JAINA presents
MANGALAM

NOW BROADCAST ON SAHARA ONE TV IN USA, CANADA, UK, EUROPE AND IRELAND*

Dish Network (USA) Channel 624 and 797
Every Saturday at 9:30AM, and Tuesday at 11AM

Sky
a digital vision for everyone
Sky Digital (UK & Ireland) Channel 817
Every Sunday at 9am
World TV (Europe) Channel 5
Every Sunday at 9am

By Cable

ROGERS

Rogers Cable (Canada) Channel 580
Every Saturday at 9:30AM

Brought to you by Globosat Entertainment L.L.C.

*Subject to availability
From the President

Jain Jinendra:
We are all happy to see the year 2008 behind us. The economic tsunami drenched many and the terrorists in Mumbai wounded our collective souls. The eagerly awaited dawn of 2009 must have witnessed more prayers than any other year in recent history. These times demand that we all do our part to heal our world through time-tested principles of Ahimsa, Anekant and Aparigrah.

Signs of rejuvenation are everywhere. In just the last few months Jains in North America got to participate in four grand Pratistha Mahosavas, the 2009 JAINA calendar with spiritually uplifting pictures of various Temples has reached our members, Pilgrimage Committee of JAINA is embarking on Shri Sambat Shikharji Yatra in the New Year, JAINA Directors have voted for a new constitution to make JAINA more transparent and more responsive to the needs of the community and the convention committee is working diligently – preparing for the 2009 JAINA Convention with the theme Ecology – the Jain Way. Our weekly TV show MANGALAM has moved to the Sahara network-expanding viewer-ship in America and now also reaching Canada. With our Campus Outreach Committee we hope to reach hundreds of our youths on college campuses and provide a Jain umbrella to them as they are away from their homes. Other committees of JAINA are also working hard to serve the community in various ways.

This issue of JAIN DIGEST has many new features. We have a new editor – Dilip Punatar of Ohio and this current issue was composed and designed in Mumbai by Vakil’s – a reputed publishing house. You will find in this issue a stirring appeal for Veganism byProf. Gary Franceone – a foremost advocate of Animal Rights, an article on Shatavdhani in Gujarati and a Hindi article by Dr. Shugan Jain. There are detailed reports of activities of various Jain centers including reports of the Pratistha Mahotsav in LA, Atlanta, Tampa Bay and Phoenix. Please let the editor know how you like these articles and the recent changes in JAIN DIGEST.

JAINA accomplishes all of the above by hard work of the volunteers. The Jain community in North America looks to JAINA to provide even more services and it can be argued that Jains have the healing touch that is sorely needed in these times. I am appealing to each one of you to contribute in a meaningful way to the one and only JAIN organization in North America serving all the Jains. JAINA needs your Time, Talent and Treasure. Please see the appeal made by Dr. Sulekh Jain, Past President of JAINA, in the inside pages.

Let us make 2009 the best year ever!

DILIP V. SHAH,
President
Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA)

JAINA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Dilip V. Shah
dilipvshah@gmail.com
Phone: 215-561-0581

First Vice President
Lata Champaee
latachampaee@gmail.com
Phone: 416-441-2200

Secretary
Sushil Jain
skjain99@gmail.com
Phone: 301-670-0519

Treasurer
Rita Sheth
jainatemerousers@gmail.com
918-812-7802

Regional Vice Presidents

Lalit Vora, Canada
Phone: 514-631-1393

Dilip B. Puratar, Midwest US
Phone: 937-848-3228

Nitin Talwalkar, Northeast, US
Phone: 908-206-1406

Deepika Dalal, Southeast US
Phone: 954-431-3957

Nitin Shah, West US
Phone: 562-902-4277

Udai Jain, Southwest US
Phone: 281-980-0741

Immediate Past President
Kirit C. Dalal
Phone: 254-776-4209

SPECIAL OFFICE BEARER
Executive Director of JAINA
Ashish Mistry
Phone: 718-208-4435

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Names of all Board of Directors are listed on
http://www.jain.org

AFFILIATES

Brahma Jivan Society, US and Canada
IASA, A.A. of Maharaj Jain Vishwakarma, Rochester, NY
International Maharaj Jain Mission, United States, US and Canada
Jain Association of North America, Plano, TX
Jain Meditation International Center, US & Canada
Jain Social Group, LA and Toronto
Kutchi Gharjan Jain Society, Grand Island, NY
Kutchi Gharjan Jain Association of North America (KOAJAI)

Shri Mahaveer Jain Foundation, Santa Ana, CA
Jain Academic Foundation of North America, TX

NORTHEAST

Atlantic
Boston
Buffalo
Cherry Hill
Essex Falls
Hudson Valley
New York
Ocean
Orange
Philadelphia
Richmond

SOUTHEAST

Atlanta
Miami
Augusta
Atlanta
Alpharetta
Birmingham
Delaware
Ethan
Harbison
Hartford
Syracuse

MIDWEST

Chicago
Cincinnati
Dayton
Cleveland
Columbus
Detroit
Lansing
St. Louis
Kansas City
Minneapolis
Milwaukee
Toledo

SOUTHWEST

Dallas
Houston
Phoenix
Tulsa
Lubbock
Colorado

CANADA

Toronto
Edmonton
Montreal
Ottawa
Vancouver
Committee News

Jaina Education Committee
Activity Report – December 2008

BOOK OF THE YEAR

Jainism 1 – Basics of Jainism (JES 102) – Cost $5.00

This book is compiled by our youth Patashalâ teacher Parinda Shah of Chicago. The book focuses on non-violence, vegetarianism, and universal virtues such as kindness and honesty. This way by exposing young children to Jain virtues at an early age, we are well on the path keeping Jainism alive in the Western world. The book consists of 28 lessons and also includes more than 150 color photos. We have sold more than 1500 copies this year.

English Pratikraman (JES 931) – Cost $1.00

Pratikraman means to go back, to reflect and review, to confess and atone for transgressions of mind, body, and speech in one’s daily activities. It also means returning to and reaffirming the path of nonviolence, truthfulness, and non-attachment. The English Pratikraman Book includes the sutras from various Svetâmbar traditions. The meaning of each Pratikramana Sutras is explained in simple English, which covers six essentials. This way youth can perform this ritual with proper understanding and within one hour. We have sold more than 1300 books this year and additional 700 copies were distributed at the YJA convention.

Jain Philosophy and Practice I (JES 302)

Updates

This is a level 3 book which is under revision for the new edition print. We hope to complete the book by the end of February 2009. If you have any comments or suggestions, please send us an e-mail.

eLIBRARY PROJECT

To protect, preserve, and disseminate the ancient and contemporary Jain literature, the Education Committee of Federation of JAINA, North America, has launched a JAINA eLibrary project. Under this project the Jain literatures is converted electronically into eBooks (pdf files) and make them available via the website to the readers worldwide who are interested in Jain religion and its philosophy. The entire project is financed through contribution from the Jain communities of North America, India, and other parts of the world.

The committee has launched this project two years ago. During the first phase of the project we had published two DVDs consisting more than 600 books scanned by Digambar Achârya Shri Suvidhi Sagarji’s trust. We extended the project with the full cooperation and support from Shri Mahâvir Jain Arâdhanâ Kendra Kobâ Ahmedabad (P.P Muni Shri Ajay Sagarji M.S.) and Dr. Sagarmal Jain of Sajapur (near Indore) MP. We have enhanced the scanning specification from 72 dpi to 300 dpi and put in place a proper quality control procedure. With the improved specification we have scanned more than 1000 books. Following is the summary of completed scanning work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book Type</th>
<th>Number of Books</th>
<th>Scan Quality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Books</td>
<td>207 (52,256 pages)</td>
<td>High Quality Scan – 300 dpi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devanâgari Books (Prâkrit, Sanskrit, Hindi)</td>
<td>406 (162,085 pages)</td>
<td>High Quality Scan – 300 dpi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarati Books</td>
<td>404 (110,790 pages)</td>
<td>High Quality Scan – 300 dpi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devanâgari Books (Prâkrit, Sanskrit, Hindi)</td>
<td>570 (180,295 pages)</td>
<td>Good Quality Scan – 72 dpi***</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of Scanned Books

- Jain Āgam Literature
- Commentary on Āgams
- Digambar Literature
- Four Anuyogas
- Karma Grantha
- Complete set of Biawar Published Āgam Literature
- Shrimad Rajchandra Literature
- Punya Vijayji and Jambu Vijayji Literature
- Prâkrit Text Society Literature
- Kanji Swami – Songadh Literature
- Pandit Dhirajlal D. Mehta Literature
- Jaina Education Patashalâ Literature
- Several Memorabilia Proceedings, Dictionaries and Manuscript Catalogs

eLibrary Website

www.jainelibrary.org

Please review the website and provide us any feedback you might have. This is going to be Jaina Education
Committee primary website. You can also buy any Jain Education Material from this website using your credit card.

Financial Status
The yearend balance of Jain Education committee is $10,400. We have already spent more than $35,000 to our eLibrary project since its conception two years ago. We project to spend $25000 per year for next three years to scan our ancient and contemporary Jain literature and make them available to our readers without any cost to our readers.

Please support Jain Education and eLibrary activities by contributing to this noble task. You can make contribution using our website - www.jainelibrary.org

***

Media Production Committee Report – Mangalam Jain TV Show

Mangalam Jain TV show has been instrumental in preserving Jain Unity by presenting nonsectarian/ non biased teachings of Jain religion, and keeping our youth as its main focus.

As you know Mangalam has received tremendous success in North America. We thank every Jain who has made this possible by watching and supporting the show.

We are very proud to announce Mangalam is going to be broadcast globally. This has been a big milestone for us, as within a year we have expanded to global level. For the new channel and timing information please refer to the Advertisement in this Digest.

We have been bringing quality programs on regular basis and adding new segments and specials all the time. We have added very important segment about the Jain news from here and around the globe. We are also presenting special program on Bhaktamber Stotra in upcoming programs. Please watch the show.

We have also started with Jain cooking and will be featured in upcoming programs.

We request all the Jains and Jain centers to send us the edited DVDs of their news and programs. We will broadcast them on regular basis.

As we have our youths as our focus we are very proud to have the youths working with us on and off the program and remaining involved with the show. We encourage more youths to come and join and be part of Mangalam.

As a Jains we should be proud of the fact for last one and half year we are on TV medium on weekly basis to be recognized and understood.

Things do not happen overnight and we have been working very hard to have this presence on the media maintained on weekly basis.

As a community we have two kinds of responsibilities.

Social responsibility – We must continue furthering the Jain Way of Life to our next generation and non Jains on this side of the world. This is very important as our community is facing inter religious marriages and we are losing our own to other religions. The TV Media is the best audio- visual medium available to us. We should not let it be lost for non availability of funds.

Financial Commitment – The program of this quality cannot be sustained without the financial commitment by the society/community.

As an Individual Jain

Watch the show on regular basis; tell your friends Jains and non Jains to watch the show.

Support the show by sponsoring the show or one segment. The sponsoring can be done in memory of a loved one or in celebration of any life event.

Sponsoring can be done by individuals or as a group.

Sponsorship for one show is $1000.00, for one segment is $400.00.

At a Jain Center level

Circulate the information about the program through your publication and events to your community on a regular basis (we are a forgetful community!!).

Be a Sponsor of at least one program. This can be at any significant time you want the center to be remembered like anniversary of the newly built center.

At JAINA Level

Send continuous reminders about the program to all centers through the JAINA directors.

Encourage all centers to send their news/programs information for broadcast.

For any enquiries/suggestions or comments please write to us at mangalamshow@gmail.com
For program information please visit our web site at www.mangalamshow.com
To produce a quality program on a weekly basis is a tremendous task in itself. We need all the help we can get.
I personally request all JAINS to support this venture to ensure the future of Jain religion and Jain Youth in this part of the world.
Please send your tax deductible donations/contributions to Media Production Committee/JAINA Tax exemption code #EL54-1280028
12 Split Rock Drive, Great Neck, NY 11024
"BE PROUD OF IT, BE A PART OF IT"
"WATCH MANGALAM"

Activities of the Virchand Raghavji Gandhi Committee:

During 2008, several activities were carried out to fulfill the objectives. Following is the brief report of these activities.

Memorial-cum-Museum:

First most important initiative is about "bringing awareness of our glorious heritage". North America's JAINA & India's WJC are working for raising funds for a permanent Memorial-cum-Museum by converting the ancestral home of Shri Virchand Raghavji Gandhi (VRG) at Mahuva in Gujarat, India, for which architectural plans and drawings are almost ready. We are trying to help the surviving members of the VRG family and rehabilitate them with suitable dignity. Efforts are going on but this needs to be rejuvenated. This memorial will house, in addition to VRG's all available historical materials - memorable plus Museum of Jainism, Lecture Hall, Pathshala (Religious School), Library and other related activities. The total current requirement for this project is estimated at US$55,000 (Rs.25,00,000) which includes cost of modernization and a reserve fund to be kept aside to generate interest income towards the regular maintenance and other expenses.

For raising funds, the Committee has planned to appeal for funds. The names of donors who donate US$ 500 and more or its equivalent in Rs. will be written up on the wall-board that will be kept on the VRG Memorial permanently. Currently we have planned three categories of donation which may be modified to suite the actual funds requirements:
1. Grand Donor US$ 5,000 (or equivalent) and above;
2. Patron Donor US$ 1,000 (or equivalent) and above
3. Donor US$ 500 (or equivalent).

Scholarships:

Scholarship was established by JAINA to honour VRG that is awarded annually, especially in India and North America. Since the inception in 2001, the death centenary year of VRG and Bhagwan Mahavir's 2600th birth year, scholarships are awarded to forty-one students, more than half of them being of other than Jain faith, for their advance research, Ph.D. studies in Jainism at Universities & Institutions throughout India. Complete details and application form can be downloaded from the JAINA’s and VRG websites mentioned at the bottom. More than fifty donors have donated since the inception in 1997, which are appreciated and letters detailing the progress as to how their donations are utilized were written to them last year.

Commemorative Stamp:

Stamp to perpetuate the memory of VRG is another area of our continued efforts. It is heartening to know that the Dept. of Post, Government of India will issue a special commemorative stamp with First Day Cover, Brochure and Cancellation in August 2009. These exclusive philatelic items will be released at a mega event in a special album in the presences of the elite dignitaries and national leaders at New Delhi or Mumbai, India. We are inviting for advance prepaid orders for these philatelic collectibles very soon. More information will be provided later as it becomes available.

Essay Competition:

An Essay Competition is announced for North American high school and college students to create an awareness to revive the mission of VRG, who represented Jain Religion at the 1893 Parliament of World Religions held at Chicago, USA. The subject is: "Life & Contribution of Shri Virchand Raghavji Gandhi to the Society". Last date of receipt is March 31, 2009. Results will be declared at the JAINA Convention at Los Angeles, USA in July 2009 and at the release of VRG's commemorative postage stamp in August 2009.
at New Delhi, India. Please contact the Chair Pravin C Shah for eligibility, prizes, rules & regulations and
certain conditions.

General & Miscellaneous:
Most of the day to day work load is handled by
many volunteers in North America through the
JAINA's VRG Committee and in India through the
VRG India Sub-Committee. All the members of these
committees including the past committee members
and others spent/spend their valuable time from
their busy schedules. The Chair – Pravin C Shah and
Chandrakanj M. Shah, both New York, Mahesh V.
Gandhi, Mumbai, Prakash Mody, Toronto are just to
name few of the big lists. Committee is grateful
to the JAINA's Past Presidents: Dr. Dhiraj Shah,
Anup Vora & Kirit Dafary and current President,
Dilip V. Shah; Past JAINA Executive Director,
Kamlesh Amin and past & current JAINA
Executive Committee members for their whole
hearted active support. Our sincere thanks go to
several other individuals including Pratapbhai Bhogilal
being the main advising force, Mahesh V. Gandhi,
who made several trips to New Delhi for the approval
of VRG Stamp and to Mahuva for the Memorial,
Pradip Jain, Patna, who helped in getting the Stamp
approved, Daulat Jain, Chennai also for VRG stamp
approval, Gunvant M. Barvalia, Pannalal R. Shah for
VRG's biographical Books in Gujarati & English
and institutions including Jain Academy, Mumbai University,
L.D. Institute of Indology, and JITO. Blessings of Jain
Sadhus & Sadhvi or other religious dignitaries are
much appreciated.

Appeal, Suggestions & Contacts:
We appreciate very much the support that our community
has given. Your valuable comments/suggestions are
always welcome. Looking to our above achievements
and projects undertaken, we are appealing you're your
generous donation for all above noble causes. Please
send your tax-deductible donation checks in U.S. $ (dollars)
payable to JAINA, indicating specific area of
the activities like Scholarships, Memorial, Stamp, Essay
Competition, etc. in the memo. Please mention your
name, address, telephone number and email address
along with your cheque and mail either to anyone of the
following two:
JAINA Treasurer
Rita Sheth
5308 E. 80th Place, Tulsa, OK 74136, USA
Ph. # (918) 3984 6024
Treasurers@gmail.com

or

VRG Committee Chair
Pravin C. Shah
28 Dyckman Ave. Garden City Park, N.Y. 11040
Ph. # 516-424-1523
pravincshah2k@yahoo.com

For more information about all of the above subjects,
kindly contact the VRG Committee Members and
Persons listed on the websites:
http://www.jaina.org/vrgcommittee/ or
http://virchandgandhi.blog.com or
http://www.jaina.org/vrgcommittee/
VRG_Committee.htm

SHRI VIRCHAND RAGHAVJI GANDHI (circled)
at the 1893 parliament of world religions
held at Chicago, U.S.A.
Campaign for JAINA

Jaina Needs You

Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA) is nearly 28 years old. It is the premier umbrella organization of all Jains representing more than 100,000 Jains without any sectarianism and regionalism. It unites Jains of all traditions and facilitates the practice of Jainism and its rich philosophy and culture. In addition, thru the activities of many of its sub-committees, JAINA actively promotes not only the study of Jainism within the Jain community, but also in the world outside the Jain community.

JAINA is in a financial crisis now. It is at a cross road where it needs the financial CPR at this very moment. JAINA general fund is near historically lowest ever. For all these years, JAINA has published and mailed to all Jain families a quarterly magazine ‘Jain Digest’ free of charge. Similarly, for the last 8 years, all of us have been enjoying the beautiful JAINA Calendar free of charge. Recently, in reorganization for our worldwide humanitarian activities, we were awarded NGO status with the Social and Economic Council of the United Nations. Various committees of JAINA have been providing valuable service to many segments of our community. Imagine North American Jain community without:

- The uniform Pathshala curriculum and wonderful series of books to go with it
- Pilgrimage committee that has organized numerous yatras to Shri Shikharji or Palitana
- JNF, Jain Milan and Matrimonial ads in JAIN DIGEST
- World wide humanitarian activities during natural or man made crisis
- Campus Outreach program providing valuable links to Jain students with the community and the local jain centers
- Biennial JAINA and YJA conventions
- VRG scholarship programs for higher studies in Jainism in India
- MANGALAM – weekly TV program on Sahara1 channel
- Participation in national and international Interfaith events

Within the entire Jain world, JAINA commands respect and recognition. In fact JAINA is the envy of many Jain organizations outside the North America. I all of you have been touched directly or indirectly in some way by the volunteer activities of JAINA. For all of these services and for the operation of our new head quarter at Jain Center of America in New York with a part time Executive Director, JAINA has extremely limited assured source of income – yearly membership dues from all the member societies totaling just under $10,000 per year.

Without the wider community support, JAINA can not continue to function. It may no longer be able to publish and mail JAIN DIGEST without funds. Myriads of other activities will come to screeching halt.

We Jains are highly educated, dynamic, visionary and affluent community. JAINA is your organization. You are JAINA and JAINA is you. Now, it needs financial CPR and you can provide that. We cannot and should not let it disappear from North America. It will be a shame. There is much at stake here.

I, as the past Secretary (1985-89) and past President of JAINA (1989-1993), am making the following appeal to the entire Jain community.

1. I request each Jain family to write a check of at least $50 to JAINA. Your contribution is fully tax deductible. After the tax, the net cost to you will be less than the cost of a family dinner in a restaurant in North America. There are more than 40,000 Jain families in North America. If we all do this, JAINA will be on a sound financial footing. Wow. JAINA will not only receive a CPR and survive but will not be prone to another heart attack. I am mailing my check to JAINA right now. You please do the same.

2. We all celebrate birthdays, wedding anniversaries, sweet sixteen birthdays for our kids and 50th, 75th and other milestones in our lives. Normally, most of us do this with great pomp and show with big dinners and so on. I know several people whose children celebrated their parents’ 75th birthday. In the invitation card, they clearly mentioned “No boxed gift please. Please make your gift check in the name of their favorite charity/project and the host family will match (double) the cash donations 100% (dollar for dollar)”. What a great idea? The guests got a tax deduction and the entire amount doubled and a charitable cause was benefitted tremendously. More over, the host family got more appreciation and name recognition which they would not have gotten otherwise with a traditional
celebration. The entire gathering became familiar with the cause as well. Another very important added benefit was a great practical example and role model it provided to the youths, which I am sure, they will emulate later in their own lives.

Let us start this tradition right away by making JAINA the beneficiary and your favorite charity. Most of us beyond the age of 50s, don’t need all the boxed gifts (we cannot even think of what to do with them except to regift them). We no longer have closets big enough any more to store these gift boxes either.

It takes only a few people to start a tradition and then it will spread. In a few years, we will see that a financially strong JAINA will become the charity that we will support.

During the next few months, those who are planning celebrations for a milestone such as any wedding anniversary (25th, 50th etc.) and birthday celebrations (such as 50th and 75th etc.), I am making my earnest appeal to them. Please start this tradition right away and not wait for someone else to do so. In these celebrations, please also invite members of JAINA Executive Committee and local JAINA Directors to come and join your festivities. Their presence will add to the name recognition of JAINA beyond our comprehension. I promise you, JAINA will publish the news of these celebrations in the next issues of JAIN DIGEST.

3. Quite a few Jains own and operate their businesses, big and small. I am sure, many of you listen to National Public Radio (NPR) regularly. Corporate donors match lots of their semi-annual fundraising.

Some of you can throw that challenge to the Jain community. The effects will be fantastic, just do it.

4. In Delhi and North Indian States (Haryana, Punjab, U.P. etc.), I have seen a great tradition within the Jain community there (irrespective of their sect). After the wedding, at the time of vidayee, the parents of bride and the groom will donate (without fail) money to the Sathanak, Jain temple, Jiv Daya and other such causes. Again, let us embrace this ritual and make that donation to JAINA as well at the time of the weddings. This is another auspicious start to the life long journey of the newly married couple.

I can go on with many such ideas to put JAINA on a good financial footing so that it can progress and deliver all the ever-changing needs of the Jain Sangh here. JAINA is the right organization. Let us all become JAINA and start today even with any one of the above mentioned ideas. I am sure, you too have many other ideas. Let us get started and please do send your check of at least $50.

Make your check in the name of JAINA and mail that to:
Rita Sheth, JAINA Treasurer,
5308 E 80th Place Tulsa, OK 74136
Ph (918)398-6024;
jainatreasurers@gmail.com

Jai Jinendra
Dr. Sulekh C. Jain
Past President, JAINA

***

FEDERATION OF JAIN ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA APPEAL

I want to help maintain and enhance my Jain heritage and culture by supporting JAINA

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 $ 250 every year

I want to be a life member of JAIN DIGEST with $ 201 Donation

I would like to give $________

Please make your tax deductible donation check payable to JAINA. Please advise if you wish to remain anonymous.

Please send your Jain digest life membership dues of $201 to Keerti Shah, 842 Lakeside Drive, Bartlett, IL 60103

Phone: 630-837-8716 Email: shahkn@gmail.com

Name: ______________________________
Address: ______________________________
Phone: ______________________________
E-mail: ______________________________
Ahimsa and Veganism

Gary L. Francione
Distinguished Professor of Law and Nicholas deB. Katzenbach Scholar of Law and Philosophy, Rutgers University School of Law – Newark
Jai Jinendra.

Ahimsa, or non-violence, is the fundamental principle of Jainism. Ahimsa Paramo Dharma – non-violence is the highest religious duty. Although we talk about Ahimsa, Anekantavada, and Aparigraha, the latter two of these are subsets of Ahimsa. The doctrine of Anekantavada serves to promote social harmony and to reduce the tension and violence that arise from absolutist views of truth. The doctrine of Aparigraha recognizes that attachment to wealth and the accumulation of material things makes us more inclined to act in violent and destructive ways. So although these doctrines have aspects peculiar to them, they both have Ahimsa as a basic component.

To injure any living being in one’s thought, speech, or action constitutes violence, or Himsa. Dravya Himsa is used to describe the actual action of injuring a sentient being; Bhāva Himsa is the intent to inflict injury. Both types of Himsa result in the accumulation of pap karma. When these two sorts of Himsa are combined – when a violent act is undertaken with a violent intention – the karmic result is the most inauspicious.

The Jain ascetic is enjoined not to commit violence against any living being, including those with one sense (Ekendriyas) and that are immobile (Sthavars), such as plants or those organisms that have earth, water, fire, or air as bodies. But all Jains are forbidden from Himsa against all mobile beings (Trasas), whether they have two (Dwindiya), three (Trindiya), four (Chaturindiya), or five (Panchendriya) senses. The mammals, birds, and fish that humans regularly consume all belong in the highest class of those beings with five senses – a class in which humans, who are mammals, belong as well. This prohibition is not limited to what a person does directly (Krita) and extends to causing others to do Himsa (Karita) and to approving of the Himsa of others (Anumodana). This clear and broad rejection of Himsa by Jainism is the basis for virtually unanimous support among Jains for not consuming meat, poultry, fish, and eggs.

But many Jains are not vegans. They consume dairy products – milk, ghee, butter, they use dairy, wool, and silk in pooja events; they wear wool, silk, or leather-products, or use items that contain animal products.

Can not being a vegan be consistent with the principle of Ahimsa?

I ask you to consider that it cannot be. All animal products – including dairy and wool – involve inflicting suffering and death on mobile, five-sensed-beings. Some forms of production are more brutal than others but under the very best of circumstances there is a great deal of suffering involved in the production of these products, and the death of animals is a necessary aspect of any industry or practice that uses animals.

Animals used in dairy production are kept alive longer than "meat" animals, treated as badly if not worse, and end up in the same slaughterhouses after which humans consume their bodies. The male babies of dairy cows are sold into the veal industry and most of the females are used in the dairy industry. It is an endless cycle of exploitation, suffering, and death. There is an inextricable relationship between the meat industry and the dairy issue. There is as much suffering and death in a glass of milk as in a pound of steak.

Many people still hold the idyllic concept of the dairy cow that grazes in the pasture, and is provided with good care and has a good life. If milk or other products come from such an animal, how can that be morally problematic? In the first place, no animal products come from such animals. Almost all dairy products – wherever in the world they are produced – come from animals kept in intensive conditions known as "factory farming" that involve unspeakable brutality and violence. Even those animals who are supposedly raised in "free-range" circumstances, or whose products are advertised as "organic," are raised in conditions that may be slightly less brutal than the normal factory farm, but there is still a great deal of violence, suffering, and death.

The person who keeps only one cow on her or his property must keep that cow pregnant in order for the animal to give milk and this means that there will be a steady stream of calves. In most cases, most if not all of these calves will end up on someone's table. And whenever a calf is separated from her or his mother, there is tremendous suffering from that alone. Is a glass of milk or ghee or raita worth inflicting even that suffering? The picture of the happy cow grazing in the pasture bears no relationship to reality; the process of producing animal products – however "humane" it may be – involves Himsa.
Similarly, the shearing of sheep for their wool involves an unpalatable amount of violence. The animals are frightened and their bodies often cut and injured. Much wool comes from sheep that are on their way to slaughter. Silk is produced by boiling the silk worms alive. Leather involves wearing the skin of an animal who has endured suffering and a violent death at the hands of humans.

In my discussions with members of the Jaina community, there are several arguments in defense of non-veganism that come up repeatedly and that I would like to address.

First, there is the argument from tradition. Some defend the use of animal products because it has been traditional to use dairy products or wool. But tradition can no more suffice here than it can in any other area of human conduct. If Jainism stands for anything, it represents the notion that ethical principles are a matter of rational thought and careful consideration. It is precisely when we have been lulled into complacency by tradition that we must be most conscientious.

Second, there are some who say that we cannot live a perfect life so it is acceptable for us to eat dairy or to use other animal products as a "compromise." Jainism certainly recognizes that we cannot avoid all violence in our lives, which is precisely why laypersons are not required to eschew violence to immobile, one-sense organisms. But if our inability to avoid all Ahimsa means that we can eat dairy or use wool, which involves inflicting injury and death on five-sensed beings, then it must mean that we can eat flesh as well.

Third, some claim that the principle of Anekantavada means that we cannot say with any certainty that it is wrong to consume dairy or wool. But if we accept this reasoning, then it can be used to say that there are no absolute moral truths — including the basic truth of Ahimsa and the prohibition against eating flesh. That is, if we cannot say that inflicting suffering and death on animals used for dairy or wool is morally wrong, then we cannot say that the prohibition on eating flesh is morally valid.

Fourth, some argue that it is inconvenient to practice veganism. But convenience cannot be the touchstone; no Jain would think that considerations of convenience justified eating meat, poultry, fish, or eggs. If, as I and others maintain, dairy and other animal products involve morally indistinguishable Ahimsa inflicted on innocent mobile beings, then convenience can similarly not serve as a moral justification. But having said this, it is certainly no more inconvenient to be a vegan than it is to be a vegetarian. There are a variety of delicious non-dairy "milks" (soy, rice, and almond) available and these can be used for cooking and in beverages. There are delicious vegan "butter" made from soy that can substitute for ghee. The range of vegan clothing has increased dramatically in recent years and it is now easy to avoid the use of animal products for clothing.

For those who find it difficult to practice veganism immediately, consider going vegan in stages. For example, do not consume any animal foods at breakfast for a week or two. Then go vegan for lunch as well for another week or so, and, finally, remove animal products from your evening meal. You will see that it is easy to be a vegan. There is no sacrifice involved and you will benefit by removing this significant source of Ahimsa from your life.

We have an obligation to take care of the domesticated animals we have brought into existence but we should not continue to bring more into existence or to create a demand for animal products. The very institution of domestication, which involves humans owning other beings, raises troubling issues that involve the intersection of Ahimsa and Aparigraha. Although many Jains do not keep domestic animals such as dogs or cats, or own large farm animals, the reality is that all animal products require someone to own domestic animals. So even if we do not own the cow or sheep, someone else does and we necessarily support the institution of animal property if we consume any animal products.

Jainism takes seriously the notion of Ahimsa in a way that no other Dharma does. Jainism is Ahimsa. It is my hope that more Jains will come to see that Ahimsa and veganism are inseparable and presuppose each other. Both the Svetambaras and Digambaras sources are clear and in agreement that suffering and death imposed on mobile beings is unacceptable. The use of dairy products, wool, leather, and silk necessarily involves suffering and death.

I offer these thoughts for your reflection. If I have offended anyone as a result of this essay, Micchami Dukkadam.

Professor Francione’s latest book is Animals as Persons: Essays on the Abolition of Animal Exploitation, published in May 2008 by Columbia University Press. His website is located at www.AbolitionistApproach.com. And Email address is gfrancione@earthlink.net

***
Pratishththa Reports

Phoenix Pratishththa Mahotsav: A Jain Temple Rises in Valley of Sun

December 19th through December 26th 2008 will be cherished by community members of Jain Center of Greater Phoenix (JCGP) and also by hundreds of jains from all over world who attended Pratishtha Mahotsav during these days in the valley of sun, Phoenix, Arizona.

Starting with land purchase by community members in March 2005, Bhomi poojan in July 2005 and Shilanyas in October 2007 this magnificent temple was build in record time and months of pratishtha mahotsav planning made for a successful PanchKalyanak Pratishtha Mahotsav.

The temple has a non-sectarian layout. While looking into Gabhara there are two 51 inch Murtis in beautiful marble housing, Adinath Bhagwan (swetambar) on right and Mahavir Swami (Digambar) on left. Navkar Mantra engraved in glass will be in between the two these two murtis. The Bhamti area around these two Murtis consists of 15 inch murtis of 24 tirthankar bhagwans in individual gokhalas. 1 through 12 murtis are Digambar Murtis and 13 through 23 murtis are Swetambar Murtis. This is the first Jain temple in USA to have all tirthankar Bhagwan murti’s pratisthit with Anjanshalaka or Ankanyas vidhi/ceremony. Thirteen swetambar murtis including mulnayak Aadinath Bhagwan’s anjanshalaka was performed by Param Pujya Gachhadhipati Aacharya Shri Vijay Jayghoshshurishwarji Maharaj Saheb in Vikhroli, Mumbai. Thirteen digambar murtis including mulnayak Mahavri Swami’s ankanyas vidhi was performed Pratishthacharya Shri Abhinandanji during Pratishtha Mahotsav.

The ceiling covering the Rangmandap has lokakash shape representing Jain Universe. The gabhara and rangmandap covers about 5000 sq ft space and has glass doors with “Aum” engraved on the glass doors leading to rangmandap. Ghatakaran, Padmavati, Laxmi Devi and Saraswati Devi are located in gokhalas just outside rangmandap near main entrance. A separate 400 sq ft Guru Mandir room consists of chitraps of Guru Gautam Swami, Acharya KundaKundacharya, Shrimad Rajchandra and Kanji Swami along with Aatma Sidhi and Bhaktamar Stotra frames.

The traditional Indian architecture temple building consists of about 12000 sq ft space along with a 2500 ft house on a 4 acre property. The temple complex also consists of a majestic arch of pink sandstone (Toran Dwar), 41 feet tall Ahimsa Stambh (Non violence monument) made of white marble and beautiful desert landscaping. The temple has pillars carved in India and beautiful “jalis” in patio or in exterior. The interior of temple is white marble with beautiful medallions in between.

Shri Jinbimb Panch Kalyanak Pratishtha Mahotsav, a first of its kind in USA was conducted by team from Tirthdham Mangayatan, Aligarh, India and shri Narendra Rashed Nandu, Mumbai. The Pratishtha Mahotsav was witnessed by hundreds jain from all over world as well as local non-jain community. Among the dignitaries present were samaniji Akshaya Pragy and Vinay Pragy, Pujaya Shri Rakeshbhai Zaveri, Padamshri Dr. Kumarpal Desai, Dr. Hukumchand Bharill, Dr. Jitendra Shah, Shri Vimaldada Jhangiri, Shri Virendra Jain.
The Panch Kalyanak Mahotsav started with Garbh Kalyanak, bhagwans' mata having dreams in the night and thereafter discussion in the Indra shabha and Raj Sabha. Janm kalyanak day was garnished by pushp varsha from helicopter on top of meru parvat during Bhagwan Mahavir's abhishek. A special stage was brought from India for Jain Kalyanak ceremony. During Diksha Kalyanak vidhi brahmcharya vrata was given to Bhagwan's Mata-Pita (This labh was taken by Shri Prafulbhai and Hiraben Daulat). Three other married couple also took brahmcharya vratas. This was a remarkable occasion to witness. Hundred of devotees who gave Aahardan to muniraj skipped breakfast, it was a special ceremony and live samosaran rachana, divya dhawni was magnificent to watch during Keval Gnan Kalayank. All of these events were energized by musicians and singers. There were also 28 beautifully choreographed dances performed during Mahotsav by community members and kids.

Akhand Deepak Sthapna, Jwara ropan, 10 Digpal Pujan, Asht Mangal pujan, Navgrah Patla Pujan, Bhagwai mandaal pujan, Adhaar (18) Abhishek, Laghu Shanti Snatra Pujan were gracefully conducted by Narandrabhai Nandu and his team during the Pratishtha Mahotsav. Daily morning snatra pooja was conducted at temple. Evening program also included lectures from scholars, bhakti/bhavana, cultural programs and Kumarpal Raja Aarti drama conducted by Narendrabhai Nandu.

Jain Center of Greater Phoenix (JCGP) has been in the existence for more than 25 years. JCGP's main objective is to promote religious and educational activity related to Jain religion and to develop better understanding of the Jain Religion and provide and promote academic and Jain values for future generations. JCGP Community meets for Pathshala and Swadhyay every Sunday from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

During the Pratishtha Mahotsav every attendee got chance to be part of activities during the event. All of these events did not happen without great support from the Jain community around the world. We are asking for your generous financial support for the temple. Please visit Phoenix and get the feeling of doing the pilgrimage in USA. Please visit our website www.jcgp.org to see pictures of Pratishtha, donate and get more information about Jain Center of Greater Phoenix.

***

Jain Center of Southern California
Pratishtha Mahotsav:
26 September – 6 October, 2008

The dream of building a new Jain Bhavan Complex, conceived nearly 14 years ago, has become a reality for the Jain Center of Southern California (JSCC). Pratishtha Mahotsav to commemorate the inauguration of the new Derasar (Jinalay) and Aradhana Hall was celebrated from 26 September to 6 October 2008. The 11-day holy event was a major historical milestone. It concluded a decades-long journey to build a fine Jain Tirth in Southern California.

The auspicious celebrations and ceremonies were graced with the presence of Pujya Gurudev Shree Rakeshbhai Jhaveri, Gurudev Chitrabhanuji, Pujya Charukirtiji, Pujya Bhadrabahuviyaji, Samani Madhu Pragnaji and Samani Charitra Pragnaji, Saman Ashwini Pragnaji, Sadhvi Subhamji, Pandit Dhrajjal Mehta and Shree Tarlaben Doshi. Vidhikar Narendrabhai Nandu, assisted by his wife Damayantiben, his son Kayval, his nephew Jay and his colleagues Krishnakant Somani, Devidas Naik and Gangaram Gajjar, directed all the Pratishtha ceremonies including daily prabhatia, usha bhakti, and various pujas (snatra, navgrah, das digpal/ astha mangal, nandavrat/bhagvat, adhar abhishek, shanti snatra, and satarbhed). In addition to the daily puja and bhakti sessions, the auspicious ceremonies and activities included – Khumbh Sthapan, Dipak Sthapan, Jawara Ropan, Maneksthambh Aropan, Toran Bhandhan, and lectures by various dignitaries and guests. The opening of Pratimaj of Lord Mahavir is welcomed at the temple.
the Aradhana Hall was performed by Pujya Gurudev Shree Rakeshbhai Jhaveri. Evening programs included naa garba, a cultural program consisting of folk dances representing almost every state in India, a drama by the Jain Study Group, a drama on Jambu Swami performed by the Swadhiyay Group led by Pujya Girishbhai Shah, and a colorful drama directed by Vidhikar Narendrabhai and acted by JCSC members. The drama depicted Bhagwan Mahavir's life represented by the kalyanaks – Garbh Kalyanak, Jann Kalyanak, Diksha Kalyanak, Kevel Gyan Kalyanak, and Moksha Kalyanak.

The Pratishtha ceremonies were preceded by a procession (varghodo) through the city streets. The procession led by the visiting dignitaries included colorful floats carrying idols (pratimajis) of the Tirthankars, devas, and devis; and models of Samvosaran Temple, Gunsthanaks, and others. The Pratishtha ceremonies and installation of the Dhwja and Kalash were performed on Sunday, October 5 followed by the first dwar opening of the new Jinalay on Monday, October 6.

The design of the Jain Center was inspired by the temples of Delwada, Ranakpur and Palitana Tirths. The building exterior is constructed of superbly carved Jasalmer yellow limestone. Natural stone, including marble and colorful granite, has been used extensively throughout the interior to finish the floors, staircases, and walls. Pratimajis of the Tirthankars, devas, and devis; Garba Grah and bhamati, religious and historic symbols, pats of various tirths and Navkar Mantra, a deri of Rushabhddev's Nagas, a Samvosaran Temple, the paintings depicting Bhagwan Mahavir's life Kalyanaks, ornate ceilings, zarukhas, columns, and torans; and a 22 ft diameter rangmandap – inspired by Vamal Vasahi Temple of Delwara and the Meghnad Maha Mandap of Ranakpur – are installed in the Religious Complex. A 104-year old wooden temple, intricately carved from teak wood, is installed in the main entry of the Cultural Complex.

The remarkable design of the Jinalay truly reflects the graceful features of a traditional Jain temple. The sacred architecture inspires a splendid feeling of being in the midst of a famous Jain Tirth in India. A vision to build a fine Jain Tirth in Southern California has been finally accomplished.

Jain Center of Southern California (JCSC) located in the City of Buena Park, a suburb of Los Angeles, California, was established on 15 September, 1979 with one important mandate – to practice, promote and teach Jainism with no sectarian bias. The first custom-designed Jain Bhavan – with a Derasar and an auditorium – was inaugurated in July 1988. Following a phenomenal growth in membership and Pathshala students, JCSC developed a master plan for a three-phase multipurpose Jain Bhavan complex as follows: Phase I – A Cultural Complex (Auditorium and Pathshala Rooms) – a 62,000 sq ft facility built at a cost of about $11 million and inaugurated in March 2005; Phase II – A Religious Complex (Derasar and Aradhana Hall) – a 13,000 sq ft facility built at a cost of about $7 million and inaugurated on September 26 to October 6, 2008; and Phase III – An Atma Sadhana Kendra (Library and Study Rooms) – to follow.

***

Jain Society of Tampa Bay

Pratistha Mahotsava: November 27 – 30, 2008

Pratistha Mahotsava was celebrated in a grand way with great enthusiasm and joy in the presence of Muni Shri Jinchandraji Maharaj, Swami Shri Devendra Keertiji Maharaj, and Adamiya Samani Param Pragyaji.

Our Jain Society was started during 1988 with about four Jain families in Tampa Bay Area. As of today we have more than 125 families. Our aim is to learn and promote principles of Jainism throughout the region. Now having Jain Temple of our dream we will be able to enhance our activities such as Pooja, Bhakti, Swadhyay, Scholar visitations, Pathshala for young and adults etc.
Three Tirthankar idols are installed in a beautiful Garbha Grah (inner sanctum) designed with carved pillars and ornate arcs made of white marble. The main altar has Parsvanath in the center, Mahavirswami on the right and Adinath (Digambar Tradition) on the left. A bhoomati with idols of 24 Tirthankars, two Digambar Tradition Idols of Simandhar Swami and Siddha Bhagwan and Devi Devtas, Nav Graha in individual Gokhlas Two beautiful large pictures of Samet Shikhar and Shtrunjaya are on the wall behind the main altar. Whole temple is built with marble in abundance.

Upasrya which is used as program hall also is having sufficient facilities for conducting Pathshala, Scholars’ lectures, religious rituals, meeting etc.; Picture of Shrimad Rajchandra is on the wall of Hall. It is having facility of media hall so that scholars/students can display important information on the huge screen.

Beside magnificent temple, Upasrya cum Hall, we have Library, Kitchen and Room for the Scholars to stay as additional facilities. Our Temple is in the vicinity of Hindu temple, Vishnu temple, India culture center. As such some time it creates Indian atmosphere.

Procession of the last day of the event i.e. November 30, was about one mile long with Sadhu Sants/Scholars and dignitaries leading it. There were grand three four wheel horse chariots with Sadharmis sitting in it with Bhagvan Idol and doing Bhakti and music going on.

Pratistha Vidhi of All Idols (except Digamber Jain Idols) was performed by Vidhikar Narendrabhai Nandu. Vidhi for Digamber Idols was performed by Pratisthacharya Shri Subhashbhai Sheth. Different types of Poojans, Vidhan Mandal Poojans, Shanti Jap, Panch Kalyanak pratishta, Anknyas vidhi and Drama on the life Bhagwan Parswanath etc. were the high lights of the events.

More than thousand Sadharmis from far away places in North America had specially arrived to participate. Event was accomplished with great success. This Temple is located at prime location in Tampa.

– Hasmukh M. Shah,
Director
JAINA hasmukh33@yahoo.com

***

Jain Society of Greater Atlanta

November 2008

Jai Jinendra,

Welcome to the Jain Society of Greater Atlanta’s Pratishtha Mahotsavi I am so thankful that our dream project has now become a reality for the Atlanta Jain community. The successful completion of this undertaking would not have been possible without the hard work, dedication and financial support of our JSGA members.

The 3 Phase Construction Project began in 1996 when 3.7 acres of land was acquired to build our Jain Center and Temple. In the presence of Acharya Shri Chandanaaji and Sadhvi Shri Shubhamji, we performed the Bhoomi Poojan in 1998. Between 1998 and 1999, the Jain Center architectural designs and construction began.
Phase 1 of the Jain Center project was to build the main hall of the Jain Center. This was successfully completed in December 2000 and our inauguration took place in April 2001. This marked the beginning of a new era. We now had a central place to worship together under one roof and have all of our belongings stored in one place. This helped us arrange various lectures, poojas & other religious functions.

Phase 2 was completed in 2001 which included a finished basement, kitchen, Pathshala classrooms and additional bathrooms. This helped us arrange weekly Pathshala classes and have a dining facility for all of our members.

Phase 3 of the project was the biggest challenge that we encountered. This phase was to construct the Shikharbandhi Jinalay (Temple) out of magnificent marble carvings. We had to work with an architect in Atlanta and Sompura in India to come up with a typical Jain Derasar design. JSGA Executive Committee members as well Shirish Gandhi, our contractor, visited India to locate the best marble available for our temple and idols. We successfully ordered the idols and completed the marble temple in Atlanta, GA.

Anjanshalaka of Mulnayak, Adinath Bhagwan, was carried out in Walkeshwar, Bombay (India). Many members participated in this event and thoroughly enjoyed the auspicious ceremony. The pictures of the Anjanshalaka are posted on our JSGA website. According to Acharya Maharaj Nay Vardhan Suri Swarji, this Murti is extremely powerful and the Anjanshalaka Vidhi was performed in one of the best ways possible. Members showed such joy and enthusiasm upon the arrival of this Pratimaji in Atlanta on Sunday, November 2. Prior its arrival to Atlanta, we received a larger number of donations than expected. Jain Society of Greater Atlanta is fortunate to have such a powerful Murti at our Temple. According to Acharya Maharaj, this is one of the largest Murtis outside of India where Anjanshalaka was performed.

In our Swetambar temple we have 3 Murtis and Gabhara, 25 Tirthankars in Bhunti and 10 Dev/Devis in the temple and lobby area. In our Digambar temple, which is located downstairs, we have 3 Murtis in the main Gabhara. We also have a dhyan room for Sthanakvasi behind the temple.

Thank you to:

1. Shirishbhai & Premaben Gandhi (Zaveri Enterprise) for working with us to bring this project to completion.
2. The JSGA current Executive Committee members for their hard work, dedication & support
3. All of the donors for donating the necessary funds and participating in different bolis to raise the funds to make this project a completely debt free project.
4. All of the JSGA members for their unconditional support & help.
5. Various committee members and all of the volunteers.
In conclusion I would like to bring out a few observations pointed out by Narendra Nandu regarding our project:

(a) First, our Shikharbandhi derasar has a marble Shikhar and a marble carved exterior rather than simple marble tiles. (Most of the temples across the United States have Shikhar made with GFRC material to reduce the weight)

(b) We have a 41" Mulnayak Murti with Anjanshala in the Gabhara area

(c) A completely debt free project.

(d) Actual Dhwaja dand with Dhwaja hanging on top of the temple with Golden Kalash.

We are very pleased with the outcome of our dream project and would like to congratulate everyone who helped in making our dream project a reality and such a huge success. We hope to continue this tremendous energy & positive progress going forward.

Sincerely,

Deepak Shah
JSGA Past-President

---

JAIN CENTER OF AMERICA, NEW YORK
SHRI ASHTAPADJI ADHAR ABHISHEK PROGRAM IN MUMBAI, INDIA
BEFORE BRINGING IT TO JCA NEW YORK

Jain Center of America is celebrating the performance of Adhar Abhishek of Shri Ashtapadji Pratimas and Mountain in Mumbai, India under guidance of Pujyashri Naypadmasagarji Maharaj and Sangh in Mumbai India. Following is the schedule and program to be performed in India. Program will be from April 23 to April 27, 2009. Gowalia Tank Sangh, Mumbai has agreed to help Jain Center of America, New York for this program in various aspects. This function will be held in Mathuradas hall, Gowalia Tank, Mumbai, India. Following is the preliminary schedule and detail. This is still subject to changes and modification based on further developments.

1. **April 23, 24 and 25, 2009 Exhibition**
   - Exhibition will consist of Present Chovisi (24 Idols) and half size W 7\(\frac{1}{4}\) x Ht 6\(\frac{3}{4}\) crystal mountain, Past and Future Chovisi and Nav Graha and (9) Bhagwan Idols 15" to 35" in height carved out of single piece of gemstones.

2. **April 26, 2009 Adhar Abhishek of Pratimas and Mountain**
   - And Varghoda organized by Gowalia Tank Sangh, Mumbai, in honor of 600 Tapasvis.

3. **April 27, 2009 Esurus Prakshal of Shri Adinath Bhagvan and Ashtapadji Pooja**
   - All 600 Varshitap Tapasvis will do esurus (sugarcane juice) Prakshal of Shri Adinath Bhagwan Pratima to be held at Mathuradas Hall.

This is first time such event is taking place. For more information please contact Jain Center of America, Inc., New York Manager at (718)478-9141. Please also check on JCA web site nyjaincenter.org for more information.
Regional News

MIDWEST

Report for Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago

Paryushan Parva was celebrated from August 27 to September 3 and Dashhvanā Parva from September 4 to 14. During Paryushan days discourses of Tejumuni were arranged, which were attended by large number of people. Over 2,500 people attended the celebration of Mahavir Jana Vanchan on Sunday, August 31 when Janna Vanchan ceremony was performed in a colorful way with descending of Dev Viman as a part of displaying 14 dreams of Trishalahdevī. The entire center was beautifully decorated during the Parva days.

JSMC members zealously participated in various religious rituals and cultural programs, which were organized during the Parva. Programs like Sarvatobbadra Pojjan, Aribanti Vandanavali, Bhakshmar Stotra Pathan, and Navakar Rang Jap were attended by about 2,000 people. During the weekend a record breaking fund raising drive was conducted that generated more than $2.2 million in donations and interest-free loans. Within less than an hour more than 175 member families declared their financial support by donating for the construction and expansion project.

As usual various types of austerities were observed during Paryushan Parva. 16-year-young Eva Mehta of Evanston celebrated her sweet sixteen with 34 days of fasting. There were more than 40 Athhaïs (Fasting on all the eight days), two persons observed Maun Athhai (Fasting while remaining silent) and one person observed Chauvihar Athhai (Did not take even water for the eight days). All observers of austerities were felicitated on the occasion of Tapaswi Bahumān.

Annual General Body meeting of JSMC was held on November 16 when the accounts for the year 2007 and construction report were placed before the members and the same were approved. The meeting was informed that the temple reconstruction work was expected to be completed during the 2nd quarter of 2009 and a 10-day celebration of installation ceremony would be organized from June 19 to June 29. The new JSMC directory was also released that time. It covers the information about JSMC, alphabetical list of life members, Index search and certain relevant statistics. This 114 page unique publication is dedicated to the members of the society.

On the occasion of Áśhwini Oli arrangements were made for observing Áyambils on October 11 and 12. About 200 persons took advantage thereof.

From January Mahavir Senior Center has started celebrating the birthdays of its members every month.

Those, whose birthdays fall in the month concerned, are felicitated with birthday cards, cake cutting and happy birthday greetings. The center conducted a tour to Galena in September and Chaitya Paripāti covering Milwaukee in October.

Since last year the education classes are held on first and third Sundays of every month. The attendance ranges from 250 to 300.

***

Jain Society of Greater Detroit, Inc.

29278 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334-4108, (248) 851-JAIN (5246)

December 31, 2008

2008 was a banner year for Jain Society of Greater Detroit. The following are just a few highlights of the many happenings involving our temple and its members.

Jain Youth Featured at Detroit Interfaith Event

Jain Society of Greater Detroit participated in the World Sabbath of Religious Reconciliation in January 2008. This event is held annually as an interfaith holy day dedicated to making peace among the religions from nations of the world. The goal is to teach the diverse population that building the community of justice, equality, and peace is a responsibility we all share. It was a wonderful celebration with spiritual presence from several faiths who presented their prayers and musical offerings. The event included Children of Peace from faiths like Muslim, Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Baha'i, Sikh, Jain, Native Americans and Zoroastrian who decorated the Peace Banners and walked in a procession. Twenty-one children from Detroit Jain Society participated both, as the Children

Detroit Jain youth dressed in colorful costumes, perform "Jivan Anjali Thajo" to promote interfaith understanding and harmony in January 2008.
of Peace and in a musical offering. The children performed exceptionally well by singing in harmony with the instruments like Piano and Tabla also played by the children.

**Detroit Temple’s 10th Anniversary Celebrated with Pomp and Splendour**

The Jain Society of Greater Detroit (JSGD) organized a varied ten-day festival with great pomp and splendor from June 13-22 to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of our temple’s 1st Pratishtha Mahotsav held in 1998. Society members and the Detroit community at large also celebrated the achievement of a major financial milestone - i.e., temple loans are all paid off. The anniversary program committee was chaired by Arvindbhai Shah (one of the many visionaries in our Sangh), and events were led by Prafullbhai Shah (Chair, Board of Trustees) and Rajiv Maheshwari (President, Executive Committee). Commemorative messages were received from well-wishers who ranged from the White House to elected senior political representatives. Anniversary celebration program highlights are summarized below:

Gurudev Chitrabhanu and Pramodaben graced the opening ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 13 (Day 1), with their message of greetings, followed by an evening of Bhavna, Dandi Raas and Sannedo Dances. Programs were held the entire weekend, ranging from religious pujas such as Kumbha & Akhand Deepak Sthapna, Jwara Ropan, Patla Pujan, Navgrah Pujan and Indra Mahotsava Puja (performed by youth members), to Gurudev and Pramodaben’s lectures on popular topics such as “Dharma no Marma” and “Sadhana, Aradhana and Viradhana”.

Detroit’s area’s own Professor Elizabeth Rohlman, a past Fulbright scholar (to MSR University, Baroda) in Sanskrit and Jain Studies, now teaching at University of Calgary, also addressed the event - she encouraged our youth to study the Jain Dharma in-depth, adding many of her comments/advice in Gujarati, which further engaged the audience. A cultural dance and entertainment show by talented Society youth and women members was held on June 14 – highlights included the musical performance by about 20 children singing “Jivan Anjali Thajo” to the tabla beats provided by a seven-year old youngster, Mihir Zaveri.

Lively musical performances throughout the event were organized by Shri Narendrabhai Nandu and his talented group of musicians. Narendrabhai’s group also recruited and prepared over 25 of the Society’s enthusiastic amateur actors for the colorful re-enactment of the famous Shalibhadra story from our Jain scriptures, holding an entire gathering of over 700 audience members spellbound for four hours!

Daily Snatra pujas were held during the week days (attended by an average of 200 members), followed by daily community lunches and evening lectures by Gurudev and Pramodaben, as well as musical performances led by Narendrabhai, such as Trishalamata’s Dreams, 108 Parashva Vandana, and a unique Jain Antakshri involving 48 participants — winning teams showed their melodious talents with rendering stavans and sutras on the fly!

On the second weekend (June 21-22), a mass Guru Gautamswami Pujan was held, involving over 80 sponsor families - each family received a marble statue of Gautamswami or a Yantra to take home after this 5-hour long puja. Finally, the Society's pomp and community spirit were all evident at the annual dhvaja ceremony/installation and other religious celebrations which marked this annual event.
Jain Texts to Detroit Temple Library

At our Diwali celebration on October 26, the Society received a donation of 52 rare books from the extensive collection of Professor Madhav Deshpande, a world-renowned faculty member and Sanskrit author at the University of Michigan Center for South-Asian Studies. The books received include several which are out of print, over 70-80 year old original English translations of important Jain scriptures, such as The Tatvartharthi Sutra of Umaswami with greater Suklabodha of Sri Bhaskaranandi, The Sastravartasamuccaya of Acharya Haribhadrasuri, and Vacaka Sri Jaiminikyagana’s Rainakaravatarkavadyaslokastartibhi.

Detroit Jain Temple and Society Members Figure Prominently in TV Documentary

An hour-long film titled “Our India Story” was shown all over South East Michigan by ABC affiliate WXYZ-TV-7 on December 20th, 2008. It was a documentary about the contributions of the 75,000 strong Indian community in greater Detroit, and the producers devoted nearly a quarter hour showing the Detroit Jain Temple while describing Jain Way of Life, including Jain youth performing Snatra Puja at 2008 Paryushan Swapna Day, and members chanting Navkar Mantra in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

Respectfully submitted by JAINA Director,
Manish Mehta, Ph.D.
(734) 604-7989

***

Jain Center of Cincinnati – Dayton, Year in Review

Jain Center of Cincinnati Dayton celebrated the Mahavir Jayanti Program in April with Pravinbhai Shah (Director Jaina Education) who provided two days of educational lecture series. In May our centre was visited by The Pittsburgh Jain Sangh during their three days yatra. We all prayed together, shared Puja, Bhavna, Namokar Mantra Jaap, Arti and Divo. In June we invited Swami ShrutiPragyaaji for three days Yoga/Meditation/lecture program which was very educative as well as motivating. Yoga and Meditation sessions were packed and Swami ji wonderfully stressed the importance of strong body, healthy heart and sound mind. Question-Answer session brought out our own stars sparkling with their originality.

In July our center did Sangh Yatra to Detroit and Toledo Temple – a memorable event. Cleveland Sangh joined us at Detroit temple and made the Yatra a combined memorable event. From Detroit we went to Toledo Hindu-Jain Temple, where we did bhavana, arati and managal divo. We are highly appreciative of Rev. Acharyashri Mahapragyaaji for accepting our invitation for Parvushan Parva and Samaniji Mangalprajna and Samaniji Ritupragna traveled all the way from India to celebrate Parvushan Parva at Jain center of Cincinnati-Dayton. They kept all of us quite busy, old, adult, youth and children with different religious activities e.g. Samayik, Pratikraman, yoga, chanting of Bhaktamar strotas and lectures (even for youth and children in English). We conducted Daslaxna Puja. The center also did all the tapasvi bahuman on the same day.

We held 9/11, 24 hrs Akhand Namokar mantra jap in the memories of 9/11 disaster. The Akhand Namokar Mantra Jap created pleasant, positive and powerful vibrations and left us with wonderful feelings. Chanting in front of Bhagvan Mahavir, Bhagvan Adinath a Bhagvan Parsvanath, especially from eleven p.m. to early morning was a unique experience and unable to express in words. In October we celebrated Ahimsa day and Diwali program. For Ahimsa Day our center invited Samani, Akshya Prajna, Samani, Vinay Pragyaaji. It was a two day program and each day we had Yoga/Meditation and lecture in Hindi and English especially for Youth. Diwali program started with the general body meeting where we thanked the old executive committee and welcomed the new executive committee for the next year. For the Diwali celebration center invited Raj Pandya and group for a musical night program. Every body enjoyed the program. On the day of Diwali we held Bhavana at the temple. Narendra Nandu and Group conducted Bhaktamar Poojan in December.

***

The Jain Center of Greater St. Louis

The Jain Center of Greater St. Louis was honored to have Shree Girishbhaji Shah for Paryushan Parva 2008. Many people enthusiastically assembled to listen to him. Merit scholarships were given to the Pathshala students. The Pathshala students presented outstandingly Karma theory and Samyag Darshan. Shalleshbhai Shah has been elected as President for 2009. Hemalbhai Sanghvi has received deep affection and respect for serving as President from 2006 thru 2008. Children Pathshala, Adult Pathshala, Jain Puja, Puja, and Bhakti Bhavana are key activities performed regularly.

***
FREEZE IN DIVINITY –
A Wonderful Spiritual Experience

Imagine some 900 people gathered on New Year’s Eve for an all night bhakti program. Now imagine teenagers and young adults, some even born and raised in America, participating in such an all-nighter staying up without even a wink. Sounds unthinkable? But that’s exactly what happened at the last New Year’s Eve New Jersey Retreat Akhand Bhakti program that was inspired by Pujya Shree Rakeshbhai Jhaveri. Such a bhakti bash is a regular occurrence on New Year’s Eve at the Dharampur Asram. A few hundred people, young and old, instead of drinking and partying the night away, chose to ring in the new year getting intoxicated on something spiritual and divine. They immersed themselves passionately in devotional bhakti songs and meditative dancing.

Past December, Pujya Shree Rakeshbhai Jhaveri was on an overseas dharmanyatra visiting Europe and North America - London, Toronto, Dallas, Phoenix and New Jersey. The Dharmanyatra culminated with a Retreat program “Freeze in Divinity” at the DoubleTree Hotel in Somerset, N J from December 28 - January 1, 2009 ending on a climactic high note of Akhand Ratri Bhakti on New Year’s Eve. The four day New Jersey Retreat “Freeze in Divinity” was a practical tutorial in the art of living, a unique experience, and a joyful spiritual journey. It was a potent mix of deeply philosophical satsangs, touching personal experience sharing, devotional bhakti sung and soothing meditative Sufi dancing, and enjoyable but deeply philosophical and spiritual cultural programs.

What draws people to Pujya Shree Rakeshbhai may be the depth of his satsangs but what transforms them is the love and devotion people feel for him. This love and devotion is the common thread that ties all the beads of his offerings. He says, “be as you are and add spirituality to what you are doing. Then let nature take its course. The inner transformation and peace will be the natural by-products”. He adds ‘There are many paths that lead to moksha and you must choose one when you start out but remember that all of them merge at the top and take you there’.

Pujya Shree commented that there was nothing wrong with creating a nice ambience and a wonderful Mahol in a retreat environment, but one has to be clear about distinguishing between the end and the means. Let not the variety of activities and format mislead anyone. Whether it is music or singing or meditation or Sufi dancing, skits or celebrations that initially draws someone, he says the underlying purpose is atma nirikshan and atma shuddhi through inner transformation. To get this, one has to have a passionate goal for self-purification.

Dr Kumarpal Desai was a guest speaker who gave a heart warming talk on “Shradhha” and on the meaning of a “Guru”. Another guest speaker, Ms Smruti Chaitanya from the Chinmaya Mission in London also spoke very eloquently. There were various cultural programs as part of the evening celebrations.

All in all, this was a retreat experience like no other. Ringing in the New Year completely soaked in bhakti and satsang. What better way to welcome the dawn of 2009! For those who missed the retreat or want to hear Pujya Shree's satsangs and other ashram activities, can visit Dharampur Ashram’s website www.shrimadrajchandradharampur.org. Here you can click webcast link and watch all of 2009 satsangs given by Pujya Shree via webcast. There is no cost for this service.

***

The Jain Center of New Jersey

The Jain Center of New Jersey (JCNJ) is one of the oldest Jain organizations in North America. It was established in 1981 at Essex Fells, NJ. Since then the JCNJ has grown from a handful of families to one of the leading Jain communities in North America. With significant and continued membership growth (1000 families), it is now necessary to have more space to host all the activities the Center holds throughout the year.

JCNJ is planning a new Derasar to be built on 9.6 acres in Franklin Township located in Somerset County in central NJ. The Derasar will have a total area of 5200 sq. ft. and a seating capacity of approximately 340 persons. The assembly building, connected to the Derasar by a hallway, will be a bi-level structure with a total area of approximately 44,000 sq. ft.

Five (5) idols of Tirthankars will be installed. When facing the Chabara, the position of the five idols will be as follows: Mul-Nayak: Munisuvratswami 41” Right Side: Mahavirswami 37” Far Right: Vasupujyaswami 37” Left Side: Simandharswami 37” Far Left: Shankheshwar Parshwanath 37”. All five idols were taken to KULPAKJI, Hyderabad, India for Anjan-Shalaka. Anjan-Shalaka was performed by Acharya Rajyashsuriji Maharaj on Dec. 7, 2008. Nearly 75 JCNJ
members participated in the Anjan-Shalaka ceremony at KULPAKJI.

JCNJ has had a very eventful year for 2008. It began the year with the Mahavir Janma Kalyanak celebration. Pathshala students worked very hard under their parent's guidance and performed different dances, drama and songs on Bhagvaan Mahavir's life. Program highlights were televised twice on TV ASIA and a write-up was published in Gujarat Darpan. They also had many visiting scholars like Dhirubhai Pandit, Tarlaben Doshi, Shruti Pranajai, Dr. Falguniben Zaveri, Sameerbhai Shah, Ashwini Pranajai, Pravinbhai Sanghavi, Punamchandbhai Vakil, and Diptiben Jhaveri, who taught Jain Philosophy/Religion in detail to the Sangh. These scholars provided a rich opportunity for JCNJ members to enhance the knowledge about Jainism.

There were nearly 125 members who participated in the Ayambil during Oli. Narendrabhai Nandu and his musical team conducted Bhaktamar Poojan on 12th July. JCNJ members were very supportive and took part in different Gatha of Bhaktamar Stotra. Paryushan Parva was celebrated under the guidance of Diptiben Jhaveri. This year JCNJ had nearly 60 Tapasvies including one MAS KHAMAN (30 days of fasting). During Swapna Darshan, JCNJ received a great response from members and had a total record breaking ghee boli of approx. $94,000. AKHAND JAAP of 12 hours was conducted on Diwali night. About 275 members took labh of Gautam Swami Jaap and Manglik on New Years day.

Narendrabhai Shah from Ahmedabad, India performed the Utthapan Vidhi of all three (3) Pratimaji on 8th Nov. 2008. After Utthapan, all three Pratimaji were taken to Dr. Prakashbhai Doshi's residence, 213 River Road, East Hanover NJ 07936. Jirmodhar work has begun from 1st Dec and will continue for a few months. In the meantime all activities will continue as usual in different locations as announced.

In recent JCNJ election, Chandrakant (Pravin) Mehta, Hamir (Nina) Vadi, & Kirit (Renuka) Shah were elected on Board of Trustees (BOT) for four years term beginning Jan. 2009 to Dec. 2012. Ashok (Rekha) Shah, Nitin (Jasmine) Talsania, & Vinay (Vimla) Vakani will continue as BOT member until Dec. 2010. The following members were elected for Executive Committee (EC) for two years term beginning Jan. 2009 to Dec. 2010: Dinesh (Heena) Chheda, Usha (Deepak) Gandhi, Madhu (Rajni) Kamdar, Kirit (Kaushika) Mehta, Anil (Hemlata) Shah, Himanshi (Priti) Shah, Ketan (Neha) Shah, Manish (Neepa) Shah, Mukesh (Saroj) Shah, Rashmi (Darshna) Shah, Subodh (Jyoti) Shah Yogesh (Jyoti) Shah & Jayant (Kundan) Sheth.

Please contact: Kirit Mehta President, JCNJ kkmehata@hotmail.com; or Chandrakant Mehta Chairman, JCNJ cbmehata2002@yahoo.com for more details.

**WEST**

**Brief History of Jain Center of Las Vegas, Nevada**

It was sometime in 1995 when Acharya Chitrabhanuji visited Las Vegas and the idea of bringing the Jain families of Las Vegas together, was born. It was his inspiration that promoted the vision of having a Jain temple in the town. Later on a meeting of Jain families was organized at the residence of Dr. Jaldeep Daulat where the video on the life and teaching of Bhagwan Mahaveer was shown. One of the attendees of the meeting, Dr. Bhagwan Singh, emphasized the need of having a regular meeting of all the Jain families once a month to have religious discourse on Jainism and educate the young generation on the teachings of Mahaveer Swami. According, the Jain families of Las Vegas started meeting regularly on a rotational basis at their residences to conduct religious discussion on the principles of Jainism. Prior to the visit of Chitrabhanuji, the idea of having a Hindu Temple had already taken shape. In 1991, Drs. Dipak and Kusum Desai, Ranjit and Renu Jain, and Jaldeep and Nita Daulat had contributed a large sum to purchase a land in the Summerlin area of Las Vegas. They are the founders of the Hindu Society of Nevada under whose auspices the Hindu-Jain Temple is built.

One of the prominent Jain families of Las Vegas, the Gandhi family is the pioneer in inviting the renowned...
Jain scholars to Las Vegas. This was possible thanks to Mr. Sid Baskin who was a Jewish by religion, but a true Jain by example. At his invitation Samanji Shitpragyag and Shrutpragyag agreed to visit Las Vegas in 1998 and delivered the very first lecture on Jainism at the residence of Atulbhai Gandhi. This was the beginning of a new era in the Jain community of Las Vegas before the Hindu-Jain Temple was constructed. The untimely death of Mr. Baskin at a young age was consoled by the Jain Community with a prayer led by Shrutpragyag. During the Paryushan Parva, the Samvatsari Pratikraman was organized at Atulbhai’s residence. Also the very first Mahaveer Janma Vanchan during the Paryushan Parva was organized at the residence of Shalleshbhai and Sudhaben Shah, who had moved from Chicago to Las Vegas in 1995. Until the temple was constructed, the Jain community would gather at their residence to celebrate the Mahaveer Jayanti and the Samvatsari.

The construction of the Temple started in late 1998 and it was completed in the year 2001. During its construction, the Jain families in a meeting at the residence of Yatin Daulat decided that we should share this temple by installing the deities of Bhagwan Adinath, Bhagwan Mahaveer, and Bhagwan Parshwanath. Accordingly, all the Jain families agreed to contribute $2,500 each towards the cost of purchasing the idols. These idols were purchased from Jaipur and arrived in Las Vegas late in July 2001. In the meantime, Drs. Ranjit and Renu Jain were in Chicago to attend the JAINA convention. At the convention, they were looking for someone who would do the Pratishtha of the Jain idols. Luckily, they were referred to Shri Nareshbhai Shah of New York who knew the Pratishtha ceremony and related issues. Drs. Ranjit and Renu Jain invited him to Las Vegas to do the Pratishtha which he kindly agreed to.

There were elaborate celebrations planned in April 2001 for the installation of the Hindu deities. The ceremony began on April 24, and ended on April 26, 2001. The Pratishtha of the Jain deities was scheduled for October 3, and 4, 2001. Shri Nareshbhai and Minaben arrived in Las Vegas a day before. On October 3rd, 2001, every member of the Jain families took part in the 18 Abhishek. On October 4th, 2001, the Dwar Opening ceremony was performed. Also on that day, the Gautam Swami Pooja was performed and the ceremony ended with Shanti Kalash.

After the establishment of the Temple, it was decided to form a body that would represent the Jain families at the JAINA level. Accordingly, Jain Center of Las Vegas was formed with Dr. Renu Jain as its President. Kirtibhai Shah was nominated as Secretary, and Nita Daulat was nominated as Treasurer. During her tenure as President, Dr. Renu Jain invited renowned scholars such as Sushree Tarlaben Doshi, etc. to Las Vegas for a discourse on Jainism. She was also instrumental in organizing the Jain Pathshala in the initial years before the Center was established.

In 2005, Dr. Renu Jain stepped down and Atulbhai Gandhi replaced her as President of the Center. During his tenure, Atulbhai invited renowned Jain Scholars such as Sushree Tarlaben Doshi, Shree Hira Ratan Manek (Solar Healing & Sun Gazing), Acharya Manekmuni, also known as Shatavdhani, Acharya Amrendraji, Shree Subhash Sheth, Pt. Dhirajilal and Ashwinini Pragyaji, etc. to Las Vegas. As President of the Center, Atulbhai invited the Senior Jain citizens from Los Angeles area to Las Vegas. It is worth noting that under the auspices of Acharya Manekmuni, Atulbhai, and his nephew Hemal Modi, observed fasting for 8 days, while Atulbhai’s wife Bharatiben observed fasting for 16 days during the Paryushan Mahaparva in 2005. To date this is a record Tapascharya in Las Vegas. It is also worth mentioning that Atulbhai made all the arrangements for the invited scholars and Bharatiben Gandhi devoted her time while the scholars stayed at their residence. Due to their selfless efforts, the Jain community was fortunate enough to have such renowned scholars on a regular basis in their midst. Atulbhai’s parents Rasilal and Elaben Gandhi were instrumental in inspiring them to organize such events in Las Vegas. During the 2006 Paryushan Parva, with the blessings of Acharya Amrendraji, Rajendra Bhandari observed fasting for 8 days.

During the Paryushan Parva of 2007, Ashwinipragyaji was in Las Vegas and he blessed the Jain community with his presence. At the same time Kirtibhai Shah was selected as President of the Center replacing Atulbhai Gandhi. Religious discourse on the different aspects of human life was organized at the temple. At the end of the Paryushan Parva, the Samvatsari Pratikraman was organized at the temple and conducted by Ashwinipragyaji. The current members of the executive committee of the Center are – Dr. Himansu Shah, Treasurer, Bhavik Shah, Secretary, Nita Daulat, Cultural Secretary, Rajendra Bhandari and Vikas Jain. Kirtibhai Shah and Suhasini Shah are involved in organizing Snatra Pooja in the temple on third Sunday of each month.

The Jain Center of Las Vegas is fortunate in having Panditji and his wife Vanji who has taken care of the Jain deities every day since 2001 and performs Aarti and Mangal Divo religiously to the delight of attending people.

***
Voices of the Next Generation of Jains

Our Past, Our Futures

by Samir Doshi

“The current of the world has its boundaries, otherwise it could have no existence, but its purpose is not shown in the boundaries which restrain it, but in its movement, which is toward perfection. The wonder is not that there should be obstacles and sufferings in this world, but that there should be law and order, beauty and joy, goodness and love.”

– Rabindranath Tagore

On visits with my father, our conversations often turn to Jain philosophy. He once asked me how Jain dharma influences my research and teaching as an ecologist. It was a question that seemed easy to answer, but hard to explain. The root of ecology comes from the Greek, oikos, meaning household, what we can refer to as our environment or surroundings. The field of ecology is the therefore the study of our environment, specifically the interaction between organisms and their surroundings.

When discussing ecology, what we really mean are relationships. In the classroom, I engage with students from a diverse array of backgrounds. Each brings his or her own unique perspective, creating a rich ‘community’ of relationships. Essentially, we are creating an ecology for the classroom. When we reference the Jain principle of ahimsa, we look at how nonviolence towards other beings affects your relationship with yourself – this is your own ecology.

I see a strong passion in my students about the grave issues that the planet faces, which also have serious consequences for our society. They are able to connect environmental issues such as the lack of drinking water, soil erosion, climate change, and species extinction to social issues such as poverty, population growth, disease, and starvation. These global issues are normally attributed to a type of lifestyle – excessive, selfish, or apathetic. However, the aspect of spirituality is rarely introduced, even among students that consider themselves as being religious. These issues need to be addressed by legislation, action, and lifestyle change. Spirituality has no place in providing a solution. Does it?

The principles of Jainism offer a perspective of interconnectedness and a sense of empathy for all life. As a boy, I would go for walks with my grandfather and notice how he would always look down wherever he would walk. What if you walked into something by not looking up, I would ask. He would stop, point down to an insect, and gently respond with that is why I look down. The ant can have an effect on plants and pollinators and the rest of the food chain. Moreover, the ant has a soul that needs to be respected just as any other life form. This story presently makes me think of how the reincarnation cycle through death and rebirth resembles the ecological cycle of death, decomposition, and germination.

The characteristics of interconnectedness and empathy are integral to our current ecology. Environmental issues are covered well enough in the media that I won’t go into detail about all the challenges we face, but I will present some of the more sobering numbers in order to put things into perspective. The world’s human population has more than doubled in the past 40 years. In that time, water usage has quadrupled, currently leaving over 1.1 billion people without access to drinking water. Over 4 billion people lack any treatment of wastewater, which usually washes downstream into water used for bathing and irrigating crops. Due to deforestation, intensive agriculture, and industrialization, over 38,000 square miles of land is eroded each year leading to desertification and degradation. This translates to a loss of 100 billion tons of topsoil every year, more than 5 times the rate that soil is formed naturally. In the past 20 years, over 1 million acres of land have been devastated due to mountaintop removal mining to provide coal for energy. Scientists believe that there is a 50% chance that the global climate will increase by 3°C this century. This might not seem very drastic, but consider that the global climate was 5°C less than today during the last ice age, when a quarter of the world’s lands were covered in ice. The melting of the ice caps would cause sea level rise that could submerge 1/3 of the world’s population centers. Fossil fuel consumption, deforestation, and agriculture are the major contributors to climate change. Over 3 billion people live on less than $2.50 a day. The poorest 40 percent account for 5 percent of global income. All these figures will continue to deteriorate under the affects of population growth and climate change.

I don’t present these numbers suggesting that we have to sacrifice our happiness, but to illustrate the relationships between these issues and how to develop strategies to address them. When studying the linkages of these systems, it is exciting to realize that a single solution can have many positive consequences and impact multiple issues at the same time. In effect, these issues can also be considered opportunities, where we can attend to poverty, climate change, energy, malnutrition and a host of other issues with the same approach.

Jain dharma and our sacred texts offer many prospects that are harmonious with nature and seek to create balance. Nonetheless, I believe that Jain dharma and our Jain culture do not follow the exact same path. We can look at the literature for examples that Mahavira gave, but what can we cite recently? Shrimad Rajchandra, Gandhi, and Vinoba – all followed the principle of ahimsa and all advocated for a more holistic coexistence with our surroundings, however, they seem to be more of the exception than the rule. My classroom seems similar to our Jain culture on a smaller level. We understand that there are consequences to our actions, and that they also affect our world. We can think of individual actions, such as driving and consuming less,
My understanding of Jainism

I was born into a Jain family, and grew up in a Hindu society in India. India is a land of lots of Gods and Goddesses. That culture is also a part of me. Most people recognize other Gods in addition to their main faith. Thus people practice Anekantvad that brings openness, tolerance and acceptance of others feeling. Soul is the focal point in the Jain religion. Atma [soul or jiv] is connected with the body. We all know that atma manifests its strength, weakness, desire, virtue etc. through the body. At the age of sixty +, when somebody asks me what type of Jain I am, I wonder how I should answer.

I am a Deravasi because I pray to God standing in front of Gods statue. I offer all of my internal devotion to the God whom I see on the lids of my closed eyes. I experience heavenly closeness when I am in prayer, meditation, worship, or in the anguish of an internal crisis. I teach my children religion by practicing pujas, prayer and Vandana, etc. I hope they will discover the deeper meaning of these devotions as they grow in age and experience.

I am Sthanakwasi too. Sitting quietly in one place, I analyze to understand what I see, hear and feel. I hope to gain some control of my mind and body and to make myself worthy of heavenly bliss. Knowledge, contemplation, meditation, observation, self-control, sympathy etc. are the tools of Sadhana. Steadiness is an absolute necessity in the unification of mind and soul.

I am a follower of Digamber Sampraday as well. Atma expresses itself through the body yet to widen my internal horizon, I cannot and I should not limit myself to the limitations of my physical body. I am trying to free myself from social and personal bondage and desire, as well as emotions like competition, vanity, greed, jealousy and anger. The more I let go of all these petty feelings, the more I will enjoy a greater spirituality in life. When I will feel genuine Oneness with everyone, I will be a true Digamber Jain.

I am also trying to follow the path of Jinawer, by developing compassion, humility, love, nonviolence and true understanding of nature. In Jain scriptures, we are all one. Jinvir have given the same mantra and the same marg for salvation. Anybody can go in any one of the types of Aaradhana and reach ones goal with any Sadhana. Such is the beauty, simplicity and purity of devotion and meditation.

I live in all three dharma bhavas and I respect all three. All three are within me and they cannot be separated. Now you tell me what kind of Jain am I? Individuals and Society as a whole will benefit if we remember what our Tirthankars have said clear consciousness and rational conduct tolerance and acceptance of natural life is spirituality.

I like what Jainism teaches and I am trying to follow the path of Jinaswar with humility and devotion. My knowledge and my understanding are limited, but whatever I have learned from my own experience, I have shared with you.

I believe I am just Jain.

Jai Jinendra!

Nilam Desai
Dallas, Texas

***
Social Cohesion

A Jain Perspective

By Aidan Rankin and Atul Keshavji Shah
Summary by Aidan Rankin

'Sarasparopagraha Jivanam' is a maxim that is central to Jain doctrine and practice. For an English speaker, it can be a tongue-twister but its meaning is clear and simple: all living beings are inter-dependent. This idea underlies the ecological consciousness of Jainism. It asks human beings to reduce their unnecessary consumption and to form relationships of co-operation with the rest of the natural world rather than seeing nature as something 'other' to be exploited and subjugated.

Ahimsa (non-violence) and Aparigraha (non-possessiveness) are about recognition of life's rich diversity, the intrinsic value of all life and that all living systems are intimately, often subtly linked. Jain philosophy has always extended the concepts of 'rights' and 'civil society' so that they include other species and ecosystems. Human intelligence, however, does not confer the right to conquer or control, but gives us responsibilities to act with compassion and restraint.

This ecological aspect of Jainism is increasingly well-known in the west, where it is given a new relevance by concerns over human-made pollution and climate change, results of an unbalanced relationship between humanity and 'the rest' of nature. Yet Jain principles are equally applicable to relationships between human beings and the way society is organised. Human society is, after all, an ecosystem in its own right. Social Cohesion: A Jain Perspective shows how insights gleaned from the Jain dharma have relevance to a pluralistic, secularised society such as Britain, where both authors live and work.

The principle of Anekn, or respect for alternative viewpoints, is well-designed for life in a pluralist democracy where there is no monopoly of truth. If more widely understood, it could give an underlying coherence to the multi-cultural society, so that both shared values and distinctive cultures can be promoted and respected. Anekn can also be a countervailing force against religious or political extremism, themselves products of social fragmentation.

This starting point for this monograph is that pluralism and individual freedom are sources of creativity and innovation — an idea that Jains strongly affirm. But in the absence of a coherent philosophical vision, they can have a darker side. Family breakdown, violence (including domestic violence), substance abuse, extremism and growing inequality are all symptoms of a malaise that is as much spiritual and ecological as economic or political. They are examples of unbalanced human relationships and false priorities.

Social Cohesion uses ideas derived from Jainism to point towards ways in which citizens and communities can work more co-operatively together, with greater trust re-established between people and government. It asks policy-makers to make connections between areas of life that do not automatically seem connected. The adversarial political system is in need of reform, for example, because it does not effectively meet the needs of a complex society where there are many shades of opinion and few 'black-and-white' issues. Rather than preserving stability, it now encourages aggression and confrontation. There is therefore a connection between constitutional reform and social cohesion. Likewise, inhumane urban architecture creates an atmosphere of isolation and alienation that is connected to family breakdown, addiction and violence. Here, there is a link between environmental policy, family policy and crime prevention.

The paper shows policy-makers how to transform vicious circles into virtuous circles. Beyond the specific proposals it makes, it calls for a change in the way we approach social issues, whatever our political ideology. Using the Jain principle of Careful Action, it invites all of us think about each action, individual or collective. Instead of imposing our worldviews on others, we should ask questions such as: 'what effect will it have a generation or more from now?'

The entire book can be downloaded free at www.diverseebics.com or printed copies can be ordered at £10 each via email to atul@diverseebics.com

Aidan Rankin is author of 'The Jain Path — Ancient Wisdom for the West' (Winchester/Washington, DC: O Books. www.o-books.com)

***
World Leaders, Jains and Interreligious Dialogue

Two sisters, Drs. Hema and Manda Pokharna, recently returned from India after attending the 7th Annual International Conference on Peace and Nonviolent Action (ICPNA) in two parts at Jaipur (India) from 10th November to 14th November, 2008. It was held under the auspices of His Holiness Acharya Mahapragya, one of the most revered national saints and a celebrated Jain Acharya known for his historic Ahimsa Yatra (a journey on foot to enhance people's awareness of nonviolence) and Yuvacharya Mahashraman, successor to Acharya Mahapragya. The first part of the conference was focused on a highly significant three-day international dialogue (10th Nov. to 12th Nov., 2008) on Evolving a New Model of Nonviolent Lifestyle for Universal Peace and Sustainability. The second part of the conference was the well regarded Second International Nonviolence Leadership Training Camp (13th Nov. & 14th Nov., 2008).

The conference was co-sponsored by the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions (CWPR) of which Dr. Hema Pokharna is a member of the board of trustees. The sisters were accompanied by Ms. Zabrina Santiago, the deputy director of the CPWR. The mission of the Council is to cultivate harmony among the world's religious and spiritual communities and foster their engagement with the world and its guiding institutions in order to achieve a just, peaceful and sustainable world. Ms. Santiago and Dr. Hema Pokharna were among the featured speakers and lifted up how Jains, Muslims, Hindus, Christians, Jews, Bahais and many other spiritual traditions must come together around issues of peacekeeping and nonviolent action.

Hema and Manda also presented Nonviolent Communication training in which they shared tools to communicate with greater compassion and clarity by focusing on two things: honest self-expression — exposing what matters to oneself in a way that's likely to inspire compassion in others, and empathy — listening with deep compassion. Formal NVC self-expression includes four elements: observations (distinguished from interpretations/evaluations), feelings (emotions separate from thoughts), needs (deep motives) and requests (clear, present, doable and without demand).

At the conference, Acharya Mahapragya, and Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India, launched their book, The Family and The Nation, which is published by Harper and Collins. It was an historical session and exciting occasion to be a witness to the coming together of Spirituality and Science. Drs. Hema and Manda Pokharna had a rare opportunity to have a private audience with Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam as well as His Holiness Acharya Mahapragya who is known for his transcendental wisdom. Dr. Hema Pokharna shared her interreligious work with CPWR with Dr. Kalam, and presented him with a Nonviolent Communication book. You will be very happy to know that a few weeks later, Dr. Hema Pokharna put Acharya Shree and Dr. Kalam's book, The Family and the Nation, in the hands of US President-Elect Barack Obama when he was exercising besides her in the gymnasium back in Chicago. President-Elect Obama received it joyfully and expressed his appreciation. He also received a book on Jainism published by JAINA education committee with the hope that he finds support and creativity in making Nonviolent and Compassionate choices while he leads the nation and the world.
Drs. Hema and Manda Pokharna deeply believe in the principles of Jainism and the importance of being engaged in interreligious dialogue to help bring about world peace. They would like to support in their next step to bring as many Jains who work for PEACE and NONVIOLENCE as possible to Melbourne to share Nonviolence, Anakantwad and Non-absolutism-Jain principles on an international platform. Please go www.parliamentofreligions.org to learn more about how to register and submit a program proposal.

***

**Fifth Parliament of World’s Religions in Melbourne – December 3-9, 2009**

The fifth Parliament of World’s Religions will take place in Melbourne, Australia, from December 3 through December 09, 2009. This Parliament is projected to bring in about 10,000 people from 50 countries and attended by high level spiritual/religious people from all over the world including Dalai Lama, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and others. Australian government is supporting this event with full enthusiasm.

The Council for a Parliament of the Worlds Religions (CPWR) has been organizing major interfaith events of global and historical significance for many decades. The very first one in 1893 became famous because of the well publicized participation of Swami Vivekananda and V. R. Gandhi. This was followed by a similar event in Chicago in 1993, Cape Town, South Africa in 1999 and Barcelona, Spain in 2004. The Barcelona Parliament was attended by about 30 Jains including monks, nuns, scholars, and delegates from USA, UK, and India. This participation was a huge success in terms of making Jainism more visible to the outside world. See fall 2004 Jain Digest.

The theme of the Melbourne Parliament, *Make a World of Difference: Hearing each other, Healing the earth* reflects the urgent need to act on concerns for the environment, peace, and overcoming poverty, and to cultivate awareness of our global interconnectedness. This theme calls for action and is parallel to the teachings of *Anakantwad and Parasparopagraho Jivanam*.

After the horrific 9/11 event, the interfaith movement has gained a new momentum and after 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks a new urgency. Nonviolence (Ahimsa), Multiple Reality of Truth (Anekaantvada), and Non-possessiveness (Aparigraha) directly relate to the theme of the Parliament. We are obligated to represent Jainism at the Parliament where each religion/faith will have an opportunity to present their points of view as how to make the lives of fellow human beings more safe and peaceful in this increasingly violent world. The small Jain community in Melbourne has offered to provide local guidance during this event.

As this is an electronic age, the 2009 Parliament theme, sub themes, daily schedule, call for programs, criteria for program selection and proposal forms have been put on the Parliament web site www.parliamentofreligions.org. This website explains various ways to participate in the Parliament including morning observances, intrareligious programs, Interreligious programs, music concerts, engagement programs, and exhibition. One can participate as a speaker, artist, volunteer, and sponsor or as a delegate. The current program proposal submission deadline is February 28, 2009.

Before preparing a program proposal, we also recommend you to visit the top menu bar on the parliament website www.parliamentofreligions.org homepage. It provides detailed information on many topics in the areas of the 2009 Parliament – key topics, Registration, Program – theme, environment, event schedule, Getting Involved; Support; Resources; and FAQs. In the Program drop down bar, there is a chapter on Environment and it contains a link for Resource List. It will take you to Jainism Engaged Projects Forum on Religion and Ecology/Jainism/Introduction to Jainism and then to an article on Jainism and Environment by Professor Christopher Key Chapple.

As you know, JAINA convention will be held this year in the Jain Center of South California area. Its theme is also Jainism and Environment. More information about participating in the Melbourne Parliament will also be made available in the JAINA Exhibition Booth.

We request all to review this website and participate in Melbourne by submitting your proposal or in any other preferred manner. Mr. Naresh Jain (n Jain52253@aol.com and 201-933-8963) and Dr. Hema Pokharna (hemapokharna.phd@gmail.com and 773-368-1656) of JAINA Interfaith Committee are available to help and answer any questions. Both of them are members of the Board of Trustees of the Parliament. Please feel free to contact them.

***
One of the important highlights of the JAINA convention held in New Jersey in July, 2007 was the convening of a special session devoted to a discussion of creating a distinct identity of the global Jain diaspora and promoting close interaction and coordination among leading Jain organizations functioning in different countries. It was felt that a lead taken by JAINA would be welcomed since JAINA represented by far the largest chunk of Jains living abroad.

The session got off to an auspicious start with the blessings of Acharyashri Chandanaji as well as Gurudev Shri Chitrabaniji. Both applauded the idea since a unified Overseas Jain community will promote world-wide dissemination of the fundamental tenets of Jainism which had acquired a contemporary relevance in view of widespread violence, terrorism, hate, hostility and exploitation. Environmental issues had also highlighted the relevance of Jain approach to ecology as well as all living beings in terms of Parasparopagraha Jeevanam.

The meeting was addressed by late Dr. L.M. Singhvi. Dr. N.P. Jain and Shri Kumarpal Desai. Dr. Singhvi had earlier successfully mooted the idea of global Indian diaspora and his proposals were endorsed by the Government of India resulting in dual citizenship for Indians resident abroad. Dr. Singhvi was now interested in mobilizing the collective strength of the global Jain diaspora by promoting close coordination and interaction among leading Jain organizations in different countries as well as with leading Jain organizations and institutions in India. Unfortunately Dr. Singhvi is no more with us. The best tribute we can pay him is by giving definitive shape to our initiative on global Jain diaspora.

The session endorsed Dr. Jain’s suggestion to hold a special session on the theme at the 2009 JAINA Convention to be held at Los Angeles. The interregnum should be utilized to establish communication channels with Jain organizations and institutions abroad and in India in order to evolve a pragmatic approach to larger Jain unity which could contribute, interalia, world-wide pro-active Jain initiatives in the sphere of environment, compassionate activities for other living beings, participations in disaster relief programs, encouraging spirit of restraint and aparigraha.

Shri Dilip Shah, In-coming President of JAINA spelt out clearly that the idea was not to form yet another international organization of Jains. Instead JAINA would informally step-up contacts and coordination with Jains resident in other countries and bring them together on one platform.

Dr. Kumarpal Desai warmly welcomed the idea of promoting closer contacts among Jains in different countries, and working our pragmatic channels of cooperation. JAINA is eminently situated for taking this initiative. Organisations in different countries of the Jain community will continue to function independently, but they will come together periodically to exchange views on how Jains can improve their identity and respect in the international community. It was encouraging that the New Jersey session was also addressed by leading Jains resident in Europe, Africa and Asia. In particular Jain representatives from Germany, Kuwait and Kenya warmly applauded the idea.

JAINA proposes to continue with its efforts from now on to create worldwide awareness among Jains of the desirability of coming together under the umbrella of global Jain Diaspora. Now that JAINA has earned recognition as an NGO at the United Nations, a new and powerful platform for Jain voice on the world affairs is suddenly available to us. Some of the valuable initiatives of JAINA, for instance in the field of preparing text books on Jainism for school children could be extended to Jains abroad. This editorial is intended to set the ball rolling for exchange of ideas on this important topic with a view to moving forward in an imaginative way. I am looking forward to vigorous JAIN DIA SPORA session at 2009 JAINA Convention.

Dr. Narendra P. Jain is India’s Veteran career diplomat and renowned Jain Scholar. You may exchange your views on JAIN DIASPORA by writing to him at drnpjain@yahoo.co.in

***
Young Jains of America

REGIONAL UPDATES

Northeast Region:

- Toronto Jain Camp was a fun-filled weekend in Acton, Ontario where counselors organized various sessions and games. The theme for our camp this year was The Endangered Jain. Visit us at http://www.jaincamp.com.
- Please contact sonia.shah@yja.org for more information.

Mid-Atlantic Region:

- Jain Center of America Camping Trip took place Oct. 11-13 at Harmony Ridge Campgrounds in NJ, with fun games and lively discussions.
- December 5th - Jain Youth Bowling Trip for D.C. Suburb Jains.
- December 14th - General Elections. Contact pathik.shah@yja.org for more information!

South Region:

- If you have a desire to get active on a regional level, whether it be planning, transmitting ideas back and forth, or serving as a local rep, shoot me an e-mail as paras.shah@yja.org

Southeast Region:

- In Florida, the Jain Society of Central Florida has monthly Pujas. The next one will be on December 7th.
- Please contact sejal.shah@yja.org for more information!

Midwest Region:

- This past summer we had the YJA convention in Chicago and we had a lot of turn out from our region.
- During Paryushana in Chicago there were a lot of youth targeted activities. This was a major improvement because it gave a youth and college aged students to go to come to temple.
- Please contact kunal.shah@yja.org for more information!

West Region:

- The Jain Center of Greater Phoenix is having their historic Pratishtha Mahotsav between December 20-26th. Visit www.jcgp.org for more information!
- A winter retreat is in the works for February. If you are interested in helping out with this event, please feel free to e-mail suraj.devraj@yja.org.
Young Jains of America Convention 2008: Chicago

YJA Convention 2008 — A word from Amit Jain, Co-Chair 2007-2008

The Lincolnshire Marriott Resort just outside of Chicago graciously hosted the 8th biennial convention, themed Generation Jain: Jainism Your Way. YJA 2008 was a groundbreaking convention and I am extremely proud as YJA Co-Chair 07-08. Our team worked tirelessly leading up and through the convention focusing on important details, which stood out to the attendees. Among some of the important breakthroughs for YJA, we were able to provide services for two hearing-impaired youth, have eco-friendly souvenirs for our attendees, serve an international gamut of gourmet food with Jain dietary restrictions, and offer some very unique sessions with dynamic, intriguing speakers from both inside and outside the Jain community. Looking back, this convention really changed my life. As a project leader, I gained invaluable experience working in a virtual environment, planning large-scale event and many other skills that I wouldn’t have learned otherwise. I made friends that will keep close to me for the rest of my life. We had such an amazing experience putting this convention together and I know all involved will never forget it.

YJA presents...

Winter Enlightenment
An amazing weekend of spirituality, camaraderie and hot chocolate
Young Jains of America presents THIRD East Coast Winter Retreat - a weekend of exploring the connection between the mind, body, and soul, at South Sterling, PA in the Poconos
The retreat is taking place between Saturday, February 14th & Monday February 16th, 2009.
$140 if you register between Dec. 15th and Jan. 25th; $155 if you register between Jan. 26th and Feb. 8th
Age groups between 14-28
For more detailed information, please visit http://www.yja.org/
Or email us at retreat@yja.org
Hope to see you there!

Executive Board 2008-2009

Ami Doshi (ON) – Co-Chair
Sonia Ghelani (TX) – Co-Chair
Mitesh Shah (GA) – Director of Project Development
Shardule Shah (MA) – Director of Education
Vaishali Shah (MA) – Director of Public Relations
Sumeet Bhandari (AZ) – Director of IT
Rajiv Vakhani (NY) – Director of Finance
Sheenika Shah (CA) – Director of Publications
Naman Jain (MA) – Director of Events
Kunal Shah (IL) – Midwest Regional Coordinator
Sonia Shah (MA) – Northeast Regional Coordinator
Paras Shah (TX) – South Regional Coordinator
Sejal Shah (GA) – Southeast Regional Coordinator
Suraj Devraj (CA) – West Regional Coordinator
Pathik Shah (MD) – Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator
Contact us at: board@yja.org
Anekant Community Center

Nalini Shah Cancer Fund – Cancer Awareness Program

Anekant Community Center (ACC) — a Los Angeles-based non-profit organization — has set up Nalini Shah Cancer Fund for prevention and early detection of cancer. Nalini had breast cancer and passed away in August 2008 at the age of 61. In Nalini’s memory, her family has donated $10,000 for this noble cause to fight the cancer and spread the message of awareness.

As reported in the ‘Time’ magazine, cancer is overtaking heart disease as No. 1 killer in the U.S. Overall death rate from cancer dropped just 5% from 1950 to 2005. During the same period deaths from heart disease dropped 64%. At current rate 1 in 2 men and 1 in 3 women will be diagnosed with cancer in 2008 — that is 1.4 million Americans.

ACC plans to present a series of lectures at the Jain Center of Southern California (JCSC) on various cancers — Breast Cancer, Cervical Cancer, Colon and Rectal Cancer, Uterine Cancer, Prostate Cancer etc. Early detection through regular screening tests and lifestyle improvements to minimize the cancer risks will be emphasized. Volunteers who can spread the message of cancer awareness and motivate the public to go for screening tests will be trained by American Cancer Society and Orange County Health Authority. Funds in the amount of $500 per camp will also be made available to organize cancer detection camps in India.

For more than 15 years, Anekant Community Center has organized free annual health camps in USA and abroad. ACC also assists other non-profit organizations to conduct health fairs in various communities which are free for the public. In view of the seriousness of the cancer risks, Anekant Community Center urges all Jain Centers to organize cancer education and detection programs for their communities. With timely checkups, early detection, and timely intervention, ravages of the cancer can be significantly reduced.

Funds in the amount of $500 per camp can be made available by ACC to organize cancer detection camps in India. For further information, please contact Harkishan Vasa at 714/771-7860 or hvasa@yahoo.com, or Mukund Shah at 949/509-6716 or mgshah@yahoo.com.

IAAMJV News

IAAMJV – Recipient of Large Donations

International Alumni Association of Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya (IAAMJV) recently received $105,000 donation from Dr. and Mrs. Gunavant N. Shah of Birmingham AL. The association will work closely with this philanthropic couple and spend their donation per their wishes to further the cause of the professional education in the Jain community.

The association is also in the process of receiving from Shri Manubhai Doshi, JAINA RATNA, of Chicago, a donation Rs. 15 lacs in India. This money will be used to distribute scholarships to undergraduate students over there.

The association is very grateful to both of these donors for their generosity and vision. We hope that these donations would serve as a source of inspiration to many.

IAAMJV, founded in 1991, is a JAINA affiliate, non-profit and tax-exempt organization and structured to promote the professional education. It gives out loan scholarships to the bright and needy Jain students, in India and USA, irrespective of their sect, language or region and also participates in larger educational projects. For further information, kindly contact Ramesh Fofaria, President, IAAMJV at 919-283-4232.

......Reported by Anop R. Vora, Rochester, NY
रामभी सहिना उप:कान्नी अंक धारना

--- जिलिन्द्र बी. वाहु ---

ता. 16.11.08ं रविवार रोज मानावता टाइमहोम मुनियवाण ग्री अखिजयंड्राजारक'न म.सा. में शात्रवादिनी प्रयोग कीं। आ प्रमोज गुजरातलशनां राजपुतला का नवरत्तिके ना नायभूयत्र शक्तिके। पूर्ण ना जारिके कराईं आये हे। मात्र चार वर्षी नानी बतना साहित्य प्रयोग करी सहे आसारसनीत करी होई हाया। आ प्रयोग आ सहिना-न सूत्री मथम अखिजयंड्राजारक तारी।

अखिजयंड्राजारक कर्ता, चात्रां, रामभी, पहिछर अखिजयंड्राजारक प्रयोगमां अखिजयंड्राजारक कर्ता बकाड, बकाड अने उद्धोण ने ज्याही अंतर कारे आये हे। समाजां उपक्रित लाई-लाई-नामांची कळप: प्रमोज पूर्ण बाज, ते तभाम प्रमोज अखिजयंड्राजारक कर्ता धारा के भरे अने पत्ती के क्रमां प्रमोज पूर्ण होय ते स्त्री क्रमां जसं आँधे। आम्री अंकलुवा धारा शिकनांत उपर्यापे अखिजयंड्राजारक वता वाच होय हे।

अखिजयंड्राजारक प्रयोगमां कर्तनांत श्री, ज्याकार, आकार, निकी बॉना, पार्कपूर्ण, आग्नेयचिका, वन्हिचिका, संस्कारांत आक धिहाणां अंतर करी होय हे। केरलाकार अखिजयंड्राजारक बोली सुधे अनसुधी अखिजयंड्राजारक अंक विविधने अंक वता रीते संधीकरत करी होय हे। श्री ते क्रमां हूँळ हूँळ कराईं बिमानी स्वयंस्वी, बायरंज अने पासाणी सम नस्मृत, बराटांक टोराणां ग्रहणा, जूठा धोलाचिका आक जोगी ग्रहणां-जोगी स्वयं, आक. विभिन्न विविधता अने धार्मिकशिक्तिके अंदून टिकाईं करी होय हे। हूँळ हूँळ कराईं पासाणी आर्थिक उत्पन्न करे तेवा आ प्रयोग वता होय हे।

अखिजयंड्राजारक प्रयोगमां प्रमोज अंकलुवा वृत्त वाच होय हे। विविध विविधता वृत्त हे तेय हर्ष अखिजयंड्राजारक तेय पोताना आसन पर लिखे आंदो वाच के प्रसिद्ध आक मेकरो मेकरो विविधने पोताना बहाने करी करी होय हे अने पही बायरंज बायरंज कासू आर्थिक शिकनांत उपर्यापे हे। श्रीमती विभिन्न विविधता अंक वता रीते संधीकरत करी होय हे।

मुनिश्री अखिजयंड्राजारक निर्धारणां निर्धारणां मैतराणी पासे आधार बोली ग्रहणां हस्ती। माता इंग्लिशवने मुके जन्मा अने तेवा संस्कारांत बाह्य मेरूं, बोली ग्रहणां अंकलुवे अंकत संस्कारांत जनतमुमुक, पूर्ण अखिजयंड्राजारक अंक पूर्ण ग्रहणां हेण प्रकां किताब वन्हिली भुगतू। आ ग्रहणां भागांत बाली बनाना संस्कार जन्मा एक ने। नामक जब भारी भाली जटी अने पाकाळ्यांत अंतर शिकनांत पासे आये हे। नामक जवास ग्रहणां हेण प्रकां किताब वन्हिली भुगतू। आ ग्रहणां जन्मा एक ने। नामक जवास ग्रहणां हेण प्रकां किताब वन्हिली भुगतू।
અવધાનનો પ્રયોગ કરવા આમંદન આપું હતું. ગાંધીજી પછી તેમની તીવ્ર સમર્પનાની માયે માનતા હતી. આવી સમયને અંતેથી શું વગર શક્ય હતી હવે, જે ઉપરાત ગઠવવાની કાર્યક્રમ અને એ ખરેખર શિક્ષણ પ્રદ્રશણની હતી. આ આગમનના શાખા વિદ્યા મુખરજી સ્રી રતનબંધૂ સુનિશ્ચિત અને ચેલ્લુ સૌભાગ્યજન (સંતસિદ્ધાંત), મુખરજી રતનબંધૂ ભલારાજ, મુખરજી રતનબંધૂ રૂપક્ષ સ્વામીજી, આવર્તસ્વરૂપ રીદ્વિયંમસ્સ્રી, ચીરલાવઠ ઠીકરશી શાખ વગરે વિદ્યાનોની શાખાઓના પ્રયોગો કરતા.

પ્રસ્તુત સંગીતને સંસ્કૃત-પ્રકાશ, દિલ્હી, ગુજરાતી ભાષામાં પ્રકાશન પ્રશ્ન, સ્વાક્ષરો, સંસ્કૃત ક્લાસ, સાંદ્ર-સંત્ર, તત્વશાસ્ત્રીયો, તીર્થસંગ્રહો, દેશભક્તિ, વૈશ્વિકજીતતા નામી, આશ્રયવૃદ્ધ સુધીએ જન પરિવારો અને આશ્રો ઉપર અવધાન પ્રયોગ કર્યા હતા. તેમના અવધાનની વિશેષતા એ હતી કે તેઓ આવર્ત, સુંદર અને શુભકંપ અને હચ્ચી કે ફરી કરતા આપે હતા. યોજકની વિશેષતા એ હતી કે તેઓ આવર્ત સો પ્રશ્નો-ઉત્તરો છ મહિના સુધી યાદ રાખી હતી. ધરને મુખરજી રહે.

વધુ ગુણને! વધુ માતાને!

અવધાનની અલગ સતત વિકસતી રહે અને શાસનની પ્રભાવના સામે રહે.
रोहिनी शुभम बनध जैन

रोहिनी शुभम बनध जैन, जिन्होंने भारतीय सरकार स्वतंत्र व्यवसाय के लिए प्रसिद्धि प्राप्त की है। उन्होंने देश के विभिन्न भागों में शिक्षा प्रदान किया है। उनके नेतृत्व में स्कूलों का विकास और शिक्षा की सुविधाओं का विकास हुआ है।

इन तीनों विचारधाराओं पर आधारित कुछ उदाहरण हम भगवान महादेव के जीवन में देखते हैं।

1. अनुभव: विद्यालय में आप अपने जीवन के कुछ मौकों पर अपनी भावनाओं का व्यक्ति करना चाहते हैं। हम जन्म का आदर्श तंत्रिका का सभ्यता का आदर्श करते हैं। हम क्षेत्र में विशिष्टता की साधना का मूल्य रखते हैं।

2. कृषि विद्यालय: हम कृषि क्षेत्र में अभिज्ञान के लिए विभिन्न उपकरणों और उपकरणों का प्रयोग करते हैं। हम आम तौर पर सर्वोच्च निपटान के लिए तैयार होते हैं।

3. अन्य विकास - महादेव जैन भाषा के लिए विभिन्न पत्रों, गीत, विचार और पत्रों का विवरण वाले बाँटते हैं।

वर्तमान युग में जैनों का समाज का अभाव

आज भारत में लगभग 50 लाख विद्यार्थी और विद्यालयों में लगभग 1,50,000 जैन हैं। इन लोगों का स्वयंसेवा समाज का ब्रज अभिव्यक्ति किया जा रहा है।

1. आधुनिक - आज के शहीद का काम करना है। उन्होंने अपने काम के लिए अद्वितिया और आदर्शता का प्रयोग किया है।

2. अन्य विकास - महादेव जैन जी को रामकृष्ण जी का उदाहरण देते हैं।

3. कला क्षेत्र में एतरकर, दिल्ली, बांग्लादेश, तेलंगाना, उत्तराखंड, अशोक, आदि के क्षेत्र का विकास हुआ है।

4. प्रसंस्कृत - अभिज्ञान, कार्य, तत्व, नतीज, नतीजों का विवाद के लिए उपयोग होता है।

5. विज्ञान - आज के जीवन में विज्ञान की महत्वपूर्ण स्थिति है।

6. व्यावसाय - जयपुर के महादेव विकलांग सहायता केंद्र, महादेव कैसर अस्पताल, दुर्घट जी अस्पताल, अयुक्त जी अस्पताल, इत्यादि का कार्य करता है।
बड़े बड़े अभिकल्यां जैनों का द्वारा चलाये जा रहे हैं। धर्मकार्यों में के साथ धार्मिकों और अध्यमिकों द्वारा यो निजी विश्वास द्वारा चलाये जाते हैं।

इसके अतिरिक्त प्रावः हर क्षेत्र में समाज सेवा में जैन नियम नियम से अपेक्षा पाये जाते हैं।

इसकीसवीं शताब्दी के परिप्रेक्ष्य में जैन धर्म
“महत्व कर्म” गोविन्द सरदार की व्याख्या ‘उत्कृष्ट व्यक्ति के अस्तित्व में पुनः पुनः सन्त’

इन दो जैन सिद्धांतों का अर्थ है कि लोक सत्य से है और रोगों पर इसके निर्देश उपयोगी होते रहते हैं। इसका अर्थ है कि सत्य सदृश सत्य रोगों पर उसका पर्याय द्वारा लाभ लेना है। अत्यावश्यक भावन के समय का संबंध भी अज अन्य लोगों के साथ संबंध भी 4 पर अग्रणी अम्बेदकर के समस्याओं का स्वरूप बदल गया है।

आज का युग knowledge, IT व संचार का युग है जिसने लोगों के बीच का एक कठिनाई/शांति का रुप दिया है। आज, अब हम देखते हैं कि जैन धर्मकार्यों के प्रकार आज को जटिल समस्याओं को सुलझाने में हमारी मदद कर सकता है।

1. जीवन शैली: आज मौजूदा, डायरीटव, इकोपरेशन आदि समस्याएं हमें जीवन को मधुर कर रही है। इसके लिए जैन धर्म से श्रद्धा शाकाहारी रोजन, तीन तप (अभिज्ञ, अन्वेषक, दर्शाता) का प्रयोग अपने स्वास्थ्य को आयुष्य रखने की दृष्टि से ही किया गया है, जिसमें हम अपने धार्मिक के सामाजिक कार्यों का रूप नूतन कर सकते हैं।

2. प्रयोगशास्त्र: आज के इस नये समय के समाज के लिए महावीर ने अस्तित्व व नवजीवनीय सिद्धांत का प्रचारित किया। इसके लिए जैन धर्मकार्यों की हिंदु समस्या का आदेश दिया।

3. आत्मबद्ध: हिंदु ने हिंदु मिलती है। अत्यावश्यक साधन अनेकों के लिए दृष्टि दिखाता है। आत्मबद्ध जीवन साधना, उसकी समस्याओं का स्वयंचित समाधान, शिक्षा, अपने को शान्तिशाली बनाकर व विविध हिंदु का शिक्षण अपनाकर, आत्मक से निपटा जा सकता है।

4. धार्मिक रोग: व्यवहार (धार्मिक) संबंध (धार्मिक हानि) की आधारण प्राप्त धार्मिक रोगों को मूल से समाधान कर सकते हैं। इस अवस्था में धार्मिक नियम (abstinence from sex) को उल्लिखित और अपनी रचना के साथ अपने यौन आदिवासियों में महाबुद्धि को महत्वपूर्ण कहना बहुधार्मिक अनुभव का सही पालन करना बताता है।

इस प्रमाण हम देखते हैं कि जैन धर्म का एक समय व्यक्तिगत व रीत्विक धर्म है जिससे हम अपने सारे संसारी समस्याओं का समाधान भी कर सकते हैं।

इसलिए हम जैनों का यह सार्वजनिक धर्म/कर्तव्य है कि जैन सिद्धांतों और जीवन रीतियों की रिश्ता जैनों को बनाने वाले को आधुनिक टेक्नोलॉजी के माध्यम से विभीषित आनंद और शान्ति पूर्वक जीवन जी सके।

समान्य
1. आत्म मोमंसा (समान्ताभूत) में सर्वजना, वैश्वतनिक और रूपान्तरण है।
2. व्यवस्थित अनुपालन (परामर्श रखनें)
3. भाषण (व्याख्या प्रस्तुति)
4. महावीर के समय में शान्ति, हिंदु, बौद्ध, अनेकों मातालों (343), धार्मिक दुसरों, जातियों के आदि पर शान्ति आदि समस्याओं का भी दर्शक हो थी। तथापि सामाजिक महावीर ने अपने समस्यापूर्ण तरीकों को प्रभावित कर समाज को चेतना की।

लेखक इंटरनेशनल क्लब के जैन स्टडीज (www.jainstudies.org), के संस्थापक निर्देशक है। लेखक सम्पर्क: svana@vsnl.com
**MIS REGISTRATION FORM**

Name (Please Print): ___________________________ Male:   Female: ___________________________

Last First Middle

Address: __________________________________________

Phone: Home: ___________________________ Work: ___________ Cell: ___________

Email: ___________________________ Birth date: ___________ Height: ___________ Weight: ___________

Vegetarian: YES/NO Smoke: YES/NO Drink: YES/NO

Current Marital Status: Never married/divorced. If divorced, number of yrs. married: ______

If divorced, reason for divorce (optional): ______________________________________________________

Current U.S./Canada visa status: ___________________________ Number of years in U.S./Canada: ______

Education: ___________________________________________ Major: ___________ Minor: ___________

Under graduate school attended: _____________________________________________________________

Graduate School attended: _________________________________________________________________

Work Experience: ___________________________________________ (May attach a separate sheet, if desired)

Father’s Name: ___________________________ Mother’s Name: ___________________________

Name of the Jain Center you/your parents belong to: ___________________________________________

Please provide two references, whom we may contact for your reference:

1. Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________

   Address: ___________________________________________

2. Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________

   Address: ___________________________________________

Candidate’s Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________

Important Notes: 1. You may include an optional recent photograph. 2. Your MIS form and advertise will be kept in our files for a maximum of one year, after which it will be destroyed. 3. You MUST include your ad, typed on a separate piece of paper, as you would like it to appear in Jain Digest, in no more than 40 words. Any MIS forms missing this may not be published in Jain Digest. 4. You MUST include your contact information in your ad. 5. Jain Digest reserves the right to edit your ad, refusal to publish and/or verify the information provided by you. 6. You MUST include a check in the amount of US $30.00 per issue of Jain Digest payable to JAINA along with your MIS registration form. 7. Jain Digest is a quarterly publication, normally published in January, April, July and October. Your registration material MUST be received by the 10th day of the previous month to be included in the next issue of Jain Digest.

Please mail completed MIS registration form along with a check to:

Mukesh M. Doshi, 1540 Sandburg Drive, Schaumburg, IL 60173-2183.

You may register for MIS online by logging in to, www.jaina.org/mis/jdmis_main.asp

For further information you may call (H) 847-517-2505 OR (Cell) 224-558-4345 OR Email: mukusha@gmail.com

Disclaimer: MIS is a service of JAINA, a not for profit tax exempt organization. MIS and JAINA assume no responsibility for the accuracy or the authenticity of the information published in ads or any consequences resulting thereof. By voluntarily placing your ad in Jain Digest, you agree to hold JAINA, MIS Director, JAINA officers, its agents and its employees harmless for any consequences resulting through and by MIS service.
MIS ADS - Females for Jain Digest - January 2009

F00370708: Family friend invites correspondence from well educated, professional, vegetarian boys: for pretty physician girl, born March 1979, 5' 0", currently doing 2nd year residency in Chicago. Email: vinodashah@gmail.com

F00330708: Gujarati Jain parents invite proposal from well educated, vegetarian boys for pretty, US born physician daughter, completing her residency in P.M. & R. in June 2009 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Born Aug 1978, 5' 3". Call: 216-235-8374/440-333-7199 or Email: sodhb@yahoo.com

F00420708: Gujarati Jain parents seek correspondence for alliance from well educated, professional, US raised boys for their attractive, intelligent US born and raised daughter, born June 1977, 5' 5", CPA/MBA, financial analyst in major bank. Please respond with photo and bio-data to gsmt2005@yahoo.com

F00220408: Correspondence invited for 1979, US born, vegetarian, family oriented, cultured, outgoing girl, currently pursuing MBA at UCLA. Request educated, non-smoking, US raised boy. Please contact 408-268-3536 or Email: californiagirl2008@gmail.com

F00530109: Gujarati parents invite proposals from educated, cultured, vegetarian, professional boys for their educated, cultured daughter, born Oct 1980, 5' 1", 130 lbs, M.S., working in Fairfax, VA. Call: 703-825-6547 or Email: dhirend_sheth@yahoo.com

F00550109: Gujarati parents invite proposals from suitable boys with photo and bio-data for their charming, vegetarian, US born daughter, born Nov 1981, 5' 4", 126 lbs., DDS. Call: 201-265-7160 or Email: vairagi_shah@yahoo.com

F00560109: Jain parents invite proposals from professional boys with photo and bio-data for their beautiful, vegetarian daughter, born March 1974, 5' 1", MD, doing Fellowship in Peds GI in Michigan. Call: 248-885-8970 or Email: gynabaid@yahoo.com

F00570109: Jain parents invite proposals from photo and bio-data from vegetarian, handsome, well-educated, well-settled boys for their slim, pretty, vegetarian, US born daughter, born April 1982, 5' 5", family oriented and caring. Currently pursuing Pharm-D degree. Email: jrishabh_21@yahoo.com

F00580109: Gujarati Jain parents invite proposals with photo and bio-data from US born, well-educated, vegetarian, professional boys for their US born, beautiful, cultured, vegetarian daughter, born 1984, 5' 4", 110 lbs., MS in Human genetics, working as a genetic counselor. Email: hsm429@aol.com

F00590109: Gujarati parents invite alliance from well-educated, vegetarian, professional boys for their slim, talented, family oriented, cultured, US Citizen daughter, born Oct 1981, 104 lbs., Pharm. D, working as a clinical pharmacist in southern California. Call: 562-652-4144 or Email: dipaks@gmail.com

F00600109: Gujarati sister invites proposals with photo and bio-data for attractive, accomplished, vegetarian, family oriented sister, never married, born 1967, 5' 4", well-settled. Call: 931-358-5453 or Email: gops36@yahoo.co.in

F00610109: Accomplished MBA, US born, Oct 1975, 5' 5", attractive, cultured, vegetarian young lady invites proposals from well-educated, cultured, vegetarian, professional young men, settled in US. Email: musical1975@yahoo.com

F00620109: Hindi speaking Jain parents invite proposals for handsome, educated, vegetarian, US born daughter, born June 1991, 5' 3", Pharm D, employed as a clinical pharmacist at a reputable hospital in NYC, from cultured, well-educated, professional boys. Call: 770-442-8559 or Email: mldosi@yahoo.com

F00630109: Gujarati parents invite proposals for slim, talented, successful. Vegetarian, US Citizen daughter, born Aug 1977, 5' 5", 115 lbs., currently pursuing MBA at a top Ivy League University, from cultured, educated, vegetarian boys. Call: 973-257-0031 or Email: kiril108@gmail.com

F00640109: Gujarati Jain parents invite proposals from well-educated, professional boys for their well-educated, smart, US permanent resident daughter, born Sep 1973, 5' 6", 115 lbs., M.Com, Diploma in Business Management, residing in Chicago area. Email: binivini.shah@gmail.com

F00650109: Gujarati Jain parents invite responses for their daughter, born June 1975, 5' 5", 99 lbs., M.Com, Masters in Computer Application, Software Eng. (India), from well-qualified, vegetarian, non-smoking and non-drinking boys from Jain/higher caste. Call: 011-91-265-2489870 (India) OR C/o 631-234-0353 (USA). Email: abhodia@rediffmail.com
MIS ADS - Males for Jain Digest - January 2009

M0030408: Gujarati Jain physician/dentist parents invite proposals for their US born, handsome son, born Jan 1980, 5' 9", 170 lbs, MBA from NYU. Doing own business in New York City. Fax bio-data 201-222-9041 with email address

M00040408: Gujarati parents invite proposals w/photo bio-data from cultured vegetarian educated pretty girls, for handsome US citizen son, born Dec. 81, 6', BS (EE), well employed at reputed company. Call: 281/265-2271 OR Email: d4mshah@yahoo.com

M00240708: Gujarati parents invite correspondence for alliance from educated cultured girls; for handsome, accomplished, vegetarian, US citizen, issueless, divorcee son. Born Sept 1971, 5' 7", MS (ME). Well employed/settled in NYC. Call 516-334-8196 or Email: psah44@hotmail.com

M00340109: Gujarati parents invite proposals for handsome, brilliant, vegetarian well-employed US born son, born Sept 1982, 6' 0", BS in MIS and Finance, from cultured, educated, vegetarian pretty Jain girls. Call: 334-655-0031 or Email: mrlhshah@yahoo.com

M00350109: Gujarati parents invite responses from educated family oriented girls with photo and bio-data for their Canada born son, born Feb 1982. Has own consulting business, working as a software engineer in USA and Canada for 5 years. Email: MindVivah@gmail.com
Jain Center of Greater Phoenix

Thanks all attendees for making Pratishtha Mahotsav a grand success and
Thanks those who supported us by donating towards temple.

You can support us by sending your tax-deductible contributions various ways.

We really need your support
I/We wish to Donate............$

Make check payable to Jain Center of Greater Phoenix.
To pay by charge card please visit website www.jcp.org

Mailing Address: PO Box 84221, Phoenix, AZ 85082

Your Information:
Name______________________________
Company Name_____________________
Mailing Address_____________________
City_________ State____ Zip_________
Phone:_____________ Cell___________
Fax:___________________________

Detailed information on website

On Your Birthday, Marriage Anniversary, In memory of, New Child/Grand Child

Aarti & Divo
For 1 year
Once a month $1001
One Time $101

Snatra Puja/Dev
Guru Shastra Puja
For 1 year
Every Month $2501
Twice a Year $501
One time $251

Pakshal & Puja

Angi Once
Mulnayak $501
Bhamti Murti $251

Nitya Niyam Puja

Once a Month $1001
One time $101

Puja Samagri for 1 year $501

Janm Kalyanak Puja $1001
Nirvan Kalyanak Puja $1001
Antray Karma $1001

Pathshala classes are every week on Sunday
Pathshala support for year $501
Jain Milan 4/2009
www.jainmilan2009april.com
3rd Annual Jain Youth
3-day Matrimonial/Networking Convention
(A unique opportunity to meet and find a life partner... in person!)
Friday April 10th 2009, 5 pm to midnight.
Saturday April 11th 2009, 10 am to midnight. Sunday April 12th 2009, 9 am to 3 pm.

- Venue: Long Island, NY. Host: Jain Center of America, NY.
- Admission by advance registration* only. Participant must be Jain, age 21 or older.
- Early Registration ends 2-28-09, Registration Last Date 3-21-09.
- Registration Fees: US $180 by 2-28-09 and $200 by 3-21-09 per participant. NO REFUNDS.
- Registration until 4-10-09 US $250 per person (Bio-data will not be included in the Souvenir).
- Participants will receive souvenir with partial Bio-data and pictures at the convention hall.
- Bio-date on a separate page will be inserted if registration is received by March 31, 2009.
- Souvenir is for participants ONLY and will not be available for sale.
- Write check or US money order to "JAIN MILAN 2009 April" No refunds. See T&C on Web.
- Mail registration/check to G. Shah, Jain Milan, 12 Ascot Place, North Brunswick, NJ 08902 USA.
- Contact Person: Gunvant Shah, phone: 732-246-4030, profgaryshah@yahoo.com.

Registration by mail (please include 2"x 2" color photo-passport size only). Do not leave any line blank.

Name: ____________________________ DOB: __/__/19 Age: __________
PRINT: FIRST NAME M.I. LAST NAME Month Day Year
Address: __________________________ City_________ St. ______ Zip __________
Phone: H: __________ Cell: __________ Gender: M____ F____
E-mail: __________________________ Height: ______ ft ______ in. Weight: ______ lbs
Vegetarian: Yes ____ No ____ Vegan ____ Smoker: Yes ____ No ____ Drink: Yes ____ No ____ Occasionally____
Highest degree: __________ Major: __________ Occupation: __________
U.S. Status: US Citizen ____ Green Card ____ in US since ______ Other/Visa: ______
Marital status: Single ____ Divorced ____ Widowed ____ I Need (to share) Hotel room: Yes ____ No ____
I need Transportation Yes ____ No ____ I give ride to and from Hall, picnic and Hotel (3 miles) Yes ____ No ____
- For hotel room at discount price & for transportation E-mail: jainmilan2009@gmail.com
Few words about you & future life partner (Print) __________________________________________________________

Father's name: __________________________ Mother's name: __________________________
Parent's Address (Print): __________________________
Applicant signature (Required): __________________________ Date: __________

* Jain Milan reserves the right to ask for documents to verify above information. Bring your photo ID and proof of DOB with you.

Early Discount Registration price until 1/31/09:
$160 for 1, $300 for 2, $700 for 5, $1300 for 10
(More people you bring in the convention more choices every participant will have.)

Why Jain Milan?
As the next generation of Jain Americans begins to assimilate into Western culture, it becomes increasingly challenging to meet those that hold similar beliefs and religious values. Though websites and e-mail communication help to a certain extent, nothing comes close to meeting potential suitors in person. We have witnessed many Indian organizations holding successful events to provide an opportunity for young adults to have a face-to-face meeting. We felt now it was time to create a forum for the Jain youth.

What is Jain Milan?
Jain Milan is an opportunity for Jain youth (age 21 and older) throughout North America and around the world to meet in person, to make friends, to engage in networking, to develop business contacts and to possibly find a life partner. Jain Milan is organized to encourage our Jain youth to meet other Jains for the purpose of matrimony and to facilitate a face-to-face meeting. Jain Milan believes in Jain family values and will work hard to preserve these values. With events like Jain Milan, we hope to achieve our goal to preserve Jain traditions and values in our next generation and strengthen our community.

Participants of Jain Milan 2006 in Edison, NJ:
152 participants out of 167 registered participants attended the convention- 81 female (53%) and 71 male (47%). 120 of the registered participants (72%) were between the age of 21 and 29 years and rest 47 participants (28%) were 30 years of age or above. 65 (39%) of the participants have BA degree, 35 (21%) of them have MS degree, 25 (15%) of them have MD or JD degree, 25 (15%) of them have MBA degree, 10 (6%) of them have Ph.D. or Pharm. D. and 4 of them have other college education. Besides Medicine, Law and Pharmacy professions, 55 of them are working as Engineers or computer Science professionals and 35 of them are working in Finance or Business. 122 (73%) participants have US Citizenship, 23 have US Visa, 14 have US Green card, 6 have Canadian Citizenship and 1 each has UK and Singapore citizenship.

Participants of Jain Milan 2008 in Huston, TX:
There were 93 registered participants at the convention- 42 female (45%) and 51 male (55%). 73 of the registered participants (79%) were between the age of 21 and 29 years and rest 20 participants (21%) were 30 years of age or above. 32 (34%) of the participants have BA degree, 30 (32%) of them have MS degree, 18 (19%) of them have MD or JD degree, 9 (10%) of them have MBA degree, 3 (3%) of them have Ph.D. or Pharm. D. or CPA, 1 of them have other college education. 66 participants have US Citizenship, 17 have US Visa, 6 have US Green card and 3 have Canadian, 1 has UK citizenship.

Convener, JAIN MILAN: Gunvant Shah, (Chairman, Jain Milan)
12 Ascot Place, North Brunswick, NJ 08902, USA
☎ 732-246-4030 E-mail: profgaryshah@yahoo.com
15th Biennial JAINA Convention
Anahiem Convention Center
800 W Katella Ave, Anaheim, California 92802
July 2-5, 2009

Convention Board
Lata Champseey
Convener
(416) 441-2200

Dr. Nitin Shah
Co-Convener
(562) 244-9035

Rashmi Shah
Co-Convener
(310) 753-8990

Keerti Shah
Finance
(630) 837-8716

Dilip Panatar
Secretary
(614) 440-4239

Yogesh R Shah
Fund Raising
(714) 356-5300

Ashok Donadia
Programming
(510) 979-9312

Harshad Shah
Food
(732) 522-5736

Narendr Jain
Registration
(310) 345-8580

Alka Dalal
Exhibition
(310) 452-3109

Mahesh Wadher
Volunteers & Transportation
(909) 376-4027

Upen Shah
Marketing
(905) 819-1733

Soumit Mehta
Green Activity
(805) 455-9527

Jai Jindendra Sahdharmi Jains,

It is with great excitement we invite you to 15th Biennial JAINA Convention from Thursday, July 2nd to Sunday, July 5th, 2009. The Convention will be held in the city of Anaheim located in Sunny Southern California. The theme for the 2009 convention is "Ecology-The Jain Way". Attend to educate ourselves about how timeless principles of Jain Religion reflect Ecology that has become the focus of everything that we do today! Attending this convention will equip you with the necessary tools and resources to live a green life liberated from the hinsak ways and charge you up to inspire others.

Many esteemed speakers & leading ecologists like Dr. Abdul Kalam (former President of India), Dr. James O'Toole (Prof. of Business Ethics at Univ. of Denver and author of various books including Value based Leadership), Christopher Chapple (author of "Ecological Perspectives in Jainism") and our own Guruji Chitrabhanuji, Acharya Chandanaji, Dr. Rakesh Bhai Jhaveri, Dr. Deepak Jain & many others have been invited for speeches, seminars, & panel discussions. They will share their vision of ecology & explore with us how Jain Religion has been in front of practice of ecology!

SIDDH-HEM – World Premiere of a play on the life and works of Acharya Shri Hemachandracharya (by Apoorva Avsar fame team), Raas Garba, Jain Academic Bowl, dance performances from various Jain Centers along with Yoga, meditation, dhyana, bollywood aerobics, Entrepreneur Workshop and Jain 21 Networking forum for youth 21+) will be featured at the convention.

2007 JAINA Convention seminar on JAIN DIASPORA held under the Chairmanship of Late Sri L M Singhavi was a major new JAINA initiative towards the global Jain Unity. On July 2nd leaders of Jain communities of various countries will once again meet and discuss issues common to us all and finding avenues of cooperation.

A major Jain art exhibition by artists from India and North American Jain artists will be presented that will later travel to other Jain Centers in USA and Canada.

Christopher Key Chapple of Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles is working with JAINA education Committee and other scholars on a book "Ecological Perspectives in Jainism". This book will be inaugurated at JAINA Convention.

There will be separate speakers for different youth age groups - first time in JAINA! The theme will be explained & way of life around Ecology will be addressed by the speaker salong with other aspects of Jain Religion. They will also be an opportunity for friendship & relationship building for appropriate age groups.

Special bus tours will be arranged by Jain Center of Southern California to visit Los Angeles’ renovated Derasar, a newly built state of the art Cultural Complex, & one and only more than 100 years old WoodenTemple – a Replica of Palitana Temple!

Please note that the convention is equipped to handle our physically challenged attendees.

Ladies & Gentlemen, Come One Come All for a fun time for the entire family in July 2009 to Anaheim – the home of Disneyland (The Happiest Place on Earth!). Please visit WWW.JAINA.ORG for on line registration. Early bird registration ends on 28th February. For any questions, please email registration 2009@jaina.org or call 714-255-9461.

Go Green - See you all in Anaheim in July 2009.

With Regards,
JAINA Convention Board

Federation of Jain Associations in North America (JAINA)
Non-Profit Tax Exempt Religious Organization, IRS Section 501 (c) (3) EIN #54-1280028
43-11 Ithaca Street, Elmhurst, NY 11373 Ph: 718-208-4435
www.jaina.org email: jainaconvention@jaina.org
Distinguished Scholars & Speakers

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam: Dr. Kalam an ardent supporter of Ecology and sustainable development is former President of India. His focus is on transforming India into a developed nation by 2020. Dr. Kalam made significant contribution as Project Director to develop India’s first indigenous Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-III) which successfully injected the Rohini satellite in the near earth orbit in July 1980 and made India an exclusive member of Space Club.

Dr. James O’Toole is the Daniels Distinguished Professor of Business Ethics at the University of Denver’s Daniels College of Business. Previously, at the University of Southern California’s business school he held the University Associates’ Chair of Management, served as Executive Director of the Leadership Institute, and editor of New Management magazine. Dr. O’Toole’s research and writings have been in the areas of leadership, philosophy, ethics, and corporate culture. He has addressed dozens of major corporations and professional groups, and has over one hundred published articles.

Christopher Key Chapple is the Navin and Pratima Doshi Professor of Indic and Comparative Theology at Loyola Marymount University. Dr. Chapple received his doctorate in the History of Religions through the Theology Department at Fordham University and has taught Sanskrit, Hinduism, Jainism, and Buddhism. He has published several books, including Karma and Creativity, a co-translation of the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali and Non-violence to Animals, Earth, and Self in Asian Traditions, Hinduism and Ecology, a co-edited volume, Jainism and Ecology: Non-violence in the Web of Life (2002) and Reconciling Yogas.

Dr. Will Tuttle a former Zen monk with a Ph.D. in education from U.C., Berkeley is an award-winning speaker, educator, author, and musician. His book - The World Peace Diet has been called one of the most important books of the 21st century: the foundation of a new society based on the truth of the interconnectedness of all life. It is the first book to make explicit the invisible connections between our culture, our food, and the source of our broad range of problems—and the way to a positive transformation in our individual and collective lives.

Nipun Mehta is the founder of Charity Focus, a fully volunteer driven organization started in 1999 to inspire the young IT professionals to provide free web based solutions for nonprofit organizations worldwide. Having served thousands of nonprofits, without any overhead, Charity Focus has now become an incubator of “gift-economy” projects ranging from web services to a film production company to a print magazine to a restaurant. Mehta is also a member of the Tipping Point Network and serves on the advisory board of the Seva Foundation and Dalai Lama Foundation. While Nipun’s childhood dream was to either become a tennis-pro or a Himalayan Yogi, the current mission statement of his life simply reads: “Bring smiles in the world and stillness in my heart.”

Plus over 50 scholars and distinguished guests including:

Gurudev Chitrabhanuji
Dr. Rakeshshri Jhaveri
Sri Lokesh Muni
Pramodabenz Chitrabhanu
Dean Dipak Jain

Acharya Chandanaji
Samni Madhur Pragyaji
Bhattarakji Charukartiji
Dr. Kumarpal Dasai
Vasantbhai Khokhani

Sri Jinchandraji Maharaj
Sadhvi Shilapiji
Pdt. Dhirajal Mehta
Dr. Hukamchand Bhanil
Dr. Gary Francione

With various tracks geared towards specific age/interests, this convention will offer a gamut of discussions, demonstrations and programs to promote in-depth understanding of Jain philosophy and ....

Ahimsa & Leadership
Ahimsa thru Ecology
Jain way of Living
Entrepreneur Workshop
Fundamentals of Jainism
Significance of Samayik and Sutras

India in 21st Century
Green way of Life
Atamsiddhi
Promising Green Careers
Advanced Jain Dharm
Pathasa Teachers Conf.

Diet for World Peace
Ecology and Vegetarianism
Jains: Pioneers of Ecology
Science of Forgiveness
Veganism and Ahimsa
All youth programs are tailored specifically for youth 14 years and up. All sessions, social programming activities and entertainment are being planned by youth, for youth. Speakers, workshop leaders and entertainers have been selected by the youth committee for their ability not only to inspire, motivate and teach, but also for their ability to connect with today's youth. Trailblazers in their own field, all of them practice what they preach. Planned events include:

**JAIN 21:** An event for the Jain Youth (21+) to meet, socialize and network with one another. Planned activities include:

- Ice Breakers
- Speed Dating
- Dance & Movie Nite
- Cruise
- Fun Fair
- Bollywood Aerobics

**Entrepreneur Workshop:** Seminars by experts (including Venture Capitalists), Career Guidance by both peers and professionals, Investment Advice, Seminar of Green Careers.

**Jain Academic Bowl:** The Jain Academic Bowl is an academic competition similar to the popular game show, "Jeopardy." It is based on the appreciation of knowledge of Jainism, the ability for quick response, and a friendly yet competitive spirit. The objective of this competition is to encourage an even greater interest in the study of Jainism.

**Awards Ceremony:** Recognizing and awarding qualified Jain Youth "Superstars" for outstanding achievements in various fields. Nominations can be submitted by individuals themselves or by friends and family.

**Raas Garba, Dance presentations from various Jain Centres.**

**Jain Way of Living:** Various seminars and workshops

- Day in Life of a Jain Monk
- Science of Forgiveness
- Jain Dharma in Medical Science
- Service Activities

**Ecology:** Top level speakers and activists will conduct seminars on Ecology with emphasis on how Jains through time have preserved and practiced Ecological principles. Various related exhibitions and booths will reinforce our ecological credentials.

**Networking:** Opportunity to network with Jains from India to explore volunteering opportunities with charitable organizations in various parts of India.

Youth Planning Committee which consists of young Jains (ages 15-35) from all over North America is looking for volunteers to help them put these events together. If you want to get more involved and make a difference in the Jain community, please call Rashmi Shah at 310-753-8990 or e-mail him at krushmi@aol.com

---

**Siddh - Hem - A Gujarati Play from Apurva Avasar Team**

Siddh-Hem showcases dramatic episodes from the life of Acharya Shri Hemchandra Acharya (1089-1173 AD) - a renowned Jain Scholar and Inspirational Guru of Raja Siddhraj and King Kumarpal who converted to Jainism and made Jainism the premier religion of Gujarat. Acharya Hemchandra Acharya is reverently and affectionately referred to as Kalikal Sarvagna - the one who knew everything in this kali kal. It was Siddhara's request to create a Grammar of Gujarati language that resulted in - SIDDH HEM Shastra - the first authoritative grammar of Gujarati language. The king was so impressed by this scholarly work that he honored the Book with a procession on Elephant with the king, sadhus, musicians and public following the majestic procession. This historic procession has no equal in human history. Hemchandrayaji went on to create the next encyclopedia of Gujarati language - Alankar Shasta and also Kayva Shasta. For these reasons, Hemchandrayaji is referred to as the father of Gujarati language. His contribution to Jain literature includes Trishtha Shalaka Purush Charita, Parishistaparva, Yogshastra, Vitratastra, Pramanminansa.

Performance of this play at JAIN Convention will be the World Premiere of this play. The team that produced and performed highly acclaimed Apurva Avasar at JAIN Convention - 2007 will be performing this play.
15th Biennial JAINA Convention OFFERS MANY SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO DONATE FOR A WORTHWHILE CAUSE AND PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS TO JAIN COMMUNITY IN NORTH AMERICA AND REST OF THE WORLD.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SANGHPATI: This may be one family for $50K donation or two families for $25K donation each.
• Photograph of the family in souvenir (must be in by May 1) & Jain Digest after the convention.
• Full page advertisement in the souvenir, refund of 8 registrations.
• Front section seating, special Swamivatsalya with dignitaries and special ribbon for family (5 members).

SOUVENIR BOOK: The Souvenir Book is read by about 20,000 Jains in the Convention year. Advertisement Rates are:
Back Cover: $11,000  Center Page: $5,000  Full Page (4 color): $1,500
Full Page (1 color): $1,100  Inside Cover: $7,500  Half Page: $800  Business Card: $250
Quarter Page: $500

JAINA JEWELS:
DIAMOND - $15,000
• Photograph of the couple in souvenir
• Full page advertisement in souvenir.
• Front section seating, refund of 6 registrations.
• Dinners and lunch with dignitaries.
• Special ribbon for the family (4 Members).

RUBY - $11,000
• Photograph of the couple in souvenir
• Full page advertisement in souvenir.
• Front section seating, refund of 6 registrations.
• Dinners and lunch with dignitaries.
• Special ribbon for the couple.

EMERALD - $7,500
• Full page advertisement in souvenir.
• Front section seating, refund of 4 registrations.
• Dinner with dignitaries.
• Special ribbon for the couple.

JAINA PRECIOUS METALS:
GOLD - $5,000
• Half page advertisement in souvenir.
• Front section seating, refund of 2 registrations.
• Dinner with dignitaries.
• Special ribbon for the couple.

SILVER - $2,500
• Quarter page advertisement in souvenir.
• Front section seating, refund of 2 registrations.
• Dinner with dignitaries.
• Special ribbon for the couple.

BRONZE - $1,500
• Business card advertisement in souvenir.
• Front section seating.
• Dinner with dignitaries.
• Special ribbon for the couple.

CULTURAL EVENT:
GRAND SPONSOR – $25,000
* Special banner, priority seating at program and plaque.

EVENT SPONSOR – $5,000 EACH
* Special banner, priority seating

SWAMIVATSALYA:
BREAKFAST - $2,100 EACH
LUNCH - $5,000 EACH
DINNER - $7,500 EACH
All swamivatsalya sponsors will be recognized in souvenir and banner in the dining hall.

If you are interested in any of these available opportunities or need any more information, Please contact Fund Raising Committee Chairperson: YOGESH SHAH at 714-936-5300 or yog8555@yahoo.com

EXHIBITION BOOTH RENTAL

Limited number of Non-Profit and Commercial booths will be available at the convention. Please contact Pankaj Sheth (213-880-3666) or e-mail 2009booth@jaina.org for more information or to reserve your booth.
# 15th Biennial JAINA Convention

## JAIN21 / Jain Network Forum (JNF)

**Additional Information Form**

Register online at www.jain21.com

Please attach a photograph of yours if you wish it to be available on the website, along with your profile.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Middle / Father Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Best Phone Number to contact:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education:</th>
<th>Profession:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Language:</th>
<th>Are you willing to relocate after Marriage?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Living Status:</th>
<th>Marital Status:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Single</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Divorced with Kids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Widowed with Kids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Separated with Kids</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Habits:</th>
<th>Visa Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US Citizen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US H1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US Green Card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Canadian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UK / European</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you Smoke?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Occasionally / Socially</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you Drink?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Occasionally / Socially</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex (M/F)</th>
<th>Age (Years)</th>
<th>Height (Feet + Inches)</th>
<th>Weight (Lbs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What do you like to do in your free time?

What kind of Music do you like listening to?

What are some of your favorite foods?

What are some of your personal goals?

What are some of your professional goals?

How would your friends describe your personality?

What are some of the attributes you are looking for in your ideal mate?

I agree to share this information with the other participants of the JAINA Convention 2009 and on the website.

**SIGNATURE OF REGISTRANT:**

**Date:**

---

JC09_Registration_v33.doc
### 15th Biennial JAINA Convention
**Anaheim Convention Center**
**800 W Katella Ave, Anaheim, California, 92802 USA**
**July 2-5, 2009**

**REGISTRATION FORM:**
Register online at [www.jaina.org](http://www.jaina.org)

**STEP 1: CONTACT INFORMATION:** This information must be completed in order to receive your registration confirmation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Registrant Name:</th>
<th>Name of your Jain Center:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address: Street/ Apt#</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State/Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Postal Zip Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Phone</td>
<td>Email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Country/Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Contact:</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEP 2: CONVENTION REGISTRATION**
Please list all attendees including infants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Individual Registration Fee</th>
<th>Jain Network Forum (JAIN21/JNF) Age 21-40</th>
<th>Evening Social Activities Age 14 – 40</th>
<th>TOTAL FEES (US$ / person)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>from chart in Step 3</td>
<td>Age 21-40 from chart in Step 3</td>
<td>Age 14 – 40 from chart in Step 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Registration Fees (US$)

No. of attendees requesting VEGAN food: ___

Day Care needed

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

**STEP 3: INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FEES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UP TO FEB 28</th>
<th>MAR 1 to APR 15</th>
<th>APR 16 to JUNE 15</th>
<th>JUNE 16 to June 28</th>
<th>TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES FROM STEP 2</th>
<th><strong>GRAND TOTAL (US$$)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADULTS (AGE 18 &amp; UP)</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$225</td>
<td>General Donation ($100 suggested)</td>
<td>GRAND TOTAL (US$$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILD/YOUTH (AGE 6 UP TO AGE 17)</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$115</td>
<td>$130</td>
<td>$145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAIN21/JNF (AGE 21-40)</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$110</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Activities (Age 14-40)</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Children up to age 5 are FREE. After June 28 '09, only On-site Registration will be available.

**JAIN21/JNF & Evening Social Activities Program Plans**

1. Jain Network Forum (JAIN21/JNF) is open to young Jains between the age of 21 to 40, who are interested in networking and meeting other like-minded Jains for friendship, relationship and marriage. Some of the activities being worked on for JAIN21/JNF are Mixers, Relationship Workshops, Career Panels, Beach Bonfire & Melas, Service Events, Evening Formal, Cruise, and much more. **Additional form needs to be completed** for all JAIN21/JNF participants.

2. Evening Social Activities are open to young Jains between 14 and 40 who are interested in educational, social, charitable and cultural networking with other like-minded young Jains, meeting new and old friends, and learning more about Jainism. We are working on many varied events including Jain Iron Chef, an Ahimsa Concert, Garba/Raas, Evening Formal, Youth Meditation & Yoga Sessions, Camp Fire Conversations and much more.

**STEP 4: SIGNATURE OF PRIMARY REGISTRANT:**
I have read and accept the Terms and Conditions on the reverse side of this registration form.

**SIGNATURE OF PRIMARY REGISTRANT:**

Date:

JC09_Registration_v33.doc
Charge my CREDIT CARD below. I accept all the Terms & Conditions on this form.

**GRAND TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSLED FROM STEP 3:** $__________

Charge my: [ ] Master Card [ ] Visa [ ] Discover

Card #: ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________

Name of Cardholder: ____________________________ *CVV Code: [ ] [ ] [ ]

Cardholder Signature: ___________________________ Exp. Date: [ ] [ ]

*CVV Code is the last three numbers on back of credit card

Please make your check (US$) payable to:

**JAINA CONVENTION**

Mail registration form and check to: Jyoti Vadecha, JAINA CONVENTION, 21803 Paint Brush Lane, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, U.S.A.

EMAIL: registration2009@jaina.org

PHONE: 1-714-255-9461

---

**Convention Registration Terms & Conditions**

- JAINA, its affiliated Jain Centers and their Directors, Officers, Coordinators, and Volunteers shall not be responsible for any loss, injury or damage to registrants and/or to any of their guests.
- On line and paper registration will close on June 28th 2009. After June 28th you will be able to register on site only.
- On site registration begins at 4:00 pm on Thursday, July 2nd 2009. Only Credit cards will be accepted during on-site registration.
- Until May 1, 2009 cancellation charges will be as follows:
  - Convention Individual Registration: $50.00
  - JAIN21/JNF per person: $40.00
  - Social Activities (per person): $40.00
- After May 1, 2009 Cancellation Charge for individual registration will be $75.00.
- **Absolutely no refunds** for cancellation(s) shall be given after June 16, 2009 for any reason(s).
- All cancellation requests must be in writing, sent by e-mail to cancellation2009@jaina.org
- Cancellation refunds will be sent by check or credit to credit card based on payment method. Please allow 30 days after the convention for refund to be processed.
- JAINA reserves the right to change convention plans (programs, activities, sessions, speakers, food menu etc.). No refund requests will be entertained due to any such changes.
- Parent or legal guardian must sign liability waiver if participant is under 18 years of age for participating in other Evening Social Activities.
- Registration confirmation will be mailed or e-mailed to you. Registrant must bring confirmation letter/e-mail and picture ID to registration desk to collect registration material.
- Bounced checks will incur a US $25 return check fee.
- Postmark of registration form will determine applicable registration fees.
- Visit www.JAINA.org for up to date Hotel information including online hotel reservation, hotel rates and direction.

---

**Hotel/Transportation**

- Visit www.jaina.org for up to date Hotel information including online hotel reservation, hotel rates and direction. All registrants will have to arrange their own transportation to and from airport to hotels. John Wayne Airport (SNA) Orange County, California is the closest airport to Anaheim Convention Center. For additional transportation information visit www.jaina.org
Thinking India?
Think Jaya.

For the best airline ticketing rates to India and within India.

For more than 30 years, Jaya Travels and Tours has been the first choice of most Indians, for business or for pleasure. With affiliations to all major American and European Airlines, including Air India, Kingfishers, Jet Airways, and other domestic airlines in India, we can access the lowest fares from Detroit and Chicago to Mumbai or Delhi and also help book your onward destinations within India with ease.

For your next trip to India, just think Jaya for your airline ticketing. And consider it done!

Call Today for Airline Ticket Booking:
877-FLY-JAYA

Serving the community for over 30 Years!
Newly Inaugurated Temple of Phoenix, AZ

JAINA HEADQUARTERS
43-11 Ithaca Street
Elmhurst, NY 11373
Ph: 718-208-4435
jainahq@jaina.org

Address Service Requested