



JAIN AHIMSA TIMES

IN COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR 14 CONTINUOUS YEARS
THE ONLY JAIN E-MAGAZINE • WORLD OVER + 100000 READERSHIP



Volume : 126

Issue No. : 126

Month : January, 2011

**My soul characterised by knowledge and faith is alone eternal.
All other phases of my existence to which I am attached are
external occurrences that are transitory.**

Mahavira (Niyamasara, 99)

TEMPLES

SEVERAL HINDU AND JAIN TEMPLES FACE DEMOLITION IN THE MANGALORE AREA



Mangalore, The Supreme Court has stated that 1,201 Hindu and 17 Jain places of worship are currently under threat of being demolished because they are considered to be religious institutions that are located in public places and apparently fall under a list of unauthorized religious construction. Mohan Gowda, Hindu Jana Jagruti Vedike spokesperson stated that the government has decided to go ahead with demolishing this large number of religious structures. The verdict of the Supreme Court clearly states that all religious structures that are built after December 7, 2009 must be demolished and most of these religious structures are Hindu temples across Mangalore. With regards to those places of worship built before December 7, 2009—they will be examined case by case before a decision is

made for whether they will become regularized structures, relocated or demolished. A very short notice has been given with no opportunity for appeal and the state government in its affidavit to the Supreme Court has agreed to clear all illegal religious structures by the end of this month. Gowda further stated that although the Supreme Court has allowed for temples that are over 30 years old to be regularized, the Karnataka government is simply seeking to demolish because the process of regularizing will be time consuming and not worth their time. It's unfortunate according to him, that temples over 300 years old are at risk of demolition.

ALL-RELIGIOUS CENTRE AT BANGALORE TO HAVE JAIN TEMPLE ALSO

Bangalore: M. P. Karan Singh will lay the foundation stone for all-religion centre at K Choodahalli - Somanahalli Cross, of Kanakapura Road on January 3. The inauguration program will also be joined by former CJI Justice M N Venkatachaliah, DG&IGP Ajai Kumar Singh, Sri M (Mumtaz Ali Khan), President of Satsang Foundation, which has taken up the project in association with city-based Sakshi Foundation. The centre will consist of a Temple, a Mosque, a Church, a Gurdwara, a Buddha Vihar and a Jain Temple. The campus with lotus ponds will also have a common meditation hall, cottages for seekers and a library of spiritual and religious literature.

NEW JAIN TEMPLE AT PANAMPILLY NAGAR

Kochi: The construction of the new Jain Temple at Panampilly Nagar has been completed. The Jin Bimba Vedi Pratishtha Mahotsav and Vishva Shanti Mahayagya will be held at G-256, Panampilly Nagar, from January 22 to 24. The programmes include a procession, Aarti, Pravachan, Ghatyatra, Nithya Pooja Archana, Rathyatra and cultural programmes in the evening on all the three days. The programme is organised by Sakal Digambar Jain Samaj. The temple is made of marble and the artisans from Rajasthan and Gujarat have given it an ethnic look. The painters have done Kishangarh style of painting on the pillars with elephant and kalash motives in soothing colours. The idols are from Jaipur.

JAIN MANDIR FACES DEMOLITION THREAT

HYDERABAD: It is not just the historic Sultan Bazar which will become history if the proposed metro route is executed but also religious facets of this market. Between the half kilometers stretch of Andhra Bank crossroads to Kachiguda, there are nearly 10 important religious structures, more than 100 years old. The most prominent one is the Jain Mandir, which is the

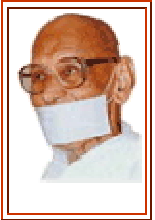
oldest Jain temple in Hyderabad. "Though officials said they will make sure the Jain Mandir will be protected, we have our apprehensions," said Surendra Luniya, president, SBTA and a key office-bearer of Jain Mandir. Other religious places which could be affected are Hanuman temple, Bhagwan Das building, Hari Masjid, Ganesh temple, Muslim Darga, Arya Samaj Mandir and Maata Gudi. There are also two heritage buildings- Raja Baghavandas building and Nanu Bhai building which face the treat of demolition.

TEMPLES MANagements UNITE IN GOA

Panaji, Around 300 temple managements across Goa have organized themselves under the banners of Gomantak Mandir and Dharmik Sanstha Mahasangh to tackle cases of temple thefts and desecrations. The Hindu leaders likened the state government's approach to the cases of desecrations of Hindu places of worship to that of the Portuguese regime in Goa during the colonial rule. Co-coordinator of the Mahasangh, Jayesh Thali said, "In the past six years, more than 50 murtis in temples have been desecrated. More than 250 temples have been looted. The atheist government has shown apathy towards this issue and not worked out any effective solution to stop the attacks on temples." Rajkumar Dessai, who is part of management of a temple located at Porvorim, said, "Portuguese laws are still in force in Goa to deal with temple thefts, only the name of the act has been changed. Under the act, there is no difference between a cupboard that is damaged and an statue in a temple that is desecrated. We want such laws to be discontinued." The Mahasangh has mobilized the faithful from across the state for a joint meeting to be held on January 8, 2011 at the Sri Sant Gadge Maharaj hall at Porvorim. The Mahasangh is also against the state move of demolishing temples and Hindu shrines existing in government land. It is heartening to note the progressive action taken by various temples of Goa. It is high time that management of Jain temples in the country, where cases of theft are occurring very frequently, also consider similar steps to prevent regular thefts from several Jain temples all over the country. United action is required by all the temples, both Swetambar and Digambar. Courtesy: Prakash Mody E-Mail: 4prakash@gmail.com

SAINTS

BRIDGE TO BE NAMED AFTER ACHARYA MAHAPRAGYA IN AHMEDABAD



Ahmedabad Municipal Council said that Shahibaugh bridge would be named after Jain Acharya Mahapragya, the tenth Acharya and the head of Jain Swetambar Terapanth group. The 90-year-old sage had died on May 9, 2010 at Sardarshehar in Rajasthan's Churu district following a heart attack. AMC officials said that the bridge is named after Acharya Mahapragya as he had delivered several religious discourses in the area. The bridge would lead to direct connectivity from Shahibaugh (Rajasthan Hospital) to Delhi Darwaja without using the Shahibaugh under bridge.

COMMUNITY POLITICS FORCES ACHARYA SHRI DR. SHIV MUNI TO POSTPONE SAINTS CONCLAVE



Indefinite postponement of the most timely-conceived all "Sthanakwasi Swetambar Jain Saint's Conclave" proposed to be held after 23 years at Delhi is a unpardonable set back for the entire Jain Swetambar Sthanakwasi Sect. Acharya Shri Dr. Shiv Muni had proposed to hold all saints meet at Delhi in 2011 after a lapse of almost 23 years. The announcement was felicitated and lauded by the entire saint commune and community members every where. This was a great opportunity for the Sthanakwasi Jain saints to come together, increase their vertical and horizontal communication and discuss multi-disciplinary issues. The event proposed to be held in Delhi would have been a great show from other perceptions as well. Upadhyay Shri Roop Muni (Rajat) and many other veteran saints have enormous following in political and industrial circles outside the community as well. Their presence in large numbers in the country's capital would have given great opening to the entire Jain Diaspora to communicate with administration and other religious groups and sects on current subjects.

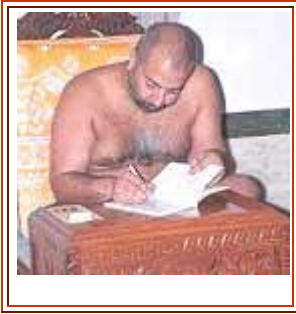
Unfortunately, from the day of announcement of Saints Assembly, regional community leaders in Delhi and elsewhere started looking for their role in this high profile event. As the Organising Committees were announced, things started going bad to worse. Confusions and disagreements surfaced on every subject whether that is place of meet, agenda of the discussion or the arrangements. Community leaders freely expressed their views and advice at all levels. They simply confused the saints with their over-ambitious and sedentary thoughts without understanding their implications. One can call it clash of egos, insecurity of their hold in the religious organizations or anything else. Probably, all these developments intensively hurt Acharya Dr. Shiv Muni and he felt obligated to cancel his well-thought of meet of all the Sthanakwasi Saints. He wanted to steer clear of any situation which further damages the image of the saint commune and the community as a whole. Many saints have expressed their deep regrets about these redundant developments.

Sthanakwasi community should learn from other Swetambar Jain Sect, where the word of 'Acharya-Shri' is always the final word. No one has the temerity to throw any pointless views. Shravaks and Saints of the commune listen and obey the

Acharya Shri as their head with all the humility and respect. In order to run an organization a lot of discipline is required at all levels of the group. All constituents must accept and honour the office of the "Head". The word of democratically elected leader should be the last word for everyone. This is in the interest of the entire community. Acharya Shri should also exercise his powers whenever and wherever required irrespective of any other consideration. We hope the leaders of Sthanakwasi Jain Sect will understand this loss of opportunity and accept their mistake with dignity and humility. We hope such muddle will not be created in future. Certain religious reforms are of utmost necessity at this time and it is high time that our leaders shed their egoistic and callous approach and look progressively for the larger benefit of the community. We have received number of mails from our readers on this subject. The language used in most of the mails is impolite and offensive. This is an organisational issue and one should deal with it without being emotional. Response received from Mr. V. C. Mehta, E-Mail: vcmndl@yahoo.co.in is reproduced herein below. This sums up the feeling prevailing in the community. "This ego-clash has led entire Jain religion to disintegration.. indeed a very sad situation.. the Jain intellectuals must rise to the occasion to defuse it otherwise we r destined to face it time n again". Virendra Mehta , S-247, G. K. 2, New Delhi -110048, (Mobile : 98 100 88299).

DIG. JAIN SAINT ATIVEER JI MUNIRAJ IS UNDERGOING "MAUN SADHNA" FOR 42 DAYS IN DELHI

ऐलाचार्य श्री अतिवीर जी मुनिराज निरन्तर आत्म-कल्याण की ओर अग्रसर



पंचम काल की सदोष चर्या में भी कुछ सन्त ऐसे होते हैं जो केवल अंतर-मुखी रहकर स्व-पर का कल्याण करते हैं। त्याग एवं तपस्या की राह पर चलते चलते वह साधना की पराकाष्ठा को प्राप्त होते हैं। ऐसे ही विरले मुनिराज दिल्ली जैसी मायानगरी में विराजमान रहकर आत्म-कल्याण की ओर अग्रसर हैं। त्रिलोक तीर्थ प्रणेता परम पूज्य आचार्य श्री 108 विद्याभूषण सन्मति सागर जी महाराज के परम प्रभावक शिष्य युवा प्रणेता परम पूज्य ऐलाचार्य श्री 108 अतिवीर जी मुनिराज निरन्तर साधना की गहराईयों में डुबकियां लगाते हुए एकर्मों की निर्जरा कर रहे हैं। विदित ही है कि गत वर्ष महावीर जयन्ती के परम पुनीत अवसर पर पूज्य ऐलाचार्य श्री ने

अपनी दीक्षा-जयन्ती एवं जन्म-जयन्ती का आयोजन जीवनभर न करने का दृढ संकल्प लिया था। इसी श्रृंखलामें पूज्य ऐलाचार्य श्री ने एक और कठोर नियम का संकल्प किया। साधुओं की वर्तमान में गनिष्ठ आहार चर्या पर रोक लगाने के लिए पूज्य ऐलाचार्य श्री ने आहार में केवल नौ पदार्थ ही लेने का ऐतिहासिक संकल्प भी गत वर्ष लिया था। फलस्वरूप कोई भी परिवार अब आसानी से साधुओं की आहार-चर्या निर्विघ्न रूप से सम्पन्न करवा सकता है। ऐलाचार्य श्री 108 अतिवीर जी मुनिराज ने पिछले दिनों सभी श्रमण एवं श्रावक वर्ग को आश्चर्यचकित एक विस्मित कर देने वाला नियम लिया। आत्म कल्याण के मार्ग पर बढ़ते हुए ऐलाचार्य श्री ने 42 दिनों तक मौन रहकर केवल आत्म-चिंतन एवं स्वाध्याय आदि करने का संकल्प लिया है। पूज्य ऐलाचार्य श्री एकान्त में रहकर केवल आत्म-कल्याण करेंगे तथा अंतर्मुखी होकर साधना की गहराईयों में डुबकियाँ लगायेंगे। जैन समाज के विद्वत वर्ग का मानना है कि ऐलाचार्य श्री का यह संकल्प अपने आप में ऐतिहासिक है तथा शायद ही कभी किसी सन्त ने 42 दिनों तक पूर्ण रूप से मौन रहकर आत्म-साधना सम्पन्न की होगी। श्री माम चन्द जैन (चेयरमैन, बैंक एन्कलेव जैन समाज) के अनुसार पूज्य ऐलाचार्य श्री 108 अतिवीर जी मुनिराज ने 2 जनवरी 2011 से 13 फरवरी 2011 तक 42 दिनों का पूर्ण मौन धारण किया है। तथा वह साधना हेतु दिल्ली के बैंक एन्कलेव स्थित श्री दिगम्बर जैन मन्दिर जी में विराजमान रहेंगे। बैंक एन्कलेव समाज कार्यकारिणी कमिटी ने बताया कि ऐलाचार्य श्री का मौन 13 फरवरी 2011 को दोपहर 1.15 बजे समाप्त होगा जिसके उपलक्ष्य में भव्य कार्यक्रम का आयोजन श्री दिगम्बर जैन मन्दिर परिसर, बैंक एन्कलेव में किया जाएगा Source: Mr. Sameer Jain, 9910033159, www.ativeermuni.blog.co.in

MEGA EYE CAMP ORGANISED AT PAWAPURI TO CELEBRATE 75 YEARS OF ACHARYA SHRI CHANDANA JI



On the occasion of Acharya Shri Chandana Ji Maharaj entering 75th year of her birth on the 26th January, 2011, a mega eye camp has been organised at Pawapuri in Bihar starting from 24th January to 12th February, 2011. About 1500 patients are expected to undergo surgical operations by eye specialists for cataract and other diseases on this occasion. Shri Chandana Ji Maharaj has in the past been instrumental in organising various social service activities in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Bihar which include opening of schools, providing medical facilities for earth-quake stricken persons in Gujarat, inspiring people to accept vegetarianism and removal of poverty by arranging jobs for the poor and

needy people. It has been planned to start Veerayatan University in Kuchh (Gujarat). Apart from three existing charitable institutions, all named "Veerayatan", one at Rajgiri, other near Pune and still another at Kuchh, two more similar institutions, one at Palitana and other at Kandivali (Mumbai) have been planned to be started soon. Land has already been acquired for these new projects.

SADHVIS SUFFER DURING CLASHES BETWEEN JAIN GROUPS

A clash was reported between two groups of a Jain Sangh at the Shahibaug area in Ahmedabad on January 1st i.e. first day of the New Year 2011. The incident created commotion in the locality near Girdharnagar Shahibaug Jain Swetambar Murtipujak Sangh and the police had to cordon off the area. According to one of the groups involved in the dispute, around 20 Sadhvis of their group were attacked and locked inside by the women of the opposite group in the Sangh building in the afternoon when the former group was performing some ritual. GSJSMS manages the Jain Derasar at Shahibaug. Two groups related to the Sangh are involved in a long-drawn legal battle over the administrative control of the Sangh and its properties for the past one decade. The police said the clash could well be the fallout of a tussle over gaining control of the administration and its properties. Shahibaug Police said, "The issue is going on for two days and on 1st January, it intensified over some arguments inside the Derasar. We are still to get a fix on the real problem, but it appears that both parties are fighting over some administrative and land issues."

JAIN SADHUS, CIVIC BODY JOIN HANDS TO CLEAN UP PALITANA

Palitana: At a time when global leaders, business honchos and the state government are set to sign various memoranda of understanding at the Vibrant Gujarat summit, an interesting MOU signed between a Jain group and Palitana Nagarpalika three years ago to solve civic problems of the Jain pilgrimage town in Bhavnagar district, is bearing fruits. On inspiration of Jain monk Vijay Abhaydev Suriswers Ji Maharaj, his followers took up the challenge to take up civic issues of Palitana three years ago. According to Moksharata Vijay Maharaj, who has executed the project, Subh Mangal Foundation carried out the civic work without taking money from government. Moksharata Vijay Maharaj says, "We have spent more than Rs 45 crore to carry out the major civic work in our holy place to make it more beautiful and lovable for everyone. A place of worship should be like one where one can get eternal peace". Along with other construction, a water filter plant is also installed for better quality of water. More than 3,000 trees have been planted along the roads. These basic civic amenities will solve the civic problems which Jain sadhus and pilgrims used to face, especially during monsoons.

ICONS OF JAIN SAMAJ



SHRI ANAND PRAKASH JAIN - Shri Anand Prakash Jain is a renowned name in Jain Sthanakwasi Samaj at Delhi. He is known for multi dimensional philanthropic activities. He is an extremely successful businessman from Old Delhi. His business under the brand "Naveen Metal" is one of the most respected and recognized establishment in the field of non-ferrous metals. A small metal trading shop started by him in Sadar Bazar has become an Industrial House today.

He was born to Late Rangi Lal Jain on 07.01.1941 in Mehroli (Delhi). He is married to Smt. Kamlesh Jain who is also ardent religious personality. He is blessed with four sons Naresh, Naveen, Neeraj and Vipin.

The family lives together and works together. He is ever ready to support any human cause / suffering irrespective of cast and creed considerations. He can always be contacted for financial support in case of medical emergencies. This has given him a great name in the society. Even the Saints regard him as indispensable person in social and religious matters. He is associated with several institutions in various capacities. A list of institutions where he is actively involved is given herein below. President - Shri Vardhman Sthanakwasi Jain Mahasangh Delhi State, Shri Swetamber Sthanakwasi Jain Sangh, Sadar Bazar, Delhi, Samajik Karyakarta Parisadh, Pahadi Dhiraj, Delhi, Bhagwan Chintamani Parsvanath Educational Society, Jain Biradari, Gadiharsaru, Gurgaon.

National President - Vyavachh Sammittee Akhil Bharatversiya Swetamber Sthanakwasi Jain Conference.

Vice President - Jain Mahasabha, Delhi.

Founder - Guru Premsukh Memorial College of Engineering, Delhi.

Founder Chief Patron - Jain International Trade Organisation.

Patron - Hinduparva Samaroha Sammittee.

General Secretary - Jain Swetamber Property Trust, Sadar Bazar, Delhi.

Treasurer - Jain Samnopashak Senior Secondary School, Delhi.

Director - Mahavir International (Delhi and Faridabad).

Lifetime Trustee - Maharaja Agrasen Technical Educational Society.

Chairman - Muni Roshan Lal Charitable Hospital, Tri Nagar, Delhi, Namu Alloys Private Limited, Faridabad, Akshaya Aluminum Alloys, Faridabad, Sanmati Metacast Limited, Delhi, Naveen Jain Metal Udyog, Delhi / Faridabad.

Ahimsa Foundation wishes Mr. Anand Prakash Jain great success in his endeavor to serve the society. May all his dreams come true and he achieves salvation through his contributions to the mankind. He is indeed an icon of Jain Samaj.

HONOURS & AWARDS

DR. PETER FUGEL HONOURED WITH PRAVARTINI PARVATI JAIN INTERNATIONAL AWARD



S. S. Jain Sabha Ambala, 22 November 2010, in the auspicious presence of the Sadhvi Sudha Ji, disciple of Sadhvi Swarn Kanta Ji, the 26th Lord Mahavira's Birth Kalyanak Centenary Committee presented the Pravartini Parvati Jain International Award of 2010 to Dr. Peter Fugel who is Professor in Jainism on Jain Chair in the Department of Religious Studies, faculty of humanities London University, London. In the fully packed ceremonial hall Sadhvi Dr. Smriti Ji announced the name of Dr. Peter Fugel for the prestigious award. Addressing the audiences Sadhvi Smriti Ji said that before Dr Peter the award was given to noted scholars of the National and International repute from America, Germany and India. Sadhvi Ji addressed in English. As an invitee of the committee

speaking on this occasion Dr. Pradyumna Shah Singh was very delighted saying that prize was going to very able hands. He praised the efforts of those who are evaluating the works of the scholars who are in and outside of the country. The Chairman of the award committee Shri Purshottam Jain and Convener, Shri Ravinder Jain presented the award of honor on the stage. It is worth noting that the most learned Sadhvi Swarn Kanta Ji had inspired them to establish an award in the name of Pravartini Parvati Ji. Her aim behind the award was to promote research and literary works in the field of Jainism. Pravartini Parvati Ji was the Jain Sadhvi who had written about the Jain religion in the Hindi language first time and participated for its promotion in open debates with other religious teachers.

In her fourth lineage Up-pravartini Sadhvi Swarn Kanta Ji born in 26 January, 1929 in Lahore was the most learned Sadhvi who promoted the works of learning in Jainism and gave importance to education of the Sadhvies. She had inspired Shri Purshottam Jain and Shri Ravinder Jain, recipients of the many prestigious awards, to enrich the Jain Literature by writing and translating it in local languages. Even today both brothers-in-faith are bearing the responsibilities which Sadhvi Swarn Kanta Ji had handed them over. Source: Ravinder Jain, E-Mail: ravinderjain231049@ymail.com

DELHI UNIVERSITY ELECTS FIRST DISABLED ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEMBER

Nikhil Jain, who was born blind, is one of the 26 teachers elected to the Academic Council in 2010. He achieved the feat without being a member of any of the larger teachers' organisations — those in the know say four of the largest organisations supported up to 23 of the successful candidates. Founder-president of Sambhavana, an organisation formed in 2001 to address the rights of the disabled, Jain is also an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Dyal Singh College. Jain describes Sambhavana as a group that primarily supports progressive disability politics. During the AC elections, which took place on December 23, Jain contested representing Sambhavana -Teachers' Collective, a platform of three Left-leaning organisations, had endorsed his candidature.

Nikhil Jain, who was born blind, is one of the 26 teachers elected to the Academic Council in 2010. He achieved the feat without being a member of any of the larger teachers' organisations — those in the know say four of the largest organisations supported up to 23 of the successful candidates. Founder-president of Sambhavana, an organisation formed in 2001 to address the rights of the disabled, Jain is also an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Dyal Singh College. Jain describes Sambhavana as a group that primarily supports progressive disability politics. During the AC elections, which took place on December 23, Jain contested representing Sambhavana -Teachers' Collective, a platform of three Left-leaning organisations, had endorsed his candidature.

Nikhil Jain, who was born blind, is one of the 26 teachers elected to the Academic Council in 2010. He achieved the feat without being a member of any of the larger teachers' organisations - those in the know say four of the largest organisations supported up to 23 of the successful candidates. Founder-president of Sambhavana, an organisation formed in 2001 to address the rights of the disabled, Jain is also an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Dyal Singh College. Jain describes Sambhavana as a group that primarily supports progressive disability politics. During the AC elections, which took place on December 23, Jain contested representing Sambhavana -Teachers' Collective, a platform of three Left-leaning organisations, had endorsed his candidature. Nikhil Jain, who was born blind, is one of the 26 teachers elected to the Academic Council in 2010. He achieved the feat without being a member of any of the larger teachers' organisations - those in the know say four of the largest organisations supported up to 23 of the successful candidates. Founder-president of Sambhavana, an organisation formed in 2001 to address the rights of the disabled, Jain is also an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Dyal Singh College. Jain describes Sambhavana as a group that primarily supports progressive disability politics. During the AC elections, which took place on December 23, Jain contested representing Sambhavana -Teachers' Collective, a platform of three Left-leaning organisations, had endorsed his candidature.

Nikhil Jain, who was born blind, is one of the 26 teachers elected to the Academic Council in 2010. He achieved the feat without being a member of any of the larger teachers' organisations - those in the know say four of the largest organisations supported up to 23 of the successful candidates. Founder-president of Sambhavana, an organisation formed in 2001 to address the rights of the disabled, Jain is also an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Dyal Singh College. Jain describes Sambhavana as a group that primarily supports progressive disability politics. During the AC elections, which took place on December 23, Jain contested representing Sambhavana -Teachers' Collective, a platform of three Left-leaning organisations, had endorsed his candidature. Nikhil Jain, who was born blind, is one of the 26 teachers elected to the Academic Council in 2010. He achieved the feat without being a member of any of the larger teachers' organisations - those in the know say four of the largest organisations supported up to 23 of the successful candidates. Founder-president of Sambhavana, an organisation formed in 2001 to address the rights of the disabled, Jain is also an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Dyal Singh College. Jain describes Sambhavana as a group that primarily supports progressive disability politics. During the AC elections, which took place on December 23, Jain contested representing Sambhavana -Teachers' Collective, a platform of three Left-leaning organisations, had endorsed his candidature.

SUNIL SINGHI ELECTED PRESIDENT OF JAIN YUVAK MAHASANGH

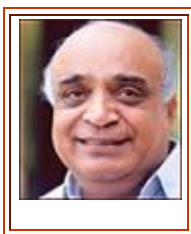
Shri Jain Shwetambar Murti-Pujak Yuvak Mahasangh elected Shri Sunil Singhi, belonging to Sirohi as its president for a period of two years. This association of Jain youth has 175 branches in the country, working under the guidance of progressive saint, Shri Naya Padam Sagar Ji Maharaj, who is the disciple of Acharya Shri Padam Sagar Surishwar Ji Maharaj. Sunil Singhi had earlier been working as Organising Secretary of Mahasangh since its inception. He is also Director of Rajastha Hospital at Shahi Bagh, Ahmedabad and is associated with many charitable and social institutions in Gujarat.

NARENDRA BALDOTA ELECTED JITO CHAIRMAN



The New Board of Directors of JITO, in their first meeting held on 26th December, 2010, at Mumbai, unanimously elected Shri Narendrakumar A. Baldota as the Chairman of JITO. As the new Chairman, Shri Baldota brings with him rich experience of managing Baldota Group of companies with diversified business interests like Mining, Wind Power, Industrial Gases, and Steel and others. This experience shall help the organization reach out to more people across the nation and take the mantle of JITO further.

M P VEERENDRA KUMAR WINS SAHITYA ACADEMY AWARD



M P Veerendra Kumar, the famous writer, publisher and politician have won the prestigious Sahitya Academy award for his travelogue in Malayalam. MP Veerendra Kumar (born on 22nd July, 1936), a political leader, writer and former Union Minister has shown his command in almost all areas of life. An orator, thinker, author, parliamentarian, he has been steering the social, political, economic, cultural and literary scenario of Kerala for a long time.

Born to MK Padmaprabha Gowder and Marudevi Amma, Veerendra Kumar inherited the tradition of Socialist Party from his father, who was a famous planter and Socialist Party leader. Veerendra Kumar over jumped the rudimentary political spectacle of Socialist Party and rose as a leader of Socialist Front. Contacts with Ram Manohar Lohia and other leftist leaders enabled him to develop his intellectual and philosophical capacity. Born at Kalpatta in Wayanad district, Veerendra Kumar had his basic education at Karnataka and later joined Subba Krishna Memorial Jain High School, Kalpatta. After schooling, he had his intermediate studies at Kozhikode Samoothiri College (now, Guruvayoorappan College). He took his MA in philosophy from Madras Vivekananda College. He acquired MBA from US.

Several awards were given to Veerendra Kumar for his contributions in the field of instructive literature, such as C A Chutha Menon Award, Odakkuzhal Award, First Bharat Soorya Award Kerala Sahitya Academy Award, Koduppunna Award, Dubai Kairali Kalakendram Award for Religious Integration, Sahitya Academy Award 2010 for his Malayalam Travelogue.

Positions Held : a) First Vice-Chairman of PTI and later, Chairman. b) Trustee, Press Institute of India- Research Institute for News Paper Development. c) Deputy President, Indian News Paper Society. d) Chairman, Indian News Paper Society. e) Chairman, Sree Ramashramam Award Committee. f) Member of Indian and Eastern News Paper Society. g) Chairman and Managing Director, Mathrubhoomi Printing and Publishing Company.

In politics also, he adorned several positions : Vice-President of Janata Party, Kerala Unit. Elected to Kerala Legislative Assembly by record majority from Kalpatta. Minister of Forest and Environment for one day. Elected to Lok Sabha from Kozhikode. Minister of State for Finance in the Dev Gowda Ministry, Minister of State for Employment in the IK Gujral Ministry. National Executive member of Samyukta Socialist Party. National Secretary of Socialist Party. State President of Janata Dal. Contact Details: MP Veerendra Kumar Managing Director Mathrubhoomi Printing and Publishing Company Limited Kozhikode-673001. E-Mail : jainway@gmail.com

MEDITATION

MEDITATION PROVEN TO BOOST BRAIN EFFICIENCY

Meditation was once the domain of fringe groups bent on instilling life-changing attitudes into their inductees by getting them to slow down, take deep breaths and let the stress melt away. Unproven until now, Chinese and U.S. researchers claim to have scientific evidence that guided meditation introduces positive structural changes in the brain, which help people regulate goal-oriented behaviors without all the stress.

The research team led by professor Yi-Yuan Tang of Dalian University of Technology, working in collaboration with University of Oregon psychologist Michael I. Posner, found that just 11 hours of guided meditation is all you need to make positive structural changes in your brain. Their technique, called integrative body-mind training (IBMT), has been developed in China over the last two decades, but finally its positive benefits have been measured with the help of brain-imaging technology at the University of Oregon.

The research project, sanctioned by the prestigious National Academy of Sciences, trained 45 University of Oregon students, half in IBMT and half in traditional stress-reducing "relaxation" training. Before and after each training session, the subjects' brain functions were measured with a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technique called diffusion tensor imaging. By examining the fibers that connect neurons together in the brain, the researchers were able to observe positive changes in the portion of the brain that regulates emotions and behaviors, called the anterior cingulate cortex. Changes in connectivity were observed in the test group, but not in the control group, after just 6 hours of IBMT and became statistically significant after just 11 hours. After just 11 hours of guided meditation, increases in fiber strength (colored) can be measured in the anterior cingulate cortex. Courtesy : Pooja Jain.

The researchers have done no invasive experiments to actually inspect brain matter, but speculate that the observed MRI changes are the result of reorganization of the white matter that interconnects neurons in the brain. By increasing the myelin that surrounds those connections, the researchers claim the changes make those pathways stronger and more efficient. According to Posner—last year's recipient of the National Medal of Science—strengthening these particular pathways has already been shown to enable people to handle stress better, but this is the first time that meditation has been verified as a cause.

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

BANGALORE ARTIFICIAL LIMB CAMP SUCCESSFUL



The 14th Annual Mega Jaipur Foot Camp witnessed the participation of nearly 700 persons. Patients visited from Karnataka Kerala, Andhara Pradesh, Maharastra, Goa and Tamil Nadu. The camp was organised by Rotary Bangalore Peenya and Sri Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklaang Sahayatha Samithi, Jaipur. The camp aims to assist disabled and needy, especially the accident victims, polio affected and gangrene affected by providing artificial limbs to enable them in leading a near normal life, who without appropriate prosthetic and rehabilitation devices often lack the means for social and economic self-reliance. The artificial limbs, crutches, wheel chairs will be offered free of cost to the needy. Screening, counseling, customised production, fitting under medical advice is provided in the camp by the team of about five to six doctors and 20 technicians of Bhagwan Mahaveer Jain Vikalang Sangh from Jaipur. Those in need of surgical intervention are referred to M S Ramaiah Hospital for corrective surgeries. Patients and their attendants are also provided accommodation and meals.

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON YOGASHASTRA OF ACHARYA HEMACHANDRA ORGANIZED BY BLII, DELHI

The Inaugural Function, of the two-day International Seminar on Yogashastra of Acharya Hemachandra & homage to Late Saint Muni Jambuvijay Ji, was held on 18th December 2010, in India International Centre, New Delhi. The sudden and sad demise of the illustrious Munishri, in road accident, left his followers stunned. The critical edition of Yogashastra of Hemachandra being his last work, BLII decided to organize this seminar as a mark of great respect to the departed soul. Prof. K. R. Rao, the Chairman, Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), Dr. Godabrish Mishra, Member Secretary, Indian Council of Philosophical Research, Mr. S. K. Goel, Director General, Indian Council of Cultural Research (ICCR), the founder and its chief patron of the BLII Shri Pratap Bhogilal and Prof. Sagarmal Jain, a stalwart of the Jaina studies, graced the dais on this occasion by their benign presence.

The Chief Guest, Prof. K. R. Rao has pin-pointed the need to present the Yoga in a manner, comprehensible to the common people. He emphasized the need of spiritualizing the secularity rather than secularizing the spirituality. He told that a good English translation of Yogashastra of Acharya Hemachandra should be brought out. Mr. Goel, in his speech, spoken out that yoga has become an industry today. Our thrust should be to make yoga an instrument of bringing equilibrium between mind and body. Prof. Godabrish Misra gave a new connotation to 'Yogah karmasu kaushalam' as the right of knowledge in empirical existence. 'Yogaksema vahamyaham' to him stood for the well-being of body and mind. Shri Pratap Bhogilal in his welcome speech highlighted that BLII should embark upon the researches in inter-religious faith. He also threw light on the establishment of BLII. Prof. Jitendra B. Shah, Vice-Chairman, BLII, also the Convener of this Seminar, in his key note address, made an exhaustive survey regarding genesis and development of Jaina literature on Yoga. He incorporated in his scholarly speech the salient feature of the important works, written from the earliest period to the present day, in Prakrit, Sanskrit, Kannad, Hindi, Gujrati and English etc.

The chief Guest at the Valedictory function was Padma Vibhushita Prof. Satyavrata Shastri (Former Vice-Chancellor, Jaganath Sanskrit University, Puri). The valedictory was presided by Prof. Ramanuja Devanathan (Registrar, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi). Dr. Bala Ji Ganorkar, Director, BLII conducted the whole seminar and proposed the vote of thanks. The hospitalities were sponsored by Indian Council of Philosophical Research and Cosco India Pvt. Ltd., Delhi. Source: Dr. Bala Ji Ganorkar, Director, B. L. Institute of Indology, E-Mail: director@blinstitute.org

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION INDIPEX-2011



International Philatelic Exhibition INDIPEX-2011 is going to organize at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 12th Feb. to 18th Feb. 2011. Large number of Philatelists will be visiting this exhibition. It has been suggested by some Philatelists that Jains should organize a meeting of all Jain Philatelists and Jainism collectors during INDIPEX-2011. Tentatively 15th Feb. 2011 has been decided for the same. If you are visiting Delhi during INDIPEX-2011, please plan your visit in such a manner that on 15th Feb. 2011 you can attend this meeting. Time and place will be informed afterwards. If you plan to attend this meeting, please inform me by SMS on 09425174190 or by E-Mail : mrsudhirjain@yuhoo.com so that we could know tentative number of participants. From: Sudhir Jain, Universal Cables Ltd., Satna ,M. P. 485 005.

RARE JAIN IDOLS DISPLAYED AT JITO FAIR



Chennai: Tamil Nadu, Minister, K Anbazhagan inaugurated the Jain International Trade Fair and Jain pavilion at Jain Dadabadi, Konnur High Road. Nayapadamsagar Ji Maharaj blessed the three day exhibition by his personnel presence. The pavilion showcases rare art and culture of Jain Religion. Exhibits at the Ratnapratima section have idols of the 24 Jain Thirthankars. A model of Ashtapad is also on display. The idols are made out of rare stones and are priceless. The illustrated paintings section contains the finest of the Jain art, idols, and sculptures from all over the world. A collection of antique materials like handwritten Kalpa Sutra, coins during the period of Lord Mahaveera and ancient scripts of scholars are also on display. The exhibition also showcases Jain businessmen's products and services, which include jewellery, textiles, real estate, cookware, food and beverage and financial services. Minister appreciated the community for their enterprise and service to humanity.

JITO global summit 2011 is slated to be held at the Nehru Indoor Stadium on 14th, 15th & 16th January 2011. Union ministers Veerappa Moily and P Chidambaram and Goa Chief Minister Digambar Kamat are expected to take part in the programme.

ONGOING PROJECTS OF JITO

- Shraman Arogyam provides medical assistance to Jain Sadhus and Sadhvis across India
- JITO Administrative Foundation enables youth to prepare for competitive civil exams
- Preparation of JITO directory of Jain establishments engaged in trade, commerce, industry as well as services.

For More Information - Contact: Jain International Trade Organisation, 7/10, Botawala Bldg., 2nd Flr., Office No. - 5, Horniman Circle, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001. India, Tel : +91-22-6610 2003 / 2004, Fax : +91-22-66102097, E-Mail : contact@jito.org, Website : www.jito.org

VEGETARIANISM

VEGETARIAN DIET CAN PREVENT CANCER



Cambridge: It's a known fact that vegetarian diet helps fight cancer, but a new research suggests that plants may protect us from cancer in a far more novel way – they may block a cancer's ability to grow. Populations that consume less animal food and more plant food have a lower risk of cancer and the risk of cancer in vegetarians is about 50 per cent lower than among people who eat meat on a regular basis. Plant foods are high in antioxidants, and antioxidants can protect DNA from damage that can lead to malignant transformation. As per the new study, vegetarian food can block cancer's ability to grow via a process called angiogenesis, a tissue's ability to grow new blood vessels, reports the Age . If the process of angiogenesis goes awry,

new blood vessels don't form when they are needed, or blood vessel formation continues out of control. Researchers have developed some drugs that can help to shrink tumour growth or even reduce the spread of cancer by inhibiting angiogenesis. Scientists like William Li, a researcher who heads the Angiogenesis Foundation in Cambridge, Massachusetts, are looking at the power of certain foods to block angiogenesis. The plant chemicals in the foods like apples, oranges, blackberries, vegetables like tomato pumpkins etc. seem to be able to inhibit angiogenesis so that a single cancer cell or cluster of cancer cells is never able to grow enough to cause any mischief. Some plants also contain tumour-suppressor proteins, which help to curb the growth of cancer cells. Studies in the past have shown that men who eat cooked tomato products two to three times a week reduce their prostate cancer risk by about 50 per cent. Up to 35 per cent of cancers may be caused by poor diet, and cancer risk is also much higher among people who are obese.

HOTTEST VEGETARIANS

Vidya Balan and Shashi Tharoor have been voted as the hottest celebrity vegetarians in an online poll by PETA. They beat off competition from Lara Dutta, Mallika Sherawat, Kareena Kapoor, Amitabh Bachchan, Shahid Kapoor, Natalie Portman and Bryan Adams to claim the title. "Their commitment to a vegetarian diet that's as kind to animals and the earth as it is to their own health makes them true royalty in our book," Poorva Joshipura, PETA India chief said.

NO ADMISSION FOR NON-VEGETARIANS AT THIS DELHI SCHOOL



New Delhi: With schools getting a free-hand from the government, virtually, to decide criteria for selection of students, guardians are having to deal with some unexpected issues. For instance, Mahavir Model School in north Delhi does not encourage admission to children whose parents are non-vegetarian, smoker or even a moderate drinker. All branches of the school have made it a criterion for parents to be austere vegetarian and also keep away from cigarettes and alcohol.

According to the school's point system, there is a clear distribution of 100 points into various categories. 20-25 points are allocated to people from the Jain community, another 25 for those living in the neighbourhood, followed by 10 each to a girl child and those from the alumni. The rest is for people who follow a vegetarian staple diet, don't consume tobacco in any form and do not touch alcohol. According to the Principal of the school, "It is a Jain minority school. We run the institution on a particular philosophy and vegetarianism is a basic tenet of Jainism. We respect all religions and all religious tenets are similar, except for the one of vegetarianism in Jainism. It is a fair criterion".

HINDUS BACK MCCARTNEY'S CALL FOR VEGETARIAN DAY



Sir Paul McCartney is reportedly urging India to declare a National Vegetarian Day and Hindus have thrown their weight behind his call to celebrate meat-free living and compassion towards animals. Well-known Hindu statesman Rajan Zed, in a statement in U.S. said vegetarianism, besides reducing greenhouse gas emissions, was good for ethical and health reasons also. McCartney has also requested to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to declare January 12th a meat-free day. This is also PETA's founder day. McCartney, who has been a vegetarian for over 30 years, finds vegetarianism "very simple, tasty, and most enjoyable". According to reports, meat is responsible for 18 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions, more than transport's 13 per cent. According to an estimate, around 42 per cent of India's about 1.2 billion people are vegetarian.

JAIN MINORITY STATUS

NATIONAL MINORITY STATUS FOR JAIN COMMUNITY SOON: UNION LAW MINISTER



According to the Union Law Minister, M. Veerappa Moily the Government is working out a formula for ensuring national minority status for the Jain Community. Speaking at the inaugural function of Jain International Trade Organisation he expressed the above views. He urged the Jain Community to utilise the capacity as entrepreneurs to take the nation forward. "We are with you," said Mr. Moily. He also pointed to the contribution of Jain poets to literature, particularly Kannada literature. Jain Community is a minority in some states of India. But they are not a Central Minority, said Abhishek Manu Singhvi, AICC spokesperson. He stressed the need for filing a new Public Interest Litigation for reversing a judgment of the Supreme Court that said Jain Community was part of the Hindu tradition. Mr. Singhvi said various High Court judgments had recognised the Jain Community as a minority. He asked the Jain Community to seek national minority status. Mr. Singhvi advocated the codification of ritualistic differences between various sects of the community.

NEW BOOKS

JAINISM IN TAMIL NADU - An outcome of painstaking research, the book presents a historical overview of Jainism, with Tamil Nadu focus. The first of the 11 chapters briefly traces the history of the religion, while the second recounts the Jain philosophy and the next two describe the Jain way life. Two chapters are devoted to the advent and growth of Jainism in Tamil Nadu. The rivalry and clashes between the followers of Jainism and Saivism are discussed in the seventh chapter. The last four chapters speak about its decline, its present state in Tamil Nadu and the relics. The book has eight appendices that will be of immense value for the researchers. Tireless field worker and one who earned the commendation of eminent

scholars like T. P. Meenakshisundaram and Kamil Zvelebil, Mayilai Seeni, as the author is widely known, travelled extensively in Tamil Nadu collecting material for this project, and he notes, with a palpable sense of hurt, it took 10 long years for him to get the work published as a book — that was in 1954 and it has been republished now. The publishers deserve appreciation for having made it available to the present generation. Contact Author: Mayilai Seeni Venkatasami, Shenbaga Pathippagam, Post Box No. 8836, Pondy Bazar, T. Nagar, Chennai-600017. Rs. 75.

INDIAN RELIGIONS -The Spiritual Traditions of South Asia - An Anthology, Edited by Peter Heehs, English, 2006 22 x 14 cm 620 pages, Paperback Rs. 495. This book is meant for people interested in Indian religion, literature, history and general culture. While scholarly in its presentation and thoroughness and based on the most up to date literature, it is meant as an accessible introduction to South Asian religion.

This is an anthology of written and oral texts by spiritual teachers from South Asia. The period covered is some 3500 years - from the period of the Rgveda to the 1980s. About a hundred mystics and anonymous texts are included. All the major religious traditions are represented. No important mystic is omitted, and a number of less-known ones are included, among them women and spiritualists from the lower castes. Translations are chosen for straightforwardness and readability. Texts in which the mystic speaks of his or her own experience and its relationship to organised religion. Current controversies in the study of mysticism, in particular the question of social construction vs. universality in spiritual experience, are discussed.

Peter Heehs is a historian at Sri Aurobindo Ashram Archives, Pondicherry. He has authored five books, the most recent of which is 'Nationalism, Terrorism and Communalism.' Book available at Hindi Granth Karyalay, Mumbai 400004, E-Mail: Jainbooks@aol.com

JAIN STUDIES

BHAGWAN MAHAVIR PROFESSORSHIP OF JAIN STUDIES

Jain Education & Research Foundation established a \$ 1 million endowment at Florida International University, Miami, USA for the Bhagawan Mahavir Professorship of its kind in the western world. The endowment is part of a larger initiative by the Jain Community to establish an academic education center for Jain students. The Proposed Bhagawan Mahavir Interdisciplinary Center for Religious Pluralism would offer Jainism course, provide research opportunities and collaborate with universities world wide. Prof. Nathan Katz, FIU professor, who specializes in the religious of India, is the first Bhagwan Mahavir Professor.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOLLOWERS OF JAINISM AMONGST SCHEDULED TRIBES

You will be surprised to know that there are followers of Jainism in Scheduled Tribes. Scheduled Tribes are popularly known as Adivasis. Scheduled Tribes consist over 8.2% of total population of India according 2001 Census of India. According to 2001 Census of India, the total population was above 102 Crores. The population of Scheduled Tribes was above 8.4 Crores. There is a popular belief that most of the people belonging to Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes are followers of Hinduism. But the Sachar Committee has reported that members of scheduled castes and tribes of India are not exclusively adherents of Hinduism. According to the report of Sachar Committee and other agencies, there are followers of all religions namely Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Sikhism and Jainism in Scheduled Tribes.

Interestingly, 2.6% of followers of Jainism belong to Scheduled Tribes. It means 26 persons out of every 1000 persons in total Jain Community belong to Scheduled Tribes. It seems an attractive number, but it is not, when compared to STs in other religions. We must note that other religions, i.e. Hinduism, Christianity etc are introduced to Tribals in modern era, while Jainism is present amongst them from ancient time. But these followers of Jainism are away from so called main stream Jains and Jainism. Further there are many other Scheduled Tribes which are followers of Jainism, but they do not know that they are Jains. This is not only about Scheduled Tribes. There are a large number of followers of Jainism in OBCs (Other Backward Classes), SCs (Scheduled Castes), NTs (Nomadic Tribes) and Cultivators. Jainism is a grass root religion and what is known as a Jain Community is just a visible part of the iceberg.

Jain leaders should look into these specifics and bring representation of all in their 'All India' organizations.-Courtesy: Mahavir Sanglikar E-Mail: msanglikar@yahoo.com

JAIN TEMPLE'S SECURITY GUARD KILLED

Vadodara: Security guard of a Jain Temple in the Sama area of the city was done to death during a robbery bid. Unidentified assailants killed the guard when he apparently tried to resist an attempt to rob the temple in the early hours. Suresh

Vankar, a security guard posted at Adinath Jain Derasar near Swati ground on New Sama Road, was found dead in the backyard of the temple. A caretaker at the temple, Fatehsinh Rathwa, spotted Vankar's body after he rushed to the temple hearing a burglar's alarm. Nayan Parikh, an executive member at the temple, said that it seemed that after attacking the watchman the burglars forced open the door of the temple. However, a burglar's alarm installed at the temple force the robbers to run away.

EMAILS CAUGHT IN CIRCULATION



JAINS TODAY BEING A VEGETARIAN WITHOUT RIGHT FAITH - From: Mahavir Sanglikar, E-Mail: msanglikar@yahoo.com - Recently, a friend of mine at Facebook, having Jain as his surname, was promoting non-Jain Gods. I ignored him for a while, but then directly asked him by sending an email that why he was doing this. His reply was funny:

'I am vegan, so I am true Jain and you are not. Because you eat dairy products. You have no right to ask me about what I am doing'. Before I could reply, he deleted me from his friends list and blocked me. This was just an escapism, not Jainism! Well, coming to the point, let me say that most of the Jains have forgotten the basics of Jainism. They think just being a vegetarian is enough for being a Jain. Some 'advanced' Jains think that worshipping idols and performing rituals and fasts are the essential things for being a Jain. But Jainism is not vegetarianism. Jainism is not a performing art. Jainism is not eating habits. Donkeys and monkeys are vegetarians. Not only that, they are vegans as they do not use milk products. They do not eat potatoes, onions and garlic. They live a peaceful life. Can we say that they are Jains?

Unfortunately, Jain monks never tell the true meaning of Jainism to the lay people. It happens because most of them do not know it, and others like to hide it. They never tell that taking vows is a later step. The first step is to abandon wrong beliefs and knowing what is right. But people are following vegetarianism without knowing the right faith and without throwing away the wrong beliefs. Just like going to college without taking primary education. Jainism is based on equality (Samatabhaav), and not on Ahimsa and vegetarianism. Ahimsa is the fruit of equality. Vegetarianism is the fruit of Ahimsa. But Jains have forgotten equality, the root of Jainism. If you are a vegetarian, or even a vegan, or even you are a Jain monk, but if you are on the wrong path, you are not a Jain. If you eat before sunset, but you discriminate people in the name of religion, language, sect, caste and gender, you can not be a Jain. And finally, if you are fully dependent on agents for getting knowledge, if you do not use your own intellect, you are not a Jain. So do not believe me, just start to think. Start to know the right path. For this you have to keep yourself away from agents of the religion. You do not need them. Once you realize this, you will lead on the right path and right faith.

JAIN DIKSHA NEWS

Jodhpur: Km. Anshu Jain Bagrecha, hailing from Rajgarh in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh accepted Parmeshwari Bhagwati Diksha in the Shwetambar Murti-Pujak Sect on the 16th January, 2011. The ceremony was held at Jodhpur in the holy presence of Muni Shri Lekhendra Shekhar Vijay Ji Maharaj and other saints and sadhwis. The 'varghoda' procession prior to diksha rituals was taken out through the city market starting from Shri Rajendra Suri Jain Gyan Mandir in the town to 'Shanishwar Ji ka Than' on the Chopasani road. Km. Anshu was taken on a palaquin set on an elephant. Eminent persons and devotees joined the procession. A large number Jain devotees from various parts of the country attended the Diksha ceremony.

Kolkatta: Acharya Shri Vardhman Sagar Ji Maharaj belonging to Jain Digambar sect granted Digambar Jaineshwai Diksha to Sarva Shri Jitendra Sagar Ji, Jayati Sagar Ji and Jeevandh Sagar Ji Maharaj at Belgachhia Jain Temple in Kolkatta. All the three persons had earlier taken 'vairagya' and had been accepted as Kshullaks by the Acharya Kshulikas Jigyasamati Ji, Teerthmati Ji and Jishnumati Ji were also granted Aryika Diksha. A large number of devotees from all over the country participated in the Diksha Ceremonies.

Jaipur: Shri Subhash Chand Ji Daga, a jeweller of Jaipur and a staunch devotee of late Acharya Shri Hastimal Ji Maharaj accepted Muni Diksha from Shri Hira Chand Ji Maharaj, present Acharya of the Shwetambar Sthanakwasi Jain Ratna Hiteshi Shrawak Sangh. The diksha rituals were held in the holy presence of Upadhyay Shri Man Chand Ji Maharaj, other saints and sadhwis. The daughter of Shri Subhash Ji, Mahasati Shri Bhagya Prabha Ji had accepted Jain Diksha ten years back was also present along with many other Sadhwis on this occasion.

Kekdi (Rajasthan) : November 26, 2010 Kekdi Khartar Gachchh Sangh organized Jain Deeksha (Renunciation / initiaion) ceremony of Km. Pinky . Khartar Gachchh Samgh organized the Jain Deeksha ceremony of Km. Pinky. Process of renunciation was carried out in the Jain Dadabadi, Kekdi under the auspices of Sadhwi Shri Mani Prabha Ji Maharaj.

AHIMSA

KILLING OF COWS PROHIBITED BY THE KOLKATTA HIGH COURT ON ID-DAY



Respecting the feelings of Hindu communities and others, who believe in non-violence, the high Court at Kolkatta declared a total ban on the killing of cows on the occasion of Id festival observed by the muslim community. Justice J. N. Patel and Justice Aseem Roy mentioned in the order that killing of cows in the name of religion is illegal and must be stopped henceforth. Even according to West Bengal Animal-killing prohibition Ordinance (1959), it ws illegal to kill cows and therefore the law must be strictly enforced by the authorities.

DON'T LET KITES CUT INTO BIRD POPULATION

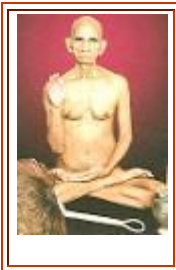


The Wilson College Nature Club has launched a campaign to raise awareness about the perils of using glass-coated strings for flying kites during Makar Sankranti. Students have designed 100 posters that will be displayed outside the college to create awareness about birds being injured by the glass coated strings. The glass-coated thread and the Chinese threads used for flying kites during the festival kill thousands of birds every year in the city. "We waste paper, harm trees and kill birds. This is not a way to celebrate," said Khusbu Patel, senior member, WCNC. The activities of 200 student members Nature Club of the WCNC are subsidised by the World Wildlife Fund.

NORWAY BANS USE OF FUR FOR FASHION EVENT

The city that hosts the Nobel Peace Prize every year is taking a steps toward making world better for animals. There will be no fur on the catwalk at Oslo's Fashion Week next February, making Norway the first country to enact such a ban for the event. Orgnisers of the Oslo Fashion Week say , "It has been a very natural choice for us. We are doing this in order to increase ethical values in fashion."

DEVLOK GAMAN



1. **Acharya Shri Sanmati Sagar Ji, disciple of Vatsalya Diwakar Acharya Shri Vimal Sagar Ji Maharaj belonging to Digambar sect** left for his heavenly abode at Kolhapur in Maharashtra on Friday, the 31st December, 2010. He had accepted Sallekhana several days ago and he was taking his meal only once or twice in a week. He had not been taking solid food for the last 24 years and during the last six years, he had been living only on butter milk. His funeral procession was taken to Udgaon, a near-by by village, about 35 Km. away from the town.

2. **Shri Paras Muni, disciple of Ganacharya Umesh Muni Ji Maharaj belonging to Shwetambar Sthanakwasi Shraman Sangh** breathed his last at Ujjain on the 1st January, 2011, at the age of 78 years. He had stopped going on vihar and had been staying at Ujjain for the last ten years.

3. **Shri Tushar Muni Ji** disciple of Acharya Shri Ram Lal Ji Maharaj belonging to Sthanakwasi Sadhu-margi Jain sangh breathed his last on the 21st December, 2010 at Durg in Chhatisgarh state after a short illness of 2-3 days.due to heart attack. He had accepted diksha in the year2007 at Nagpur. he had been moving on Bihar along with the Acharyashree.

4. **Shri Vardi Chand Ji Maharaj**, belonging to Shwetambar Sthanakwasi sect passed away at the age of 83 years at Udaipur on 27th December, 2010. He had been staying at Udaipur only in view of his age and falling health. The devotees of the sect joined in large numbers to attend his funeral and pay homage to him.



5. **Shri Janak Muni Maharaj Saheb** of Swetambar Sthanakwasi Sect passed away in Mumbai on 30th December, morning after prolonged illness. He was 78. He passed away at 9.09 am at Hingwala Upashray in Ghatkopar, in the presence of a large number of followers. The saint's funeral procession was taken out next morning from the Hingwala Upashraya. The condolence meeting took place at the Hingwala Upashray on 2nd January. Chief minister Narendra Modi and several other political leaders condoled his death.

Maharaj Saheb was suffering from a heart ailment for the last couple of months. He was taken to Asiad Hospital in Mumbai a month back after he suffered a massive heart attack in Rajkot. Janakmuni was born on the 13th of August, 1933 in the Pransva village in Junagadh district. He was keenly interested in the significance of Jain Agam (scriptures). He renounced worldly life at the young age of 18. He took diksha at Veraval in Junagadh under the influence of his religious preceptor, Saurashtra Kesari Shri Pranlal Ji Maharaj Saheb.

After taking to monastic life, he went to Rajasthan for further study of the Agam, became a scholar of the Jain scriptures and wrote many books. His profound knowledge of the Jain scriptures is evident in his books. The Jain monk, who had lakhs of followers both in India and abroad, was honoured with several awards including Agam Diwakar (Shining Sun of Scriptures) in 1968, Gujarat Saint Shiromani in 2002 and Bahushrut in 2005.

SAD DEMISE

NOTED MARATHI JAIN SCHOLAR DR. SUBHASH CHANDRA AKKOLE PASSES AWAY

Noted research scholar of Marathi language Dr. Subhash Chandra Akkole passed away. He was the first scholar to throw light on medieval Jain literature in Marathi. He wrote several research articles and books. He was president of 4th Marathi Jain Literary Conference held at Nipani, Karnataka. He also enjoyed editorship of various Marathi Jain Magazines including Sanmati and Pragati Aani Jinvijay. Source: Mahavir Sanglikar, Cell No. 0 962 372 5249.

DELHI INDUSTRIALIST SANJEEV JAIN SHOT BY LOCAL GOONS

Unidentified assailants fired at a 45-year-old industrialist in Jheelmil area in east Delhi. The victim, Sanjeev Jain, a resident of Surajnagar in Ghaziabad was attacked minutes after he came out of his industrial unit. Police said that the incident took place about 9pm. Jain was about get into his car outside the factory, when the assailants came from behind and tried to snatch his bag. When Jain resisted, the accused fired at him and managed to flee with the bag. Jain received two bullet injuries. He was rushed to Hospital.

SANDHYA JAIN KILLED FOR DOWRY IN U. P.

Firozabad (U. P.), Dec 28, 24-year-old Sandhya Jain was killed by allegedly by her husband and in-laws for dowry in Tundla police area. Sandhya Jain died after sustaining burn injuries in Raja Ka Tal locality this evening and her parents have alleged she was set on fire by her husband and in-laws. Sandhya's father Rishi Kumar alleged since the marriage four years ago she was being harassed by her in-laws who were demanding dowry. The police said a case has been registered against Sandhya's husband Vikram Kumar Jain, his father Vinod, mother Beena, brother Goldy and sister-in-law Vandana in this connection.

MISCELLANEOUS

DALITS OF MAHARASHTRA LOOKING TOWARDS JAINISM

Prof. Pradeep Phaltane, Pune

A Dalit caste in Maharashtra, which is in search of a new religious identity, is looking towards Jainism! This caste is second largest one in Dalit community in Maharashtra. It has a good population in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh also. Interestingly, its population in Maharashtra alone is about 65 Lakhs. This number is larger than the official number of Jain population in entire India!.

In marriage ceremony rituals in this community, they have started to remember Teerthankar Suparshwnath and Mahaveer in the Mangalashtakas. In a latest development, activists from this community have started to put picture of Teerthankar Mahaveer on their letterheads, posters etc. A renowned journalist and writer from this community is presently writing a novel on an ancient Jain Acharya, who belonged to them.

A leader of this community, who is a professor with Doctorate, said to this author, "Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar connected his people with Gautam Buddha. I want to connect my people with Teerthankar Mahaveer".

An interesting fact is that this Dalit community was follower of Jainism in ancient times. Not just follower, but it gave many monks, great Acharyas and even a Teerthankar. We can find many literary proofs in Jain canonical texts and elsewhere about it. As this community was staunch Jain, and even savior of Jainism, the Brahmanical forces banned it and declared it as untouchables after decline of Jainism.

I myself am writing a book on their Jain tradition and their history, which will be published soon.

This community is poor and their literacy rate is lower. In last few decades many people of this community have got converted to Christianity and Islam. Many became victims of Hindutwa forces. But now the intellectuals and activists from this community have found their origin. In near future, their will be a socio-religious revolution in this community. This revolution will change their lifestyle. It will also affect the political and social scenario of Maharashtra.

I have talked about this subject with many Jain monks and Acharyas. There was a positive response from some of them. I am regularly in touch of activists from this community. Now I am working on action plan. This community needs a psychological support from Jain Community.

For more details, please contact: Prof. Pradeep Phaltane, Pune, Institute for Jain Social Studies, 163 Yashwant Nagar, Talegaon Station, Dist Pune 410507, Maharashtra, India, Mobile Phone: 91-988 152 5766, E-Mail: pradeep.phaltane@yahoo.com

MATANG COMMUNITY AND ITS JAIN ORIGIN

Mahavir Sanglikar - Matang is a Dalit caste spread all over Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka states of India. We can trace the origin of Matangs in Indus valley civilization. Matangs have ancient history and we can find referances about them in ancient Jain Litureture. According to Jain Literature, Vinami, was the great grandson of Rishabh the first Teerthankar of Jainism. Vinami's son Matang was the founder of Matang Race. Suparshvanath, the 7th Teerthankar of Jainism himself was a Matang. His Yaksha (attendant god) was also a Matang. The Yaksha of Mahavir the 24th Teerthankar was also a Matang. Matang Yaksha is Jain God of Prosperity. Acharya Harikeshi, Maiterya, Chitta and Sambhuti were some of famous Jain Ascetics from Matang Community. Their bio-graphies and work is given in Uttaradhyayan Sutra, the famous Prakrit text of Jains. We laso find mention of layman Matangs of ancient India, who were disciples of Jain Acharyas. Matangs had enjoyed higher position and statues in Jain Community of ancient India. Matangs are known as Madigas in Andhra Pradesh.

Referances: 1. Matangs in Jain Literature by Prof. Pradeep Phaltane, 2. Uttaradhyayan Sutra, 3. Matang Samajacha Itihas by Prof. Pradeep Phaltan

DISCLAIMER - Although AHIMSA TIMES NEWS uses its best efforts to ensure the accuracy of the content on the site, sometimes, errors, mistakes or inaccuracies may creep in inadvertently. We make no guarantees as to the accuracy, correctness or reliability of the contents. We may also change the content of this site, at any time, without prior notice. In no event shall Ahimsa Times be liable to anyone for any damages of any kind arising out of or in connection with the use of this service. You agree to indemnify and hold Ahimsa Times in harmless from any and all claims, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses including lawyer's fees, arising from any use of any information from this. We also request all over readers to inform us of any inaccuracies, omissions and errors etc. noticed by them so that necessary corrections can be timely incorporated.

WE HEARTILY WELCOME FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED WWW.JAINSAMAJ.ORG DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2011

1. Shalini Jain, Digambar, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Academics
2. Sunil Kumar Jain, Digambar, Karol Bagh, Delhi, Engineer
3. Anand Agarwal, Digambar, Cuttack, Orissa, Business
4. Bharat Shah, Swetambar, Vadodara, Gujarat, Industrialist
5. Mradul Jain, Digambar, Mayur Vihar, Delhi, Business
6. Deepak Sabadra, Swetambar, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, Marketing
7. Prasan Bothra, Swetambar, Ashok Vihar, Delhi, Business
8. Darshan Bafna, Swetambar, Maharashtra, Business
9. Mayuri Jain, Swetambar, Samana, Patiala, Others
10. Pawan Kumar Jain, Digambar, I.P. Exten., Delhi, Engineer
11. Ravi Bhansali, Swetambar, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Law
12. Mul Chand Mehta, Swetambar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Business
13. Nitin Salecha, Swetambar, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Industrialist
14. Virendra Manoth, Swetambar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, Business
15. Jayanti Lal Kothari, Swetambar, Mumbai, Maharashtra, Service
16. Paresh Jindas Dhulia, Swetambar, Vadodara, Gujarat, Consultancy
17. Nirghi R. Shah, Digambar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, Student
18. Jitendra Mittal, Swetambar, Dwarka, Delhi, Engineer
19. Chetan Kantilal Malani, Swetambar, Rajkot, Gujarat, Law
20. Satish Kumar Jain, Swetambar, Rohini, Delhi, Business

World Jain Directory
Place request to add your
free listing in
World's largest Jain
Directory on
www.jainsamaj.org
Click here to submit
FORM

21. Praveen Jain, Digambar, Morena, Madhya Pradesh, Business
22. Dr. Rajeev Jain, Digambar, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, Consultancy
23. Jeevan Lal Jain, Swetambar, Sumerpur, Rajasthan, Arts
24. Megh Raj Bothra, Swetambar, Bikaner, Rajasthan, Business
25. Deepak Kanthaliya, Swetambar, Udaipur, Rajasthan, Business
26. Vikas Dillipraj Kothari, Swetambar, Pune, Maharashtra, Arts
27. Atul Jain, Digambar, Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh, Service
28. Shrenik Ostwal, Swetambar, Maharashtra, Medical
29. Ramesh Kumar Jain, Swetambar, Ramasan, Gujarat, Marketing
30. Gaurav Chandaliya, Swetambar, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, Business
31. Vijay Jain, Swetambar, Jalna, Maharashtra, Consultancy
32. Sachin Parakh, Swetambar, Nandgaon, Maharashtra, Marketing
33. Renu Devi Kucheria, Swetambar, Gauhati, Assam, Business
34. Vivek Kucheria, Swetambar, Guwahati, Assam, Business
35. Sachander Sucklecha, Swetambar, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Business
36. Anand Kumar Jain, Digambar, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Engineer
37. Vinod Kochar, Swetambar, Ratangarh, Rajasthan, Service
38. Dilip Mandot, Swetambar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Business
39. Vimal Gandhi, Swetambar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Business
40. Subhash Chandra Jain, Swetambar, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, Academics

Matrimonial Candidates

This Matrimonial Service is free for all Jain candidates

Click Online Individual Profile or Visit www.jainsamaj.org 'Matrimonial Section' for details



BRIDES

1. Shaily Bobra, 26, Digamber, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, Business
2. Ritu Jain, 30, Swetamber, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Computer
3. Khushboo Jain, 22, Swetamber, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Computer
4. Somya Jain, 24, Digamber, Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh, Others
5. Priyanka Jain, 26, Digamber, Chandimandir, Haryana, Others
6. Dr. Neha Gandhi, 26, Swetamber, Udaipur, Rajasthan, Medicine
7. Ruchika Jain, 28, Digamber, Ahemdabad, Gujarat, Business
8. Swati Jain, 26, Digamber, Rewari, Haryana, Divorcee
9. Ritu Jain, 26, Swetamber, Nagaur, Rajasthan, Arts
10. Smita Jain, 25, Digamber, Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh, Service



GROOMS

1. Hardik Shah, 27, Swetamber, Johannesburg, South Africa, Others
2. Gaurav Chordia, 26, Swetamber, Nashik, Maharashtra, Others
3. Gautam Jain, 26, Swetamber, Mansa, Punjab, Engineering
4. Sanjeev Jain, 31, Digamber, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, Computer
5. Pankaj Parakh, 24, Swetamber, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Service
6. Vishal Kothari, 24, Swetamber, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Business
7. Prashant Gade, 27, Digamber, Solapur, Maharashtra, Service
8. Sunil Padalia, 28, Swetamber, London, UK, Industry
9. Abhishek Jain, 25, Swetamber, Pune, Maharashtra, Business

Jainsamaj Matrimonial
Database

For widest matrimonial choice

add. your profile on

www.jainsamaj.org

for Rs. 850/- for one year.

Click here to submit profile

FORM

10. Mandeep Gandhi,27,Digamber,Ahmedabad,Gujarat,Others
11. Sanjay Baidmutha,31,Swetamber,Merta City,Rajasthan,Business
12. Vikram Valchand Chhajer,29,Swetamber,Pune,Maharashtra, Divorcee
13. Virendra Jain,24,Digamber,Tonk,Rajasthan,Service
14. Vineet Jain,23,Digamber,New Usmanpur,Delhi,Business
15. Praveen Kumar Jain,25,Digamber,Morena,Madhya Pradesh,Computer
16. Sonal Jain,25,Digamber,Bhopal,Madhya Pradesh,Service
17. Sunil Sukhlal Sanklecha,43,Swetamber,Pune,Maharashtra,Industry
18. Gunja Kumari Jain,24,Digamber,Varanasi,Uttar Pradesh,Arts
19. Amit Kumar Bohra,27,Swetamber,Beawar,Rajasthan,Business
20. Deepak Kumar Jain,35,Digamber,Shalimar Bagh, Delhi,Computer
21. Jignesh Shah,30,Swetamber,Mumbai,Maharashtra,Business
22. Ankur Jain,26,Digamber,Yamuna Nagar,Haryana,Engineering
23. Roshan Jain,25,Swetamber,Mumbai,Maharashtra,Computer
24. Dr. Kushal Parakh,36,Swetamber,Virar Mumbai,Maharashtra,Medicine
25. Sachin Kocheta,32,Swetamber,Aurangabad,Maharashtra,Engineering
26. Nilesh Jain,28,Swetamber,Alibag,Maharashtra,Medicine
27. Anuj Jain,23,Digamber,Jaipur,Rajasthan,Computer
28. Ashish Jain,27,Digamber,Old Mahaveer Nagar,Delhi,Engineering
29. Nilesh Jain,28,Swetamber,Alibag,Maharashtra,Medicine
30. Sagar Kumar Shah,30,Swetamber,Surat,Gujarat,Business
31. Vinita Jain,32,Digamber,Guna,Madhya Pradesh,Business
32. Dr.Reena Jain,33,Swetamber,Indore,Madhya Pradesh,Medicine
33. Ankur Jain,26,Digamber,Jagadhri,Haryana,Engineering

JAIN BUSINESS DIRECTORY -WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS – JANUARY 2011

1. S.R.Infotech,Guwahati,Assam,Computers
2. Newtech Water Purif,Surat,Gujarat,Household Items
3. Nisarg Enterprise,Junagadh,Gujarat,Computers
4. Jain Web Solution,Udaipur,Rajasthan,Web Solutions
5. Surbhi Steel,Mumbai,Maharashtra,Industry
6. Joothawat & Associate,Mumbai,Maharashtra,Chartered Accountants
7. Deepak International,Udaipur,Rajasthan,Travel
8. Labdhi Creation,Bangalore,Karnataka,Miscellaneous
9. Arihant Computers,Pune,Maharashtra,Computers
10. V K Jain & Co.,Firozabad,Uttar Pradesh,Chartered Accountants

Promote and Inter Society
Business

Jain World Business
Directory

www.jainsamaj.org

Free Business Listing only for Jain
Organizations Around The World
Click here to submit your company
profile

ENTRY FORM

Advertisement Tariff - "AHIMSA TIMES"

MAIL YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS FOR FREE COPY OF "AHIMSA TIMES" AND OTHER JAIN CIRCULARS

