftary commented that JAINA 2005 would be hosted by Jain Center of Northern California in Santa Clara. A draft of convention planning and operations guidelines was distributed for discussion. He briefly went over the guidelines and requested that each Jain center should get involved in at least one convention committee. Bipin Shah

and Girish Shah made a detailed presentation regarding the convention. They presented an overview of their motivation, goals and objectives for the convention. The details of their Jain community, and convention site were also described. A

resolution (EC03-005) was passed to request funds from JAINA Charitable Trust in the amount of \$5,000 for YJA convention 2004 and \$10,000 for JAINA Convention 2005.

**Jain Exhibit:** Presentation by Robert Arnett. Mr. Arnett made a Power Point presentation of a sample exhibit he has created regarding India. He proposed that a similar photo exhibit be created on Jainism/JAINA. Pravin volunteered to explore other available options.

**Technology Committee:** Girish Shah made a Power Point presentation outlining goals, objectives, scope and developmental process to revamp JAINA website. In addition, he outlined necessary elements of a website, as well as suggested a site menu and associated project time lines. Vinod Jain, web master of Jain World com, made an excellent presentation of his web site. He outlined his multi lingual web site and the global usage rate



## HEADQUARTERS NEWS....

including organizational infrastructure and the material content. He made recommendations as to how JAINA website may be organized and offered his assistance in this task.

**Membership Guidelines:** Sushil Jain led a brief discussion on this topic and requested that every one provide their comments. In the interest of time EC members will provide their written comments by e-mail by "Reply to All" for compilation. The EC noted that there are no dues for JAINA affiliate members. After a long deliberation, EC passed a resolution (EC03-006) that an affiliate member dues will be \$100 per year effective Jan 2005. However, the dues for 2003 will be \$50 effective July 2003. The Jain Visa Oshwal Group requested affiliate membership to JAINA. The EC will be mailed a copy of the package for deliberation at next teleconference.

**Constitution Committee:** A discussion was led by Sushil Jain to consolidate comments and suggestions. The EC members deleted comments and suggestions that did not warrant inclusion into constitution or the by-laws. The committee also agreed not to prioritize suggestions. The constitution committee will deliberate based on their research into each suggestion and make recommendations to EC.

**JAINA Logo:** Anop Vora led a discussion to review the current JAINA logo. One of Acharyajis in India pointed out that JAINA logo is out of proportion and recommended that JAINA should correct it. After a careful deliberation, including advantages and disadvantages a resolution (EC03-007) was passed to accept the JAINA logo as is and promote it with brief explanation as applicable.

**JAINA Patron Program:** Udai Jain reported that over 50 individuals have signed up in support of the program. As a result JAINA has generated pledges of over \$60K, of which over \$45k has already been collected. He informed of the confusion regarding the Patron program and JAINA Charitable Trust program. The EC members had healthy discussion regarding the question. In conclusion, everyone agreed that we should encourage donors to contribute and support at least one program. Ultimately both programs are set up in support of JAINA activity.

**Wheel of Hope:** Kirit Daftary made a slide presentation of committee's accomplishments since Oct 2003. At the end of presentation he presented a plaque that JAINA received from World Medical Relief for support, dedication and contribution to the needy.

**Liability Umbrella policy:** Kirit Daftary announced that he is working with Chandrakant Shah and Pravin Vakhani to obtain quotations from various sources. The EC authorized Kirit to spend up to \$2500 or less and proceed with the policy purchase ASAP to cover JAINA officers and representatives.

**Teerthoddhar Committee:** Kirit Daftary reported that this committee will soon meet its objective of donating \$25K. This project was very successful and, as a result, the organizers in India are building additional schools. He further stated that JAINA is being recognized for the support we provide. He thanked every one for their continued support.

**YJA Committee:** Chirag Shah and Nisha Jain presented a very comprehensive report. They announced that the initial pre-registration response is very good. They expect that the convention will be sold out very soon. The convention will focus on religion, mini series, and social services on topics such as "Young Jains to see, to know, to realize Jainism."

Chirag reported that there were multiple well attended mini regional conventions during the month of Nov and Dec. He closed by presenting a brief description of upcoming projects. Nisha, in charge of fund raising for YJA appealed to all and their respective Jain Society to financially support YJA efforts. Their goal is to achieve 100% participation from societies regardless of the amount donated. For additional details on YJA or convention, please visit. [www.yja.org](http://www.yja.org).

**YJP Committee:** Shilpa Shah and Jitesh Mehta outlined YJP mission, goals and objectives. He outlined how they will accomplish their goals as well as announced the names of new leadership and their roles. She presented the details of local leader program, community service program, past events and planned future events. For additional details, please visit. [www.yjponline.org](http://www.yjponline.org).

**Education Committee:** Pravin Shah presented the details of financial transactions conducted during this year. He informed that there is a worldwide demand for JAINA books. He added that his committee maintains that none of the material published by his committee is copywrited. People may duplicate as they wish on honor system. He described the books in print now and gave release dates. He thanked many members of his team for their hard work, especially Narendrabhai of Chicago for designing book covers.

**JAINA Public Affairs Council:** Sushil Jain reported that his team is working on a multimedia presentation regarding "JAINS and JAINA in Action in North America." He contacted many committees and requested chairs and Jain Society to send short video or pictures for inclusion, if not already done so. The JAINA members took part in two Washington area conferences; first titled "Compelled to Relationship – What does your scriptures say about it". Sushil Jain spoke at the conference explaining that concept of Anekantwad is one of the basic tenets of Jain

*Photo: left page: JAINA EC meeting in Atlanta*



philosophy. The second conference dealt with "Religious accommodation and Care of ill and dying". This conference attended by Mamta Shaha, Ila Vora, Hema Pokharna and Sushil Jain was in partnership with clergy and doctors. Inspired by these conferences, this council is working on JAINA's guidelines for "Hospital Accommodation for Jains," as well as "JAINAs Social Justice Stands".

**Senior Housing Project:** Kirit Daftary reported that there were 46 responses to survey by committee, all from individuals eligible to retire in the next few years. The results uncovered that 80% will retire in next 4 years, of whom 90% want to move to Florida. Most (80%) wanted to either live in a town home or two bedroom apartments approximately 1500 square feet with kitchen facility. If offered, the option to purchase, most did not want to spend over \$160K and wanted to live close to hospitals, shopping, and temple facility. The respondents also indicated that most people prefer to live near their children and friends, regardless of the weather. The EC agreed that the data collected is interesting and that additional information would be useful.

**Long Range Planning:** Jit Turakhia distributed a survey to all and requested that everyone fill it out and mail to Yogendra Jain. He reported that the committee is interviewing many Jain families, JAINA leaders, Monks, Samniji, Scholars and pathshala teachers in an effort to establish community needs for JAINA to act upon. They hope to present their results in January 2005.

**World Jain Confederation (WJC) & JAINA Partnership:** During his visit to India Anop Vora attended meeting with Mr. Pratap Bhogilal, Dr N.P. Jain and other Jain leaders. A memorandum of partnership was developed to help with V. R. Raghavji Gandhi Memorial. Anop Vora appointed Pravin C. Shah, as the JAINA's representative to work on the project. In addition, JAINA will explore opportunity to develop educational material in English for broadcast in the western world in an effort to educate them about Jainism.

**Vegetarian Food Availability:** Anop Vora explained that many restaurants claim they serve vegetarian meal. However, research showed that this is not true. The fact is that some of these restaurants are cross-contaminating vegetarian foods with non-vegetarian foods as well as using meat by products in their recipes. Pravin Shah will contact Promodaben and Narendra Sheth for their continuous vigilante of identifying appropriate restaurants and foods good for Jains.

**World Religion Conference:** Pravin Shah reported that there are 18 delegates from N. America and most of them are presenting lectures and/or seminars on Jainism. The World Religion conference organizers have approached JAINA with the opportunity to partner in sponsoring lectures, seminars, mini series and or an evening event. The EC welcomes the opportunity and will explore further.

**JAINA Spectrum/ Pilgrimage Committee:** Dilip V. Shah reported that JAINA has approved spectrum as the official site for JAINA news. This monthly web based newsletter reaches over 3500 individuals around the world and subscription is anticipated to grow to 7000 in no time. He urged everyone to send news releases with link to details of the story. Over 40 travelers went to Jaisalmer, Abu, Girnar and Palitana. Once again the organizers did an outstanding job resulting in successful yatra.

**Ahinsa Center report:** Girish Shah has been working with Dr. Tara Sethia to establish an Ahinsa Center at California State Polytechnic University. Prem Jain, Dilip Shah, as well as Sulekh Jain in India are exploring similar offers and initiatives. In the interest of streamlining JAINA resources and coordination, a resolution (EC03-007) was passed to appoint an ad-hoc JAINA Academic Liaison Committee of 5-7 people to explore all options and make their recommendation to EC. The EC recommends the following individuals as part of the committee: Sanjay Pandya, Pravin Shah, Dilip Shah, Prem Jain and Girish Shah. The committee may choose their chairperson for coordination.

**Jain Network Forum:** Sunil Jain submitted a written report stating that all YJA participants will be automatically enrolled in to JNF. Sunil will create a flyer to be distributed during YJA convention.

**Future Meetings:** The EC decided that the next Board of Directors and EC meetings would be in Santa Clara, CA on Friday, 2 July 2004, and at Siddhachalam on Saturday, 2 October 2004. The EC teleconference meetings will be on Friday, 30 April 2004 at 9:30 EST and Friday, 4 June 2004 at 9:30 EST.

*For detailed minutes please contact Sushil Jain.*

*Prepared by Dr. Sushil Jain  
Secretary, JAINA*

## JAINA HEADQUARTER

ALL THE E-MAILS SENT TO JAINA HEAD-  
QUARTERS (JAINAHQ@JAINA.ORG) FROM  
JANUARY 17, 04 TO MARCH 5TH, 04 WERE  
LOST DUE TO VIRUS IN THE COMPUTER.  
IF YOU HAVE SENT IMPORTANT E-MAIL,  
PLEASE SEND IT AGAIN. **Thanks,**

*Kamalesh Amin,  
Executive Director, JAINA*

## JAINA receives the Global Humanitarian Services Award

"Wheels of Hope"-JAINA and World Medical Relief relationship started in the year 2002. In last 3 years, with help of World Medical Relief, JAINA accomplished a number of amazing projects in India:

"Wheels of Hope" is the program under which JAINA has shipped 21- 40 ft. long, 10ft. high, 10ft.wide containers- to India; 8 of them from World Medical Relief, Detroit, MI.



*DON HANEY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD RITA GREZLIK, PRESIDENT & CEO SHERRY AMRGALOIS.MC KIRIT DAFTARY. FIRST V.P. RAMESH SHAH & DR. JAYA SHAH*

"In recognition of continuous good work for thousands of hurting people in India and other nations, we bestow the Outstanding Commitment to Health care Needs of the Global Community Award upon JAINA" said Sherry Margolis, the Mistress of Ceremonies on behalf of World Medical Relief to the audience of 400 guests at Miracles of Mercy Gala banquet in Detroit, MI on March 6, 2004. Kirit Daftary, First Vice President of JAINA and Ramesh & Dr. Jaya Shah accepted the award on behalf of JAINA. 20 members of Jain Society of Greater Detroit, MI were also present at the ceremony. JAINA was given the opportunity to make a Power Point Presentation of "Wheels of Hope" Program.

## Dr. Tansukh Salgia receives "Award of Excellence"



*from left: Mr. Rajendra Kumar, New Jersey Assemblyman Upendra Chivkula, Mrs. Bharati Salgia, Excellence Award Receptient Mr. Tansukh J. Salgia, Samani Mangal Pragyaji, Samani Amit Pragyaji, and Mr. Arvind Vora.*

Dr. Tansukh Salgia has received 2004 "Award of Excellence" from International Jain Sangh of NJ at the Mahavir JAYANTI Celebration Program on April 4, 2004. Each year, IJS honors an exceptionally worthy prson, who has visibly and verifiably demonstrated a great service to further the teachings of Lord Mahavir including peace, nonviolence, Jain education, and compassion either by practice or by influencing public policies, media coverage or through interfaith programs.

In his acceptance speech Dr. Salgia called for all the Jains to unite, be proud to be a Jain and assert their Jainness in a positive manner. Dr. Salgia is a past President of JAINA and founder or cofounder of Siddhachalam, Jain Society of Greater Cleavland, Mahavir world Mission, Bramhi Jain Society and international publication 'Jain Spirit'. Dr. Salgia has received many honors including JAINA RATNA Award.

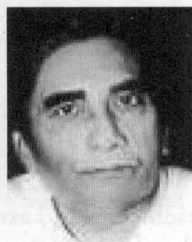
## 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial JAINA Convention will be held at Santa Clara, California

JAINA announces the selection of Jain Center of Northern California (JCNC) to host 13th Biennial Convention. JAINA and JCNC selected the Santa Clara Convention Center in Santa Clara, California as the venue for the convention which will be held from **July 1 to 4, 2005**. A joint Board has been established to oversee the convention. The members of the Convention Board include Kirit Daftary as Convener, Anop Vora (President of JAINA), Dilip Punatar, and Samprati Shah representing JAINA; and Girish Shah as Co-Convener, Bipin Shah (President of JCNC), and Hasu Shah representing JCNC. The convention which is expected to draw over 5,000 attendees will include lectures by prominent Jain scholars from all over the world, sermons by Jain gurus, panel discussions, workshops, cultural programs, alumni gatherings, exhibitions and youth competitions. JAINA organizes these national Jain conventions every two years with last one being held in Cincinnati, OH. These conventions have been very popular and have been attended by residents from the U.S., Canada, and Overseas. For immediate information, please contact, Girish Shah 408-373-3564, Sunil Vora 925-682-5890, or Kirit Daftary 254-379-2100 or email to [media@jaina.org](mailto:media@jaina.org).



**PADAMSHREE**

**SHRI KUMARPAL DESAI**

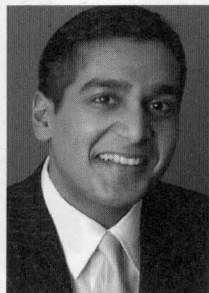


Shri Kumarpal Desai (61), has been awarded the Padma Shri by the Govt. of India. He is a many-faceted personality. Director of Gujarat University's School of Languages and Dean of Faculty of Arts, Desai is an eminent litterateur, columnist, sportswriter and a scholar of Jainism and has more than 110 books to his credit of which nine have received awards from Central and state governments. He started writing at the age of eleven and now guides research students in the fields of Gujarati literature, journalism and Jain philosophy. He has received several awards including 'Ahimsa International', Deeptimal Adishwarlal Award for Literature for 1997', Best sports journalist award, Gujarat Ratna, Jain Jyotirdhar Award, President's Special Award 'Diwaliben Mohanlal Mehta Charitable Trust award for promoting spiritual values and Indian Culture', Jain Ratna' award and many more.

Sh. Desai regularly delivers lectures on Jainism in the US, UK, Singapore, Hong Kong, Belgium and Kenya. He attended as a key speaker on Jainism at the seventh biennial Jain convention at Pittsburgh in July 1993 and had addressed the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago (1993) and again at Cape Town in South Africa (1999). Desai was a member of the Jain delegation, which had an audience with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican.

(Courtesy: Jainsamaj)

**SACHIN JAIN WINS  
MAJOR NATIONAL SOROS  
GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP**



Sachin Jain, a native of New Jersey, and now at Harvard Medical School, is among the thirty 2004 Paul and Daisy Soros New American Fellows. Fellows receive up to a \$20,000 stipend plus half-tuition for as many as two years of graduate study at any institution of higher learning in the United States.

Almost 1000 applicants, who are naturalized citizens, resident aliens, or the children of naturalized citizens, completed applications this year. They represented 141 countries of national origin and came from 360 colleges and universities. The thirty fellows were selected from eighty-four finalists who were interviewed in New York and Los Angeles.

**SACHIN JAIN** is a second-year student at Harvard Medical School, where he is president of the Harvard Medical School Student Council. In 2002, SACHIN received his BA *magna cum laude* in Government from Harvard College. As an undergraduate, SACHIN co-founded a homeless health care clinic and was named a John Kenneth Galbraith Scholar. He has authored and published works in health policy while working at the Institute for Health Care Improvement and the Alpha Center. SACHIN has been awarded an Albert Schweitzer Fellowship to support his work with the homeless, as well as a President's Discretionary Fund grant from the Commonwealth Fund to lead the development of a health policy education program for medical students.

**FIRST F. T. BACON MEDAL  
TO DR. HANS C. MARU**



Dr. Hans Maru, Chief Technology Officer of FuelCell Energy, Inc. has received the **FIRST** F.T. Bacon Medal for fuel cell research and deployment. The award was presented on March 9 at a ceremony sponsored by the University of Connecticut's Global Fuel Cell Center. Dr. Maru is executive vice-president and chief technology officer at FuelCell Energy, a leading manufacturer of stationary fuel cell power plants for distributed generation. He is an internationally recognized expert in the fuel cell field and has been granted 13 patents in this area.

The medal was established by the Connecticut Global Fuel Cell Center in conjunction with its first annual International Conference on Fuel Cell Development and Deployment held March 8-10 on the UConn Storrs, Conn., campus. The medal honors the memory and work of the late British scientist F.T. (Tom) Bacon, an early pioneer in the practical applications of fuel cell technology.

"The customers, employees and shareholders of FuelCell Energy benefit from Hans' technological leadership in bringing fuel cells to the point where they are no longer a mere laboratory curiosity or found only in space ships, but are available for commercial sale today."

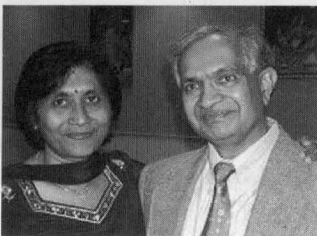
Dr. Maru has authored over 140 publications, including chapters in two books. He has also edited from symposium proceeding volumes for fuel cells and batteries. He received a Ph.D. from Illinois Institute of Technology in Chemical Engineering in 1975.

# JAINA PATRON PROGRAM UPDATE

We are pleased to inform you that as of March 15th, 2004, 53 individuals have become JAINA patrons and have either pledged or paid close to \$70,000. We have been successful in enrolling 10 Grand Patrons, 11 Gold Patrons, 15 Silver Patrons and 17 Patrons. The Success of this programe puts JAINA on a solid financial position, allowing JAINA to concentrate on programs beneficial to the entire Jain Community. The success of this program has been possible with the hard work, strong dedication and drive put in by Mr. Uday Jain, Chairman, JAINA Patron program. If you wish to help JAINA by becoming a patron, please call Uday Jain at 281-980-0741.

## GRAND PATRONS

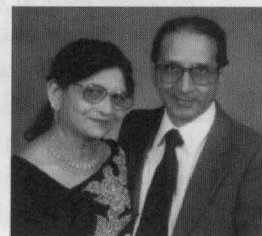
Hans & Usha Maru  
Brookfield, CT



Mahendra & Asha Pandya  
Staten Island, NY



Parmanand & Anila Poonai  
Port St. Joe, FL



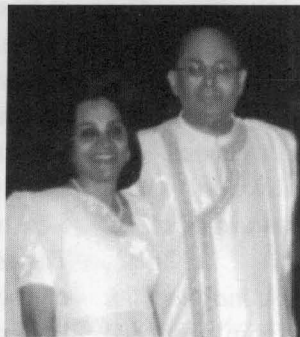
Pradhuman & Laxmi Zaveri  
Santa Clara, CA



Udai & Sushila Jain  
Sugar Land, TX



Dr. Dhiraj & Pratima Shah  
Grand Island, NY



Navin & Madhu Jain  
Los Gatos, CA



*Camrea Shy*

Pradip & Rashmi Chhadva  
Weston, FL

Prem & Sandhya Jain  
Fremont, CA

Narendra & Hansa Shah  
Athens, GA

## PATRONS

Sidhraj Bhandari,  
Vijay & Madhu Chheda,  
Bipin & Anjana Dalal,  
Pankaj & Riddhi Desai,  
Mulraj & Sarla Gala,  
Mohan & Mohini Jain,  
Mohini Jain,  
Vinay & Vinita Kothari,  
Chandulal & Nirmala Lalka,

Canton MI  
Tustin CA  
Fairfield CT  
Sugar Land TX  
Hopewill Junction NY  
Macungie PA  
Davis CA  
Forest Hills NY  
Sandord NC

Banshi & Sushila Mehta,  
Dilip & Smita Mehta,  
Dilip & Sushama Parekh,  
Dilip & Bhavna Shah,  
Kaushik & Gita Shah,  
Narendra & Hansa Shah,  
Pravin & Arti Shah,  
Vikram & Rekha Shah,

Gloversville NY  
Land O Lakes FL  
Los Angeles CA  
Oakbrook IL  
Orchard Park NY  
Athens GA  
Raleigh NC  
Tempe AZ



## GOLD PATRONS

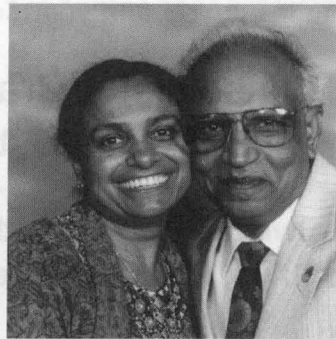
Sushil & Asha Jain  
Gaithersburg MD



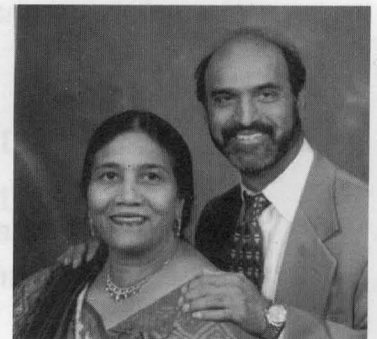
Gunvantbhai & Ila Mehta  
Maumee OH



Dr. Manibhai & Savita Mehta  
Cypress CA



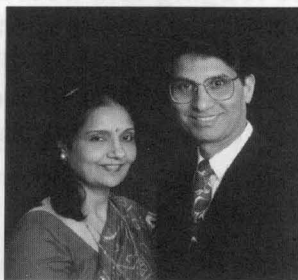
Mahesh & Premila Shah  
Hughesville MD



Sumati & Hemlata Shah  
Searingtown NY



Anop & Renuka Vora  
Rochester NY

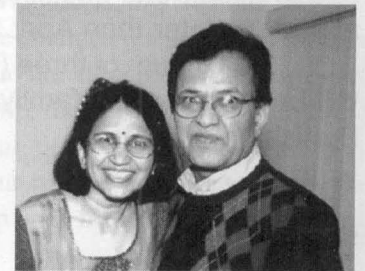


*Camera Shy*

Kirit & Premila Daftary, Waco TX  
Ram & Neena Gada, St. Paul MN  
Atul & Charu Khara, Plano TX  
Bipin & Rekha Shah, Saratoga CA  
Mamta & Ashok Shaha, Kings  
Pt. NY

## SILVER PATRON

Surendra & Sushila Singhvi  
Dayton, OH



## SILVER PATRONS

Moti & Lata Champsee  
Toronto, Canada



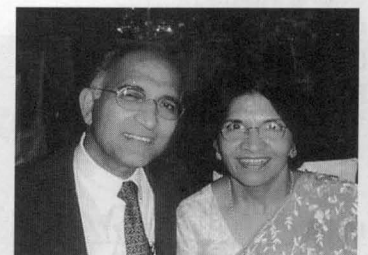
Jayanti & Jaya Maru  
Norwalk CT



Bipin & Rekha Parikh  
Des Plaines IL



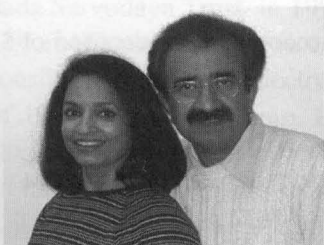
Jitendra & Panna Shah  
Port Jefferson NY



Mahesh & Chandrika Shah  
Dayton OH



Jit & Manda Turakhia  
Liverpool NY



Rohak & Swati Vora  
San Diego CA



Mahendra & Sangita Vora  
West Chester OH



*Camera Shy*

Ashok & Sarla Desai  
Cherry Hill NJ

Parimal & Pratima Desai  
Houston TX  
Piyare & Sulakshana Jain  
Williamsville NY

Sanjay & Renu Pandya  
Staten Island NY  
Ashok & Nirmala Shah  
Morton Grove IL

Keerti & Hansa Shah  
Bartlett IL  
Surendra & Sushila Singhvi  
Dayton OH

# TULSA JAIN SANGH INC.

*Established: 1990 A Non-profit Tax Exempt Religious Organization*

We are very delighted to invite you and your society members to be a part of our

## Auspicious Pratishtha Mahotsav

From May 29, through 31, 2004

**Mulnayak Mahavir Swami, Parshvanath Swami, Rushabhdev Swami (Digamber)  
Navkar Mantra Shila, Padmavati Devi and Ghantakaran Mahavir Gokhla.**

*Bhattarak Devendrakeertiji, Gurudev Chitrabhanuji and Pramodaben will bless Pratishtha Mahotsav.*

Vidhikar Nareshbhai Shah and Narendrabhai Nandu and his group of musicians will enhance festivities and will guide the rituals. As our invited guest we **will provide lodging and boarding**. Please plan to be a part of this auspicious occasion of Pratishtha. We will appreciate if you let us know the number of persons plan to attend, no later than April 30, 2004 so we can serve you better.

Maximum of three (3) families will be allowed to combine Gheebolis for above events. All other Gheebolis will be by individual family only. We will keep you informed and provide more details as we progress towards Pratishtha Mahotsav.

### Highlights of Events

#### Saturday

**5/29/04**

Snatra Puja  
Asth Prakari Puja  
Nav Grah Puja  
Das Disal Puja  
Arti-Divo  
Shanti Kalash  
Uthapan Vidhi  
Discourses  
Bhavana / Gheeboli

#### Sunday

**5/30/04**

Procession  
Snatra puja  
18 Abhishek  
Pratishtha  
Arti-Divo  
Shanti Kalash  
Discourse  
Culture Program

#### Monday

**5/31/04**

Dwar Opening  
Snatra Puja  
Santi Karam- Maha Pujan  
Arti-Divo  
Shanti Kalash

### RSVP Tulsa Jain Sangh, Inc.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I \ We will attend the Pratishtha Mahotsav # of Adults \_\_\_\_\_ # of youths / Children \_\_\_\_\_

I / We will not be able to attend the Pratishtha Mahotsav. Please accept my / our donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards the Pratishtha General Fund. Please make your check payable to:

#### Tulsa Jain Sangh, Inc

Mailing Address: P.O. Box, 702624 Tulsa OK 74170-2624

Phone: 918-369-3163 or 918-747-7677 or 918-477-7167

Sincerely,  
Tulsa Jain Sangh, Inc

*Kanti Shah*

Kanti Shah, President



# Herculean Task on Humannitarian Front

## Shree Bidada Sarvodaya Trust follows Mother Teresa's footsteps in remote areas of Kutch

*By Sharda Tarasaria*

**Bidada, Kutch:-** A humongous annual medical camp organized by Shree Bidada Sarvodaya trust(SBST), an NGO, at Bidada, to help poor and needy in remote areas of Kutch. The annual camp is organized every year for twenty days where thousands of patients take advantage of the facility and expertise of the doctors from USA, Canada, UK and big cities of India.

'A strong mind always hopes, and has always a cause to hope. SBST has proved to be an oasis in the desert of Kutch when it started its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Medical camp on January 1 ushering in a new ray of hope to the people having health problems.



Anop Vora inaugurated the event on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004 in presence of many dignitaries including Acharya Chandanaji, Dr. Dhiraj Shah, Vijay Chheda, Bachubhai Rambhia, Inder Bindra, and Peter Bhedda of

Nargis Dutt Memorial Foundation. He was moved by the dedication and hard work of hundreds of volunteers who came from far away places to serve the poor and sick of people of rural India where scarcities are plenty. He was able to relate the pain of the rural folks because he himself has come from a small village-Pachhegam near Vallabhipur in Gujarat.

JAINA got involved with Bidada Sarvodaya Trust in 1992 and Dr.Dhiraj Shah, Chairman of World Community Service, a service arm of JAINA took the responsibility of providing doctors, volunteers and all the expenses of 1992-93 medical camp. He with the help of Dr. Manibhai Mehta of LA brought 40 doctors, 40 volunteers and \$130,000 to start this long lasting partnership between these two organizations. JAINA was honored by 49 different organizations from all over INDIA including the parliament of India represented by speaker Shivraj Patil and Health minister Mafatlal Fotedar. Since then this partnership has progressed and more and more doctors, volunteers and financial help is being provided by JAINA and Jain center of S.California. This year's camp was sponsored by Ramesh and

Prafulla Shah of LA in memory of their sister in law.

The feeling of hundreds of people suffering from various diseases in remote rural areas of Kutch in Western India is difficult to express. The men and women volunteers, high ranking medicos and supporters of the SBST have changed the lives of thousands and generated hope for those who are alive but live life as dead. A land of extremities and hardship, the region has given birth to many generous and adventurous people in Kutch, who have scattered all around the globe but still have strong ties with the birthplace. They donate and help open heartedly to the poor and needy in their motherland.

Bidada is a small town in Mandvi taluka about 45 kms away from Bhuj in Kutch district. As its logo says-"Compassion in Action"- a small non-profit charitable organization, SBST arranged its first "Eye and Dental camp" in a Panjrapol (Animal Shelter) in 1974 in the remote area where no medical help was available at that time.



In 30 years, with dedication and devotion, the Trust has expanded its services and has become a household name in the area. It has a 50-bed hospital and arranges many medical camps during the year. The

Annual Medical camps draw many patients from not only Kutch but also from far away Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

Chairman of the Trust Bachubhai Rambhia informed, "If the treatment is not available in SBST, we send patients to Mumbai for further treatment or major operations and patients do not have to pay anything."

Dr Dhiraj Shah of Buffalo, NY thanked the volunteers and donors for their time, talent and treasure and to build a bridge between Land of Deeds (karmabhumi) and Land of Birth. Anop Vora said, "I am honored to be a part of this noble work to help our community"

Acharya Chandanashriji of Virayatan conveyed best wishes and told people to consider *janseva* as *prabhuseva*. ( service to people is service to God). Virayatan is an organization in Kutch which provides free education and boarding to children and has become parents of the children who lost their parents in the earthquake of 2001.

Many humanitarian organizations from USA have joined hands with SBST to help people are Share & Care, AAPI, Nargis Dutt Memorial Foundation of NY, JAINA, Cultural Club of India, Wheel of Hope and many more. Ramesh Shah of Wheel of Hope said that by serving the community we can achieve spiritualism.

Machine for Mammography and Scopy were donated by Past President Peter Bheddah and President Inder Bindra of Nargis Dutt Memorial Foundation.

As the winter sets in migratory birds from many parts of the world swoop down on Kutch and similarly many doctors and volunteers of SBST also flock to the desert region. A team of well-known doctors and volunteers from India, US, England and Africa come to Bidada to serve in the huge Annual Medical camp every year. It is amazing to see the devotion of theses volunteers working 16 to 18 hours a day with a smile. Chichuben from Mumbai is a volunteer who visits SBST every year for many years. All day long she just washes legs of the patients with dedication who are going to be operated.

A pioneer volunteer couple Damayanti Jain and her husband Lax Jain started helping 25 years ago and now their daughter also joined the SBST.

Every year Consul General of USA visits the camp. This year Consul General Mr. Agnus Simons visited the camp with his wife Julia and their children. They visited the patients and were very much impressed to see the huge medical camp to ease the pain of the sufferers. As Julia said that we all are a huge family, sharing and caring very important values in life. She remarked," I am very happy to feel the warmth of the family values here of helping people in need."



Hitesh Bhakta, Chairman of A A H O A ( A s i a n American Hotel- Motel Owners Association) of USA, congratulated the Trust for its outstanding humanitarian service to

the community. "Service provided by SBST is extraordinary which we don't see anywhere in the world." He showed his eagerness

to help SBST. "We can find many donors to help financially but it is rare to find the people who serve the community," he said.

Director of Tata Cancer Hospital Mumbai, Dr Dinsha visited the SBST. She talked about the increasing rate of cancer in Gujarat due to habit of chewing tobacco in different forms ( Gutka). She explained that marriage and children at early age, lack of hygiene and education leads to cancer of uterus. She said "I was very much impressed with the work done by SBST and supported their work".

Member of Parliament, Dinesh Trivedi who is originally from Kutch said that he is proud of the organization and humanitarian work.

Many renowned doctors from USA gave their service to the Trust. Among them are Dr Manibhai Mehta(Urologist, CA), Dr Pravin Mehta (Diabetic/ thyroid, NY),Dr Ashish

Mehta(Eyes, CA),Dr Dinesh Shah (Arthritis CA),Dr Pravin Kapadia (Asthama,CA),Dr Varia(Psychiatric, NC), Dr Atul Shah( Gastroenterologist, MD), Dr Dhiraj Shah(Radiologist, NY), Dr Haria(ENT, USA), Dr B Parikh (Anesthesiologist, MA).

Many enthusiastic young interns also devoted their time and talent to the noble cause of helping needy and had unique experience.

Dr Manibhai Mehta, who is serving SBST for last 12 years said that there are many diseases due to environment and lack of education. Bladder stones are very common in Kutch due to scarcity of pure drinking water, extreme heat and lack of education. "With new technology and machines these stones can be removed without surgery, but these machines are very expensive. Donors and doctors can help to get them."

Cardiac Camps started in 1984 at SBST. Every year heart patients get free check up and selected patients are sent to LTMG Hospital, Sion, Mumbai for further treatments. This year 40 patients were selected for further treatment and the youngest patient is only two years old," said Popat Savla, a volunteer.

Mukesh Doshi, Director of Bidada Rehabilitation Institute and Research Center said, "This institute is the result of rising needs of the community." The new Rehabilitation center is built on 4 acre land and 18000 sq ft constructed area to provide education, preventive care, counseling and vocational training to bring back confidence despite their disabilities for better living in the society. It is also to help victims of the earthquake of 2001, physically and mentally challenged people.

Photos: on Page 11 photo 1: During Camp 2004, Anop Vora honoured, photo 2 Patients waiting for their turn, page 13: Peter Bheda inaugurating a plaque.

Kunal Fadnis (16) from Baroda, a handsome, enthusiastic and energetic young man, is a volunteer to help to make prosthesis for the victims of the earthquake. It was very difficult to know that he had lost his both legs in the earthquake of 2001. He said that he could play basketball and can dance with the artificial limbs provided by SBST. "I also drive the car and my desire is to give dance performances in USA and UK." He smiled and happiness on his face was priceless.

Aminaben, a young woman was a victim of the earthquake, who lost one of her two daughters and was suffering from spinal cord injury said, "Today I can stand up only because of care and help of Mukeshbhai Doshi and staff of SBST. Now I am able to make living by working as a beautician."

Dr Mrudula Shah, Occupational Therapist from UK visited SBST for the first time and working 16 hours a day said that to be able to help other human beings was a great experience but it was very sad to see so many people suffering. "They need help and it is our duty to help them at our best. I will be coming next year again," she said.

Vijay Chheda, one of the trustees residing in California informed about the growth of the Trust in the past 30 years and have more than 34 medical specialties like-General Surgery, cancer, diabetic, endocrinology, urology, gastroenterology, squint eye, asthma and allergy, orthopedic, rehab medicine, arthritis, psychiatric, cardiology, rheumatic heart, ENT, dermatology, eye camp. Dental cap, pediatric, pediatric surgery, pediatric orthopedic, pediatric urology, pediatric cardiology, pediatric hematology/oncology, pediatric endocrinology, pediatric neurology, gynecology, epilepsy were treated in SBST. "This year 5433 patients for eyes, Cardiac 340, and pediatric 795 patients were treated. A total of 22,053 patients were treated during this camp which ended on January 20 sending the patients home with a gift of smile, sweets and clothes.

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### Comments from Medical Camp Participants

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1."Heaven to so many poor patients...give away their joyous expressions... after their surgery or clinical treatment"

- Navin Gangar, CA

2."..Awesome year, 22,000+patients... WOW!..I invite everybody to witness this once in their life time..this will change their perspective, especially youngsters, of life for ever."

- Popat Savla, CA

3."*Vanchitoni vahare jaine ane vrudhone vatsalya apine avo apane apanu JEEVAN dhanya kare*"

- J.B. Mistry

4."..an opportunity to participate in MEGA HEALTH MELA & CAMP. **85,000 patients examined.** WOW! Unique event of my life!"

- Dr. Kansagra, India

5."..My personal appreciation to who gave their valuable time, money & services..give smile to needy & less fortunate in rural Kutch. This is being a **good Jain..** we are blessed...paying dues to our community.."

- Peter Bheddah, NY

6." .give true feeling of Lord Mahvira's message of compassion & love. **Visit once and take life time memory with you."**

- Vijay Chheda, CA

7. "Service to people at GRASS ROOT level."

- Dr.Nitin Shah,CA

8. ".worked in Cardiology area with children & young girls..Parents had tears in their eyes knowing their children are going to be treated with appropriate surgery...few kind words enlightened them...very rewarding experience."

- Dr. H. Parekh

9. " In Upleta, my father as a doctor worked for more than **40 years...**the camp provided an opportunity for my brothers and sisters with their families to have a **family REUNION** and pay our respects to people whom we grew up with. My brother Dr. Piyush Tolia is committed every year. Thanks to JAINA and Dr. Jaya Shah..."

-Niru Maru, MI

10. "...Eye camp in my home town-Gondal-WOW! **25 surgeries** to correct the eye problems. **New Hospital** in my home town in the memory of my **Grant Medical College teacher, Dr. Jhatakia..** Am I living in a **DreamWorld!!**"

- Dr. Jaya Shah,OH

11. "Hats off to World Medical Relief. Such a huge supply of Rehab Equipment...and 2 years worth of supplies...WOW!"

-Mukesh Doshi,India

12. "**JAINA** provided doctors, volunteers...and also our **Chief Guest...**and long time supporter! WOW! Our foundation of Upleta Camp has become very strong."

-Uka Solanki,CA



# A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO PEACE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO NON-VIOLENCE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN

*Raksha Shah, Mumbai*  
*B.Sc, M.A., LL.B, N.D, DIP in Jaina Philosophy.*

History stands testimony to the fact that the 20th century has been an era of wars, unrest and wrath, with bloodshed, conflicts between nations and the terror of terrorism-that has doddered each heart living in apprehension in this dangerous and critical situation. The lure and pursuit of material pleasures has set the human race on the path of reckless exploitation. There is agony over the state of the world and the real tragedy is the plight of defenseless civilians, especially women and children, who fall a victim to the most ferocious and rampant onslaught, rape, torture, bull-doing, mutilation of limbs, murder by firing squads and burgundy. The awe of weapons has been replaced by the horrendous chemical and bio-chemicals wars that has alarmed each soul and made life more dreadful than ever! What could be the reason behind such vehement acts?

Truly enough, they are the outcome of the evil thought-process brought into innocent minds by selfish power-mongers - the few whose only aim is to amass wealth, be the masters of the inanimate world, little realizing, that this momentary happiness is temporary in nature and this avarice can ruin the lives of their kith and kin, the state, the nation and take toll of the entire world.

The so called modern man in an era of science and technological progress appears to be deeply engrossed in a restless race that yearns him to pile up lifeless material possessions and life taking armaments, little knowing that the so called palace of pleasure is built on the summit of a silent looking volcano which will annihilate all the priceless treasures that have been bestowed by the economic and pragmatic mind in the twinkling of an eye. The fire of animosity and atrocity is burning at the threshold of our homes and we have no other alternative but to combat it.

Mindless terrorism and wars in the name of religion should be eradicated. The human race has to be prevented from the scourge of war that brings untold misery destruction, devastation, and frustration. A holistic approach to peace is the immediate requirement to the dreadful situation. What then is peace? Peace, is a relative term that cannot be defined directly. According to my understanding, peace can be defined as:

- 1) Individual Peace and
- 2) Peace in Society

**INDIVIDUAL PEACE:** Individual Peace is a state of being in which one's mind is calm and serene. A state when one feels totally relaxed with the absence of causes of unrest like stress, excitement, desire, agony and tension.

**PEACE IN SOCIETY:** It is a state of co-operative, peaceful co-existence with the development of feeling of tolerance, mutual understanding where each one honors another's view-point, lives and wants others to live for the welfare of all living creatures of the universe in total harmony with a feeling of fraternity and friendliness. Such a situation cannot be brought about by law-making bodies, government decrees, force and coercion, but by arousing internal consciousness and inculcating feelings of love, compassion, friendliness and equanimity with the one and only aim of service to mankind.

**PURPOSE OF THE PAPER :** As a solution to the problems of peace I have tried to highlight as to how the age-old principle of Non-Violence laid down by Lord Mahavira, can help in establishing the long-lost peace in society and how -women can play a vital role in inculcating these values and bringing about awareness alertness and awakening , so that peace, progress and prosperity can be globally restored once again.

**NON-VIOLENCE** Never before in the history of the world has such a grave situation occurred where people in every nook and corner of the world have been in a disastrous situation, living in fear of death due to unpredictable bomb-blasts and other forms of violence. Life and non-violence are integrally related. Lord Mahavira has called it Universal and everlasting. As a matter of fact, no culture can survive in its absence. It forms the basis of all religions. Not a single religion in the world advocates violence. **What then is Non-Violence or Ahimsa?**

Acharya Amritchandra defines Ahimsa as,

*"The non-appearance of attachments and passions and their appearance as Himsa or Violence."*

The Sixth Chapter of Dasavaikalika Sutra describes Ahimsa as:

*"A disciplined behavior towards every living being."*

The Yogasutra of Patanjali pronounces Ahimsa as:

*"The absence of violence of all sorts towards all beings at all times."*

The Chhandogyopanishad, Bhagvad Gita, Sankhya, Buddhists

have all criticised violence. Also, the Jewish religions, Taoists, Confucianism have all condemned violence of all kinds.

*Thus, Ahimsa is neither a rule nor ritual, but a disciplinary act for all people at all times.*

### THE ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE:

1) The most significant cause of violence is 'Parigraha', meaning possession. The economic systems today, are based on promoting wants rather than curbing them.

2) The ever-increasing attachment towards materialistic objects.

3) The immense avarice to acquire more and more by fair or foul means.

4) Intolerance towards other religions is also a grave cause.

5) At the social level, pride and craving for power, racial discrimination, communalism, provincial and national prejudice between nations

6) Agitation and turbulence of thoughts derived from conflicting ideas.

7) At the international level, it is the greed for power and territorial expansion, cold wars, arms race.

**THE EFFECTS OF VIOLENCE:** Violence, in all its forms, induces fear, depression and uncertainty in the minds of people. It weakens one's mental balance, concentration and work efficiency. How can one think of helping the society or the nation when he himself and his family are insecure? This insecurity creates strong dislike, hatred, jealousy and mutual rivalry among individuals. The lure of possessiveness causes disparity, inequality and unrest, which ultimately hinders social, economic, political and religious harmony.

**SOLUTIONS TO WORLD PROBLEMS BY MEANS OF NON-VIOLENCE:** 1) As mentioned in the Acaraanga Sutra: 'All beings love to live, no one likes pain and misery, therefore we must have reverence for life. According to Mahatma Gandhi, if the world adopts Ahimsa of Bhagwan Mahavira, Peace will bless the universe. Nevertheless, he emphasizes that, "Non-violence is not a resignation from all real fighting against wickedness", hence crimes and terrorist acts should not be pardoned.

2) Says Dr.K.C.Sogani, that: 'The virtues of non-violence and aparigraha are capable of establishing universal peace. Therefore if these virtues are understood at the International level, the attitude of non-violence will synchronise'. Hence we need to build up a strong and cohesive social structure and put in selfless, on-going effort to work for just and fair international relations and spread the message of peace to remove hatred and malice and thereby totally eradicate the negative thought-process and transform it to positivity.

3) Says Victor Hugo, 'War begins in the minds of men'. The mind is both the master and the slave of the body it lives in, and the mind and body are so intimately interconnected through the nervous system that all the voluntary and involuntary functions of the entire system are affected by it. In other words, the thoughts that occur lead to actions. Hence it is absolutely essential to divert the impure, destructive thoughts to pure, constructive thoughts before it is too late. The outlook of education therefore needs orientation. From the very beginning a strong dislike and hatred for violence should be aroused. The children need to be taught moral lessons of peace, ahimsa, love, empathy, friendliness, compassion and equanimity and made to realize that passions like anger, pride, deceit and discontent are the root causes of unrest hence need to be lessened. Psychologist Mona Nanavati strongly feels that a well-trained mind will go a long way to understand the feelings of others and will help one to be more compassionate.

4) At the political level, mutual rivalry, jealousy, the deep incentive to usurp power should be considerably reduced and no unlawful intention to encroach on others land and property should be encouraged. The power mongers need to understand that the strength and power of non-violence is tremendous and more stable and healthy as compared to the ephemeral power derived from terror and violence.

5) At the social level, malpractices in business, trade and profession for amassing wealth should be blown out. Hoarding should be greatly curtailed. Principles of justice, impartiality should be developed.

6) Strong measures must be taken to curtail the growth of violence on grounds of race, caste, creed etc. All should be treated equally. There should be no injustice towards the weak and suppressed.

7) The subtle aspect of non-violence lies in the change in the inner self of the individual, to strengthen the feelings of peace, fraternity, tolerance, fellow-feeling and equality giving prime importance to reverence for life, vegetarianism, prevention of cruelty to animals and protecting the environment.

8) Intentional injury should be totally avoided, while a tyrant, oppressor or a terrorist should be taken to task. The mischief monger must not be spared, and the laity may use his arms to punish the culprit and scoundrel or such a person who tries to disturb the peace in society.

9) Moral laws should govern the world order. The rights of individuals, the oppressed, weak and minorities should be protected. International economic co-operation must be developed. Duties must be followed religiously.

10) Mere talks at Seminars and Conferences cannot serve any purpose. To overcome the present situation scholars, saints

and eminent social and political leaders need to work hand in hand and with the help of media try to promote and propagate the principles throughout the world.

### THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN ACHIVING PEACE

At the outset, one may wonder why I have selected women as a key solution to the problem of peace and questions may arise in many minds as to what can a women do? I would rather like to counter question, what not can a woman do? We have just talked about inculcating the several principles like Ahimsa, Anekantavada and Aparigraha, but the question is who should take over the task and when and where should it begin? The one and only answer to this question is 'at home', by none other than the most competent, greatly neglected fairer sex - 'THE WOMAN'.

Yes, the society, the community or a nation cannot solve the persistent grave problems of war and terrorism single-handedly.

Says Kalelkar, "Women in fact are not weak. There is no reason why she should be dependant on men. There is no eternal rule that leadership in society should always remain in the hands of men".

### PLACE OF WOMEN IN SCRIPTURES

2,600 years back, Lord Mahavira pronounced that women are equal to men in all respects. He admitted and initiated several women like princess Chandrabala, and women of many other castes into his order without any caste distinction. In fact, Dr. Hemchandra warned men to beware of women, and emphasized upon the dependency of men to women in all fields of life- "in infancy, youth and old age". Moreover,

the Vedas, Puranas and the Upanishads have shown women to be the greatest force of nature, a creator of mankind. The Bhagwat Gita also talks about the greatness of women in the tenth Adhayaya. 'Manu' too talks about honoring women. The Aiterya Upanishad shows regards and stresses upon the fact that a child carries forward the thoughts and manners of his mother. The Satpath Brahmana says that the mother is the child's first teacher, for from the foetal state, the child imbibes the thoughts, words and actions of the mother. In the Naradasmriti Dr. Sunanda Shashtri emphasizes on several rituals being performed by women, like choosing her husband at the 'Swayamavara', giving the daughter in marriage in default of fathers and brothers after the elders tested the 'Grooms' masculinity.

### WOMEN IN GENETIC SCIENCE

According to Gynaecologist Dr. Jayesh Sheth, the monthly release of the specific hormone, "Estrogen" is responsible for the peculiar feminine nature. It is for this reason that women are very affectionate, loving, tolerant, calm and composed as against the violent, aggressive and criminal nature of men. Adds Dr. Murari Nanavati, that genetic studies too reveal that though men are physically stronger, it is the lady, who is physiologically, psychologically and emotionally stronger and superior to men.

### WHAT THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL OPINES

The recent declaration made by the UN Security General states and stresses that there can be no peace and equality without the equal and fair participation of the women in decision-making positions in the UN and that women have an important role to play as equal actors with men in peace negotiations. At the International level too the UN system continues to support and encourage women's involvement in peace making and peace building activity.

It is nevertheless true that because women know the language of suffering, self-control and patience they can redirect the orientation from the domestic arena to the National front with great ease. The most remarkable example of mass participation of women leading to great success is the 'Satyagraha Movement of the great leader Mahatama Gandhi. At several other instances they have proved their worth in socio-economic affairs, and the religious and political front. A woman's zeal, prowess, deep insight, her inborn compassion and tolerance traits and willingness to sacrifice whole-heartedly, gives her an edge over her male counterparts. The selfless service of Florence Nightingale, the sacrifice of Joan of Arc, the dedication of Mother Teresa cannot be forgotten. From all the above description, it is clear that a woman is the most capable, efficient and the most appropriate person to promote PEACE.

Thus, wars have to be abandoned and peace has to be restored to immediately, before it is too late, before human race comes to the verge of extinction. In short, 'The welfare of humanity lies in practicing and professing the principles of Non- violence to solve the problem of unrest, insecurity with the whole-hearted intervention of women who can help bring back the long-lost peace in all walks of life. Such a Holistic approach will prove to be successful in bringing about awareness and alertness about the disasters of war and the pleasures of peace in the minds of men and only then can the society, the state, the nation and the world look forward to a prosperous and progressive future where the wants will be minimized, the mind will be non-aggressive and non-violent and there will be eternal peace and harmony!!



## Sadharmic Bhawan / Retirement Community Survey Update

Following are the results obtained from your response to the Sadharmic Bhawan Home survey. Due to virus in the JAINA HQ computer we lost all the e-mailed responses you sent. However, we received 49 mails in responses. Following is the analysis of the results.

### Results

1. When would you like to plan to move to a retirement community?  
1 to 2 Years **12** 2 to 4 Years **20** 5 years **14** 10 Years **6**
2. Which State you want to retire?  
FL **39** CA **13** TX **12** AZ **6** NV **4** Other **8**
3. What type of facility do you need to relocate?  
Apt-Condo **32** Town Home **22** House **12** High Rise **7** Manufactured/ Modular Home **3**
4. How many bedrooms do you need?  
Two Bedrooms **27** Three Bedrooms **21** One Bedroom **4** Studio **1**
5. Approximately how much Space would you desire?  
1500 Sq. Ft. **14** 1200 Sq. Ft. **14** 1800 Sq. Ft. **13** 2000 Sq. Ft.
6. What Price can you pay (including mortgage)?  
\$160,000 **18** \$100,00 **15** \$200,000 **12** \$250,000 **6** \$60,000 **6** \$300,000 **2**
7. How much monthly assessment fees can you pay?  
\$150 **26** \$200 **16** \$250 **8** Any **2** \$300 **1**
8. Need Kitchen and Dining Hall? Yes **45** No **4**  
Need Health club with Sport facility? Yes **45** No **2** will pay for membership fee. Yes **24**  
Other Facility. Nearby Shopping **46** Medical Clinic **44** 24 Hr. Nurse **15**
9. Will you be willing to put up a good faith deposit of \$1000? Yes **35** No **5**
10. Do we have your permission to provide your contact information and your survey answers to potential developer?  
Yes **46** No **6**

### Summary

About 50% of the respondents would be ready to move in retirement community within four years. Over 50% of the respondents preferred FL location with Two bedroom Apartment Condominium/Town home, willing to spend up to \$150000. Everybody wanted to have Kitchen And Dining facility. Everybody preferred to have easy access to shopping center, medical facility with one third requiring 24 hour nursing assistance.

The following specifications may satisfy over 80% of the requirements for an ideal senior citizens center/community.

### Requirement Specifications

- Such a Sadharmic Bhawan must be located in Suburban location near at least a medium size city, which provides variety of shopping conveniences.
- Our major interest at this time should be in Florida State with medium interest in California and Texas.
- We need to share our development with other community (Hindu community).
- Town Homes and Condominiums are our prime priority.
- The facility should have 1200 to 1800 sq. ft. space with two to three bedrooms and kitchen.
- We definitely need small Jain Temple building accommodating all practices very near to our community residences and a multifunction Community Hall
- We need an assisted living facility in the nearby vicinity.
- It is to our advantage to have community association to be able to approve new entrants.

### Next step

We will start looking for a developer who can put together various communities (e.g. Hindu and Jain). We also welcome any developer who can meet our requirements to develop our project. Upon receiving a quote from any developer the Seniors Housing Committee will review the proposal and proceed.

## Committee News:

### JAINA Education Material and Distributors

#### Education Material and Price List:

JAINA education material is distributed on a nearly cost basis. At present we have the following material available for distribution.

#### Jain Activity Book (JES 101 – Level I)

The Jain Activity book is designed by an educator using 'backward design' curriculum development technique. The book is well illustrated with many pictures for coloring, and activities like dot to dot and maze games. It also includes Jain symbols, puja postures and methods, with their meaning. The book has 160 pages (57 color pictures). This is level I book for young children. However, we recommend parental involvement for enhanced, mutual learning. The old Jain Coloring book and old Dot to Dot book are replaced by this book. The book is printed in Korea and about 3000 copies have distributed to various North American Jain centers.

#### Jain Alphabet Book (JES 103 – Level I)

The book consists of religious pictures of each Alphabet and its explanation. It covers many Jain principles and conducts in a simple language easy to understand by young children. The book

has 80 pages (31 full page color pictures). The book is also printed in Korea and about 3000 copies have been distributed to various North American Jain centers.

#### Jain Philosophy and Practice I Book (JES 302 - Level III)

This is an excellent book for youth / adults interested in learning Jainism in English. It covers almost all basic topics of Jainism. The book has 32 chapters, 30 color pictures, and total 165 pages. The book is printed in India and about 3000 books have been distributed various to North American Jain centers.

#### JAINA Education CD

CD containing JAINA Education material and literature has been published in August 2002. The CD not only has all the Pāthashālā material, but also contains many books, articles, Jivadaya material, hundreds of images of temples and Tirthankars, and many unique presentations. It contains more than 10,000 pages of text and 2,000 images. **A must for anyone interested in Jain philosophy.** So far we have sold more than 5000 CDs.

#### Price List: Unit Price (per book / CD)

No	Level	Age	Title	US\$	CDN \$	Indian Rs.	UK £
JES 101	1	5 - 9	Jain Activity Book	\$5.00	7.00	200.00	4.50
JES 103	1	5 - 9	Jain Alphabet Book	\$3.00	4.00	100.00	2.50
JES 302	3	13 -15	Jain Philosophy and Practice I	\$4.00	5.00	150.00	3.50
CD	All	All	Jain Education CD	\$3.00	4.00	150.00	2.50

The above cost does not include postage charges. You will also pay the actual cost of shipping.

#### JAINA Education Material North American Distributors:-

Please contact your area Education coordinator as listed below to purchase any of the above material.

Name	Telephone	E-mail	City/State
Sailes	Jain	714 529 5874	sailesjain@aol.com Brea, CA
Sudhir	Shah	203 397 5086	sudhir@optonline.net Woodbridge, CT
Mukesh	Doshi	847 517 2505	mukusha@sbcglobal.net Schaumburg, IL
Santosh	Shah	504 394 1586	santoshcshah@yahoo.com Gretna, LA
Preeti	Jain	781 237 6070	preetijain@attbi.com Wellesley, MA
Kanta	Dharamsi	703 620 9837	manojdharamsi@juno.com Reston, MD
Mahendra	Shah	734 453 2968	mshah@dow.com Canton, MI
Jyoti	Shah	919 481 2377	kshah@cisco.com Raleigh, NC
Paresha	Shah	856 809 9888	neilshah@yahoo.com Marlton, NJ
Naresh	Shah	516 741 9269	nareshmina@hotmail.com Garden City, NY
Kalpna	Parekh	513-860-9839	parekhkely@aol.com Fairfield OH
Kanti	Shah	918 369 3163	shahk@yuba.com Tulsa, OK
Chirag	Shah	503-645-6766	chirag.shah@intel.com Beaverton, OR

**Canada Distributors:** Ramesh Varia 905 455 7803 [rvaria@rogers.com](mailto:rvaria@rogers.com)

Residents of USA can also directly purchase from Jaina Education Committee by sending an E-mail to Dr. Pradip and Darshana Shah - [pradipks1@aol.com](mailto:pradipks1@aol.com).

**Do not send the check with your order. We will send the invoice with your purchase.** The invoice will have shipping charges added to the cost of your purchase when you buy directly from Education Committee.

### JAINA DONATES AN AMBULANCE AND A BUS TO VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE



World Community Services donated an ambulance and a bus to residents of Vardhamannagar, town of 250 homes built by JAINA to rehabilitate the victims of Gujarat earthquake. Vardhamannagar, 6km away from city of Bhuj and residents needed an ambulance and a bus for medical emergencies and transportation. JAINA donated Rs. 1.5 million for purchase of both. An ambulance was handed over to trustees of Vardhamannagar on Feb 3rd, 2004 by Anop Vora, President, JAINA and Dr. Dhiraj Shah, Project Chairman. The ceremony was attended by 1000 plus residents of Vardhamannagar and officebearers of JAINA.

### College Education Loan for US Resident Jain Students

International Alumni Association of Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya (IAAMJV), a non-profit organization with the support of Jain community in USA is proud to offer loans of \$5,000 (\$2000 for 1st year and 1000 per year for the next 3 years) to young deserving Jain students pursuing undergraduate studies in USA. The loan is repayable 6 months after recipient enters workforce on a fulltime basis.

This program was introduced in year 1999 and is funded by generous donations from benefactors. This is a nationwide program open to all Jains and is established as a loan fund to allow the reuse of the funds in perpetuity. When repaid, the same loan amount will be made available to other deserving students. During the first four years of program, we have already committed and awarded loans of \$42,000. We encourage all of you to take full advantage of this program in coming years. Please visit [www.iaamjv.org](http://www.iaamjv.org) for more details.

### VEERAYATAN IN PAVAPURI

Pavapuri – The Nirvanbhoomi of Lord Mahavirswami invokes a mental picture of serenity and reverence more than any other Teerthdham. But the present day reality on the ground draws a disturbing picture. The Jalmandir lake is so polluted that there are no lotus blooming on the surface and town people are using it to wash laundry or worst, for fishing. The Government of India has recently awarded funds for the cleanup of the lake but the town has definitely deteriorated and is crying out for help. Hardly any Jains live there, vegetarianism is all but forgotten and most kids practice just one thing – begging. Town elders are blaming Jain Pilgrims of having turned their town to Beggar's heaven!

Acharya Shri Chandanaji of Veerayatan is trying to solve this blemish on Jain Heritage. Veerayatan has purchased a parcel of land to build a Jain School suitable for a thousand students to pull the kids off the street and prepare them for productive life and instill Jain values in them. Acharya Shri Chandanaji would like to have state government declaring it a holy site- a zone of non violence – preventing selling of meat or fish etc at Pavapuri, Lachhwar and Samet Shikharji. She has asked JAINA to help in the building of the school. JAINA's participation can be a powerful statement of our unity and our resolve to make a difference in the lives of thousands in a land dear to all Jains everywhere. If you would like to help, or have any suggestion, **Please write to Dilip V Shah of Philadelphia @ [Dilipvshah@aol.com](mailto:Dilipvshah@aol.com).** If there is enough interest, World Community Service with the help of other committees would like to help to the project on behalf of JAINA.

### Academic Liaison Committee

JAINA Executive Committee at its Atlanta meeting in March 2004, approved the appointment of "Academic Liaison Committee". The initial five members of this committee were appointed consisting of "Sanjay Pandya from NY, Prem Jain from CA, Girish Shah from CA, Pravin K Shah from NC, and Dilip Shah from PA. The objective of the committee is "To promote programs and studies in Jain philosophy at Academic institutions in North America" and "To establish Liaison with institutions in North America that are promoting principles of Jainism". The Academic Liaison Committee in its first meeting elected Girish Shah to be the Chairperson of the committee

We invite all those who are interested in promoting Jain Studies and philosophy in the academic world (Universities, colleges, museums, and libraries), to contact **Girish Shah, Chair,** at 408-373-3564 or [girish@thesahs.com](mailto:girish@thesahs.com).



# COMMITTEE NEWS:

## INTERFAITH INITIATIVES

Many in North America have realized, at least since 9/11, that interfaith interaction is a necessity. Some of us Jains as part of our upbringing and a strong belief in “All Life Is Bound Together By Mutual Support and Interdependence” have been involved in interfaith activities for more than a decade. Anopbhai Vora, JAINA President, to put Jain motto of Parasparopgraho Jivanam in action has strongly committed his and JAINA's resources. Some of the initiatives of his administration include

- Expand and energize interfaith committee
- Active participation/contribution in national interfaith organizations such as RFP (Religions for Peace USA – formerly WCRP-USA World Council for Religion and Peace)
- Joining hands with similar Jain organizations (e.g., WJC World Jain Confederation based in India) in other parts of the world to provide Jain interfaith activities at a global level. Parliament of World Religions gathering at Barcelona this July 2004 will have a coordinated representation of Jains from India, Europe, and North America – perhaps Africa, too – thanks to collaborative efforts and JAINA initiative.

Just to cite one perspective in encountering difficulties for interfaith work is enough to visualize the enormity of the task that lies ahead of us. Many of us in our 40s, 50s or 60s have not yet, to our satisfaction, understood even our Jain faith despite the best available resources. Then to grasp the basics of few more faiths is a challenge, to put it mildly, never mind dozens of other faiths! We would like to communicate with you by mail, e-mail, or if need be through a meeting. One of the elements in the overall “big” plan is to provide consistent yet simplified Jain principles for other than Jains to understand.

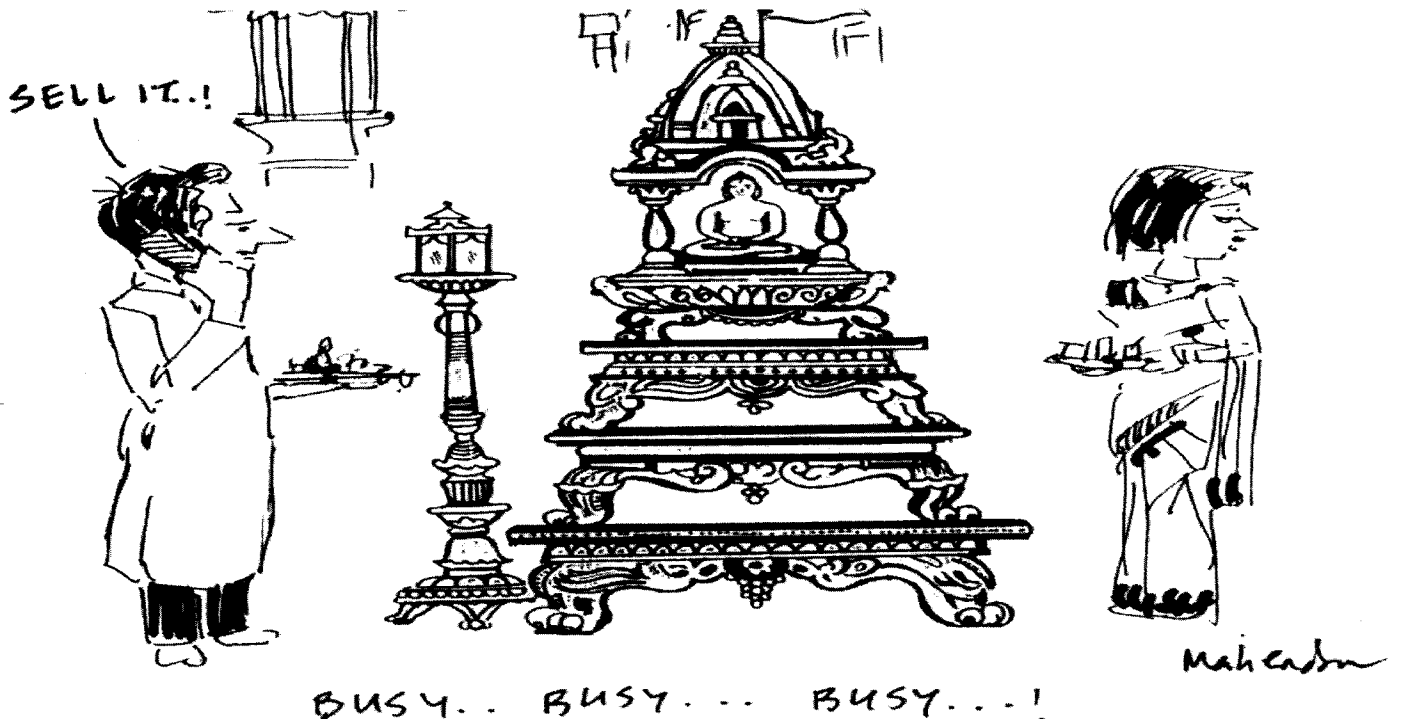
We hope to hear from you, and more importantly, about your interfaith activities.

**Arvind Vora**  
1-631-269-1167  
avora@optonline.net

**Naresh Jain**  
Njain52253@aol.com  
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## YATRA 2004

2004 JAINA YATRA to teerthdhams of Rajasthan and Gujarat started on January 18<sup>th</sup>. JAINA President Anop Vora and incoming President of Jain Social Group Federation Dr. Chandrakant Shah wished us a happy pilgrimage at a small gathering in Matunga, Bombay that morning. We visited three temples in Matunga before boarding a train to Falna near Ranakpur our first stop. After the night stop in cottages of a hotel that looked more like a nature's preserve, we undertook a long bus trip to Jaisalmer. We stopped overnight in Jodhpur and visited temples of Osijaji and Falodi.

In Khichan, a farming village near Falodi, we visited a hospital inspired by Acharya Shri Kalapurnsuriji, and run by Dr. Kanti Jain who had done research on diabetes in the US for more than 25 years and has now devoted all of her wealth and her life to this rural hospital servicing population of more than 300,000. The most remarkable thing about this hospital was the cleanliness and pleasant atmosphere miles away from any major city but equipped with very modern equipment. Our yatri including many physicians greatly admired devotion of Dr Jain, one person making such a difference in the lives of hundreds and thousands of people.

In Jaisalmer, we had a wonderful local guide, a devout Jain who loved every carving and knew every nook and cranny of the vast Temple Complex, patiently explaining religious significance, artistic uniqueness and historical facts. In the afternoon we got to see the world famous Patwa Havelis and the Thar Desert. At night, in a palace like hotel Rang Mahal, local folk dancers performed during the dinner. Next morning we visited Temples of Lodraypur and Amarsagar before reaching Sri Nakodaji. We were greatly surprised by the new Dharmasala we stayed in. Next day we visited a newly built Teerth Pawapuri. After visiting the famous Delwara Temples in Abu, we went to Nakhi lake and sunset point to admire nature's gift. Next day being Republic day of India, we were invited to the flag hoisting ceremony in the Polo ground where children from all the schools in town presented a patriotic program.

Before reaching Mehsana, we visited Temples of Kumbhariyaji and Taranga. Next day we reached Shankeswara. In Shankeswara, we had arranged to spend half a day with Shri Jambuvijyaji Maharaj. He gave a moving lecture on the power of Navakar Mantra, answered questions from Yatri and for those willing, gave them vows of refraining from certain ABHAKSYA AAHARS. At night we participated in a Bhavana inside the temple. Next day we started by bus to Junagadh via Rajkot.

We started Pahad Yatra of Junagadh at 5.00 in the morning. The weather was nice and yatri had a very comfortable and smooth Yatra without any difficulty. Some even climbed the highest peak temple of Ambaji. At least the Palitana Yatra after this would be a breeze! Just outside the town of Palitana we saw a huge colorful

tent in a field. It was a "CHHA RI PALAT SANGH" a 600 yatri sangh that had been traveling by foot for 14 days. In the best of Jain tradition the Sanghpati of such a large Sangh honored our Sangh, invited us for dinner and gave our yatri Prabhavana. Our Yatri got to see how traditional Sangh yatra are done. Their youngest member, a seven-year old girl sang a stuti for us and Acharya Maharaj recited Manglik.

The next Teerth on our itinerary, Palitana Pahad Yatra was what every one was anxious for. Again early morning start of Yatra was a peaceful, pious and joyful day for everyone. At night a few of us visited a Kutchhi Sangh of 1200 Yatri performing rites of 99 Yatra. We got to see a procession honoring the Aarti and Mangal Divo with an elaborate celebration and music conducted by Sri Narendra Nandu.

On the last day of the yatra, we were in Ahmedabad. It was the day of Bakari Id, a holiday but Dr. Jitendra Shah, Director of L.D. Institute of Indology opened the museum and the institute especially for our Yatri. Shri Shrenikbhai, Chairman of Anandji Kalyanji Trust came to pay his respect to the Sangh and answered questions put by Yatri. A scholar of ancient languages (Prakrit etc.) showed us old Jain manuscripts and we got the tour of the museum of Jain art. Later we went to Ashapuram hospital managed by Dr Shekhar Chand Jain. We got to see many parts of the facility donated by various individual Jains from North America. For the benefit of our Sangh, Dr. Jain had arranged first public felicitation of Shri Kumarpal Desai who had just received Padmashree Award from the President of India. Yatri presented a plaque from JAINA honoring Dr. Kumarpal and he asked if JAINA could arrange a Sangh Yatra from India to the Temples of North America. Dr. Dhiraj Shah on behalf of our Yatri and JAINA, invited Kumarpalbhai to lead such a sangh and assured JAINA's hospitality. At night we visited the temple at Hathisingh's Wadi and our Yatra concluded.

As always, we were fortunate to have a scholar – Diptiben Shah join our Yatra as we got the benefit of her lectures during tedious bus journeys. At each of the temples she was explaining religious significance, We also had a one yatri observing her Varshi Tap that acted as a spiritual leader of the Sangh. Patni Tours had once again excelled themselves in organizing the tour and serving memorable meals.

The Pilgrimage Committee is busy planning the next Yatra in January 2005. The committee is going to choose between Sri Samet Shikhar Yatra or a Yatra of the Tirthdhams of the Temples of the South India. If you have any suggestions, Please send to: dilipvshah@aol.com

# AHINSA

## The Non-Violence

Manubhai Doshi, Chicago, IL

*Samayā Savvabhooesu Sattu-Mittesu Vā Jage  
Pānāivāyavirae Jāvajjivae Dukkaram.*

— Uttarādhyayan Sutra

*(Equanimity towards all beings in the universe, to  
the friends as well as the foes, is Ahinsa; (though)  
it is hard to refrain from hurting the living beings  
for the entire life.)*

The first Sunday of October, we celebrate as Ahinsa Din or the day of non-violence. This is in token of the birth day of Mahatmā Gāndhi who was born on October 2 1869. He gained freedom for India by conducting a non-violent struggle for independence against the Britishers who had occupied India. His principal mission was to extend the observance of Ahinsa in every walk of life. He said that Ahinsa was his life as well as breath. The celebration of his birth day as Ahinsā Din is thus in tune with his concept. It would however be worthwhile to examine that concept at some length.

Ahinsā or nonviolence literally means not to hurt. Though having thus a negative derivation, it has very positive connotation. The concept of Ahinsā is based on the fact that every living being wishes to be happy and tries to avoid pain. Hurting results in pain. Therefore in order to avoid giving pain, we should refrain from hurting others. For most of the people, this approach is restricted to the realm of human beings. There are some who go beyond that and would not like to hurt the animals as well. But their concept is usually limited to the domesticated animals. 2500 years ago, Lord Mahāvīr extended the concept of non-violence to all the living beings. He could visualize that not only the minutest insects, but most of the seemingly inanimate objects like vegetation also are one-sensed living beings. They have life and undergo the sense of pleasure and pain. He therefore urged to refrain from hurting even such one-sensed beings.

As long as we live, we happen to hurt many living beings. The air that we breathe and the water that we drink contain minute organism. Even the vegetarian food that we may take is prepared from plant life which has to be destroyed for the sake of our food. The question would then arise: 'How is it possible to observe non-violence?' The plain answer is that it is impossible to stay totally non-violent, because indulging in some sort of violence is inevi-

table for the survival. Lord Umāswāti therefore defines violence as 'Pramattayogāt Prānvyavaropanam Hinsā'. It means that the deprival of life on account of non-vigilance is violence. For all practical purposes, non-violence is therefore defined as avoiding all possible violence. As such, Jainism exhorts every one to undertake all necessary activities in a way that does not cause avoidable violence. For our requirement of food also, it asks us to take only vegetarian food and that too of the type that does not involve multi-organism.

This is only a physical and rather superficial aspect of the concept. But Ahinsā has a deeper and subtler significance. Physical non-violence, we observe primarily for the sake of pity. True Ahinsā requires the elevation of that sense of pity to the level of sympathy and compassion by developing sensitivity for others. As believers of Ahinsā, we cannot remain content with not hurting others and stay insensitive to their pain and misery that may be caused by other factors. True observer of Ahinsā has to develop the sympathetic attitude. He should get rid of the feelings of anger, arrogance, animosity, jealousy and hostility that defile the mind and generate the violent instinct.

Such feelings mainly arise because of wrong perception. In the life, we come across different situations from time to time. We happen to perceive some of them as favorable and some as unfavorable. If we perceive any situation as painful, unfavorable and against our interest, we react to that with sense of dislike, hate, aversion, abhorrence etc. and try to change it to our liking and satisfaction. There is nothing wrong in trying to change it, as long as we do it calmly, peacefully and without hurting others. But if situations do not change favorably, we happen to feel perturbed or distressed and blame or curse the unfavorable situations for that. We may also attribute motives to the persons concerned with those situations and indulge in wrath, anger, animosity and hostility towards them.

We fail to realize that our perception might be wrong. As a matter of fact, the situations that we perceive as painful, might be pleasurable to others. We also fail to indirectly responsible for such situations. The wrong perception arises because we fail to think dispassionately and also because we might be feeling that our self interest would be at stake, if the situation does not change favorably.

Our concept of self interest however generally happens to be parochial. We therefore nurse grudge for the people whom we perceive as acting against our interest. We fail to realize that the



## Ahinsa (cont.)...

person, against whom we have grudge, may or may not get hurt by our action; but our narrow-mindedness does hurt us by defiling our mind. It is a fact that if we adopt broad and liberal approach, others too tend to reciprocate. The reciprocity is the innate nature of living beings. This is observed even in the case of animals. If we are kind to them, they express, in their own way, the sense of gratitude. Human beings have better and more sensible way to reciprocate. We are however prone to forget this aspect and happen to ill treat other beings. Such hurting amounts to transgressions of this restraint. If we cannot avoid all types of such transgressions, we should at least not get involved in the following types as laid down in the Vanditu Sutra:

*Vaha Bandha Chhavichchhea Aibhäre Bhatta Pän Vuchchhea  
Padham Vayassaiäre Padikkame Desiam Savvam*

It means that if I have indulged in transgressions of the first restraint in the form of deprivation of life or tying too hard or amputation or overloading or depriving of food and drinks during the day, I atone for the same.

If we remember that all living beings have identical souls and all of them are destined to gain liberation sooner or later, our outlook towards them would change. We can then realize that by indulging in defilement towards any one else, we happen to defile our soul. With that realization, we would develop regard for every soul and stop perceiving any one as our foe. If any of them undergoes pain or misery, we would have sympathy and compassion for him. Eventually, this would lead to sense of amity. Extending the compassion and amity to every being is the symbol of true Ahinsä.

In order to illustrate true Ahinsä, let us take an event of Lord Mahävir's life. During the 11th year of his spiritual pursuit, a heavenly being named Sangam perpetrated terrible distress on the Lord in order to break his bearing capacity. For that purpose Sangam created a havoc during one night, while the Lord was meditating. Any other person would have been killed by those atrocities. Lord Mahävir however remained steadfast in the meditation and did not develop any ill will for Sangam. In the morning when Sangam was almost exhausted of inflicting pain, he saw tears in the eyes of the Lord. At last, he thought, he had succeeded in breaking the Lord's will. The Lord could read his mind and therefore said that the tears did not any way indicate his breakdown; they were flowing out of compassion for the horrible fate that Sangam had acquired for himself by inflicting the pain. This has been depicted by Acharya Hemachandrasuri in the following verse of the Sakalärhat Sutra

*Krutäparädhepi Jane Krupä Manthar Tärayoh  
Ishad Bāshpārdrayorbhadram Shrivirajin Netrayoh*

It means: 'Blessed are the eyes of Lord Mahävir that got wet with tears of compassion even for the one who had been the offender.' A true Ahinsak has this sort of innate compassion even for the offenders.

Mahatmä Gāndhi also could show the capacity of positively reacting to others' wrongs. He had to face terrible distress from the Durban whites, when he went back to South Africa. He however felt that the whites indulged in such action on account of their misunderstanding about him and therefore declined to take any action against the offenders. In tune with that thinking, he evolved the movement of civil disobedience and non-violent resistance to all unjustifiable rules and regulations. During that movement he was careful to see that no harm is done even to his opponents. He did not want even to mentally hurt any one. His concept of non-violent resistance was effective there and ultimately that very concept gained independence for India. At the time of Partition of India, when communal situation got out of control, the Govt. had to deploy large military force for maintaining civic order in the west. For the eastern border, however, Mahatma Gandhi constituted one-man army for reestablishing the communal harmony. He had a vision to exile non-violence from the world.

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(continued from Page 31)

The next day in Gujarat Vidyapeeth, founded by Mahatma Gandhi, The International Centre for Jain Studies arranged, at their Prayer Hall, for Pramodaben's special lecture on *Reverence for Life for All Religions through Ahimsa*. After being welcomed and honoured by the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and Principal, she gave an inspiring lecture with many religious references, practical examples, and psychological analysis of present conditions of today's societies, stressing humanity, human relations, and social tolerance. Hundreds of students were stimulated and inspired. Her dominant emphasis was that a non-violent lifestyle is the only way to replace the present violence.

*Mamta,  
Jain Meditation International Center, NY*

# SATYA

## The Truth

Manubhai Doshi, Chicago, IL

*Musāvāo Cha Logammi, Savvasāhuhim Garihio  
Avisāso Cha Bhuyānam, Tāmhā Mosam Vivajjāe*

— Dashvaikālik Sutra

*(Telling lie has been denounced by all the saints in the universe. Lie causes distrust among the people and should therefore be given up.)*

By truth, we normally mean not to tell lies. This is verbal truth which has its own importance. Let us therefore first examine its implications in dealing with other people. If we happen to believe that what a person speaks, is true, we can rely upon his statement. In that case, we can afford to take action in light of what he states. But if we have doubts about what he says, that causes distrust as stated in the above mentioned verse of the Dashvaikālik Sutra. In that case, we have to find out the truth before coming to any decision. If people speak truth, the life would be easy and dealing with one another can be smooth. Speaking truth is therefore in overall interest and is helpful to every one.

The purpose of telling lie is to hide some fact. On the other hand, truth discloses it. But the question that would arise, is about a statement that is verbally true but which purports to hide the reality from the responding party. For instance, it is possible to make use of equivocal words that can enable the conveyer to interpret it the way he likes, while causing the respondent to draw different conclusion. Or, one may deliberately indulge in ambiguous words so as to keep the other party in dark about the reality. In such cases, the speaker usually intends to hide the truth while making apparently correct statement. That makes it hard for the other party to correctly understand the situation. In order to avoid this, it has been laid down that truth must be unambiguous and unequivocal. With this view in mind, Mahātmā Gāndhi has said that in case of unclear statements, the meaning drawn by the respondent should be considered as binding. If this standard is applied in every case, no one would be tempted to indulge in ambiguity or equivocality.

Another aspect of truth is that it has to be beneficial. The scriptures, while dealing with truth, frequently mention: Satyam Hitakaram Cha. It means that what one speaks, should be true as well as beneficial. So the question arises: 'What should we do when we think that speaking truth would not be beneficial?' This is a very pertinent question, because we do come across situations in which it may not be beneficial or even appropriate and advisable to speak truth. Do we have to state the truth even when it evidently seems undesirable?

For replying to that question, let us examine an anecdote of the time of Lord Mahāvīr. One of his principal pupils was Muni Metārya, who is also known as Metāraj Muni. One afternoon, the Muni went to the house of a goldsmith for alms of food. At that time, the goldsmith was preparing barley shaped grains of gold for making some costly jewelry. Seeing the Muni at his door, he left his work and went inside to get some articles of food. Meanwhile, the Muni noticed that a pet bird of the goldsmith came there and swallowed the golden grains thinking them to be the real barley grains. As the goldsmith came out with the food, he saw that the grains of gold were missing. He therefore asked the Muni about the whereabouts of the precious grains.

For Muni it was a dilemma. He could not tell a lie and if he spoke the truth, the goldsmith would kill the bird for getting the grains out of its stomach. In that case, the Muni would become instrumental in causing the violence. He therefore decided to keep mum. The goldsmith asked him again and again, but the Muni would not reply. Since there was no one else there and since no reply was forthcoming from the Muni, the goldsmith concluded that the Muni had somewhere hidden the golden grains. He could not afford to lose the costly grains and therefore decided to use force for getting the same back.

As the normal force did not yield any result, the goldsmith decided to resort to extremely violent means. He brought a moist lace of leather and tightly tied it round the Muni's head. Then he made the Muni to stand under the sun. As the lace began to dry by the sun's heat, it started compressing the Muni's head. The compression went on increasing as the lace got drier. Ultimately, the eyes of the Muni came out on account of too much pressure. The Muni however took the pain as a consequence of some evil Karma that got operative and bore the same with equanimity. This accelerated Nirjarā or the eradication process of Muni's Karmas. Thereby, all his Karmas were destroyed and he gained omniscience on the spot.

Meanwhile, the bird could not digest the golden grains and excreted the same. As the goldsmith saw that, he repented very much for the distress perpetrated by him. It was however too late for him, because Muni's soul had already left the mortal body.

The question may arise what one should do under similar circumstances. Religion expects us not to indulge in violence or to be instrumental to the same by any of our physical or verbal activity. If a person is spiritually oriented, he cannot therefore speak anything that would result in violence to other beings. Metārya Muni could

## SATYA (cont.)

have saved his life as well as that of the bird, if he had fabricated some story acceptable to the goldsmith. That would however amount to telling a lie which the Muni could not do. He therefore decided to sacrifice his life<sup>1</sup> for saving the life of the bird. Some persons may perhaps think this as violence to oneself. But implication of the term applies to the violence caused to others not to oneself. Sacrificing one's own life willingly for saving others is not violence.

In addition to being beneficial, truth has to be nice so as to render it palatable. We come across many cases when people expressing some truth, present it bluntly and some times bitterly. They seem to be thinking that bitterness is inevitable for stating truth. They have to realize that truth need not be unpleasant. It can be expressed sweetly and nicely. The approach should be Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram which means that what one speaks should be true, beneficial and nice. Prima facie, it may not seem easy to put this into practice. But if a person stays vigilant enough, it would not be hard to do so. The experience gained from that would show that the amount of patience and the sacrifice, if any, required for the purpose was worthwhile. Spiritual aspirants should particularly put this into practice. Every such person has to overcome the impatience and be prepared for the sacrifice required in observance of truth.

The Paurānic story of the king Harishchandra describes how he faced all sorts of adversities and distress for keeping his word. That story has been considered an ideal for those who have regard for truth. Mahātmā Gāndhi was highly impressed by watching a dramatic version of that story in his childhood. That caught his imagination. He writes in his autobiography that he repeatedly played the drama in his mind and while visualizing the distress that Harishchandra faced, tears rolled from his eyes. His mind got hold of the idea that every one should be truthful. The importance that he attached to truth can be traced to that story.

But all of us cannot be Harishchandras. Sacrificing for the sake of truth is not easy and may be beyond the capacity of ordinary people. In our routine life, we happen to indulge in lies on many occasions. Sometimes we tend to conceal the truth for the sake of our self interest as perceived by us. Sometimes we like to tell lie for securing some gain or for averting some loss. Such situations generally arise from our short sightedness. If we are enlightened enough, we can easily see that the so called self interests are not in our genuine interest. But we are unfortunately not immune from pursuing parochial gain and at times we resort to lies, even though that may be harmful to others.

Total observance of truth being rather difficult, Jainism lays down two levels for its observance. It lays down total observance of truth for monks and nuns. They have renounced the worldly life and are not after any material gain. They can therefore afford to make any sacrifice for the sake of truth. For the laymen, Jainism insists on refraining from making statements that would grossly hurt others.

The Jain tradition lays down that at least the following five types of statements that involve gross transgressions of this restraint should be avoided:- 1) Sudden utterance that would shock others, 2) Disclosure of the close secrets, 3) Divulgence of spousal secrets, 4) Wrong teaching and 5) Forgery. If any one happens to indulge in such transgressions, he should recall the same and beg for their atonement.

But resorting to verbal truth in a way that does not harm any one, is only a small and rather superficial aspect of truth. In Jain terminology, we call it Vyavahār Satya or practical truth. Satya has however a deeper and subtler implication. The word Satya is derived from 'Sat' which means existence. As such, whatever exists is Satya. The science now conforms to the concept that nothing can be destroyed in entirety. But Jainism has been believing it since the very beginning. It lays down that whatever exists, continues to exist in one or other form and what we term as production or destruction, happens to be a transformation. Thus 'Sat' means everlasting existence. Understanding the nature of the everlasting substances and behaving in tune with that nature is therefore real Satya.

It has also to be remembered that Satya and Dharma (truth and religion) are not different from each other. It would be of interest to note that Jainism defines religion as Vatthu Sahāvo Dhammo which literally means that nature of a thing is religion. In this context, Vatthu stands for everlasting substances that we know as Dravyas. Jainism lays down that there are six such Dravyas in all. Of these, we are mainly concerned with Jiva or soul. For all practical purposes therefore, Satya is soul, which is also known as Brahman, Ātmā, Chaitanya, consciousness etc.

To speak and to act in tune with the nature of the soul is therefore religion as well as truth. This is the supreme truth and is known as Paramārth Satya as distinguished from Vyavahār Satya. A truthful person has thus to be primarily concerned about the well being of his soul. If one has the right perspective, he can easily see that by resorting to lie, he may or may not hurt others, but he surely hurts his own soul by defiling it with the lie. Observance of truth or Satya is thus in one's own interest.

## REGIONAL NEWS....

### SOUTHEAST

*Surendra Shah, Regional Editor*

### ATLANTA,GA

In December 2003, the society held annual elections for the executive committee for the calendar year 2004. Mr. Rajubhai Shah was reelected as the president. Mr. Chetan Gala, Mr. Vasant Kenia, Mr. Anil Shah and Mr. Ketan Shah were elected as the Vice president, Treasurer and Secretary and Youth / Education Secretary respectively. Mrs. Madhuben Sheth and Shailesh Shah are the Executive members.



*Above & right: JAINA Executive Committee meets Atlanta Jain Sangh on March 13, 2004, below: Pathshala students reciting navkarmantra*



The JAINA Executive Committee held its quarterly meeting on March 13, 2004 at the Atlanta Jain Centre. Mr. Anop Vora, the president, Mr. Kirit Dafatary the First Vice president, Mr. Sushil Jain the secretary and Mr. Jitu Turakhia the Treasurer were part of the executive committee. The Regional Vice presidents, Udai Jain, Pravin Shah, Dr. Sumati Shah and Mrs. Lata Champsee were also present. The commit-

tee discussed the JAINA business and treasurer's report.

Mr. Bipin Shah made a presentation on the theme and planning for 2005 JAINA convention at Santa Clara, California. Nisha Jain and Chirag Shah gave the presentation on the activities of YJA. Shilpa Shah & Jitesh Shah gave an account of the activities of YJP (Young Jain Professionals).

Mr. Vinod Daryapurkar of the Atlanta society gave a presentation on mission \*24L\* activities for [www.jainworld.com](http://www.jainworld.com) site. The \*24L\* refers to the availability of site on 24 major languages of the world. Mr. Daryapurkar has contributed significantly to the project.

The JAINA executive meeting was followed by the town hall type meeting on March 14, 2004. Over 125 Atlanta Society members attended the meeting. These types of meetings cause awareness about various JAINA activities and conversely it makes JAINA aware of the member needs.



### ORLANDO, FL

The Jain Society of Central Florida, Orlando along with a member of JAINA Education Committee Mr. Rajendra Mehta organized a Jain booth at "Indian Festivals in Florida" a photographic exhibit sponsored by the Asian Cultural Association of Central Florida in the SCC Fine Arts Gallery. The exhibit featured photographs by Avi Taank of real Florida families engaged

in a variety of celebrations that represent different festivals of different Indian religions. Many pictures of Jain temples, gods, puja ceremonies were displayed by Mr. Taank.

Jain Society of Orlando booth displayed JAINA Education books, Samvosaran, Jain Temple, idols made from different materials. The JSOCF president Mr. Shashikant Shah & Mr. Rajendra Mehta represented JSOCF at an information booth for JAINISM at the exhibition. Nearly six hundred members of the Central Florida community attended the opening day activities which included brief talks on different religions of India, free performances of traditional Indian folk dances and music in the SCC concert hall by local performers. The multi-religion poster displayed at the booth which explained the fundamental beliefs of all the major religions of the world was very well received by the visitors. The JSOCF information booth attracted a very positive responses. JSOCF represented by Darshan Shah & Samyak Shah spoke briefly about Jainism in front of an attentive audience of nearly two hundred people. Students of the University of Florida's Bhangra Club were among the many talented artists who performed in Sunday's free events. It was an exhilarating day of celebration of Indian culture and community and more than one hundred children participated in the day's events.

This photo exhibit was an unusual opportunity for local audiences to get a taste of the joyous enthusiasm with which the Indian community celebrates its culture. The exhibit images are of real Florida families engaged in a variety of celebrations that represent different festivals of different Indian religions. Various images of the Jain Derasar in Central Florida, the Sikh festival of Baisakhi, the Hindu festival of Diwali and many more holidays are represented in these beautiful images.



## REGIONAL NEWS....

### WEST

*Chandrakant Parekh,, Regional Editor*

#### LOS ANGELES, CA

Jain Center of Southern California (JCSC) has a new Executive Committee which includes Ramesh Shah, President; Ashok Savla, Vice-President; Navin Gangar, Secretary; Pradeep Shah, Treasurer, Jasvant Modi, Public Relations; and Amrit Bhandari, Narendra Jain, Ramesh Kothari, Anil Shah, Dinesh Shah, Hemendra Shah, Jayesh Shah, Nirav Shah, Prafulla Shah, and Sachin Shah as Members.

The construction of the new Jain Bhavan, which began in October 2002, is progressing at a rapid pace. All major super structures – basement-parking area, first and second floors, the roof, and the stairs - have been erected, and provide an impressive visualization of the scope and spacious size of the new facility being built in Phase I.

JCYC winter camp was held December 27-30 at Pilgrim Pines, Yucaipa in San Bernardino Mountains. The theme of the camp was "Know the Wrong, Do the Right: Adhar Papsthanak". Interactive class format provided opportunities for the students to demonstrate their understanding of the subject matter through skits and lively discussion. Fun activities included roasting corn at a campfire, learning bhagara, and participating in group activities including a talent show.

For the past several years, JCSC has arranged annual health fairs to provide free medical checkups to members and non-members. The next one is schedule for April 11. A Jain Medical Clinic to provide medical assistance on a regular basis throughout the year is in formation. Additional information will be made available at [www.jainclinic.org](http://www.jainclinic.org) website.

Information about forthcoming activities are posted on JCSC's website at [www.jaincenter.net](http://www.jaincenter.net). or contact Ramesh Doshi, JCSC President, at 714/995-8914 or [rcdoshi@yahoo.com](mailto:rcdoshi@yahoo.com).

#### SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Jain Center of Northern California (JCNC) has elected a new leadership team for 2004. Outgoing executive members and volunteers who had rendered dedicated service and contributed significantly in organizing religious, educational and social activities were recognized at the Volunteer Recognition Program on Nov 15 . The event included a dinner, cultural entertainment, and an invitation for garba and dandiya participation.

JCNC participated in an annual 24-hour Global Akhanda Bhajan for world peace organized by the Sai Center of Northern California on November 8-9. This year's theme was Unity in Diversity. In addition to the Jain teachings, altars and information on ten other religions were made available to over 800 participants who attended the event.

Shri Ashok Sethi represented JCNC at a multi-faith World Religion Day arranged by Baha'i Community in Cupertino on January 19. This multi-faith event showcased Jainism and several other religions including Buddhism, Baha'i, Islam, Hinduism, and others.

A survey to gauge an assessment from the parents has provided a highly positive response to the Shala activities and has identified constructive suggestions for improvements.

Nearly 1000 young Jains are expected to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Biennial YJA Convention scheduled for July 1-4 in Santa Clara. The convention theme is "To See, To Know, To Realize". The YJA team is busy with sev-

eral activities – fundraising, registration, convention agenda, and others. Additional information is available on the YJA website [www.yja.org/convention](http://www.yja.org/convention).

Information about forthcoming activities are posted on JCNC's website at [www.jcnc.org](http://www.jcnc.org). or contact [info@jcnc.org](mailto:info@jcnc.org).

#### SACRAMENTO, CA

Jain Center of Greater Sacramento has a new Executive Committee which includes Rajiv Jain, President; Sunil Jain, Secretary; Raman Jain, Treasurer; and Manoj Desai, Director. JCGS organizes a monthly Swadhyay and a number of other activities and lectures by visiting dignitaries. For additional information, please contact Rajiv Jain, JCGS President, at 916/682-9470 or e-mail: [arham108@aol.com](mailto:arham108@aol.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, and a weekly pooja every Saturday at Shri Mandir. For additional information, please contact Trusha Shah, JSSD President, at 760/943-1241 or e-mail: [shaht64@hotmail.com](mailto:shaht64@hotmail.com).

#### SEATTLE, WA

Jain Society of Seattle (JSS) has installed two Jain deities, Shri Adinathji and Shri Mahavirswamiji, in the Hindu Temple at Bothwell. Members meet regularly on second Sunday of the month. Information is available on <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jainsocietyseattle/>. or contact Raju Shah, at 206/367-7100 or e-mail: [raju@connectexpress.com](mailto:raju@connectexpress.com).

## REGIONAL NEWS....

### NORTH EAST

*Dinesh Chheda., Regional Editor*

#### ESSEX FELLS, NJ

Thirty hours of continuous Navkar Mantra JAP were held at our Derasar from the Kali Chaudas to the morning of New Year to celebrate the 72-hour Akhand Deshana (message) given by Bhagwan Mahavir before his Nirvana. New Year was celebrated at Siddhachalam starting with Manglik followed by Snatra Pooja.

Gyan Pancham, Chaumasi Chaudas / Kartaki Poonam, and Maun Ekadashi were also celebrated at Derasar. Pathshala students talked about the importance of Gyan Poojan in their lives and how its aaradhana eliminates Gyanavarniya Karma on Gyan Pancham day. Monthly Poojas, Samuh Samayiks, and Shibirs are getting good response from the members. Pathshala classes are held at three different locations with very good response from members. More than 240 children participate in Pathshala classes. Regular Swadhyay classes are held on Friday evenings and they are given by our local Jain Scholars.

Special Thanksgiving Pooja tradition continued in year 2003 with Antaraykarma Nivaran Pooja at Derasar. Many people participated.

Dedicated members keep the Derasar open on every Sunday afternoon. If you are visiting New Jersey area and would like to visit or attend a program, please call Shri Viren Shah at 732 – 329 – 3236.

#### NEW YORK, NY

Being the very first Jain Center established in USA in 1976, Jain Center of America New York has been actively involved in a lot of religious activities year

round. At present 700 families are Life members. Altogether there are 1250 families on their mailing list.

Year 2003 started with Mahavir Jayanti celebration in March. About 150 children participated in the cultural program. This was followed by swamivastalya. In August Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji inaugurated the new youth program and spoke on youth development and practice of Jain principles in daily life. Also in August many distinguished Jain monks and Scholars (Acharya Roopchandji Maharaj, Samanji Shrutaprajnaji and Sthitpragyaji, SarvaShri Subhash Sheth, Nautam Vakil, Rajani Shah, Chandrakant Mehta and Smt. Taralaben Doshi) gave discourses on various principles of Jainism.

The Jain center celebrated Paryushana Parva and Das Laxana Parva under the spiritual guidance of Pujya Acharya Jinchandra Suriiji Maharaj. His religious discourses in Hindi were enjoyed by young and old alike. There were a lot of tapasya this year with 50 atthais and countless number of upwas ekasana biasana by young and old. The members of center were also blessed with the spiritual guidance of Vijaya Didi from Indore for Das Laxana. During these celebrations the members had the pleasure of listening to the Bhakti Sangeet by Mr. Bhanu Vora and Party from India.

On Sep.14th about 500 people in 9 buses went for religious journey (chaitya paripati) to the Siddhachalam Tirth in NJ. In Nov. Mahavir Nirvan was celebrated on Diwali by all night Navakar mantra jap at the temple. New year was celebrated as Guru Gautam Swami's kevalgyan din by ceremonial opening of the temple door and Snatra Pooja. Besides these activities there are ongoing regular activities taking place at the temple. These are: Daily Darshan Pooja and Aarti by individual devotees, weekly Bhavna every Friday, weekly Pathshala, monthly Navsmanan prayers and

twice a year Ayambil oli where at least 50-60 people participate.

The year 2004 is very important and auspicious for the center. This year the center hope to have the completion of new four story temple at the Ithaca Street location in Queens. The Pratishtha Mahotsav is scheduled for **August 28th 2004** (Celebration starts from 8/21/04 to 8/29/04).

This Temple is unique with its Ashtapad Tirth housed on the fourth floor. It contains statues, carved in precious gems, of Jain tirthankars. There are Shwetamber and Digamber tradition temples on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The temple also has meditation hall, lecture hall, seminar hall and a mini theater with technologically advanced audio visual facilities. You may visit our website at [nyjaincenter.org](http://nyjaincenter.org) for further information. There is a temple link which will take you to the temple site and you will be able to visualize the temple.

#### WASHINGTON DC

The new executive committee for the year 2004 is in place and has begun planning for various activities.

**Sunday School:** Jain Sunday School classes for adults and children are held on alternate Sundays. Over 55 students are attending classes in 5 separate levels. In addition, we have recently added beginners' adult classes. Members of the society have welcomed this new effort. The attendance in this class has grown significantly. With multiple concurrent classes, we are running out of space and are looking at expansion plans of the Jain center!

**YJA Regional Conference :** At a very short notice, Washington Jain Society hosted YJA (Young Jain Association), a Southeast Regional Conference on January 16-19, 2004. The members of the society provided logistical, financial and program

## REGIONAL NEWS....

support for the event including airport transportation, Jain meals, and speakers. The YJA board members appreciated our efforts and hospitality. Quite a few of Washington DC Jain society youth members also participated in the conference.

**Ski Trip:** On Sunday February 15th members of the Jain Society went on a ski trip to Pennsylvania. The participants enjoyed the sport and social time with each other.

For additional information on upcoming programs and schedule of speakers, please contact President, Kamlesh Shah at (301) 838-9778.

### MIDWEST

*Manu Doshi,, Regional Editor*

### CHICAGO,IL

New JSMC directory was published and copies thereof were sent to every member.

Annual open house and potluck lunch for Pathshala students was held on December 21<sup>st</sup> and more than 200 students participated therein.

The new office bearers took over the management of the Society with full cooperation from the retiring members.

From January 2004 it has been decided to hold 9 Pathshala classes every month. Registration for the purpose was commenced and books were distributed to the students. JYFC celebrate new year on January 17 at Town Square condominium. That was attended by 32 JyFC members.

Fālgun Chaumāsi (four monthly) Pratikraman was conducted on March 5<sup>th</sup>. About 20 persons participated therein.

Mahila Mandal selected its office bearers

for the year 2004-2005. Chandrakantaben was selected as chairperson, Hasumati Bavishi as President, Vasanti Shah as vice-president, Sudha Shah as Secretary, Darshana Shah as Joint Secretary and Nirmala Shah as Treasurer.

### "INTER-FAITH" NEWS.

"Students visited Jain center during year 2003, Many students from colleges, Institutions and Schools visited Jain Center at Bartlet,IL. Jyotindrabhai N. Doshi(trustee) gave guided tour to Temple & explained basic principal of Jainism & answered the Questions. Visitors were very happy to visit Jain Center.

### ST. LOUIS

Pathshala classes are held on first Sunday of every month from 9.30 A.M. to 11 A.M.

Election for the Executive Committee was held and following office bearers were elected for the year 2004

President: Dulari Shah

Vice-president: Poonam Shah

Secretary: Ketan Shah

Treasurer: Ishita Sanghavi

V.P. Education: Anup Pahade

V.P. Library/publicity: Bharat Shah

V.P. Youth program: Amit Kothari

V.P. Youth members: Somil Ghelani

V.P. Temple projects: Dilip Sheth

V.P. Public relations: Sachin Kothari

Kalpana Shah was appointed as ex-officio member

Prayers and Stavans (Adoration songs) were organized as a part of monthly program in February. That was followed by a talk on Importance of Swastik by Dinesh Shah

### PHOENIX, AZ

We had a very busy last quarter of the year 2003. First of all we recognized all the members of our community who had done any kind of Tapasya at the Swamivatsalya celebration in the month of September 2003. There were about 40 adults and children who had done some tapasya. All children under the age of 17 were presented with gift certificates. Every year we have been seeing increase in the number of members doing tapasya.

We continued the event we started last year, namely "Diwali Pooja" in the month of October. This year we also did Abhisekh. Five adult members of our center performed Abhisekh. A nice lunch followed the pooja.

In the month of November, we celebrated Guru Jayanti. Some pathshala children did the skit and some others dressed up as the person they consider their guru and indicated why they consider them guru. Arti Shah's son dressed up as Mahatma Gandhi and her daughter dressed up as Mother Teresa, were the highlights of the evening. A joyful evening for every one.

In the month of December, we had an overnight yatra to Jain Bhavan of Los Angeles. Due to request from our community members, the Jain Center of Greater Phoenix arranged a "Yatra to LA". There were about 33 adults and 9 children joined in a bus yatra to LA temple for pooja. We started early on Saturday (12/20) from Phoenix and returned back in the night on Sunday (12/21). We did two poojas in the Bhavan, visited Buddhist temple in Hacienda Heights, and some shopping at Pioneer Blvd. Overall it was enjoyable two days.

# **GURUDEV CHITRABHANUJI's visit in Ahmedabad – GUJARAT International Conference on world peace**

## **War Is Dehumanizing**

Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji, visited Ahmedabad – Gujarat, India - from the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2003 to the 4<sup>th</sup> of January 2004. Invited to attend the International Conference on World Peace, organized by the Department of Philosophy of Gujarat University, as one of the Chief Guests, he chaired the afternoon session of the conference, where a large number of the scholar-delegates presented papers on various aspects of World Peace. Gurudev summarized his message by saying that, “War is ugly and Peace is beautiful. There cannot be a good War or a bad Peace! So, we have to heighten our awareness to a level of unconditional Love and Compassion for the other. Only then can we bring about peace in our lives and in the lives of others, which is the very foundation of World Peace.”

Next morning, in the plenary session of the conference, Gurudev delivered a lecture on the subject “Universal Peace through Ahimsa and Friendship.” He gave the message of Bhagwan Mahavira that only through Ahimsa and Amity one can get real peace. Ahimsa envisions one’s counterpart in others. Now there is no ‘others’! It is a state of universality of total consciousness. For this purpose one has to make his/her own efforts without passing on responsibilities to others. More than five hundred scholar-delegates, coming from over forty different countries, listened spellbound.

## **Be Universal Man**

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2004, Gurudev Shri Chitrabhanuji presided over a function conducted by the Gandhinagar Kelwani Mandal, Madhuri Mansukhlal School at Koba, near Gandhinagar, Gujarat. On this occasion, he honored the outstanding students of the school. While addressing them, he narrated beautiful stories about how they should endeavor to enrich themselves with knowledge and culture, and to acquire discerning sense of awareness for right action. He said, “Our two eyes are for seeing the outer material world. But Knowledge is our powerful third eye which makes us see our inner selves. This leads to self-knowledge, which is the basis for our becoming Universal Man. This is the key to true success in life.” Suresh Hiralal Kobawala and Ravindra Kobawala, who attended this function, were pleased to donate Rupees One Lakh each to the School. Chitrabhanuji has always been supporting this school with his generous donations. This school has been making great progress in excellence.

## **Banks of Discipline**

On the same day at noon, he visited Tapovan Sanskar Pitha where he delivered a speech about the essentiality of discipline and decorum in student life. “Without discipline our energies are dissipated and our actions and life lack focus. It is only when the iron of Body and Mind is tempered with the fire of discipline that we acquire the strength and flexibility of steel. Lack of decorum in our lives reflects on our lack of sensitivity for the feelings of others, and it becomes a hindrance in living in Amity.”

## **Service to Living Beings Is Service to God**

In the afternoon on the same day, he specially visited ‘Manthan,’ a Non-Government Organization working for the welfare of the Handicapped, Disabled and Mentally Retarded young, teenage girls. Smt. Niruben and Shri Girishbhai Patel, who have been working hard to run this center, welcomed Gurudevji and others. Gurudev blessed the children, who were smiling and happy. Despite their handicapped condition, the girls gave beautiful performances of dances, garba, songs and enactments of scenes, etc. on the stage. Gurudevji donated a cheque of Rupees one lakh to this Organization on behalf of Divine Knowledge Society of Mumbai. He explained that when we see any physically or mentally challenged people, it is not enough to ascribe their fate to their *Karma* and to close the matter in our minds. By being a passive sympathizer without *Karuna*, we are in fact earning negative *karma* for ourselves. Therefore, it is necessary for us to actively contribute in as many ways as is possible, to help those who are less fortunate than we are.

## **Pramodaji in Ahmedabad 2003**

Pramodaben Chitrabhanu – visited Ahmedabad the middle of October, 2003, there she delivered a talk on *Jainism in Foreign Lands*. An interesting note is that a great number of people in North America have adopted a lifestyle of non-violence and non-dairy products out of compassion for animals, such as cows and buffaloes that are cruelly treated to obtain more milk.

(continued on Page )



# JIVADAYA

## Compassion in action

The concept of Jivadaya in Jain Dharma is a unique concept that emphasizes compassion and reverence for all life. Jiva means life and daya means compassion. The fundamental idea of Jivadaya is compassion in action towards all living beings beginning from the micro-beings possessing one sense to those evolving to beings possessing five-senses.

The general understanding of Jivadaya is to spend one's resources for animal shelter homes – panjrapols. But Jivadaya has a much broader meaning to it than this. Jivadaya encompasses all aspects of non-injury to all living beings. It is, therefore, in its active form, goodwill towards all life. As all are sparks of divinity, no matter how little developed as yet they are, we should not look down at any part of life. We are all here to grow and thus have no right to hurt or to exploit any part of our kingdom. Jivadaya means reverence for all life. Jivadaya means harmlessness. Jivadaya means non-violence.

So Jivadaya, put into practice, can transform our life if we follow the following steps in our day-to-day living:

- J**ustice in one's approach to life.
- I**ntegrity of thoughts, words and deeds.
- V**ision to translate compassion into action.
- A**bstinence from violence.
- D**ynamism to work for the mission.
- A**llieviate the pain and suffering of living beings.
- Y**earn to make a positive difference in the world.
- A**dvance in truth and understanding.

The idea of having a Jivadaya Committee in JAINA is to facilitate individuals to lead a least harmful life by providing them with information and encouragement to donate generously to animal shelter homes – panjrapols – especially in India. In these shelter homes the management sees that fodder, water, medicine, veterinary care and other facilities are provided to the animals and the birds. Those cattle that are likely to be sent to slaughterhouses are rescued and protected in these homes. In this way hundreds and thousands of animals and birds find home in the panjrapol. The Jivadaya Committee has set up this outline of its vision and mission:

**VISION:** Jivadaya will help translate the concept of non-violence in life with a particular focus on living lives as free of animal exploitation as possible. It aspires to be a primary source of education and inspiration to Jain values, to the Jain population as well as to Indian Communities and to anybody in North America seeking to lead a compassionate lifestyle.

**MISSION:** With humility and service, Jivadaya aims to illuminate the concept of Ahimsa in the context of life in America

and to promote non-violence globally, using “Compassion in Action” as the guiding motto.

**OUR OBJECTIVES:** Our objectives are to educate, promote and support life styles that are harmless in theory and as much as possible in practice, with particular emphasis on the impact our everyday choices of diet, adornment and personal ethics make on our lives and others living on planet earth with us.

We put a strong emphasis on promoting a wholly vegetarian, plant-based diet as the most ethical diet, as well as the best single action we can take to do minimal harm to the environment and our own health. We are against exploiting animals in any way, by using ingredients in cosmetics, clothes, and other household items that are animal origin.

\* We believe in simplicity of life that benefits us, animals and the environment. To accomplish these goals, our mission and objectives focus on education, outreach and support. Specifically:

\* We intend to publish, physically or electronically, news to keep our audiences reminded about the importance of a plant-based diet and the value of treading lightly on the planet, minimizing the suffering we may cause, possibly inadvertently.

\* We intend to publish pragmatic summaries, well-documented, with appropriate references of topics that our audiences can immediately use in evaluating and modifying their lifestyles, such as, publishing recipes, documenting deleterious effects of a non-plant-based diet, pointing to authoritative checklists of cruelty-free products.

\* We will publish reference materials: e.g., from the Book of Compassion, websites, etc. – on topics of our interest, and give our audiences ready access to them.

\* We recognize that in the Indian population, well-meaning vegetarians may not be aware of the cruelty of dairy and poultry products, so we will devote specific energies to getting the word out about these issues.

\* We will support animal shelter houses or animal sanctuaries– panjrapols – in India wherever it is possible.

\* We will setup a procedure by which individuals or Sanghs can send their Jivdaya funds to JAINA for further distribution to institutions in India of their choice or to the areas of the country where the need for fundss more urgent.

Jivadaya Committee aims at achieving these objectives and this is all in line with Lord Mahavir's philosophy of the least harm to the least number and the greatest good to the greatest number of life forms.

*Pramoda Chitrabhanu, Chairperson JIVADAYA Committee*

*(continued on page 23)*

# SAMPRATI MAHARAJ

## A story from Tristha Shalaka Purush

This is a story during the reign of emperor Ashok.

One afternoon a beggar encountered group of Jain munis returning from Gochari ( alms). The beggar pleaded for some food as he was starving. The munis told him with utmost love that they could not give food to anyone other than their Gurudev who in turn will distribute the food to all the Sadhus. “Our guru will do the right thing.”

The beggar followed the munis to their Guruji – Acharya Shree Aryasuhasti. The munis requested to him to consider the plight of the beggar. Acharya Shree was an extremely learned scholar and possessed a special knowledge of things to come. He thought for a few moments and recognized the potential of this beggar. He told the beggar that if he were to become a sadhu, he can share the meal today and for all the time to come.

Hunger was troubling the beggar so much that he agreed and changed into the sadhu clothes. After all the food was good and he did need new clothes. He sat down with sadhus and consumed as much food as he could since this was the first time in a long time he had a chance at such nice food. At sundown he developed pain in his stomach. As the night progressed his pain became unbearable. After the Pratikaman, all the munis sat next to this new sadhu and started praying and reciting Navkar Mantra. Village people who had come for Pratikaman also stayed behind and ministered him. Acharya Shree himself started reciting prayers for him and tried to give him solace.

All this astonished the new Sadhu. Just hours before he had no good clothes, he was hungry and towns people never paid any attention to him. Just changing into sadhu clothes had changed all that. He realized that although he had changed into white clothes just to be able to eat what would happen if he really were a

sadhu? He died that night listening to Navkar Mantra and praising the life of a Jain sadhu. He was reborn as the grandson of the emperor Ashok. He was named Samprati. He became the king of Ujjain and was later known as Samrat Samprati.

One day from a window of his palace he saw some sadhus passing by. He thought he knew the one leading them and as he thought more of him all of a sudden he remembered his past life. He yelled out to his Gurudev and ran down the steps to bow down to his beloved Gurudev. He invited Gurudev in to the palace and after sitting him on proper place asked if he recognized him. The Gurudev acknowledged him as his student.

Samprati Maharaj thanked Gurudev for his enormously good fortune. If it were not for the “DIKSHA” given by him, he would never have gotten the blessings of Navkar Mantra at the time of his death. It was a SAMADHI MARAN that gave him birth into a royal family so he offered to give his kingdom to his Guruji.

Acharya Shree Aryasuhasti smiled and praised Samprati Maharaj’s devotion. He explained to Samprati that a Jain sadhu cannot accept such a gift due to Aparigrah Vrat. Samrat Samprati did not know all that since he was a sadhu for less than half a day in his previous life. Acharya Shree gave knowledge of Jainism to the emperor.

Samprati Maharaj became a staunch follower of Jainism. During his life time he built 125,000 Temples; and installed 12,500,000 Jin Murtis. He also preached Ahimsa

The story above illustrates the importance of devotion to one’s Guru and need never to forget his obligation.

*Dilip V Shah*

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## First Ahimsa Center Conference

May 14-15, 2004

We are pleased to announce the establishment of the Ahimsa Center in the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. The Center’s focus is on interdisciplinary teaching and learning about nonviolence and its practical applications at various levels: individual, familial, communal, national and international. The Center’s programs should be of great interest to the Jain community.

The Ahimsa Center will hold its inaugural conference on May 14-15, 2004. The conference theme is *Visions and Strategies for Creating a Culture of Ahimsa*. This two-day forum in Pomona will bring together an international roster of scholars and practitioners of nonviolence to share their insights and experiences, and to foster dialogues about how ahimsa can inform our modes of thinking and ways of living.

For information, please contact the Center Director, Professor Tara Sethia at [tsethia@csupomona.edu](mailto:tsethia@csupomona.edu) , (909) 869 3868.

## JAIN DIGEST LIFE MEMBERS

718U Asvin and Sunita Desai	San Jose CA
719U Dinesh and Madhu Shah	Naperville IL
720U Vishal Shah	Copegny NY
721U Chirag and Shital Shah	Chicago IL
722U Natu and Madhu Shah	Wappinger Falls NY
723U Amit and Sapna Bhalodia	Blackwood NJ
724U Sudesh and Rekha Jain	Raleigh NC
725U Shanti and Chandra Lunia	Latham NY
726U Manoj and Jyoti Shah	Edison NJ
727U Dinesh and Prabha Chheda	Parsippany NJ
68C Motilal Champsee	Don Mills ON
69c Usha, Vikash Sonali	Toronto ON

Please send your \$151.00 Jain Digest life membership dues to  
 Keerti Shah,  
 842 Lakeside Drive,  
 Bartlett Illinois 60103,  
 Phone: 630-837-8716.

## AFFILIATE NEWS:

### Kachchhi Oswal Jain Association In North America (KOJAIN)

KOJAIN membership elected the following officers for the years 2004-2005.

President:.....Kalyanji Mota, Anaheim, CA.  
 Vice President:.....Dr. Prem Gada, Lubbock, TX  
 Secretary:.....Dami Rambhia, Glastonbury, CT.  
 Treasurer: .....Harak Gala, Odenton, MD

Eleven Regional Directors were also elected for a two-year term.

Some of the activities conducted during the last two years:

- New directory of Kachchhi Oswals in North America was published in 2003.
- Youth Committee developed a tour for Kachchh "Know Kachchh - Give Back to Kachchh" joined by YJA and YJP of JAINA
- Interest-free Loan Program was initiated and loans were awarded to students. Scholarships were also awarded to students.
- Twenty-Eight committees were formed to serve the membership here as well as our motherland.
- More than \$150,000 was donated to various non-profit organizations in India.

*For more information please visit KOJAIN's website  
[www.kojain.com](http://www.kojain.com)*

### FEDERATION OF JAIN ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA APPEAL

*I want to help retaining Jain identity and culture by supporting JAINA and I want to be a proud Jain!*

*Please fill out this form and support JAINA.*



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

**Please send your \$151.00 Jain Digest life membership dues to Keerti Shah,**  
 842 Lakeside Drive, Bartlett Illinois 60103,  
 Phone: 630-837-8716 email: <knshah@worldnet.att.net>

- ☐ I want to be a Trustee of JAINA Charitable Trust and will donate \$500 every year
- ☐ I want to be a JAINA Patron and will donate \$251 every year
- ☐ I want to be a Life Member of JAIN DIGEST and will donate \$151
- ☐ other amount: ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Jai Jinendra!

It gives me great pleasure to provide you with balances of the JAINA General Fund and various sub-committees.

The JAINA Executive Committee, at their Atlanta meeting (March 13-14, 2004), has decided the following:

- (1) JAINA will not issue receipts for contributions under \$249.00. For contributions under \$250.00 the cancelled check is sufficient as a receipt. This is in accordance with IRS Publication 526 Charitable Contributions. Receipts for contributions under \$249.00 will be provided on a request only basis
- (2) JAINA will provide receipts for donations of \$250.00 and over. Committee Chairs will issue receipts. Carbonless, triplicate receipt books will be provided to Committee Chairs by the JAINA Treasurer

**Committee Chairs will provide quarterly reports to the JAINA Treasurer as to source of funds, use of funds, names of donors and recipients of funds.**

JAINA General Fund & Various Sub-Committee Balances as of March 17 2004

JAINA General Fund	\$96,009.93	Bookstore Committee	\$ 3,293.13
JAINA Patron Program	\$34,505.00	JAINA Network Forum (JNF) Committee	\$ 1,536.30
2005 JAINA Convention	\$44,000.00	World Jain Confederation (WJC)	\$ 3,418.98
		Public Affairs Committee	\$ 970.00
JAINA Sub Committees:		Education Committee	\$ 6,050.23
Publication Committee	\$ 6,914.08	Jain Digest Fund	\$93,947.04
Jiv Daya Committee		World Community Service	
(\$3,366.00 from Jain Sangh of Cherry Hill, NJ)	\$ 3,517.00	(a) General	\$2,708.05
Temple Guidelines	\$ 1,358.97	(b) Wheels of Hope	\$7,096.19
V.R. Gandhi Committee	\$ 9,944.19	Total	\$9,804.24 \$ 9,804.24
N. A. Jain Family Assistance Program	\$ 4,819.48	Ms. Jyoti Mehta Sanghvi Collected for	
Tirthoddhar Committee		Veerayan at JAINA Convention - Cincinnati	\$ 1,805.00
(a) Main Account	\$ 1,375.64	JAINA Charitable Trust Balance as of 12-31-03	\$164,599.91
(b) Medical Treatment	\$12,907.58	World Community Service Gujarat Earthquake	
(c) Lacchvad Scholarship	\$13,433.41	Account Balance as of 12-31-03	\$129,424.62
Total	\$27,716.63	YJA General Account as of 3-17-04	\$ 60,608.27
Pilgrimage Committee	\$ 2,000.00	YJP General Account as of 3-17-04	\$ 2,497.04
Calendar Committee	\$34,937.04	YJA 2004 Convention Account as of 3-17-04	\$159,693.66

Respectfully submitted by Jit Turakhia, Treasurer, 3-17-04



## ***Jaina Book Store.....***

**The mission of Jaina Book Store is to have Jain books and materials available to members at reasonable cost.**

Languages: H = Hindi, G = Gujarati, E = English

<b>Cat #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>Price(US \$)</b>	<b>Qty</b>
22	<b>Shree Shradhdh Pratikuman Sutra - Prabodhkika</b> (Three Vols) An Encylopedic explation of Pratikaman sutras	<b>G</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>	
21	<b>Springs of Jaina Wisdon</b> (Dulichand Jain)	<b>E</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>	
20	<b>Jaina Theory of Multiple Facets of Reality &amp; Truth (Anekantavada)</b> (Nagin J Shah)	<b>E</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>	
19	<b>Set of Three books</b> (Pandit Dhirajlal D. Metha) 1) Jain Dharmana Maulik Siddhanta 2) Jain Tatva Prakash 3) Shravakna Baar Vrat	<b>G</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	
18	<b>I am the Soul!</b> (English translation of discourses by Dr. Tarulata Mahasatiji. Based on the 'Atmasiddhi Shaastra' by Shrimad Rajchandra, Two volumes)	<b>E</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	
17	<b>An Introduction to Jainism</b> (Bharat S. Shah, M.D.)	<b>E</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>	
16	<b>Shatrunjaya - a celestial Song</b> set of 4 audio cassette (Chaityvandans, Hymns, prayers, Devotional songs & Bhav Yatra of Shatrunjay) Booklet included	<b>G</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>	
15	<b>24 JIN TIRTHANKARS - Audio cassette</b> A child's Tribute to 24 Jin Tirthankars: Excellent Prayers for all 24 Tirthankars set to popular english tunes	<b>E</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>	
12	<b>TEERTH DARSHAN: A Three-Volume Encyclopedia of Jain Places of Pilgrimage</b> (750 pages, 700 detailed color photographs)	<b>E, G &amp; H</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	
11	<b>Jin Shaasan-Ke Chamakte Hire - 108 Jain Stories</b> (V. V. Shah)	<b>H</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>	
8	<b>Set of Two books</b> (Pandit Dhirajlal D. Metha) 1) Navsamarana 2) Aath Dhrasthini Sajhai	<b>G</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	
7	<b>Set of Five Books on Karma Philosophy</b> (Pdt Dhirajlal D. Metha) 1) KatmaVipaka 2) KarmaStava 3) BandhaSwamitvanama 4) Shadshiti 5) Jain Prashnotar Mala	<b>G</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	
6	<b>Jain Symbols</b> (Pramoda Chitrabhanu)	<b>E</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>	
3	<b>Tirthankara Bhagawan Mahavira + VCD</b> (illus. Sm. Book)	<b>G, H, E</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	
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\* Minimum order \$10.00.

\* No cash please.

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## 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 NO

Do you smoke? YES NO

Do you drink? YES NO

Have you been married before? YES NO

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

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

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

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

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

Education: \_\_\_\_\_

DEGREE YEAR RECEIVED MAJOR NAME OF UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE

Work experience: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY'S NAME POSITION DURATION

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

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

Brother(s) and/or Sister(s) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) AGE(S) EDUCATION OCCUPATION

Do you have other relatives living in the North America? \_\_\_\_\_

NAME RELATIONSHIP OCCUPATION ADDRESS

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

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

### Important Considerations:

It is important to remember that the MIS is a non-for-profit, voluntary community service. The MIS and JAINA assume no responsibility or liability for the accuracy or authenticity of the information furnished in the ads or any consequences resulting thereof. The entire responsibility rests with the candidates themselves. All information furnished to the MIS is confidential. Only those who are sincerely interested in looking for a Jain life partner should send a Registration Form. While matching, photographs will not be passed on to the candidates by the MIS. Parents/guardians should communicate with the candidate before placing ad and assist them in making a final decision.

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

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

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

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

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

ORGANIZATION'S NAME

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

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

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

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

ORGANIZATION'S NAME

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

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

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

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

**Education:** ☐ Bachelor ☐ Masters Degree ☐ Other

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

**Vegetarian:** YES NO **Work experience:** YES NO

**Residence:** (state) \_\_\_\_\_

**Visa Status:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Language. English:** YES NO

**Other (specify):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Congratulations!**

**Female: 162, Male: 150 (Married / Engaged)**

JAINA would like to congratulate all couples who have come together with the help of the services of the MIS. JAINA wishes to thank them for their generous donation. More and more Jains around the world are not only appreciating this much needed service, but are also taking advantage of it. Simultaneously, the flow of ads in JAIN DIGEST is gradually increasing.

**Guideline to all perspective participants**

Be positive, constructive, creative and friendly! No match is going to be "perfect." Complement and support each other practicing re-spect, 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 Registration FormPage 1 and Page 2. The registrant must fill out this form. *Do not leave anything blank*. You may draft an ad yourself in 30 words or less. MIS reserve the right to edit all such ads.

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 photo of yourself with your name printed on the back.

4. Upon receipt of this information the MIS will arrange to publish your ad in the JAIN DIGEST – but only once. You may repeat it in the subsequent issues by mailing \$25. JAIN DIGEST is a quarterly publication.

**Placing an Ad Only**

If you do not wish to send photo and wish to draft an ad yourself, you may do so in 30 words or less. Remember that the MIS reserve the right to edit all such ads. Fill out MIS Registration Form page1 only (without leaving anything blank), or you may provide the entire information as asked for in this Form. Follow step 2 above. It is very necessary for MIS to complete its database with the information available in Form page1, without which MIS will not be able to process your ad for publication. Please note, your ad will be published once, but you can repeat it by mailing check of \$25.

**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.

**F621:** Gujarati parents invite proposals with biodata / photo for beautiful vegetarian US born daughter, Dec 73, 5'6", MD, 3<sup>rd</sup> year resident (Internal medicine) in New Jersey, from professional boys preferably MD. Call: 407/366-8810 or sachitatoria@hotmail.com

**F653:** Gujarati parents invite responses for pretty talented successful US born dtr, Sept 71, 5'3", DMD, practicing as Family Dentist, from well-educated professionals. Call: 502/239-4973 Email: ayk1971@hotmail.com

**F688:** Gujarati parents invite proposals with photo / biodata, for their beautiful very-fair charming vegetarian US born daughter, July 75, 5'3", MPH, well positioned as Admn. Manager, from professional cultured well-educated boys. Call: 419/841-8985.

**F752:** Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for very beautiful attractive slim accomplished vegetarian US born / raised dtr, Jan 73, 5'4", MS(social science) well positioned as Development Officer, from professional cultured boys. 215/721-9452.

**F715:** Gujarati parents invite responses from cultured, professional boys with diversified interests who love to laugh, for their beautiful, outgoing, vegetarian, family oriented US born dtr, Nov 74, 5'4", MBA /MS, with a successful career at a prestigious Multinational Call: 732/287-2738.

**F773:** Alliance invited by Jain parents (Intl business family) for Swiss born/citizen beautiful fair charming vegetarian Physician daughter, Oct 76, 5'6", MBBS, working in Geneva Hosp, from well educated professional handsome boys. Ph: 0041-22-8850355. or sanghvineva@yahoo.com

**F920:** Parents invites alliances for their beautiful virtuous vegetarian daughter, born Sept 75, 5'6", pursuing MBA, from professional cultured boys. Email: ajiyer@aol.com

**F964:** Proposals invited with photo / biodata for Jain beautiful slim talented elegant vegetarian US raised daughter, born Nov 78, 5'7", working with Fortune 500 Co., pursuing MBA from top Uni. from well professional handsome boys. Call: 651/735-4775. Email: jaincarlsonmba@yahoo.com

**F983:** Gujarati parents invite responses for very-attractive slim vegetarian US born daughter, Nov 75, 5'5", MD, from highly educated professionals. Email: 82545@bellsouth.net

**F1005:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for very beautiful slim charming vegetarian US born daughter, June 78, 5'7", BS (Edu); from cultured professional US raised vegetarian boys. Call: 512/565-2541. Email: uneek@mail.utexas.edu

**F1031:** Gujarati parents invite alliance for their beautiful slim charming vegetarian US citizen daughter, born May 80, 5'9", MS (computer science), from cultured, well educated boys. Call: 239/561-2731. Email: mmehta77@hotmail.com

**F1032:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for beautiful talented vegetarian US citizen daughter (raised in India), born Sept 79, 5'3", 110 lb, BS (comp sc.), pursuing MS, working as computer professional, from well educated Gujarati boys. Call: 248/592-1992. Email: klvshah@yahoo.com

**F1033:** Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for pretty slim intelligent vegetarian US born daughter, Aug 79, 5'5", BS (Fin), working for international Fin. Corp., from professional boys raised in USA. Call: 801/904-3545.

**F1034:** Gujarati parents invite responses for pretty slim US born daughter, Sept 79, 5'1", BS (Fin), finishing MS (May 04), employed with reputed international co., from US raised professional boys. Call: 717/697-2826. Email: parekhvj@yahoo.com

**F1043:** Parents invite proposals – photo/ bio-data for slim beautiful charming virtuous vegetarian US born daughter, Jan 79, 5'4", 111lb, will be Doctor of Optometry in May 2005, from cultured educated professional vegetarian boys. Email: spalvia@liu.edu or Call: 516/931-2284.

**F1044:** Alliance invited for beautiful slim talented friendly vegetarian US raised Gujarati girl, Aug 79, 5'5", 120 lb, BS (acctg), CPA, well employed in Big Four accounting firm, from suitable match from cultured well-educated family. Call: 847/963-9923 or vipul\_t\_shah@yahoo.com

**F1046:** Parents invites alliance for their beautiful slim charming virtuous vegetarian daughter, born April 79, 5'6", 2<sup>nd</sup> year MD, from professional cultured boys. Email: siyer406@aol.com

**F1047:** Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for their beautiful slim charming amicable vegetarian US born daughter, April 80, 5'4", 106 lb, BS (comp sc / biology), well employed, from parents of handsome cultured US educated boys. Call: 215/497-5088. Email: kishoremodi@comcast.net

**F1049:** Gujarati parents invite responses for their slim charming accomplished talented vegetarian US born daughter, April 77, 5'3", 105 lb, MS, Chem. Engr, well positioned with reputed co, gifted pianist, from cultured well educated professional boys. Call: 781/413-1188. Email: magnuseng@comcast.net

## MATRIMONIALS - FEMALE

**AF268:** Jain parents invite alliance for pretty slim US citizen daughter, born Nov 76, 5'2", MS (physical therapy), working with Hospital, from professional boys. Call: 607/748-9493. Email: rbhandari@stny.rr.com

**AF382:** Jain parents invite proposals – photo / biodata for beautiful fair slim virtuous charming intelligent vegetarian US born daughter, Jan 77, 5'4", 115 lb, medical doctor (MD 2004), from well-educated handsome cultured out-going Gujarati / Jain boys. Email: suhanie84@yahoo.com

**AF401:** Alliance invited from vegetarian cultured well educated / settled boys for beautiful slim caring Gujarati (widowed No-issue) girl, Cost Accountant, born Feb 76, 5'5", pursuing CPA, on H-1 visa. Call: 562/947-4551 or kotharih53@yahoo.com

**AF404:** Gujarati parents invite proposals with photo / biodata for beautiful vegetarian US (CA) born daughter, April 78, 5'7", medical student, (MD 2004), from cultured, well educated professional boys. Call: 626/916-2800. Email: ajd478@yahoo.com

**AF405:** Proposals invited from vegetarian professional boys, for beautiful intelligent outgoing vegetarian US born girl, March 78, 5'6", BA from UVA, currently a first year law student. Call: 703/759-3985. Email: nhs\_78@yahoo.com

**AF407:** Gujarati parents invite alliance for beautiful fair slim vegetarian daughter, born July 77, 5'4", MS (management), employed with large MNC, from cultured educated Gujarati Jain boys. Email: shubham48@hotmail.com

**AF410:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for pretty slim talented vegetarian Canada born daughter Aug 78, 5'7" 120 lb, BCom (human resource) well employed, from cultured educated US / Canada raised boys. call: 514/956-8197. hasu47@hotmail.com

**AF411:** Gujarati parents invite alliance for their slim attractive accomplished vegetarian daughter, born Nov 71, 5'5", 100 lb, MA, well employed as equity analyst with reputed mutual fund co, from educated professional boys from cultured family. Call: 508/393-9361. Email: shobhna\_k@yahoo.com

**AF412:** Gujarati parents invite responses with photo / bio-data for beautiful slim charming virtuous accomplished value east / west culture US born daughter, Oct 74, 5'6", 115 lb, BA, well positioned in a multinational co. Call: 212/679-3146. Email: jayshah28@hotmail.com

**AF413:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for cultured vegetarian US born daughter, Dec 77, 5'9", BS (Econ) working at reputed NYC finance firm, from tall educated guys of similar background. Call: 818/784-7289. Email: swamiji24@yahoo.com

**AF414:** Uncle invite proposals for beautiful slim talented virtuous highly ambitious vegetarian Jain Gujarati niece, born Jan 79, 5'4", 105 lb, BS (Chem. Engg) and MBA finalist, from cultured educated well positioned boys. email: paras2020@hotmail.com

## MALE:

**M501:** Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for their very handsome fair amiable well-accomplished US born son, June 70, 5'6", 140 lb, BS (Fin / comp sc / human resource), well positioned in a multinational co, from cultured educated girls. Call: 419/841-8985.

**M501:** Alliance invited by Gujarati parents invite responses for very handsome fair brilliant successful vegetarian US born son, Oct 76, 5'11", 140 lb, BS (civil engg), well employed as Project Manager in a reputed co., from cultured educated pretty girls. Call: 334/283-5340. Email: gosaliajay@hotmail.com

**M981:** Alliance invited for good looking fair athletic successful Gujarati boy, born Feb 73, 5'8", MS (Econ) from London School, well positioned as VP with famous investment bank, from pretty cultured professional girls. Call: 732/469-5325. Email: viveknshah@hotmail.com

**M953:** Proposals invited with photo / biodata for Jain handsome outgoing athletic talented vegetarian US raised son, Oct 76, 5'8", 145 lb, MBA from top Ivy League University, well employed on east coast, from cultured educated family oriented pretty vegetarian girls. Call: 651/735-4775. Email: jainsyalemba@yahoo.com

**M1028:** Gujarati parents invite proposals with photo / biodata from pretty slim cultured educated girls, for handsome brilliant vegetarian US citizen son, born Aug 77, 5'6", 140 lb, MD. Call: 850/234-6247. Email: medsshah@aol.com

**M1035:** Gujarati parents invite responses for handsome vegetarian idealistic thinker US citizen son, born Aug 79, 5'9", 165 lb, MIT graduate, working as sr. software engineer, from cultured educated girls. Email: ticcac@yahoo.com

**M1036:** Gujarati parents invite alliance for handsome accomplished vegetarian US born son, July 79, 5'8", 5'8", 135 lb, MS (Physics), PhD student at Stanford, well positioned in research lab, from cultured pretty educated girls. Call: 703/471-9297. Email: jyotigoda@hotmail.com or sngoda@stanford.edu



**M1037:** Gujarati parents invite proposals with biodata / photo for handsome fair vegetarian non-smoker non-drinker US born son, June 78, 6'4", MD, 1<sup>st</sup> year resident (orthopedic surgery) from US raised professional pretty girls. Call: 480/732-4743. Email: r11623@email.mot.com

**M1038:** Alliance invited for handsome talented vegetarian US born Gujarati boy, born Oct 76, 5'7", 140 lb, BS (comp engg), well employed as sr. associate of Tech., from cultured educated girls. Call: 973/584-4640. Email: matri\_mis@yahoo.com

**M1039:** Jain, divorced shortly after arranged marriage, college degree, excellent Govt. job, house, fair, born Aug 70, 5'5", 135 lb, US citizen, caste no bar. Call: 630/922-6499.

**M1040:** Parents invite proposals – photo / bio-data for handsome talented cultured vegetarian US born son, Sept 75, 5'7", 147 lb, BS (Cornell), MBA (U of Chicago), IT/ Business Professional, from beautiful educated cultured vegetarian girls. Email: spalvia@liu.edu. Ph: 516/931-2284.

**M1041:** Alliance invited for handsome brilliant vegetarian US citizen Gujarati boy, born Feb 77, 5'9", 145 lb, BS (comp sc), pursuing MBA, well employed as software engineer, from cultured educated girls. Call: 972/424-6667. Email: viralrvora@rediffmail.com

**M1042:** Proposals invited for handsome talented friendly vegetarian Gujarati boy, born June 80, 5'8", 155 lb, BE (comp sc), well employed as software developer in a reputed co, from pretty cultured educated girls. Call: 219/465-5157. Email: anandinboston@yahoo.com

**M1045:** Gujarati parents invite responses – photo / bio-data for their very compassionate vegetarian non-smoking US citizen son, born Dec 78, 5'5", PharmD, well positioned as Pharmacist, from educated cultured girls. Call: 847/414-2890. Email: rushabh93@yahoo.com

**M1048:** Alliance invited by Gujarati parents for their handsome talented amiable vegetarian US born son, Oct 78, 5'10", 150 lb, BS (MSIS: management science inf. systems), well employed, from parents of pretty educated girls. Call: 215/497-5088. Email: kishoremodi@comcast.net

**M1050:** Alliance invited for handsome talented vegetarian convent educated Physician Gujarati boy, born Sept 77, 5'8", MBBS (Poon Uni), appearing USMLE step I & II very soon, currently in India, from cultured educated girls. Call: 516/682-8301. Email: drnilesh26@yahoo.com

**AM374:** Gujarati parents invite proposals from family oriented girls, for handsome vegetarian never married citizen son, born Dec 69, 5'4", active in own business (slight speech problem). Call: 714/838-7625 or 510/744-9794. Email: shahfamily1@hotmail.com

**AM406:** Gujarati family invite responses with photo / biodata for handsome brilliant vegetarian son, born Oct 75, 5'7", BBA, IT professional, well employed as interactive system engr., from cultured vegetarian girls. Call: 718/478-2146. Email: kiran\_mehta\_9@hotmail.com

**AM408:** Gujarati family invite proposals for their smart vegetarian athletic son, born Jan 75, 5'11", MD, practicing in Chicago Metro area, from cultured well educated vegetarian never married Gujarati girls. Email: usmd2002@yahoo.com Ph: 219/477-2568.

**AM409:** Oswal Shvetambar Jain parents invite matrimonial proposals from families in USA or India for their very handsome Physician son, born April 69, 5'7". A very brief marriage annulled. Email: jainfamily27@yahoo.com

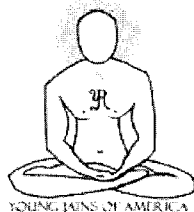
**M1051:** Gujarati parents invite proposals for their handsome talented successful vegetarian US born son, March 75, 5'9", BS, pursuing MBA, well employed, from cultured educated girls. Call: 610/558-0666. Email: kgandhi5@comcast.net

**AM415:** Alliance invited for handsome brilliant vegetarian Physician Gujarati boy, born April 81, 5'9", 145 lb, MBBS, appearing USMLE I & II soon, from cultured educated girls. Currently he is in India & willing to settle in USA. Ph: 570/288-5056. Email: drjsheth@hotmail.com

**M1052:** Gujarati parents invite responses for their handsome accomplished talented vegetarian son, born Oct 75, 5'8", 140 lb, MBA, MD, very well employed, from cultured educated professional vegetarian girls. Call: 603/891-4176.

**M1053:** Proposals invited for handsome intelligent vegetarian Gujarati boy, born Aug 79, 5'10", MS (Comp Sc), from cultured educated girls. Call: 551/587-8190. Email: shahchintans@hotmail.com

**AM416:** Alliance invited for handsome vegetarian Gujarati male, Divorcee, born, May 53, 5'9", 155 lb, Associate degree: Accounting, independently settled in Maryland with career in Finance, from cultured vegetarian match with strong family values. Call: 301/838-9778.



# YOUNG JAINS OF AMERICA

Federation of Jain Associations in North America

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

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

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Jai Jinendra,

Young Jains of America is truly thankful for the support we continue to receive to thrive as a youth organization in this day and age. This term we have made progress at the local, regional, and national level. Since our inception in 1991, we have strived to incorporate Jain ideals through various mediums of communication.

Earlier this year, YJA was able to launch a revamped website. This new website provides a whole new feel and exciting new start to preview the great things to come. Over the next few months, we will continue to add new features and to make our website accessible and informational for our online visitors.

Our regional conferences provided youth with another avenue to unite and learn more about our faith. Successful conferences were held in Chicago, IL; Boston, MA; Pittsburgh, PA; and Washington DC.

The YJA Executive Board met this January 22-25, 2004 in Milpitas, California where we set goals for the upcoming months. One of the major areas that we will be working to expand will be holding events at the local level in order to get more youth involved. YJA will work once again Habitat for Humanity to promote community service amongst Jain youth this summer in more cities across North America.

We are proud to unveil our 6<sup>th</sup> biennial convention in Santa Clara, California from July 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>. This auspicious event will bring together nearly 1000 Jain youth from all across North America and the rest of the world. The theme for the convention this year is *Y Jain? To See, To Know, To Realize*. Registration for this convention began in January and we have seen staggering turnout and response. The convention may be back in the Bay Area but YJA will revolutionize the convention experience for those who will attend. Our programming this year is organized around "tracks" that will unify sessions under common themes. New experts, religious teachers, and guests will be invited to speak at YJA Convention 2004. Youth will be able to learn the joy of stavans, realize the power of Ahimsa, understand the importance of many Jain rituals and prayers, and most importantly, recognize how Jainism can help guide them in their daily lives. Young people will also get to know other youth from around the North America. To learn more about this year's convention visit [www.yja.org](http://www.yja.org). If you haven't registered yet, we encourage you to sign up as soon as possible!

Many thanks,

Arpan Shah and Chirag Shah  
Co-Chairs, 2003-2004  
Young Jains of America  
[chairs@yja.org](mailto:chairs@yja.org)  
[www.yja.org](http://www.yja.org)

Young Jains of America (YJA) is the umbrella youth organization of the Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA). The mission of YJA is to be recognized nationally and internationally as an umbrella youth organization for establishing a network to share Jain heritage and religion through youth.



# Y JAIN? TO SEE, TO KNOW, TO REALIZE

• YJA Convention 2004 • July 1-4, 2004 •

## THE THEME...

- To See: Introduce events that occur in our daily lives

## THE SITE...

- The gorgeous Westin Santa Clara Hotel

- To Know: Learn what Jainism says about these everyday occurrences

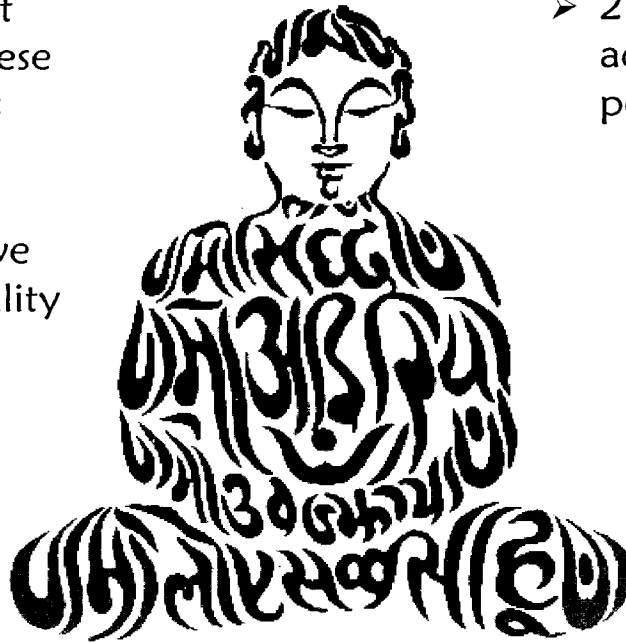
- 27 meeting rooms to accommodate personalized sessions

- To Realize: Incorporate what we see with what we learned into our daily reality

- Skilled hotel chefs, experts in vegetarian & vegan cooking

## THE SESSIONS...

- Participants will choose classes related to central themes within Jainism



## THE ACTIVITIES...

- A festive mela, cultural Raas/Garba, and tropical Hawaiian Luau

- Unique and different session topics tailored to the various age groups

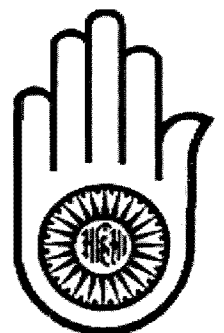
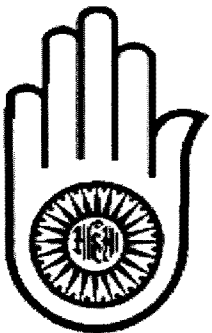
- Invigorating morning activities such as Yoga, Bhangra, and Aerobics

- High profile speakers guaranteed to motivate attendees

- J2J – Special networking and social events tailored to the 21+ crowd.

## THE EXPERIENCE...

- A unique opportunity to learn more about the practical applications of Jainism!
- A chance to reunite with old acquaintances and form lasting new friendships!
- A lifetime's worth of memories to share!



## Register Today to Ensure Your Spot at the Convention!

### Registration Fees go up to \$300 on April 5<sup>th</sup>!



#### Registration Fee Includes:

- Full hotel accommodations for 4 days, 3 nights
- All meals over the course of the convention
- Access to all programmed sessions
- Participation in all recreational activities
- A souvenir bag of keepsakes from the convention

**It's Not Too Late To Register!!!**  
**Register Online at [www.yja.org](http://www.yja.org)**  
**Registration Fees Increase April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004!**

Important Dates	Significance	Price
January 12, 2004 - February 15, 2004	1st Registration Pricing Block	\$250
February 16, 2004 - April 4, 2004	2nd Registration Pricing Block	\$275
April 5, 2004 - June 30, 2004	3rd Registration Pricing Block	\$300
May 15, 2004	Last Day to Cancel Registration	--
July 1, 2004	First Day of Convention	--

For those who would like to attend but are in need of financial assistance, arrangements may be made by contacting the YJA Board of Trustee Member Girish Shah at [girish.shah@yja.org](mailto:girish.shah@yja.org).

## HELP SUPPORT YJA CONVENTION 2004...

### **YJA Convention 2004 Donation Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount wish to donate: ☐ \$101 ☐ \$251 ☐ \$501 ☐ \$1,001 ☐ \$2,501 ☐ \$5,001 ☐ \$10,001

Please make all checks payable to **YJA Convention** and send to:

YJA Convention, 1476 Petal Way, San Jose, CA 95129

For further information, please contact Samir Ajmera or Rina Shah at [baccchairs@yja.org](mailto:baccchairs@yja.org)

For more information please visit [www.yja.org](http://www.yja.org).



# YOUNG JAIN PROFESSIONALS (YJP)



## JAI JINENDRA !

A new year and a group of very dedicated individuals are ready to commit themselves to your needs. We have many new and exciting plans for the future of YJP and want you to assist us in making it successful. Our future initiatives include more regional events, increased involvement in community service programs, focus on professional development, a new interactive website for members and the annual YJP convention.

### Up Coming YJP Events in 2004!

**Networking Dinners in San Francisco, CA and Chicago, IL (May 2004)** Details coming soon! Please keep checking our website (<http://www.yjponline.org>) for the latest information.

**National Race for the Cure Event in Washington, DC (June 3, 2004)** Come meet up with your friends and support a worthwhile cause! Details will be available soon. or visit the Race for the Cure website at [http://www.nationalraceforthe\\_cure.org](http://www.nationalraceforthe_cure.org)

### **7th Annual Convention (October 8-11, 2004)**

[http://etaxonline.com/yjp/yjp\\_convsurvey.asp](http://etaxonline.com/yjp/yjp_convsurvey.asp)  
Mark your calendars; we're in the process of planning our best conference yet! Have suggestions, ideas, want to help? Then complete our online survey. You can also email Sejal at [yjp\\_convention@yahoo.com](mailto:yjp_convention@yahoo.com).

### **Volunteer Trip to Kachchh (January 2005)**

Project for volunteers to engage in community service at Bidhada Medical Camp and at Veerayatan Hospital in Kachchh, Gujarat. Click here for more information about this project. Read one member's experience which she considers "priceless" at <http://www.yjponline.org/memberscorner.htm>

### **Be Part of the Action!**

**There are ways to participate & involve in YJP!:**

- Local Leader Program (participate in organizing local events focusing on Jainism, professional development, & networking.)
- Community Services (plan or participate in charitable/volunteer activities.)
- Convention Planning (participate behind the scenes of the October 2004 convention event.)
- Technology (assist with redesign the YJP website.)
- Newsletter (writing and editing YJP Newsletter.)

### **"NETWORKING" "NETWORKING" "NETWORKING"**

So what does it take to join YJP?

A willingness to participate in a unique organization which promotes Jain ideals and focuses on the needs of today's professional. There are no prerequisites to join YJP, all you need to be is a young professional willing to participate and work with other members to learn, network, and have fun.

As always, the YJP Board, with all their abilities will go above and beyond their duties, to put forth events and services in which all members can take part in and enjoy. We want to make sure YJP serves the needs of all its members. To achieve this goal we need ideas, commitments, and active participation from you, the members. **So, PARTICIPATE, PARTICIPATE, PARTICIPATE!!!**

### **YJP Board for 2004!**

Director of Community Services - Jitesh Mehta  
[yjp\\_community@yahoo.com](mailto:yjp_community@yahoo.com)

Director of Convention Activities - Sejal Lakhani  
[yjp\\_convention@yahoo.com](mailto:yjp_convention@yahoo.com)

Director of Finance - Vivek Shah [yjp\\_finance@yahoo.com](mailto:yjp_finance@yahoo.com)

Director of Local Leader Program - Suchita Gala  
[yjp\\_llp@yahoo.com](mailto:yjp_llp@yahoo.com)

Director of Membership - Rushabh Gudka  
[yjp\\_members@yahoo.com](mailto:yjp_members@yahoo.com)

Director of Operations & Newsletter - Monica Jain  
[yjp\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:yjp_newsletter@yahoo.com)

Director of Public Relations - Deepen Vira  
[yjp\\_publicrelations@yahoo.com](mailto:yjp_publicrelations@yahoo.com)

Director of Technology - Open Position to become a board member, contact YJP at [yjponline@yahoo.com](mailto:yjponline@yahoo.com)

**JAI JINENDRA**



# SANGH AMANTRANA PATRIKA

## International Mahavir Jain Mission (**Siddhachalam**)

With the blessings of  
**Acharya Sushil Kumarji Maharaj,**

On the auspicious occasion of celebration of Dining Hall opening  
The board of trustees and the members of the executive committee of

### **Siddhachalam**

Are delighted and request the pleasure of

## **SAKAL SANGH**

From all over the world on June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of 2004.

### At **Siddhachalam**

65 Mudpond Road, Blairstown NJ 07825  
Tel. 908 362 9793, Fax 908 362 9649

Many of us have been keenly waiting with patience for the grand opening of the dining hall. Now the time and date is upon us, so please mark your calendar, we urge you strongly to attend this auspicious two-day event in New Jersey.

Following is the tentative program for the two-day event at **Siddhachalam, NJ**

Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 2004:  
11:00AM to 10:30PM

Siddhachakra Poojan, sahadharmik vatsalya, Cultural program and Bhavna.

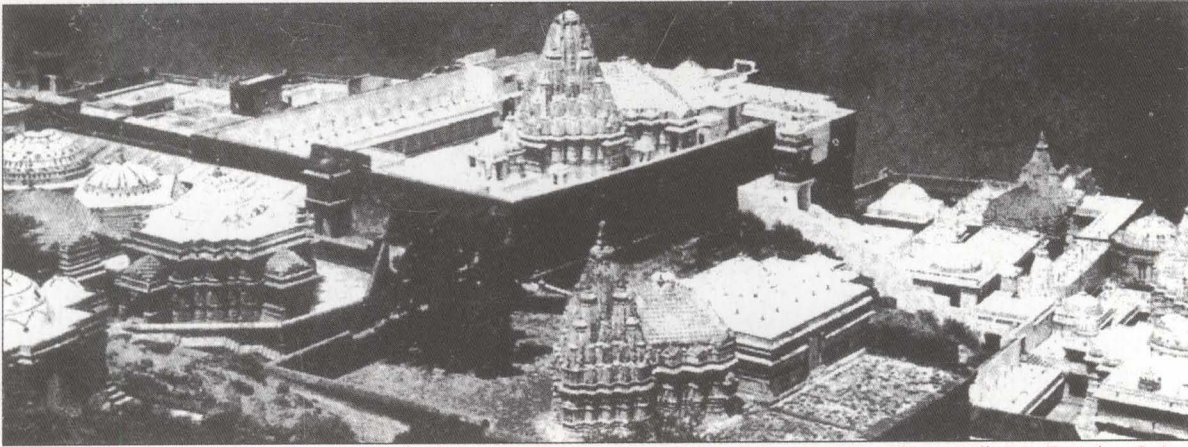
Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2004:  
8:30AM to 5:30PM

Breakfast, Dadaguru Pooja, Sahadharmik vatsalya, Dining Hall Opening, Picture Gallery Opening, Unveiling of Guruji's statue.



This cover is sponsored by

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