



YOUNG JAINS OF AMERICA

Promoting social and
religious Jain youth
engagement since 1991



Young Jains of America Profile

YJA emphasizes youth religious and social engagement throughout North America

YJA represents over 10,000 members from ages 14 - 29

6 regions, 10+ annual retreats, 700+ attendees at biennial convention



Co-Chairs



Parshva Vakharia

Monroe, NJ | New York, NY
Jain Center of New Jersey

Student, Finance & Accounting, NYU

Director of Education (2017-2019)

Daytime Programming Committee (2018)



Vatsal Gandhi

Mumbai, India | Chicago, IL
Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago

Senior Associate, Transaction Advisory
Services, Ankura Consulting

Director of Finance (2018-2019)

The 2019-2020 YJA Executive Board

Directors

Education - Harshita Jain (NJ)

Events - Charmi Shah (KY)

Finance - Sanjana Jain (OH)

Fundraising - Dhara Bhalani (GA)

Project Development - Pranay Patni (CA)

Publications - Satej Shah (IL)

Public Relations - Ruchi Vora (OR)

Technology - Anish Visaria (NJ/MA)

Regional Coordinators

Mid-Atlantic - Aayush Shah (NJ)

Midwest - Miten Shah (IL)

Northeast - Pratik Shah (NJ/MA)

South - Rupal Sanghavi (TX)

Southeast - Mahin Bhavsar (GA)

West - Bansari Shah (IL/CA)



Board of Trustees



Naishadh Shah

Abington, PA

Chief Interventional
Radiologist,
Abington-Jefferson Health
Co-Chair (1999-2000), LA
Convention Co-Chair



Chintan Shah

White Plains, NY

Pres. & Managing Partner,
KNB Communications
Co-Chair (2001-2002),
2004-2006), Stamford
Convention Co-Chair



Sonia Ghelani

Dallas, TX

Business Manager, Texas
Instruments
Co-Chair (2008-2009),
Daytime Programming -
Stamford Convention



Aakash Shah

Roselle, IL

Dentist
DC Convention Co-Chair,
Director of Project
Development (2011-2012)

Current Initiatives

Learn

YJA Pathshala

Jainism 101

Maharaj Saheb Messages

Online Sutra Program

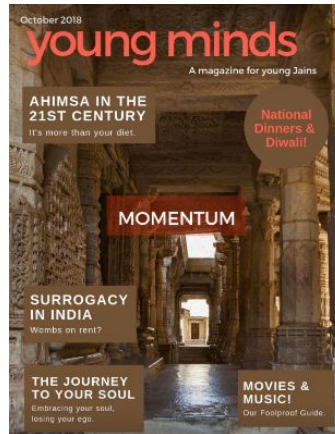


Apply

Young Minds

YJA Reflect

Aneka Podcast



Engage

College Chapters

Jains in Action

Webinars



Events Occurring This Year

National Dinners

Major cities across the country (NYC, Chicago, SF, LA, Atlanta, Dallas, etc.)

November - December

44 National Dinners in 2018,
Approx. 800 attendees

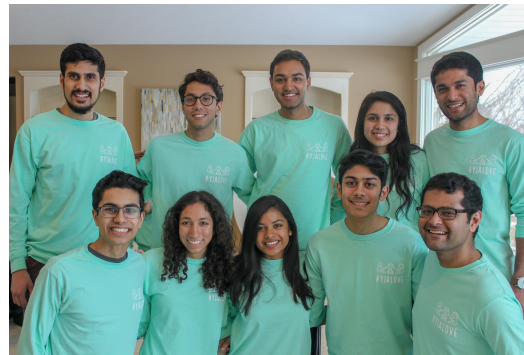


Regional Retreats

2-Day Retreats with 343 attendees (40-80/retreat)

February - March

Mid-Atlantic, Midwest,
Northeast, South, Southeast,
West



Local Events

Volunteering, Community Service, Temple Cleanups, Picnics, College Panels, Interfaith Events

Throughout the year



#YJA2020 National Convention

July 2nd - 5th, 2020
Dallas, Texas
Est. 800 attendees

Daytime Programming: Sessions on Jain education and applications, college and career guidance, politics, entrepreneurship, and more!

Nighttime Programming: Talent Show, Mixers, Garba Night, and Formal Night



Registration Opens in January/February

Looking Forward - Objectives for 2019-2020

1. Overall growth and sustainability in projects, retreats, and Convention
 - a. Serve the largest number of Young Jains this year across all events
2. Strengthen relationships with sanghs
3. Engage small and rural sanghs
4. Cross-border collaboration with YJUK, YJS, and YJ Kenya
5. Social Impact

Nimble & Expansive Growth in 2020

- Long-term sustainability of current projects and initiatives
- Large-scale YJA Projects
 - Aneka Podcast - introspective podcast created and produced by YJA with 230 Instagram followers
 - Jains in Action (JIA) - youth hackathon event for the Jain community
 - Maharaj Saheb Messages (MSM) - direct channel to Maharaj Sahebs in India with 5 Maharaj Sahebs, 250 Instagram followers
 - YJA Reflect - thought-provoking Jain forum on Facebook with 435 members
- Thoughtful, responsive action and speed to execute

Continued Financial Independence

- Historic independence and fiduciary responsibility
- Strong and long track record of maintaining finances
- JAINA supervision and transparency via bank access and Quickbooks review
- Significant growth in activities and consequently size and frequency of expenses

Monthly Expenditures using credit card:

Subscriptions

1. Newsletter software
2. Website server
3. Google Suite
4. PR tools
5. Publications software

Retreats

1. Venue reservations
2. Food purchases
3. Supplies

Expenditures using online bill pay (checks):

1. Vendors, conventions and other national and regional events
2. Board meeting reimbursements
3. Travel reimbursements
4. Food expenditures
5. Publications

What we need from JAINA

1. **Reactivation** of YJA credit card
 - a. Ability pay for planned and on-the-spot expenses
2. **Complete** bank account access for (3) YJA Board Members (2 Co-Chairs + Director of Finance)
 - a. Full signor access
 - i. Ability to write and sign checks
 - ii. Ability to make intra-bank transfers
3. **Monthly touchpoints** with JAINA Treasurer

Thank You!

Contact us:

chairs@yja.org

Parshva Vakharia

(732) 801-3033

parshva.vakharia@yja.org

Vatsal Gandhi

(217) 550-6908

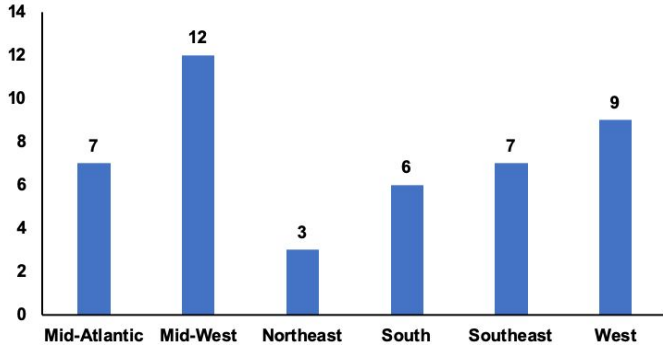
vatsal.gandhi@yja.org



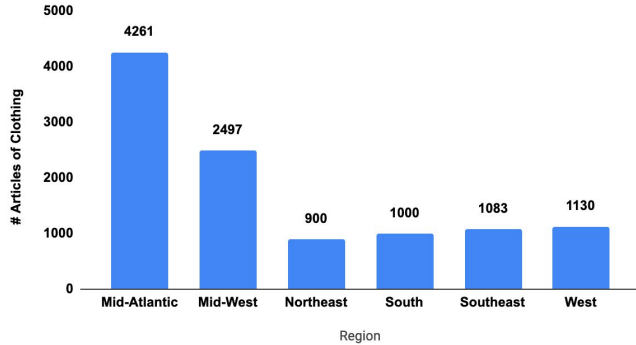
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Appendix

National Dinner Count per Region



Articles of Clothing vs. Region



Events 2018-2019

YJA Retreats 2019

BY THE NUMBERS

1
5 Winter and 5 Summer Retreats

This retreat season we hosted 5 retreats in all regions with all 5 winter retreats selling out in record time!

2
42 Sessions

From the pitfalls of "fast fashion" to discussions on mental health, veganism, and societal taboos, our attendees were able to engage on a variety of substantive topics.

3
\$200 donated for animal advocacy

Attendees at our YJA South Retreat competed in a series of intellectual and physical activities for a chance to donate to a charity of their choice.

4
Largest Retreat in YJA History

Our 2019 Poconos Retreat hosted **80** attendees from across the Mid-Atlantic and the Northeast in Shawnee, PA, for a weekend of skiing and dharma.



348 attendees

A record high number of attendees, coming from **26 states**, joined us at our regional retreats this year! AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, MA, MI, NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI



100% Jain and Vegan Friendly Meals

This year, we promoted our **Vegan Initiative** across all of our retreats by creating 100% Vegan-Friendly menus.



Fastest Sellout in YJA History

Our YJA Southeast Retreat sold out in **23 hours** and was attended by 37 YJA members from Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, Kentucky, New Jersey, and Texas.



Jainism 101

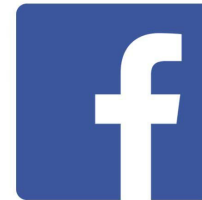
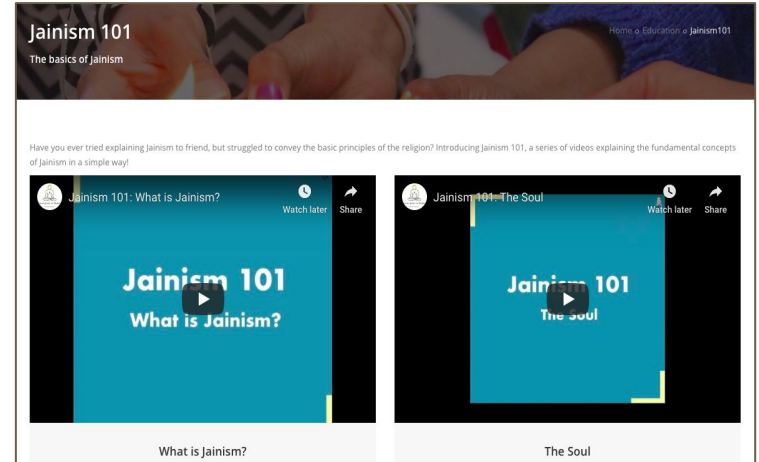
Target: Initially, those with no background to Jainism; THIS MAY CHANGE based on viewership

Timeline: 3 episodes every 6 months (1 episode every 2 months)

Platform: YJA Website, Facebook, Youtube

Logistics: Subco writes and revises script, reviewed by Rishi & DoE, associated visuals decided on, subco creates videos which then is revised by DoE and team several times;

Goals: Provide audience with overview of Jainism through intro-level, minute-long videos



Chaityavandan/Darshan Handouts


Target: Temple-visiting Jain youth (for physical handouts)

Timeline: Chaitya-vandan handout rollout within 6 months;
Darshan creation and finalization in the next 6 months

Platform: Physical handouts to be distributed across sanghs;
digital version uploaded to YJA website

Logistics: Content creation and review, communication with
Marahaj Sahebs to check, organization (format somewhat
established now), reproduction and wide-scale distribution

Goals: Make it easier for English-speaking Jains to perform
various rituals, such as Nav-Ang Puja and Chaityavandan

CHAITYAVANDAN HANDOUT (PAGE 1) Audio accompaniment available at vja.org/temple		
----- Sutras/Scriptures -----		
Khamāsamana Sutra Ichchhāmi khāmā-samano! Vandium, jāvanijāe nisihiāe, matthaena vandāmi	Khamāsamana Sutra Ichchhāmi khāmā-samano! Vandium, jāvanijāe nisihiāe, matthaena vandāmi	
Iriyāvahiya Sutra Ichchhā-kārena sandisaha bhagavan! Iriyāvahiya padikkamāmi? Ichchham, ichchhāmi padikkamium. Iriyāvahiye, virāhānāe. Gamaṇā-gamaṇe. Pīṇa-kkamane, biya-kkamane, hariya-kkamane, Oṣā-uttīṇa, paṇaga-daga, Matt-makkadā-santānā-sankamane. Je me jivā virāhiyā. Egindiyā, beindiyā, teindiyā, chaurindiyā, panchindiyā. Abhihiyā, vattiyā, lesiyā, sanghāiyā, sanghattiyā, Pariyāviyā, kilāmiyā, uddaviyā, thānāo thānam, Sankāmiyā, jiviyāo vavaroviyā, Tassa michchhā mi dukkadāmi.	Sakalakushalavalli Sutra Sakal kushal valli, pushkāravarta megho; Duritatimir bhānu, kalpavrikshopamānāh, bhavajalanidhipotāh, sarva sampattī hetu; Sa bhavatu satātām vah, shreyase Shāntināthāh, shreyase Pārshvanāthāh.	
Tassa Uttari Sutra Tassa uttari-karanenam, pāyachchhitta-karanenam, Viṣoḥi-karanenam, viṣalli-karanenam, Pāvānam kammānam, Nighāyanatthāe, thāmi kausaggam.	Jaga-Chintāmani Chaitya-Vandana Ichchhā-kārena sandisaha bhagavan! Chaitya-vandana karu? Ichchham. Jaga-chintāmani! Jaga-nāha! Jaga-guru! Jaga-rakkhana! Jaga-bandhava! Jaga-satthavāha! Jaga-bhāva-viakkhana! Atthāvāya-santhāva-ruva! Kammattha-viṇāsana! Chauṣam pi jinavara! Jayantu a-gpadhaya-sāsana. Kamma-bhumihim kamma-bhumihim padhama-sanghāyani, Ukkosaya sattari-saya jina-varāna viharanta labbhai; Nava-kodihim kevalina, kodi-sahassa nava sāhu gammāi. Sampal jinavara visa muni, bihum kodihim varanāna; Samanaha kodi-sahassa-dua, thunijai nichcha vihāni. Jayau sāmiya jayau sāmiya risaha sattarjū. Ujinti pahū-nemi-jina, jayau vira sachchauri-mandana; Bharu-achchhāhim muni-suvvaya, mahuri-pāsa dha-durakkhānāna, Avāra-vidēhim tittha-yarā, chihum diṣi diṣi jim ke vi; Tīnāgyaya sāmpāya, vandau jina savve vi. Sattā-navaī sahasā, lakkhā chhappanna attha-kodi. Battisa-saya bāsīyāim, ti-loe cheie vande. Panarasa-kodi-sayāim, kodi bāyāla lakkha adāvānā. Chhattisa-sahasa-asiim, sāsaya-bimbāim panānāmi.	
Annattha Sutra Annattha-usasienam, nisāsienam, Khāsienam, chhienam, jambhāienam, Udduenam, vāya-nisaggēnam, bhāmāle, pitta-muchchāe. Sūhumehim anga-sanchālehim, Sūhumehim kheh-sanchālehim, sūhumehim ditthi-sanchālehim. Evāmāiehim āgārehim, a-bhaggo a-virāhiḥ, Hujā me kausaggo. Jāva arihantānam bhagavāntānam. Namukkārenam na pāreṃ. Tāva kāyam thānenam monenam jhānenam, Appānam vosirāmi.	Jam Kinchi Nāma-Ūttham Sutra Jam kinchi nāma-Ūttham, sagge pāyāli mānuse loe. Jāim jina-bimbāim, tāim savvāim vandāmi.	
Navkāra Mantra Namo arihantānam. Namo siddhānam. Namo āyariyānam. Namo uvijjhāyānam. Namo loe savva-sūhanam. Eso pancha-namukkāro, Savva-pāva-ppanāsano, Mangalānam cha savvesim, Padhamam havai mangalam.	Namutthunam Sutra Namutthunam, arihantānam, bhagavāntānam, Āi-garānam,	
Loḡassa Sutra		

[LINK](#)