

Arihant Simandhar Swami

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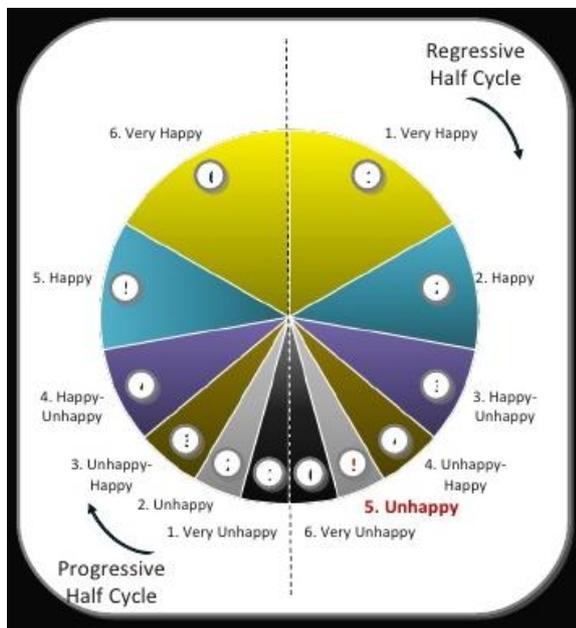
Who is Simandhar Swami? Where is Simandhar Swami? What's the importance?

As per Jain or Hindu Time scale (Kaal Chakra) 5th & 6th aara or Kaliyuga, on this earth human survival will be extremely difficult. Eastern world believes in Karmic bondage and rebirth. What is the alternative for us? How can we improve our next life? How can we get rid of the cycle of rebirth? Let us look at some alternative directions.

“Tarati Samsara-Maharnavam yena nimittaena, tat Tirtham – Tirtham karoti in Tirthankarah”

The Omni potent who help us to cross the great ocean of worldly life is known as Tirtha and the person who makes the tirtha is termed as a Tirthankara. Simandhar Swami is living Tirthankar. He is residing currently in location called Mahavi-desh Kshetra. Just like Bhagwan Rushabdev and Bhagwan Mahavir are Tirthankars from Bharat Kshetra.

Kaal Chakra - Jainism



There are three types of Tirthankaras:

Tirthankars of the past, Tirthankars of the present and Tirthankars of the future. The Tirthankars of the past are gone. Tirthankars of present are 24 – Tirthankars we worship, first being Bhagwan Rushabdev and 24th being Mahavir Swami have gone to nirvana (Siddhakshetra). In future there will be 24 Tirthankars (future chovisi in Bharatkshetra). At present time in Universe, Simandhar Swami is one of the twenty living Tirthankara. Adhere to the teachings of Tirthankara; it will lead towards moksha.

In Namokar maha mantra, Jain prays to the Arihant first and then to Siddhas, even though the Siddhas are perfected souls who have destroyed all karmas and became liberated

souls. They are inaccessible, but Arihant are still living in present universe. Arishant can offer spiritual guidance to us. Arihant is Prakrit word like Arhat in Sanskrit. It means that Arihant conquers all enemies. According to Jainism the Arihant has defeated four Kashays – Anger, Ego, Deceit and Greed, which perpetuates self – ignorance. Ari means Enimies, Hunt means Destroyer. A person becomes Arihant, by destroying inner 4 Ghati karma

1. Gyan vaniya - (knowledge obscuring)
2. Darshan vaniya - (Perception blocking)
3. Moh aniya - (Passion)
4. Antaraya - (Obstacle causing)

Arihant can be Tirthankar or Kevli. Any Arihant can be Kevli but Tirthankar has gone through much vigorous penance previous birth.

An Arihant also called Vitaragi or Jina. Arihant is accredited with:

- 1 Keval Gyan: Perfect knowledge due to the destruction of all Gyana-varniya karmas.
- 2 Keval Darshan: perfect perception due to the destruction of all Darshan-varniya karmas.
- 3 Vitragi (passionless): due to the destruction of the Moha-niya karmas.
- 4 Anant virya (Infinite Power): due to the destruction of the Antaraya karmas.

Keval Gyan and Keval Darshan mean they know and visualize everything of universe from past present and future. The Arihant sheds off the remaining 4 Aghati karmas, at the time of nirvana (Mokhsa)

- 1 Naam (Physical structure forming) karma
- 2 Gotra (Status forming) karma
- 3 Ved-niya (Pain & pleasure causing) karma
- 4 Ayu-shya (Life span determining) karma

This karma does not affect the true nature of the soul. After attaining salvation, these Arihant becomes Siddhas.

According to the Jain scripture, there are 15 places in the universe, where the possibilities of Tirthankaras exist (Karma Bhumi). Out of these, 10 regions (5 Bharat and 5 Airavat) the conditions are such that tirthankaras appeared only in 3rd and 4th Aras. The other 5 regions (5 Maha-videsh) are such that the conditions are always conducive to becoming Tirthankar. At present, there exists 4 Tirthankars in each Maha vedesh Kshetra (region) making total of 20 tirthankars preaching Jainism.

Simandhar Swami is the first living Arihant Tirthankar in Maha-videsh Kshetra near us in north east direction. This is also very important since a soul can transmigrate to and take a human birth in one of the Maha-Videsh regions now and progress to reach the liberation even though, it is not possible to attain liberation in the present time in our region (Bharat Kshetra).

The world of Maha Videh Kshetra:

In Science today, with the Hubble telescope, we can recognize only 4% of the universe, may there is a possibility of parallel universe of multi universe, Jain cosmology brings very interesting concept of Jain Universe, where at many places human lives can exists. So let us look with that angle.



What is Mahavideh kshetra like, where Simandhar Swami currently lives? The description of Mahavideh Kshetra geography is in the scriptures, there are cold zones between Earth and Mahavidesh Kshetra and due to these zones it is not possible to go there. According to the scriptures, to the north of our Bharat Kshetra (our world), at the distance of 193,150,000 kilometers starts the world of Mahavideh Kshetra of

Jambudwip. In this universe there are fifteen worlds (five Mahavideh Kshetra, five Bharat Kshetra and five Airavat Kshetra) in all where there are human beings and other life forms. They too have virtuous people and wicked people, kings and such. But there is a noticeable difference in the people's physical attributes; their height, breath and age. Out of these fifteen worlds, a living Tirthankar is to be found in the five Bharat Kshetras as well in five Airavat Kshetras during the third and fourth Aara of the time-cycle. The uniqueness of Maha-videsh Kshetra is that there is an eternal presence of the fourth Aara in the time cycle. There is a permanent presence of the Tirthankar and there is one-ness Ekta (unity) in people's mind, speech and body. Therefore, path of liberation is always open. Whereas in Bharat Kshetra, due to the region of the 5th aara time cycle; there is no unity of people's mind, speech and body. So the path of the liberation is closed for 84,000 years. However one can definitely attain liberation via Mahavideh Kshetra.

But in the five Mahavideh Kshetras, currently there is presence of twenty tirthankaras.

- 1) Shri Simandhar Swami"
- 2) Shri Yugmandhar Swami"
- 3) Shri Bahu Swami"
- 4) Shri Subahu Swami"
- 5) Shri Sujitnath Swami"
- 6) Shri Swayamprabha Swami"
- 7) Shri Rushbhanan Swami"
- 8) Shri Anantvirya Swami"
- 9) Shri Soorprabh Swami"
- 10) Shri Vishalprabha Swami"
- 11) Shri Vajdhar Swami"
- 12) Shri Chandranan Swami"
- 13) Shri Chandrbahu Swami"
- 14) Shri Bhuyongdev Swami"
- 15) Shri Ishwar Swami"
- 16) Shri Nemiprabha Swami"
- 17) Shri Virsen Swami"
- 18) Shri Mahabhadra Swami"
- 19) Shri Devyash Swami"
- 20) Shri Abhivirya Swami"

Life of Shree Simandhar Swami:

All Tirthankars have 5 Kalyanak (Auspicious Events) in their lives. At present, our twenty living tirthankaras have finished their four kalyanaks in the same time period.

Chyavan Kalyanak:

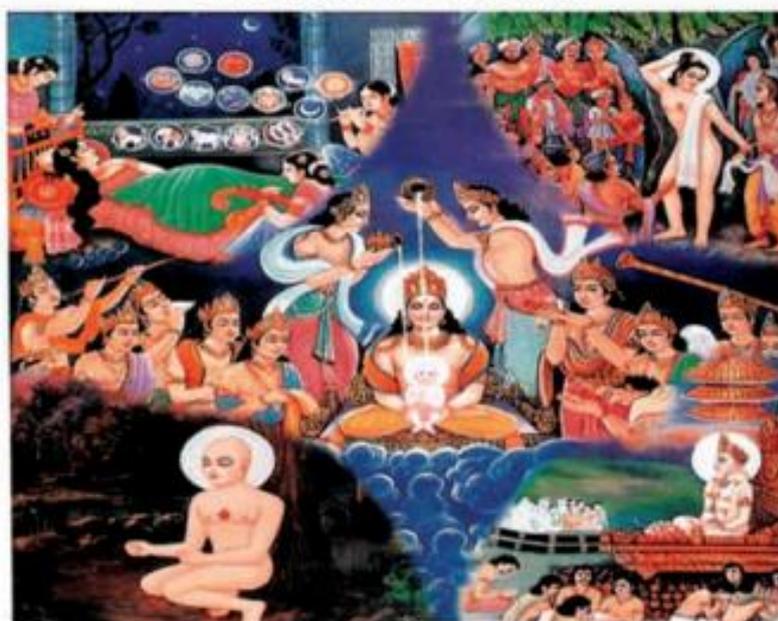
As per Jain cosmology, Jambudwip has one Bharat, one Mahavideh and one one Airavat Kshetra. Maha vedeh Kshetra is made up of 32 vijay. 8th Vijay is called 'Pushkalavati' an eminent king called Shreyance was the ruler of Pundarikgiri. An eminent king called Shreyance was the ruler of Pundarikgiri. His wife's name was Queen Satyaki. Once, during the nightfall, while queen was half awake, she saw fourteen auspicious dreams. In the morning, she informed her husband about the dreams. Upon hearing about the dreams, king got impressed and called dream evaluator. This evaluator made elaborate calculations and proclaimed that the child will be a Tirthankar, savior of all, a living absolute.

Janma Kalyanak:

As per the moon calendar beautiful boy was born on the 10th day Vad of the Chaitra Month. His birth was gloriously celebrated by all heavenly gods (dev - devi). He was born with three types of knowledge. 1: Mati gyan - divine perception, 2: Shrut gyan – words of wisdom, 3: Avadhi gyan. This event happened when in Bharat Kshetra, 17th Kunthunath tirthankara attained nirvana and before the birth of 18th tirthankara Arahath.

He was named Simandhar. Immediately, after his birth the king and his people miraculously prospered. He was 500 Dhanush (1,500 feet) tall. He was totally free from the wordly desires, yet he bent to the request of his parents and got married to the princess Rukmani. While dispensing the responsibilities that came to his share, he was always very keen in becoming instrumental in freeing humankind from misery and perpetual bondage of life and death, so they can attain liberation.

Panch Kalyanak of Tirthankar

**Diksha Kalyanak:**

During the time between 20th Tirthankara Munisuvrat swami and the birth of the 21st tirthankara Naminath swami, Simandhar Swami renounced the world on 3rd day of Sud in the month of Falgun. Immediately, there opened the 4th kind of knowledge. Man Par-yav Gyan within him. Now he could see every aspects of his thought process. Thus he started correcting the subtle thought related to the mistakes.

Keval Gyan Kalyanak:

After a thousand years as a sadhu (ascetic), he became a fully omni scents and attain Keval Gyan – Absolute Knowledge on 13th day of sud in the month of Chaitra. Same day as Tirthankara Mahavir swami's Janma Kalyanak.

Once, he became Arihant, he established 4 fold religion-spiritual organization. Millions of people got liberated through him, by his divine sight and Deshana. Tirthankar's deshana can be understood by all living beings including animals, people and heavenly god-devdevi. In his

vicinity, the weather is always pleasant, no disease present for miles away. The samosaran can accommodate everyone. Dharmachakra and Ashta mangal are always present at the samosaran. His speech is without any attachment.

Followers of Shree Simandhar swami:

He has 84 ganadhar, 1 million kevali, 1 billion sadhus, 1 billion sadhvi and nine hundred billion-shravak shravika as followers. His Shashandev – Chandrayan Yaksh and Shashan Devi = Panchanguli Yakshini.

Similarity between Aadinaath and Simandhar Swami

	<u>Adhinath (Rishabh Dev)</u>	<u>Simandhar Swami</u>
1. Kshetra	Bharath Kshetra	Maha – Videh Kshetra
2. Symbol:	Bull	Bull
3. Time:	End of 3 rd Aara	4 th Aara
4. 1st Tirthankar:	Present Chovisi	Future Chovisi
5. Height:	1500 feel tall	1500 feet tall
6. Life:	8.4 Million Purva yrs	8.4 million Purva yrs
7. No of Ganadhar:	84	84

Future – Nirvana Kalyanak:

He has very long life span of 300,000 years. At present, approximately he is 175,000 years old. He will be around for another 125,000 years. In the next ascending cycle, Simandhar Swami and nineteen other tirthankaras at Maha videh will attain final liberation after completing their life span of eight million four hundred thousand years, on shravan sud third. At that momentous time, in the Bharat kshetra, the eight tirthankara of the next cycle of twenty-four thirthankara (chovisi), Pedhaada Swami would be walking on our earth and the seventh tirthankara Udaya swami would have just attained nirvana.

Summary:

For next 84,000 yrs. (in 5th and 6th aara) nirvana is not possible from Bharat kshetra. However, one can definitely attain liberation via Mahavideh kshetra. We use white color for concentration during meditation of namo Arihantanam. White being the color of Arihants. Recently many temples are built with Simandhar swami's idol. In Mehasana (Gujarat) under the inspiration of Acharya Kailassagarsuri Maharaj Saheb, an idol of Simandhar Swami was formally installed in a temple in 1972. The statue is 365cm tall. In Adalaj, near Ahmedabad a town is being settled, with the followers of Simandhar Swami. There are many followers around the world.

Acharya Kundkund also revived this message few centuries ago. He and many others were able to communicate with Simandhar Swami. In absence of Guru, we can take his permission for the samayik or any religious activities. Simandhar Swami is around for another 125,000 years.

“Namo Arihantanam”