In order to serve our younger generation in better way and understand their needs, beliefs, opinions and suggestions with regards to Jainism, JAINA had conducted youth survey at YJA Convention 2016.

With this survey, we tried to understand youth’s involvement with local Jain Center, their participation in volunteer activities, Jain principles they relate to, who influences their spiritual pursuits, their takings on Jainism etc. The purpose of showcasing this survey excerpts is to come together to influence youths’ involvement in Jainism and spread Jain way of living among future generation.

(Survey sample size: 169)

Please find survey results in pie chart and summary of same:
Involvement with Jain Center
Visit Pathshala

- Regularly under age of 15: 45%
- Regularly under age of 20: 25%
- Infrequently: 16%
- Never: 12%
- Above 20: 2%

Insights:

- 45% of youths regularly go to Pathshala while they are under the age of 15, eventually it decreases to 25% who go to Pathshala till the age of 20 and just 2% goes after the age of 20.
- 41% of youths visit temple regularly while 55% of them visit sometimes.
Who Influences Your Spiritual Pursuit? Choose Top Three

Insights:
Parents influence youths’ spiritual pursuit most followed by their Mentors, Scholars, Jain friends and Books.
Insights:
92% of youths participate in volunteer activities with most of them participating at school and temple.

Comments:
JAINA should encourage/initiate more social activities where youth can participate.
Can organize activities like 1) Donating old clothes, toys, books etc., 2) Teaching computer skills to elderly, 3) Tutor of particular skill at orphanage etc.
Insights:
- 45% of youths feel their knowledge on Jainism could be better, while 27% and 24% of them feel they have good and very good amount of knowledge, respectively.
- Majority of youths relate to Ahimsa in their life in compare to Aparigrah and Anekantvad principles.

Comments:
JAINA, with the help of local Jain Centers, can schedule lectures on Jain Principles and teach how to take it in practice in daily life.
You and Jainism

- 50% of youths feel there are more rituals in Jainism than real understanding, while 15% of them have all non-Jain friends who can’t influence them towards Jainism and from rest 35%, 13% of youths feel Jain religion is hard to understand, other 13% feel Jain religion is not in sync with modern science and 9% of them doesn’t have youth activities in their area.

**Comments:**

Focus on giving actual reason/understanding behind the rituals and bridging the gap between Jainism and Modern Science rather than focusing on just rituals.
Thank You