



# JAIN AHIMSA TIMES

IN COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR 14 CONTINUOUS YEARS  
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**Your worst days are never so bad, that you are beyond the reach of God's grace.  
Your good days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God's grace.  
Hands that help are holier than lips that pray.**

## TEMPLES

### COURT PROCEEDINGS ABOUT RISHABH DEV TO BE CONDUCTED BY JUSTICE S. B. SINHA



The Supreme Court of India has constituted a bench on the two writ petitions to look into the raging controversy about the control over Shri Rishabh Dev temple near Udaipur in Rajasthan. The bench headed by the Chief Justice Shri K. G. Balakrishnan had earlier issued notices to the State Government and others on the 14th may, 2007. The newly constituted bench will now consider the public interest petitions, which have requested that the notifications issued on the 20th January, 07 by the Assistant Commissioner, Devasthan Deptment, Government of Rajasthan may be withdrawn, in which proposals were invited from the interested persons to form a management committee for the control of Rishabh Dev temple. As is well known, the issue is about the controversy, whether it is a Jain temple or Hindu temple. The Raj. High Court had earlier given a decision that it is a Jain temple.

After considering the whole matter, the Supreme Court had also agreed that it was a Jain temple. The apex court had later asked the Devasthan Department, State Government and the concerned parties as to why the matter be not reconsidered and why a district Judge be not appointed to enquire into the whole matter once again. It is indeed saddening to see that a simple issue is lingering in courts and government offices for such a long time and no firm decision is being taken by the apex court, closing the issue once for all.

### AMARTYA SEN URGES JAIN INDUSTRIALISTS TO INVEST IN PAWAPURI



Patna, Feb 21 : Nobel laureate Amartya Sen urged industrialists belonging to Jain community to take initiative to develop Pawapuri in Bihar's Nalanda district, where Lord Mahavira, the founder of Jainism, is believed to have attained enlightenment. They (Jain industrialists) should invest for its development. The renowned economist, who visited Pawapuri said there was a need to set up three-star hotels, an engineering college and other infrastructure for the area's development. Sen also recalled that last time he visited Pawapuri in 2003 when he was part of the delegation of former president A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. Pawapuri is nearly 90 km from Patna. He was in Bihar for a meeting of the mentor group of the proposed Nalanda International University in Nalanda. Sen

heads the mentor group.

### LUXURY STAY AT PARASNATH MOVE TO WOO JAIN YOUTHS



The experience of travelling to Parasnath Hills is all set to change in another two years with high-class lodging and dining facilities coming up in the area. With an aim to attract youths to the Jain pilgrimage centre, Shri Digambar Jain Saswat Tirthraj Sammedshikhar Trust, a welfare organisation of the Jains, has embarked on a mega project to set up rest houses, hotels, cafeteria and preaching centres in Madhuban, located at the foot of the hills. The project, Digambar Jain Saswat Vihar, will be wrapped up by 2011. In the first phase, a dharamshala called Niharika has already come up in Madhuban. The five-storeyed building with eight suites was inaugurated on February 15. There are plans to build six more wings

comprising three buildings having around 200 rooms, a cafeteria, separate buildings for Jain saints along with preaching centres and special food zones for them called Aharshala. Keeping in mind the fact there is a perennial crisis of water and power in Madhuban, a power substation and an underground water tank will also be installed.

### **SHRI FORT SHANTINATH JAIN TEMPLE IS THE OLDEST JAIN TEMPLE OF MUMBAI**

This is the Mumbai's first Jain temple which was built by Shri Motisah Sheth. The temple is completing 200 years on 14 the Feb 2009. On this auspicious occasion a 10 day celebration programmed planned starting from 6 to 15 Feb. I request and invite all to visit this temple during this period be a part of this celebration .This temple is located at : Shri Fort Shantinath Jain Mandir ,Bora Bazar St., Fort, Mumbai 400 001. (Near V.T. Station),Tel.: 022-22613163. Paresh D. Motiwala.

### **JAIN TREASURE IN MANKULAM VILLAGE TAMILNADU**

The ruins of two Jain prayer halls belonging to the Tamil Sangam age and estimated to be about 2,200 years old have been excavated atop a hill near Mankulam village, about 20 km from Madurai, Tamil Nadu. The ruins are adjacent to two of the five caves that have the earliest Tamil Brahmi inscriptions in Tamil Nadu. The caves have several beds where the Jain monks rested. The excavation yielded large-sized bricks, grooved tiles with holes, black and red potsherds and L-shaped iron nails. The foundation and walls of the halls were built of bricks, which measured 35 cm x 17 cm x 6 cm. The roof was made of wooden raters with grooved tiles.

### **SAINTS**

#### **LOKESH MUNI TO VISIT PAKISTAN**



Founder of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti Sri Lokesh Muni ( Earlier Prominent Saint of Terapanth Sect) is visiting Pakistan on 27th Feb. along with group of other religious leaders. The religious group will start its journey from Rajghat, Delhi and passing through Golden Temple Amritsar & Wagha Border reach Pakistan. Delegation will also meet Pakistan President & Prime Minister & discuss issues like terrorism etc. Delegation will visit Lahore, Karanchi, Multan & participate in local religious programmes. We wish Lokesh Muni all the success in his mission to promote peace and vegetarianism i.e. Jainism in Pakistan.

### **STHANAKWASI SADHVIS VISITING KATHMANDU**

Disciple of Acharya Pravar Shri Umesh muni, Sadhvi Shanti Kunwarji, Sadhvi Mangal Prabhaji, Sadhvi Vandanaaji, will reach Kathmandu in the first week of February. Their last chaturmas was at Gwalior & thereafter passing through Bhind, Itawa, Kanpur, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Bherwa (Nepal), they will proceed to Kathmandu. The route to Kathmandu is considered to be very tortuous and their effort is certainly applaudable.

UPDATE - Sadhvi group was given impressive welcome on their arrival at Kathmandu by Nepal Jain Parishad. Reception programme was presided by Sri Lokmanya Golcha, who thanked Sadhvi group for covering almost 1100 Km. distance in two months from M.P. to Kathmandu. Sadavi Sri Mangal Prabhaji & Sri Poonam Srijji appreciated the Nepal Jain Community for their concord as members of all jain sects jointly organized the programme and addressed the gathering without sectarians considerations. Sri Total Ram Dugar, founder of Nepal Jain Parishad Vivendra Hirawat , Smt. Meena Jain, Sri Om Prakash Navlakha, Praveen Mehta also addressed the programme.

### **MARCH 2009 - JAIN FESTIVALS - INFORMATION COURTESY : DR. RAJENDRA MUNI, NEW DELHI**



- |   |                                       |            |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Nirman Utsav of Sambhavnath Bhagwan   | 4th March  |
| 2 | Diksha Utsav of Muni Suvart Bhagwan   | 8th March  |
| 3 | Moksha Utsav of Mallinath Bhagwan     | 8th March  |
| 4 | Nirman Utsav of Parsavnath Bhagwan    | 14th March |
| 5 | Kevelostav of Pasaravnath Bhagwan     | 14th March |
| 6 | Nirman Utsav of Chandraprabhu Bhagwan | 15th March |

7	Janmotsav of Rishabdev Bhagwan	19th March
8	Diksha Utsav of Rishabdev Bhagwan	19th March
9	Kevelostav of Kunthunath Bhagwan	29th March
10	Moksh Utsav of Anandnath Bhagwan	31st March
11	Moksh Utsav of Ajitnath Bhagwan	31st March
12	Starting of Varshitap	19th March
13	Chaturmasi Parv	10th March
14	Pakshik Parv	25th March
15	Amrit Sidhi Yog	27th March
16	Pushp Nakshatra	7th March
17	Lucky Day	1, 3, 7, 8, 14, 16, 18, 27
18	Unlucky Day	4, 11, 12, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26
19	Starting of Chatra Nav Varsh and Navratri	27th March
20	Holi Chaturmas	11th March

#### **DIKSHA CEREMONIES**

**1. GUJARAT** - Seema Kochar, daughter of Shri Madan Lal Ji Kochar belonging to Vadgaon, Dist. Patan (Gujarat) accepted Jain Bhagwati diksha in the Shwetambar Moorti-Pujak sect from Upadhyay Shri Mani Prabh Sagar Ji maharaj on the 15th february, 09. She is now disciple of Sadhwi Shri Abhyundaya Shri Ji Maharaj, who is the disciple of Sadhwi Manohar Shri Ji maharaj. Her Varghoda procession was taken out at Shankheshwar Ji, a famous Jain centre of pilgrimage.

**2.RAJASTHAN** - Mumukshu Shri Footer Mal ji and Shri Sagar Mal ji accepted Jain Muni diksha at Sanderao (Rajasthan) on the 31st January, 2009 in Shwetambar Sthanakwasi sect in the holy presence of a large number of saints and sadhwi-gan including Pravartak Shri Roop Muni Rajat) and Shri Madan Muni ji maharaj. They became the disciples of Shri Saubhagya Muni ji Maharaj belonging to Sthanakwasi Shraman sangh.

**3.MADHYA PRADESH** - Four mumukshu, Shri Satish Kumarji Mandot from Petalwad, Sushri Sunita Ji also from Petalwad, Sushri Renuka Ji Kothari from Ratlam and Sushri Neha ji Pokharna from Koad will be accepting jain Bhagwati Diksha from Ganadheesh Shri Umesh Muni ji maharaj on the 27th February, 09 at Petalwad, Dist. Jhabua (M.P.). As many as 49 saints and sadhwis would be present on this holy occasion.

#### **CONFERENCES & EVENTS**

##### **NATIONAL SEMINAR ON JAINA WAY OF LIFE AND ITS RELEVANCE – REPORT**

A national seminar was organised by Bhogilal Leher Chand Institute of Indology, Delhi on 6th and 7th February, 2009. Speaking on this occasion, Dr. Karan Singh, President of the inaugural session, expressed that, time is running out of human race in this most lethal century though, marked by mind-bobbling advancement of technology, yet facing great tension and turmoil and utmost violence.

He also expressed concern over sectarian and social dissensions assuming alarming proportion. He made an appeal to the Jaina community to come to the rescue of society by promoting harmony among different religious sects. Dr. (Mrs.) The Guest of Honour, Dr. Sheldon Pollock from USA in his speech pin-pointed the need of smooth access to the Jaina Manuscript collections.

Dr. J. B. Shah, the convener of the Seminar, delivered his scholarly key-note address. Almost all the aspects of Jaina religion, worth mentioning, were included in his meticulously prepared speech. In all 19 papers were presented through six sessions. In the first session, chaired by Prof. Sagarmal Jain and convened by Prof. Janak Dave, Prof. Phool Chand Jain, presented the account of the conduct of Jaina house holders. Dr. Mahendra Bhai Nanavati, USA, emphasized the need of interpretation of Jaina rules in a rational way. In the second session, Dr. Lata Bothra from Kolkata elaborately dealt with the religious practices, food habits etc. of Sarak caste, residing in West Bengal, which is similar with those of Jaina community. Prof. Kamala Jain in her paper dealt with the Sikshavrata Atithi Samvibhaga-vrata of Jaina house-holders. Dr. Pradyumn Shah Singh, Patiala concentrated in his paper on main principles, Non-violence, Ahimsa, Anekant and Aparigraha as found in Jaina canonical texts. Dr. Jodh Singh, Patiala presided this session.

On the 7th February in third session, three papers were presented. Dr. Vijay Kumar Jain, Lucknow talked on the scientific foundation of Jain life- style. Dr. Dharm Chand Jain, Jodhpur, emphasized in his paper the need to propagate the various traits of Jainism so that the living being as a whole is benefited in a significant manner. Dr. A. K Singh highlighted the need of awareness towards the transgression of vices (vyasanas) in the light of Jain sravakacara works. In the fourth session, three scholars, Prof. Sagarmal Jain, Shazapur, Prof. S. P. Narang, Delhi and Prof. Kokila Shah, Mumbai, presented their papers. Prof. Jain dealt in his paper how Jains doctrines may be of great help in solving the most of the burning problems faced by the world to-day. Prof. S. P. Narang in his paper talked on the application of concept of truth to various fields particularly Jain literary criticism in the light of a commentary of Siddhachand-gani. Prof. Kokila Shah emphasized that a model of thought process is necessary to make the practice of non-violence, viable one. Prof. Kamala Jain presided this session. In the last two sessions, Prof. Janak Dave, Ahmedabad, Dr. Vijay Shankar Shukla, Prof. J. P. Vidyalkar, Delhi, Dr. Shveta Jain, Dr. Vineya Jain, Dr. Anekant Jain and Dr. D.N. Sharma presented their papers on different topics concerning Jainism and its relevance in the present context.

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The chief guest on the occasion was Dr. ( Mrs.) Kapila Vatsyayan and the guests of honour were Prof. Sheldon Pollock and Prof. Gananath Obeyesekere. The key-note address was delivered by Dr. Jitendra B. Shah. The seminar was conceived, planned and organized by Bhogilal Leherchand Institute of Indology in collaboration with Nakoda Parshwanath Teerth Trust.

On this occasion, a Website [www.youngjains.co.in](http://www.youngjains.co.in) of Young Jains organisation was also launched by Prof. J. B. Shah. Eminent scholar of Sanskrit Prof. Radha Vallabh Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor, Rastriya Sanskrit Sansthan, expressed the need of organizing such seminars. The Director, Dr. Balaji Ganorkar ( E-Mail: [balajiganorkar@yahoo.co.in](mailto:balajiganorkar@yahoo.co.in)) conducted this session. Courtesy : Gaurav Jain 'Lakshaya' M: (+91)- 981 198 1233

#### **18TH MARATHI JAIN SAHITYA SAMMELAN AT AURANGABAD**

Eighteenth All India Marathi Jain Sahitya Sammelan will be held at Aurangabad (Maharashtra) on 7th and 8th February 2009. There will be various seminars on Marathi literature by Jains and Jain literature in Marathi. Selected writers and scholars will be awarded for their works. There will be a Kavi Sammelan also. Many Marathi books will be published on the occasion. This is first time that Marathi Jain Sahitya Sammelan is being held in Marathwada region of Maharashtra. Justice Bhalchandra Vagyani is elected as President of this sammelan, while Mr. Rajendra Darda (MLA), the editor of Marathi daily Lokmat is the host. The venue is Hirachand Kasliwal Gandharv Vidyalay Parisar at Shahaganj, Aurangabad. This was announced by Dr. Ravsaheb Patil, Secretary of Maharashtra Jain Sahitya Parishad, Kolhapur in a Press conference at Solapur. For more information contact Dr. Ravsaheb Patil: 0-9822978747.

#### **WJS CONFERENCE IN DELHI URGES GOVT. TO HELP IN RELEASING LAND AT JAIN TEMPLES FROM ILLEGAL OCCUPATION**

World Jain Sangathan organised its annual conference on the 1st February, 2009 at Jain Atithi Bhawan, Kailash Nagar, New Delhi. Various activities of the WJS in religious and social fields were reviewed and discussed. The major issues taken up for discussion were illegal occupation of land at the Jain temple sites by anti-social elements at places like Girnar, Pavagarh and others, stopping marriage programmes at night time, theft of idols from ancient Jain temples, and representation of members from Jain community at various political levels and feticide deaths of unborn children.

Mr. Sanjay Jain, President of the organisation stresses heavily on these points and made a particular reference about illegal occupation of land at Girnar by antisocial elements, putting seal on the Pavagarh temple by State Government department of Archeology and converting an ancient jin temple at Scindia School at Gwalior into a play ground. He urged the concerned Governments and the Central Government to free the land occupied illegally.

### **APOWA ORGANISES AHIMSA RALLY IN ORRISSA**



APOWA (Action for Protection of Wild Animals), Orissa organized an AHIMSA RALLY at Kendrapara town on 28th January 2009 on the occasion of Animal Welfare Fortnight celebration. More than 1000 participants from different regions participated in the rally giving the message of non-violence and ahimsa to the inhabitants of Kendrapara.

Dr. Natabar Dash, ex-CDVO and Shi Prahlad Swain Head master of Kendrapara Boys' high school inaugurated the rally. Soon after the inauguration, the Ahimsa Rally started the march from Kendrapara Boy's School towards the medical road amidst the huge traffic of locals and outsiders near District Magistrates and Collectors office, District Sessions court etc. The participants were wearing the different type of animal masks and holding placards. The participation of two bulls

attracting the audience's attention with style and their plea for saving and protection. The APOWA volunteer team was escorting the rally.

The majority of the participants were the students from Kendrapara Boys High school. Slogans like Live and let live, Go Vegetarian, Kindness to animals, Save Animals, Save Wildlife, Raise voice against animal cruelty etc were shouted throughout the procession. Also Karuna Club members gave a demonstration on animal welfare. APOWA appeals to the entire human race to become vegetarian. Brochures and cards were distributed amongst the participants walking in the rally and bystanders. Apowa Team, Action for Protection of Wild Animals, At-Hatapatana, Po-Kadaliban, dist-Kendrapara, Orissa, India, Pin-754222, Tel-06729 221908, E-Mail: mail@apowa.org, www.apowa.org

### **INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL OF JAIN STUDIES**

The International Jain Summer School is a unique opportunity to study and live the tradition of Jainism in India. This is a six-week course in India, where one can learn about various aspects of Jain Philosophy and culture, travel to prominent Jain places, and meet various members of the community. The programme will run from 1st June to 31st July 2009. During this period, students will spend most of their time studying in New Delhi, Jaipur, Varanasi and other cities of importance for Jainism. In addition to the daily lecture schedules, community interaction and independent study projects, the ISSJS will provide language tutorials for students already engaged in the study of Hindi / Sanskrit / Prakrit. For details, visit Website : [www.jainstudies.org](http://www.jainstudies.org)

### **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

#### **FEW JAINS HAVE ACCOMPLISHED LIKE SHANTI MUTTHA OF PUNE**



Shri Shantilalji Gulabchandji Muttha is a role model in three wings - Social Service, Disaster Management, and Permanent Rehabilitation through Quality Education. Born on 15 August 1953, Shri Shantilalji Muttha spent his early childhood in an ashram shala. While at school, he motivated his friends to earn while they learned and started taking his team to do part-time job as wadhpi (food server) for serving food in social functions, particularly in marriages.

He undertook a 3,000 kms long Padayatra during 1986-87 and made an in-depth study of the socio-economic problems of the masses. To muster hands to fulfill his mission, he formed the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana (BJS), a parent organization of more than 1,000 village and city units across India with lakhs of like-minded people. Today BJS is an exceptional NGO with a strong foundation of the largest network of social workers rendering services to needy masses of all communities. With the help of his rank and file, Shri Muttha organizes gigantic relief camps during calamities, to provide food, medical aid, clothing and shelter to thousands of sufferers at a time.

## **PAWAN JAIN RECEIVES "RETAIL LEADERSHIP AWARD" AT ASIA RETAIL CONGRESS 2009**



The high-status award was given in appreciation of the achievements of Mr. Pawan Jain with regard to bringing excellence in Retail and Logistics. Asia Retail Congress is one of the vital international platforms to endorse world-class retail practices. The focus of the two-day summit was to discuss and persuade the grave issues regarding the retail division during the global slowdown. Mr. Jain was amongst some of the most successful names in the business fraternity to be honoured for excellence in their respective categories. On getting the award, Mr. Pawan Jain said "It is indeed a proud moment for everyone associated with Safexpress. We are happy that our relentless efforts have been recognized by the retail industry. We have always ensured quality, security and timely services for all our customers and promise to continue in delivering the best. We are deeply touched by this adulation." Corporate from across the industry including Mr. Thomas Varghese, CEO, Aditya Birla Retail Limited, Mr. Vinod Sawhny, President and COO, Bharti Retail Pvt Ltd, among others shared their views on the retail industry at the forum.

## **ANKITA JAIN FROM LUDHIANA TOPS CAT EXAM**

Ankita Jain made the Ludhiana Jain community proud by scoring 99.28 percentile in CAT examination and received call from IIM Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kolkata and Shillong. She also stood first in All India in N Mat examination conducted by Narsee-Monji Institute of Management Studies in Mumbai. Expressing satisfaction she said, "I have crossed the first milestone towards a good B school for management course. And now I am hopeful that I will be able to score well and make it in interview and group discussion too." She completed her graduation in commerce from Khalsa College for Women. Ankita likes reading about stock market and loves classical dance.

## **GAGAN JAIN FROM PALI, RAJASTHAN TOPS AT COMPANY SECRETARY EXAMINATION**

Gagan Jain, belonging to Pali town in western Rajasthan, has topped the list of candidates, who appeared in the final examination of Company Secretaryship held recently on all India basis. Like-wise, one girl candidate from Jodhpur, Mamta Jain has topped at the inter examination of Company Secretary-ship held this year.

## **SHRI R. M. LODHA TAKES OVER AS JUDGE IN SUPREME COURT**



It is heartening to learn that Shri Rajendra Mal Lodha, earlier Chief Justice of Patna High Court has been promoted to the coveted position of Supreme Court Judge. Prior to his assignment at Patna High Court, he worked as Judge of Bombay High Court for a period of 13 years. Shri Jain was born at Jodhpur on the 28th September, 1949. After passing B.Sc. and L.L.B, he practised law at Jodhpur before joining Bombay High Court and dealt with all branches of law : Constitutional, Civil, Company, Criminal, Taxation, Labour, etc. He was elevated as a permanent Judge of Rajasthan High Court on January 31, 1994. He was transferred to Bombay High Court where he assumed office on February 16, 1994. As a Judge, Bombay High Court for thirteen years, he sat on almost all jurisdictions and for many years presided over Division Benches dealing with Constitutional matters, Tax Laws, Arbitration, Intellectual property, Land Acquisition, Labour, Cooperatives, Public Interest Litigation etc. He also presided over full Benches involving important questions of law. He has participated in important conferences, study groups and training programmes meant for Superior Judiciary on intellectual property, gender bias and HIV/AIDS. He was involved in the administration of Bombay High Court as Senior Administrative Judge and shared various other administrative committees. He was re-transferred to Rajasthan High Court where he assumed office on 2nd February, 2007. He had also worked as administrative Judge of Rajasthan High court. He was associated with National Law University, Jodhpur as its executive member and has been Chairman, State Judicial Academy, Rajasthan. He was sworn in as Chief Justice, Patna High Court on 13th May, 2008. He has now been elevated as a Judge of Supreme Court of India on 17th December, 2008. Ahimsa Foundation offers its hearty congratulations to him on this occasion.

## **VEGETARIANISM**

### **JAIN FOOD TO BE PROVIDED IN RAILWAY TRAINS**

The Managing Director of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. , Shri Tandon has informed that Jain food is now being served by Indian Railways in all the trains providing food service on similar lines as that by Air India. The passengers desiring to have Jain food should mention about their preference in the reservation slip. In case the Jain food is not made available to them, they should inform the M.D., I.R.C.T.C., mentioning their-in the details about the journey,

particularly, date of travel, number and name of the train, class of travel, seat/birth number and starting and ending dates of journey.

### NEWLY PUBLISHED BOOKS ON JAINISM

**JAINISM AND THE NEW SPIRITUALITY** - 2nd Edition ( Revised and Expanded), Jainism and the New Spirituality offers a much needed balance between the devoted emotionalism and inscrutable academic obscurantism in religious literature. It presents the basic, sometimes intricate teachings of Jainism with a sure foundation of familiarity, and the practical applications of Jain principles in our modern living. It reconciles Jainism with current issues and the emerging "New Spirituality", which is expressing itself in the form of the widespread attempts to reassert human rights, struggle for global peace, recognition of the interdependence of human and the environment, social justice, and achieving personal fulfillment. This study will spark philosophical enquiry and bring focus on the affairs of our endangered world. Price : Rs. 600 (PB), ISBN: 0-9689863-3-1, Available at : Motilal Banarsidas, Publishers, New Delhi.

**YOGASARA -The Essence of Yoga** - By Acarya Joindu, Preface and Hindi translation by Dr Jaykumar Jalaj Pandit Nathuram Premi Research Series, Mumbai: Hindi Granth Karyalay, 2009 220 x 140 mm 36 pages Yogasara is a short work of 108 beautiful verses. The text flows, thoughts conveyed effortlessly through the informal and friendly medium of Apabhramsha. The folk flavor of Apabhramsha aptly reflects the warmth and affection inherent in this heartwarming work. Yogasara focuses on meditation. Joindu is a saint poet and Yogasara contains his reflections on the soul and samsara. His spirituality and mysticism transport the reader to a more contemplative state. For the spiritually inclined, after reading Yogasara, it is difficult to hold oneself back from giving up the temporal life! His writings reflect a deep understanding of the anomalies of human existence. In Joindu, one finds a friend, not a preceptor. He explains, does not pass edicts. This edition has a beautiful Hindi translation by Dr Jaykumar Jalaj. The translation is like a Dick Francis novel - conveys a great deal in few words. This book is Volume 10 of the Pandit Nathuram Premi Research Series.

**PARAMATMAPRAKASHA** - By Acarya Joindu, Pandit Nathuram Premi Research Series, Preface and Hindi tr. by Dr. Jaykumar Jalaj, Ed by Manish Modi Mumbai: Hindi Granth Karyalay Rs. 60 The current work by Joindu has been influenced by Kundakunda's Mokkhapahuda as well as Pujyapada's Samadhitantra. But its sheer spontaneity and flow helps it hold its own in such distinguished company. Paramatmaprakasha is contemplative in nature, displaying thoughtfulness and sensitivity. The deeply spiritual nature of the text and simple lexicon carry us with it into an inward journey from where it is easy to break temporal bondage and embrace the freedom of asceticism.

**ANUTTARA YOGI: TIRTHANKARA MAHAVIRA**, Novelised Biography of Lord Mahavira, By Virendrakumar Jain Hindi, Set of 4 books, 2009 220 x 140 mm 1406 pages, Deluxe Hardcover Edition Rs. 1200. This is a very unconventional biography. It is an attempt to present Lord Mahavira as the person he was, before attaining liberation. The work is a literary triumph. Ample proof of the power of the pen to trans-create reality through the millennia.

Tirthankara Bhagavan Mahavira, the 24th Jina, is worshipped by millions of Jains the world over. He was born in 599 BCE and died in 527 BCE. This novel attempts to understand Mahavira the man. It tries to unravel the motivations and ideology of the man who became God. For the first time, this novel traces Mahavira's steps, as he grew from an infant to a child, from a child to an adult. Then a philosopher, an ascetic and an immortal yogi who transcended the cycle of rebirths and attained the ultimate beatific state of Siddhahood, pure soul unencumbered by temporal bondage. Hence, Mahavira's personality is traced completely, which was hitherto available only in Puranic form in Jain literature. This novel is so well written, it seems to encapsulate the elements of a mahakavya in prose form. It helps the author's cause that he is a fine novelist, critically acclaimed as well as popular. He has successfully married sound historical research with a sweeping narrative that remains credible and captivates the reader. It goes without saying, that the present work is a classic, recommended reading for all those who love literature. Available at HINDI GRANTH KARYALAY, Web: [www.hindibooks.8m.com](http://www.hindibooks.8m.com) From: MANISH MODI, E-Mail: [manishymodi@gmail.com](mailto:manishymodi@gmail.com)

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**Walk With Me--The Story of Mahavir** : By Acharya Chandanaji and Dr. Vastupal Parikh. It is an absolutely marvelous book that discusses Mahavir's challenge to the caste system, his opposition to sexism, and his concern for nonhuman animals and the environment.

## **JAIN MINORITY ISSUE**

### **HARYANA GOVT. RECOMMENDS MINORITY STATUS FOR JAIN COMMUNITY**

Chandigarh, Feb 15: The Haryana Government has recommended the Centre to accord minority status to Jain community in the state. In a letter to the Secretary, Union Ministry of Minority Affairs, the government informed the Centre that it had received a number of representations from the community in this regard. The representations held that on account of its numerical strength, the community is covered under the expression of 'minorities' under Article 29 and 30 of the Constitution, an official release said. As per the 2001 census, their population stands at 57,167, forming just 0.3 percent of the total population of 2,11,44,564 in the state.

## **JAIN INFO SMS MOBILE SERVICE**

Jain Info is a service established to provide information on all Jain happenings / events / news / info on mobile telephone. Jain Info has already created the network with the people throughout India. The main motto of the service group is to provide information on mobile, so that the communication can be increased within the community. Where most of the people seems to be busy in their personal life, they get the information effortlessly. Currently it has been planned to deliver information on: Jain Parva like Dashlakshan, Ashtanika, Solahkaran, Aashtami & Chaturdashi, Major Jain Events like Mastkabhishek & Panchkalyanak, Digamber Acharya/Muni Sangh Updates, News of Jain Community, Chaturmas Info during Chaturmas, Grantha & Books info recently published. To be part of this sms service & to get info on your mobile, just Type on your mobile Start Jain Info Pune and send to 9900145368 or 56070 or 575758. From: Apurva Jain, E-Mail : jaininfoteam@gmail.com M: 9960268525.

## **READER'S MAIL**

**Why we Jains are not giving enough importance to jain community projects, Jain websites, Jain schools, collage, hospitals etc.** We have to bow down to Christians and other community for schools/collages/ hospital / marriage hall etc. While we spend on muni maharaj. temple, abhisheks in crores. There is no new hostel, sanatorium, facilities for patients in mumbai which has many millionaires Jains.No one seems to be bothered about community.Is anywhere in Jain principals it said that you will get Moksha if u build more temple or spend on sadhus?

No Dig. Jain magazines / newspaper / temples / organisation seem to be bothered to cover the free website ( [www.digambarjains.com](http://www.digambarjains.com) ) made for encouraging marriages with in Dig. jain community of Jains as otherwise many marriages are happening out of the community / religion.Will the mix parents children do the same following of Dig.jain munis? Children going to missionaries? So what is important building more pro community projects or showmanship in the name of religion.Our Tirthankars gave up even clothes for mankind but we are spending on rituals instead of working for mankind,peace,humanity,aushdh daan, vidyadan,vegetarianism etc. Now a days Europeans are more working for vegetarianism but jains are turning non veg., non sattvik, and drinking alcohol. But Jain sadhus are interested in another yatra in their own name instead on reforms in community and world. Alok Tholiya (S.E.O.), E- Mail: [tholiya@yahoo.com](mailto:tholiya@yahoo.com)

jain minority institutions - Dear Editor, Is it possible for you to provide various jain minority institutions in the country? This information will help the students who are seeking admissions in various professional courses? It will be a good effort from our side to bring all the young people together. E-Mail : [ashish\\_ashishjain@rediffmail.com](mailto:ashish_ashishjain@rediffmail.com). If someone has the information, please do forward to us. Editor.

**Subject: Tamilnadu Jain heritage Discovery Mission** - I had read an article on Ahimsa times about Ancient Jain Temple In A Sorry State In Tamilnadu. I had already conveyed this message to my family and friends and stressed on the fact that Jain history is being destroyed systematically. My humble request to you is that, it would be great if you share some more evidences like findings by researchers, videos of discovery of ancient Jain temples, articles, etc, so that I can educate people on the same and keep them away from ignorance. I found that Mr. Ashok Jain and his team are on Tamilnadu Jain heritage Discovery Mission, from the ahimsa times magazine [www.jainsamaj.org](http://www.jainsamaj.org). I kindly request you that let me know if there is anything I could help you, I am also interested in doing research/Jain Studies/Archaeology and join Tamilnadu Jain heritage Discovery Mission. Reshma.C Jain, E-Mail : [resh.4uin@gmail.com](mailto:resh.4uin@gmail.com)



**CHHAT KHANDAGAM** - Dear Sir, I am digamber jain staying at Gujarat. I want to purchase all parts of "Chhat Khandagam". for donate to Jain Temple. Please give me details from where I can get these books and give me price list. Janak Shah, E-Mail : janakshah52@yahoo.com

## MISCELLANEOUS

### CABINET TO DECIDE WHETHER SANTHARA IS A CASE OF SUICIDE OR NOT



The jurists connected with the issue as to whether traditional Jain santhara is a case of suicide or not, have advised the Government that santhara is not a case of suicide and the matter may be considered by the state cabinet. On the basis of decision taken by the State cabinet on the public interest petition, the appropriate reply would be given by the State Government to the High Court of Rajasthan. It is now understood that the advice has been received from the Advocate General, Law Department as well as from Additional Advocate General that santhara or sallekhana is a part of Jain philosophy and it can not be considered as a case of suicide.

**CANCER UPDATE FROM JOHNS HOPKINS: Forwarded By Mr. S. K. Bhandari, E-Mail: Satyesh.Bhandari@ril.com** AFTER YEARS OF TELLING PEOPLE CHEMOTHERAPY IS THE ONLY WAY TO TRY AND ELIMINATE CANCER, JOHNS HOPKINS IS FINALLY STARTING TO TELL YOU THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE WAY.

1. Every person has cancer cells in the body. These cancer cells do not show up in the standard tests until they have multiplied to a few billion. When doctors tell cancer patients that there are no more cancer cells in their bodies after treatment, it just means the tests are unable to detect the cancer cells because they have not reached the detectable size.
2. Cancer cells occur between 6 to more than 10 times in a person's lifetime.

### THIRTY BRANDS OF OIL AND GHEE FOUND UNSUITABLE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Shri Chandra Bhushan, Assistant Director, Centre for Science and Environment (C.S.E.) has announced at a press conference that 30 brands of ghee and edible oils currently available in the market were found after elaborate testing to be unsuitable for eating from the point of health. The samples contained unduly large content of fatty acid and transfat content, which are harmful for human consumption. The claims made by the companies manufacturing these brands about the values of the constituents mentioned on their labels and also in their advertisements were far from the actual values observed on testing. It is well-known that transfatty acid presence can enhance the chances of heart ailments because these tend to decrease the good cholesterol and also increase the chances of women becoming barren.

### ANOTHER THEFT AT JAIN TEMPLE

Astha Dhatu (Eight metal alloy) pratima of 1008 Shree Adinath Bhagvan was stolen from Jain Temple in village Khunadari (Kherwara Tehsil) in Udaipur district on 29 January 09. The temple is very ancient and the idol is very very old. From: Nathulal Jain, Kuwait, E-Mail : njain@kfas.org.kw

### JAIN MARRIAGE BUREAU DUPES THOUSANDS IN INDORE

Thousands of youth who had come from far off places to Indore in the hope of getting hitched are now making a beeline to the police station to get their complaint registered against a trust that had promised to get them married but failed to bring the promised number of potential brides. The Trust had promised to get nearly 10,000 youth from various districts of Madhya Pradesh and neighbouring states married in a mass wedding Feb 14. The

Trust collected for a registration fee of Rs. 1,000, promised that each bachelor would be introduced to a suitable bride at the convention and would be married at a mass ceremony in the presence of a state minister and other political bigwigs. Trust had amassed more than Rs.5 million if one was to go by the number of complaints registered. The event was slated for Saturday, Valentine's day, and the prospective grooms from villages as far as in the neighbouring states of Rajasthan

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and Chhattisgarh had gathered at the venue. Several people from the districts near Indore such as Mandasaur, Shajapur, Khandwa, Dewas and Dhar were also present but when they found that there were just around 50 brides, they roughed up Trust office bearers.

More than 10,000 families were invited to attend the ceremony which started with a dance and music programme by a local orchestra. However, the event turned ugly when the people who had gathered there saw that there were hardly 50 to 60 prospective brides present at the venue.

#### **FAKE GHEE UNIT OF LALIT JAIN UNEARTHED IN KOTA**

Adulterated ghee is supplied and consumed on a large-scale in the entire Hadoti area of Kota division. This has been discovered recently when health officials conducted a raid at a house in Gulab Badi under Rampura police station and seized several bottles of spurious ghee. During the raid, police arrested one manufacturer and three minor servants who were involved in the business. According to sources, the officials of health department received a tip-off that contaminated desi ghee' was being manufactured at a house in Gulab Badi. The health officials conducted a raid with the help of police and seized 120 litres of vegetable ghee, 800 litres of oil, 140 litres of spurious ghee and a few bottles of deshi ghee essence, packing and mixing machines along with gas cylinders. They also found many empty cartons of Indana, milk food, Madhur and Anand companies as well.

Lalit Jain, the arrested manufacturer, told police that earlier he was doing the business of supplying tea leaves in which he suffered heavy losses. Then he started the ghee business. He was selling two brands of edible and non-edible ghee. The non-edible ghee was supposed to be used in puja (prayer) and yagna by people. His main customers were from the villages of Kota, Bundi, Baran and Jhalawar districts and towns like Mangrol, Khatoli, Itawa, Atru, Chhabra, Baran, Ramganjmandi etc. He used to give more discount to buyers than what original manufacturers usually give.

#### **THEFT AT CALCUTTA JAIN MANDIR**

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Theft of Jain idols from Neminath Jain Mandir, Hanspukur, first lane, Bara Bazar is causing lot of resentment amongst Kolkata Jain Community. Jains organized a protest march against the inaction of Police in nabbing the culprits Jain which was very well attended. Marching peacefully members of community passed through Kalakar Street, Hanspur Road, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Pagya Patti, Brabourne Road & Canning Street. A memorandum was handed over to Add Home Secretary with request for efficient Police action in recovering stolen status of Jain Tirthankars.