



# JAIN AHIMSA TIMES

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



Volume : 48

Issue No. : 48

Month : July, 2004

**"A true monk is one who is not proud of his own lineage, beauty, gains and scriptural knowledge. Thus discarding all pride, he remains deeply immersed in the spiritual contemplation."**

## JAIN SAINTS

### ACHARYA MAHAPRAGYA'S MESSAGE TO DR. MANMOHAN SINGH- THE NEW PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

One cannot think of a healthy individual and healthy society in the absence of healthy economic order. We consider your elevation as the Prime Minister of India an indication of a bright future for the country. You are capable of transforming the economic order of this country in such a way that the people living below the poverty line may fulfil their basic needs and may stay away from the line of affluence. In the course of our long Ahimsa Yatra the heart-rending spectacle of starving tribals that we saw in villages cannot even be imagined by those who live in towns and cities. Unless the ever-increasing gulf between the economic system and morality is bridged, economic prosperity may be beneficial for some people but not for all. I firmly believe that the transfer of power into the hands of a worthy person like you will pave the way for the creation of a healthy society.



It is a fact that paucity of money is the cause of increasing violence in society, but it is also a fact that the impact of economic affluence is no less responsible for this spurt of violence. The greatest solution of the problem of the present lies in an economic system as well as in a social order which might be free from both poverty and plenty. We are sure that you have in you a potential to solve this problem. If you succeed in it, it will mean an experience of a new lifestyle for the individual, society and nation. I Wish you success in your endeavor.

Acharya Tulsi, and all those connected with Anuvrat movement have always had the privilege of cordial relations with you. Now again our next Yatra to Delhi is scheduled in 2005. There is a possibility of our meeting and continuation of this dialogue. We have tried to find out the causes of violence during our Ahimsa Yatra. It will be worthwhile if we can share our vision and also think over it. - With blessings,

### Acharya Mahapragya

( In picture Muni Lokprakash 'Lokesh' is delivering Acharya Mahapragya's Message to Dr. Manmohan Singh in Delhi.)

### BIRTH DAY CEREMONY OF ACHARYA MAHAPRAGYA AT RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN

On the occasion of 85th birth day of Terapanth Acharya, Shri Mahapragya Ji, President Abdul Kalam at a simple ceremony urged the countrymen to take active part in social development of the masses. He appealed to people who go for worships, prayers and darshan of dharm-gurus to accept at least one of the following pledges in the larger interest of the nation and in the name of the God:



1. To keep away from corruption and bribery.
2. To avoid quarrels between familis and family members.
3. To withdraw court cases concerning family differences.
4. To support five students for their studies.
5. To build tank for water storage in villages on community basis.
6. To plant at least five fruit-bearing trees.

The President desired that religious saints and gurus should themselves take these pledges so as to motivate the devotees also to follow the same sincerely. The ceremony was attended and addressed by eminent religious leaders, including Muni Shri Lok Prakash Lokesh and Muni Shri Prashant Kumar from Jain Terapanth, Swami Jitatmanand, Maulana Vaheedudeen, Swami Bal Gangadhar nath, Jilani Ashraf saheb, Jagatguu Shiv Kirti and others. Many members of Parliament and eminent citizens also attended the function. Dr. L.M. Singhvi, M.P. and Chancellor, Jain Vishwa Bharati presided over the function.

## **JAIN TEMPLES**

### **JAIN GOLDEN TEMPLE AT FALNA (RAJ.) ATTRACTING LARGE NUMBER OF DEVOTEES**



A newly built Jain temple at Falna situated on the Jaipur-Ahmedabad highway near Ranakpur is already attracting large number of devotees and pilgrims. The construction of the main temple, belonging to bhagwan Sri Shankheshwar Parashwa Nath Ji was completed just a few months ago and as reported in the June issue of Ahimsa Times, its installation and pratishtha ceremony was conducted in the last month in the presence of Vice-President, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. The main specialty of the temple is that its entire structure, including all the walls, roofs, pillars, doors, windows, steps, domes and shikhar are all painted with thick layer of gold. It is said that the women from Jain families of the town and near-by, spared their gold ornaments and donated the same to temple authorities for construction of this golden temple. The main idol of bhagwan Parashwa Nath Ji is made in black granite and is about two feet tall. Other facilities at the temple are fast coming up which include modern rooms for stay, elevators, bhojan shala, Prayer hall, library, etc. The temple being situated right in the centre of the town and in a heavily crowded area, parking of vehicles is going to be difficult.

### **ILLEGAL OCCUPATION AT GIRNAR TIRTH**



It is most unfortunate to learn that the fifth peak of Mount Girnar, declared as 'Digambar Jain Siddh Kshetra', located close to Junagarh town in Gujarat, the holy and sacred place of Deeksha, Keval gyan and finally Moksh of the 22nd Jain Tirthankar, Shri Neminath Bhagwan has been recently occupied illegally by the Hindu Mahants and fanatics and a Hindu idol has also been installed on this peak. The condition of Girnar Kshetra has been thus deteriorating day by day and there is no action from the Government side to stop and remove the unauthorised and totally illegal occupations. The entire Jain community should feel concerned about this happening and take appropriate action at whatever levels, necessary. The Civil Court of Junagarh had earlier given an stay order on any construction work at this place on a petition filed by the local mahants in the year 1984 and the cases had been withdrawn by the mahants in the year 1996. When the Hindu mahants again tried to take up construction in April, 2004, Gujarat High Court was moved by the Digambar Samaj and a stay order was again passed. However, in spite of the stay orders, illegal occupation has been resumed by the mahants. It is therefore necessary to condemn the illegal and unethical communal act aimed at destroying the ancient character of the revered place of worship and to request the Government to remove all illegal construction and statue erected there so as to restore originality and sanctity of the place. Shri Nirmal Kumar Sethi, President of the All India Digambar Jain Teerth Sanrakshini Mahasabha has also taken up the matter with the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Narendra Modi and requested him to immediately intervene in the matter.

### **GURU POORNIMA CELEBRATIONS AT MANDOLI, MEMORIAL - SHRI SHANTI VIJAY JI MAHARAJ**

Mandoli town situated in the Jalore district of south-western Rajasthan is well-known for the temple built in the memory of miraculous Yogi Raj Shri Shanti Vijay Ji Maharaj. There are large number of followers and devotees of the saint from all over the country, who pour in thousands to pay homage to the saint on the day of Guru Poornima. A giant complex is now coming up in close vicinity of the temple, which will house modern dharm-shala, Bhojan shala, Upasraya, Guest house, library, art gallery and other facilities. This year, the celebrations were held with great enthusiasm and religious fervour on the 2nd July, 2004. Religious programmes, like aarti, prayers and discourses were held through out the day.

### **ANCIENT IDOL OF BHAGWAN MAHAVIR RECOVERED NEAR SHAMLI (U.P.)**

An impressive and rare idol of Bhagwan Mahavir supposed to belong to 4th century has been recovered recently during excavations at a village, Purmafi, about 72 km. from Shamli town in western Uttar Pradesh. The idol after recovery was brought to a near-by village, Gadhi Pukhta and sanctified by the Digambar Jain saint, Shri 108 Arun Sagar Ji at a Jain temple there. The temple was then declared by the saint as 'Atishay Kshetra'. Earlier also, idols of Tirthankars, Tamra-patra and other materials of use in temples belonging to ancient period has been obtained during excavations at this place.

### ANCIENT JAIN IDOLS RECOVERED NEAR UDAIPUR



Jain idols of Tirthankars belonging to 3rd century have been recently recovered near Udaipur at Chhota Bedala village during excavations for a water tank. The tallest of the idols, of Bhagwan Mahavir, made of white marble is having 2 ft. height and 1.5 ft. width. The other one of Bh Parashwa nath Ji is 1.5 ft. tall and 6 in. wide. There are few other idols of Bhagwan Adinath, Devi Padamavati and others. On one of them, Samvat 293 and month Vaishakh is engraved.

### EXPERTS CONFIRM IDOLS DISCOVERED IN CHANDIGARH ARE JAIN SCULPTURES

The authenticity of the Jain sculptures discovered in June by construction workers while digging at old Shiv Temple at Burail, has been established. The sculptures belong to the 13th and 14th centuries and will be show-cased in the City Museum. A new section called 'Cultural Heritage of Chandigarh' is being created at the museum to display the 16 sculptures that are representations of Ajitnath, the 2nd Tirthankara, Suvidhinath, the 9th, Dharmanath, the 15th, Kunthunath, the 17th, and Aranath, the 18th Tirthankara. The sandstone sculptures with broken heads, hands and torsos covered with lime deposits are currently being restored at the museum by technicians. According to experts, the condition of the sculptures strongly indicated that they were kept in Jain temples that might have been desecrated by invaders. He said, "Broken idols aren't worshipped. They were perhaps buried in the earth to prevent them from further sacrilege. Even in their present state, the idols are very valuable."

### JAIN TEMPLE LOOTED AT AGALLOOR, TAMILNADU

July 9: Burglars gained entry into a Jain temple in Agaloor Village near Gingee and decamped with gold jewellery worth 22 sovereigns besides the cash collection of Rs 3,0000. According to police, burglars entered the temple by breaking open the doors late last night, took away gold and cash. Following a complaint from the temple trustee Bheemanatha Nainar, Gingee police have registered a case and are investigating.

### TWO JAIN TEMPLES IN WAYANAD, KERALA TO BE PROTECTED

Thiruvananthapuram, Jul 13 - The Tourism Department in Kerala has identified two Jain temples in Wayanad district for protection with the help of the Archaeology Department, State Tourism Minister P Sankaran, informed the Kerala Assembly. The temples selected are Janardhana temple at Puthanangadi and Krishnagudi temple. The Archaeology Department is taking necessary steps to preserve these temples without causing damage to their original design.



### DISCOVERY OF JAIN IDOLS AT KHAMBHAT, GUJARAT

July 09, 2004 Jain residents in Khambhat ( Anand Dist.) Gujarat were jubilant to see the discovery of 65 idols at a construction site in the town. Inscriptions on them suggested that they were over 900 years old. Community members believe excavation might uncover a Jain temple belonging to Tirthankar Nemnath Swami. Officials have taken the idols in their custody and are awaiting a team of archaeologists. "The structures include that of temple 'Parikar' and 'Gaadi'. The year inscribed on the plaques range from 1001 to 1130 of the Vikram calendar. This puts the structures at over 900 years old. Also, the idol of Ambica Devi is usually found in temples of Tirthankar Nemnath Ji. Khambhat has 72 Jain temples and excavation at the site can yield more idols."Khambhat has 27 names, including 'Stambhpur'. The excavation has established a connection with these historical name as most of the structures unearthed from the site are usually used in pillars (stambhs) in Jain temples," says Dinesh Za-veri, representative of Anandji-Kalyanji Trust, which looks after several Jain temples in the country. News courtesy : Mr. Yashwant Malaiya, E-Mail: ymalaiya@yahoo.com.

### VILLAGE HOOLIGANS RANSACK TEMPLE OFFICE AT NAKODA TEERTH IN RAJASTHAN



July 10th, 2004. Few persons from a near-by village, Mewanagar, belonging to Bhil community, probably in drunken state, entered the gate of Jain Temple at Nakoda, 120 km. from Jodhpur during night time and tried to ransack the office furniture and cut the telephone line. They had brought with them iron rods, hockey sticks, axe etc. A scuffle between the temple security staff and the hooligans followed for about half an hour, when the local police from near-by Balotara town arrived on the scene and took away the culprits. The trouble started when the driver of a tractor belonging to village surpanch hit the car of a devotee and the car driver complained against him and got him detained in the temple. The security of the temple has since then been strengthened and a Police chowki has also been established there.

### **ONCE OBSCURE AND ANCIENT JAIN TEMPLE IN KANGRA (H. P.) ATTRACTS MANY PILGRIMS**

Kangra town, otherwise a centre of Buddhist culture in Himachal Pradesh, possesses the unique distinction of having the only one Jain temple in the entire state of Himachal Pradesh, which is popularly known as 'Dev Bhumi'. This temple, though an extremely ancient one, dating back to Mahabharat period, had been lying completely obscure and unknown till the year 1990, when it was renovated and a new idol of first Tirthankar, Bhagwan Rishabh Dev was brought from Ranakpur and installed here. Muni Shri Punya Vijay Ji maharaj had first discovered this temple from the ruins in the year 1947 and brought it to light before the Jain community.

The story about the temple, which establishes its ancient nature, reveals that it belonged to the era of 22nd Tirthankar Bhagwan Shri Neminath Ji. During Mahabharat war, when king Susharma Chandra, fighting on behalf of Duryodhan was defeated by Pandavas at Virat nagar, he became a Jain and with a sense of remorse, built a Jain temple there devoted to Shri Adi nath Ji. For many centuries since then, the temple remained totally obscure. It is believed that once flourishing with Jain culture, this region, influenced by Buddhist monks, totally got converted into Buddhist society, so much so that all the remains of Jain religion and culture were lost. The temple is now once again attracting increasing number of pilgrims, devotees and archaeologists for its ancient nature and the ruins still existing there for the study of researchers. Adequate facilities of dharma shala and Bhojan shala are now available at the temple premises. Address: Shri Shwetambar Jain Kangra Teerth Prabandhak Committee, Post Kangra, H.P. - 176001 Phone: 01892-265187. Courtesy: Oswal Mahima, June, 2004.

### **DEMOLITION OF JAIN TEMPLE IN BOMBAY**

Bombay High Court has ordered demolition of Jain Temple in Ghatkopar (west) in Bombay and such demolition can take place any time after 26-July 2004 The order was passed on June 9,2004. in the Bombay High Court under the Honorable Judges A.P.Shah and S.U.Kamdar. Information Courtsy: Nishith Shah E-Mail: nshahmaulik@yahoo.co.uk

### **JAIN INSTITUTIONS**

#### **COIMBATORE JAINS OPENS A HOME FOR ORPHANED COWS**

July 08, 2004, This is a true example of love for animals. Coimbatore Jains are running a home for orphaned cows. The "Gaushala" has animals which have been adopted or donated. The cattle shed currently caters to more than 700 heads of cattle. The daily expenditure is approximately Rs. 30,000. Besides giving fodder and nutrient-rich water the shed also has employed qualified veterinarians to look after the animals. The cowshed is run by people from the Jain community who have migrated from Gujarat.

#### **GARDI TRUST TO SETUP MODERN HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL COLLEGE AT JUNAGARH**

Shri Deep Chand Gardi Charitable Trust has taken a decision to build a 500 bed modern hospital with latest facilities along-with a medical college at Junagarh in Gujarat. The hospital complex will include an exclusive Cancer hospital and a Kidney Institute. The Government of Gujarat has allotted 58 acres of land to the Trust for this purpose.

#### **ADMISSIONS OPEN AT MUMBAI , SHREE PARSHWANATH JAIN VIDYALAY VARKANA HOSTEL**

For the Jain students looking for hostel accomodation a new hostel is available at Mumbai with all modern facilities including Library campus etc. The term fees (Six Months) is Rs. 2100. Interested students may contact Shri Chandmalji Hingad, Smt. Kusumben Chunnilal Shri Shrimal Boys Hostel , Plot no.359, Kusum Vihar, 100 feet Chauda Rasta, Opp. Banjara Sotel, Virar (W) , Mumbai , Maharashtra 401 303 Tel: 022 28768211/ 022 28737705. Information courtesy : Mr. Panks Jain, E-Mail : pajaratouch@yahoo.com.

#### **BH. MAHAVIR GOSHALA AT COIMBATORE TO PRODUCE MEDICINE FROM COW URINE**

A goshala, run by the Coimbatore Animal Welfare Society, plans to start a laboratory to produce medicines out of cow urine and fertilisers from cowdung. The Bhagwan Mahaveer Goshala, set up two years ago on 25 acres of land near Pollachi Road, to protect the animals, particularly cows, seized by various agencies on way to slaughter houses or to neighboring Kerala, has nearly 800 animals now. With the presence of a large number of cows, the society plans to start a laboratory to produce medicine from cow urine.

It is also proposed to manufacture fertilisers and manure from cowdung and the income would be used to look after the animals, for which an average of Rs 5 lakh are being spent per month. The society also plans to start an old-age home. The services of the inmates would be utilized to look after the animals. The goshala already has 10 permanent cowsheds to accommodate about 350 animals and another 10 sheds will be added.

## CHATURMAS CHATURMAS OF JAIN SAINTS (CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE)

### Jain Digambar sect:

1. Acharya Shri Devanandi Ji maharaj: Aurangabad
2. Acharya Shri Bharat Sagar Ji maharaj: Kuchaman city, Rajasthan
3. Acharya Shri Pushpadant Sagar Ji maharaj: Mumbai
4. Acharya Shri Abhinandan Sagar Ji maharaj: Khandwa, M.P.
5. Acharya Shri Shanti Sagar Ji maharaj: Gandhi nagar, Delhi.
6. Acharya Shri Suvidha Sagar Ji maharaj: Obri, Dungarpur Rajasthan
7. Acharya Shri Kushagranandi Ji maharaj: Bundi, Rajasthan
8. Acharya Shri Sanmati sagar Ji maharaj: Khamira, Rajasthan
9. Acharya Shri Vipul Sagar Ji maharaj, Paloda, Rajasthan
10. Acharya Shri Chandra Sagar Ji maharaj, Dungarpur, Rajasthan
11. Acharya Shri Rayan Sagar Ji maharaj: Ayad, Udaipur, Rajasthan
12. Acharya Shri Kumudnandi Ji maharaj: Nandgaon, Nasik.
13. Acharya Shri Padamnandi Ji maharaj: Devalgaon, Dist. Buldhana, Maharashtra.
14. Acharya Shri Vivek Sagar Ji maharaj: Alwar, Rajasthan.
15. Muni Shri Tarun Sagar Ji Maharaj: Nasik
16. Muni Shri Dharmnandi Ji: Udaipur Rajasthan
17. Muni Shri Hit Sagar Ji Maharaj: Munged, Rajasthan
18. Muni Shri Shrut nandi Ji Maharaj: Niwai, Rajasthan
19. Muni Shri Gun Sagar Ji Maharaj: Tonk, Rajasthan
20. Muni Shri Sukumal Nandi Ji maharaj: Indore
21. Muni Shri Veer Sagar Ji maharaj: Mandsoore
22. Muni Shri Surdev Sagar Ji Maharaj: Shrawan Bel Gola, Karnatak
23. Muni Shri Sudha Sagar Ji Maharaj: Surat.
24. Muni Shri Saurabh Sagar Ji Maharaj: Yamuna Vihar, Delhi
25. Muni Shri Prabal Sagar Ji Maharaj: Yamuna Vihar, Delhi
26. Muni Shri Pushp Dant Sagar Ji Maharaj; Podan Pur, Borivalli (E), Mumbai
27. Muni Shri Meru Bhushan Ji maharaj: Hubli, Karnatak.
28. Muni Shri Prasann Sagar Ji maharaj: Dispur, Guvahati, Assam.

### Jain Shwetambar Murti-Pujak sect

1. Acharya Shri Vijay Virendra Suri Ji Maharaj: Atma-Vallabh Vihar, Rohini, New Delhi.
2. Acharya Vijay Janak Chandra Suri Ji Maharaj: New Delhi
3. Acharya Shri Vijay Nityanand Ji maharaj:
4. Acharya Shri Vijay Dharm Dhurandhar Suri Ji maharaj:
5. Acharya Vijay Vasant Suri Ji maharaj: Calcutta
6. Acharya Shri Jaykumar Suri Ji and Muktiprabh Suri Ji maharaj: Calcutta
7. Acharya Vijay Jayantsen Suri Ji maharaj: Bagh, M.P.
8. Acharya Vijay Ghosh Suri Ji maharaj: Goregaon, Bombay
9. Acharya Navratna Suri Ji maharaj: Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat
10. Acharya Shri Gunsheel Suri Ji maharaj: Ahmedabad
11. Acharay Shri Nayan Vardhan Suri Ji (Suriram samudaya): Paldi (Ahmedabad)
12. Upadhyay Jay Ratna Vijay Ji maharaj: Nava Vadaj, Ahmedabad
13. Muni Shri Manogya Sagar Ji maharaj: Phalodi, Rajasthan
14. Muni Shri Mahimprabh Sagar, Lalit Prabh Sagar and Chandraprabh Sagar Ji: Bhilwara.
15. Muni Shri Veer Ratna Vijay Suri Ji maharaj: Indore
16. Muni Shri Poorna Chandra Suri Ji maharaj: Sripal Nagar, Mumbai.

### Jain Shwetambar Sthanakwasi sect

1. Acharya Shri Hira Chand Ji Maharaj, 9 thana: Bangalore
2. Upadhyay Shri Man Chandra Ji maharaj, Gautam Muni, thana 5: Jaipur
3. Pravartak Muni Shri Amar Muni and Shri Ratan Muni: Ludhiana
4. Sadhwi pramukha Shri Sayar Kanwar Ji maharaj, thana 3: Jodhpur.

Jainsamaj Matrimonial  
Database

For widest matrimonial  
choice add. your profile on  
[www.jainsamaj.org](http://www.jainsamaj.org)  
for Rs. 850/-for one year.  
Click here to submit profile  
FORM

5. Muni Shri Pravin Rishi Ji and Shri Subhash Muni Ji maharaj: Indore
6. Muni Shri Shanti Chand Ji and Shri Rakesh Muni Ji maharaj:Shalimar Bagh,New Delhi
7. Muni Shri Sumati Prakash Ji Maharaj: Rishabh Vihar, Delhi.

#### **Jain Shwetambar Terapanth sect**

1. Acharya Shri Mahapragya: Siriyari, Rajasthan.
2. Muni Shri Sanjay Kumar and Muni Shri Prakash Kumar: Latur
3. Muni Shri Lok Prakash Ji Lokesh: Delhi.
4. Muni Shri Sumer Mal Ji maharaj, Hyderabad

#### **RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS ON JAINISM**

**JAINA SANSKRITI KOSA (in three volumes)**An Encyclopedia of Jainism in Hindi, Ed. Prof. Bhagchandra Jain Bhaskar, Volume I 'Jaina Itihasa, Sanskriti, Kala evam Puratatva', 2002 220 x 140 mm 608 pp, Volume II 'Jaina Adhyatmika evam Darsanika Cetana', 2002 220 x 140 mm 391 pp, Volume III 'Jaina Sanskritika Cetana', 81 87566 46 9 (Set) Hardcover Rs. 3000.00 for the set. The Jaina Sanskriti Kosa is an exhaustive compendium of informed and well researched essays on Jaina history; the historicity of Jaina culture; Jaina Art; Jaina Architecture; Literature; Sects; Code of Conduct; Ethics; Philosophy; Science; Jina Bhakti; Tantra; Mantra; the Jaina community; Jaina places of pilgrimage; the Jaina Doctrine and contemporary Jaina society.

**TATTVARTHASLOKAVARTIKAM (Sanskrit)** By Vidyanandi, Being the most exhaustive Digambara tika on, Umasvati's 'Tattvarthasutra', Ed. by Pt. Manoharlal Nyayasastri, First published 1918 in Mumbai by, "Nirnayasagara Press", 2002 250 x 185 mm 512 pp Hardcover Rs. 600

**DHURTAKHYANA (Prakrit, Sanskrit, Gujarati)** By Haribhadra Suri, With an English critical essay by Dr. A.N. Upadhye, Original Prakrit text, Sanghatilaka's Sanskrit version and Old Gujarati Prose rendering, Ed. by Muni Jinavijaya, First published 1944 in Mumbai by "Singhi Jaina Granthamala", 2002 250 x 180 mm 154 pp Hardcover Rs. 250/-

**NYAYAVATARAVARTIKAVRTTI (Sanskrit - Hindi)** By Santisuri of the Purnatalagaccha, Based on Siddhasena Divakara's 'Nyayavatara Sutram', Ed. by Pt. Dalsukh Malvaniya, First published 1949 in Mumbai by "Singhi Jaina Granthamala", 2002 248 x 185 mm 515 pp, Hardcover Rs. 600.

These books can be obtained from: Mr. Manish Modi, Hindi Granth Karyalay, 9, Hirabaug, C. P. Tank, Mumbai 400004. Phone: + 91 - (0) 22 - 23826739, E-Mail: manish.modi@mtnl.net.in Web: www.hindibooks.8m.com

#### **FEED-BACK FROM VIEWERS**

##### **CONTROVERSIES AND OBSERVATIONS ON THE DIKSHA OF BAL SADHVI PRIYAL**

Prakash Jhaberi of the Shvetambara Murtipujak Mahamandal which "organised" Priyal's diksha ceremony is vehement: "Bal sadhviji (Priyal) does not fall under any of the categories in the Juvenile Justice Act that define 'a child in need of protection' In Pune, religious head Harsh Sagarji, who anointed Priyal, says: "They are upset by the whole controversy. But Priyal is now no longer any ones daughter, she belongs to the sangh and the entire Jain society."

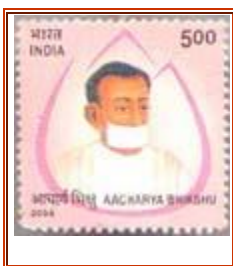
As the court navigates through this perplexing debate, the wishes of Priyal-ostensibly religiously inclined-are paramount. Child Welfare Committee, Chairperson Dr Nilima Mehta says, "We will certainly take her desires into account." She is convinced of the need to palliate some of the harsh strictures of the ascetic life Priyal currently follows. "This life holds immense peace and self-fulfillment. It is the only true path," says sagacious Vinamra Sagarji (16), a bal sadhu who embraced asceticism when he was 11: "My mother wanted at least one of her three sons to be a sadhu." Priyal's training involved studying lives of the great saints through Jainism's 2,000-year history. She now relates powerful, fantastic stories of past Jain saints who embraced the harsh ascetic life even before they turned five.

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

Dr. Rajeev Jain ,Sagar (MP) says, BAL DIKSHA has aroused many queries and samaj seems to be divided whether this is good in real sense. The religion called Jainism has been progressive and logical and changes with time are accepted. To quote that at Lord Mahavira's time baldiksha per se was prevalent may be true but nobody knows that some extraordinary persons having mental age well ahead to their chronological age were allowed to leave home and became sadhu / sadhvi .My humble suggestion is, if a brain still not mature to understand reality of life and if finds Diksha another play then basic cause will be defeated. As anyone who enters this path has to control his or her wishes and temptation willingly and failing in that one can understand a person in Clad of sadhu /sadhvi may also have KAMA KRODH KASHAYA as general GRAHSTHYA. A judicious and limited Diksha should be given by Acharyas of Digambar as well Shwetembara sect to maintain purity in sainthood. Real gems are to be selected by Acharyas they may be few who can lead this SAMAJ to right direction and may guide our ATMAN to rest to MOKSHA. E-Mail : rajeev@yahoo.com

## CONFERENCES & EVENTS

### VICE PRESIDENT RELEASES POSTAGE STAMP ON ACHARYA BHIKSHU



On 30th June 2004, Indian Postal department has issued a multi-colored commemorative postage stamp on the founder of the Terapanth Sect, Acharya Bhikshu. Two special functions were organized to release this Rs.5/- stamp. The first function was organised at the residence of Vice President of India, Shri Bhairo Singh Shekhavat at New Delhi. Second release function was organized at Siriyari (Distt. Pali, Rajasthan) where Acharya Bhikshu had attained Nirvana.

Acharya Bhikshu was the man of revolutionary ideas who was propelled to react after he made an intense study of ancient texts and became acutely aware of not only their misinterpretation, but also the distorted version of religion prevalent in society. He was born on the thirteenth day of the waxing moon in the month of Ashad in the Vikram Samvat year 1783, in the village of Kantaliya in Pali District, Rajasthan. He took to ascetic life under the guidance of Acharya Raghunathji. He set out from the village of Bagadi expressing his disenchantment with conservative fundamentalists, false beliefs and blind faith and reached Kelba in Mewar, Rajasthan. There he took a vow and established the Terapanth religious Sangha on June 28,1760. Acharya Bhikshu was a philosopher saint, perceptive writer, sensitive poet and social reformer. He composed about 38000 shlokas and his writings have been compiled in two volumes as "Bhikshu Granth Ratnakar". Among his compositions, 'Nav Padarth Sadbhav', is regarded as a significant philosophical composition that deals exhaustively with the nine gems of Jain philosophy advocated a society free of exploitation. He gave to the world knowledge about the different premises of religion and society. He said wherever there is godness and truth is conducive, irrespective of caste, creed or place to the well-being of the society. Help rendered to the suffering, exploited and helpless was labeled by him as duty, responsibility and social obligation; he gave the clarion call for a revolution in society. Acharya Bhikshu attained eternal bliss in the Vikram Samvat year 1860 at Siriyari, Rajasthan. Information courtesy: Mr. Sudhir Jain, E-Mail : mrsudhirjain@yahoo.com.

### JAIN DOCTORS TO HOLD SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT MUMBAI IN JAN. 2005

In view of the over-helming response and success of the first International Conference held last year at Shri Mahavir Ji, it has been planned to organise a similar conference of Jain doctors at Mumbai on 8th and 9th January, 2005. It is expected that many more doctors from various countries will participate in this gathering of medical professionals and share their rich experiences. For further details, please contact: Dr. M.M. Bengani, National President, 78, Lady Ratan Tata Medical Centre, Koperj, M.K. Road, Mumbai- 400021. Mob.: 098200-38850. Courtesy: Oswal Mahima, June, 2004.

### TERAPANTH SAMANI PRATIBHA PRAGYA TO ATTEND THE THIRD PARLIAMENT OF WORLD RELIGIONS

Samani Pratibha Pragya, disciple of Acharya Mahaprajna has been invited to participate in 'Third Parliament Of World Religions' at Barcelona, Spain from July 7th to 13th 2004. She will recite Jain prayers and blessings at the inauguration session where several other religious leaders from around the World will participate. 'Ahimsa - A Holistic Approach Of Peace' will be the subject of her forty five minutes lecture. She will also report on the activities initiated by the 'Unity Of Minds'- Programme noted in the ' Surat Spiritual Declaration.



## FESTIVALS

### THE PARYUSHANA PARVA BY MR. YASHWANT K. MALAIYA

The origin of Paryushana is related to the staying of the monks in one place for the rainy season. "Paryushana" is staying of

the monks in one place. In popular terminology this stay is termed "chaturmaasa" because the rainy season is regarded to be about four months.

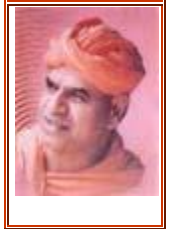
However the minimum duration of Paryushana is regarded to be 70 days. For this minimum duration, Paryushana must be initiated by panchami (fifth day) of the shukla phase of the Bhadrapada month. In the scriptures it is described that Lord Mahavira used to start Paryushana on Bhadrapada Shukla panchami. The date for the Paryushana festival is thus Bhadrapada Shukla panchami for both major sects. Because of computational and other differences there can be some minor differences among various subsects. Recently there have been an attempt to get everyone to agree to use the same date..

#### **NO CONCURRENCE AMONGST JAIN SECTS ON DATES FOR OBSERVING PARYUSHAN PARVA.**

It is rather unfortunate that different sects amongst Shwetambar Jain community have not been able to decide common dates for observing Paryushan parva. There are two months of Shravan this year and some are observing it in the first month while others are observing it in the second month of Shravan. Each of the groups have their own opinion to offer. Had there been some understanding amongst Acharyas of different sects, this situation could have been avoided. The dates announced by different sects are :

#### **NEXT MAHAMASTHAKABHISHEKHA OF BH. SRI BAHUBALI IN FEBRUARY 2006**

Shravanabelagola (Karnataka), The first head anointing (Mahamasthakabhishekha) ceremony of this century of Bhagawan Sri Bahubali of Shravanabelagola will be celebrated in the month of February 2006 as stated by Paramapujya Jagadguru Karmayogi Swastiri Charukeerthi Bhattarakha Swamiji. This historical event bears great testimony since the time of installation of the statue by Chavundaraya the commander in chief of Gangas of Talakadu on March 13, 981 A.D. This 57 feet monolithic statue is situated atop the Vindhyagiri hill. It is the ritual of Mahamasthakabhishekha is being conducted once in every 12 years from time immemorial. The last mahamasthakabhishekha was held in 1993. This event attracts the devotees and tourists in large number from different parts of the world. The arrangements are in full swing to make the event successful. The Rashtriya Mahamasthakabhishekha Mahotsav Samithi has been formed under the able chief patronage of Dr.D.Veerendra Heggade, Dharmasthala. The 57 feet high Idol of Bhagawan Sri Bahubali on the Indragiri Hill at Shravanabelagola.



#### **MISCELLANEOUS NEWS**

##### **500-YEAR-OLD GUJARAT VILLAGE GETS 'HERITAGE' STATUS**

July 09, A village named Tera in Kutch District of Gujarat has now been declared as a "heritage village" by the Government of India. This is one of the worst-affected area by the devastating earthquake. Tera village consists of 20 ancient Jain temples and derasars, 450-year-old havelis, forts and lakes. The village attracts thousands of tourists.

The village will be restored by a team of experts picked by the Government from various conservation agencies. Built by Bhayats, the ruling family of Kutch, Tera has been declared a heritage solely for its unique architecture. The Jain temples of Tera are one of the five pilgrimages of Kutch called Nani Panchtirth. Besides, the temples of Goddess Modheswari and goddess Ashapura are also famous. The restoration team will work on 22 projects. This includes Darbargarh fort, the Shamalji Parshwanathji Jain temple (approximately 300 years old); the Selor step well (450 years old); delicate carvings on the cenotaphs, havelis, and entrance gates. Information courtesy Mr. Bhavesh Chandaria, E-Mail : chandariatours@yahoo.co.in

#### **VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS REPRESENT TO RAJASTHAN C.M. TO STOP NEW SLAUGHTER HOUSES**

Keeping in view the ever-increasing number of slaughter houses in the state and lack of control being exercised by the Government to stop illegal operations, the representatives of non-Governmental organisations, mainly, People for Animals, Indian Society for prevention of Cruelty to animals and Vishwa Hindu Parishad jointly submitted a memorandum to Mrs. Vasundhara Raje, Chief Minister of Rajasthan. The memorandum made the following demands requesting the Chief Minister to take immediate action on these points:

1. The newly opened slaughter house at Chainpura near Jaipur be immediately closed.
2. No mechanised slaughter houses be allowed to be opened anywhere in the State.



3. No technical or financial assistance be provided by the Government to slaughter houses in the state.

## DIET AND HEALTH



**DR. NEAL BARNARD, MD, PRESIDENT OF THE PHYSICIANS COMMITTEE FOR RESPONSIBLE MEDICINE IN WASHINGTON TALKS ABOUT CHOLESTEROL PROBLEMS** - Diet changes are more powerful than many people might imagine. Research shows that with the right adjustments, your foods can cut cholesterol dramatically and even reverse artery blockages. The most powerful cholesterol - lowering programs use vegan diets. The reason, of course, is that cholesterol is found only in animal products. Plants never contain cholesterol at all. They are also very low in saturated fat - the kind that causes your liver to make cholesterol. And those healthy vegetables, fruits, beans and grains are also rich in fibre. One type of fibre, called soluble fibre, actively reduces cholesterol levels. It is particularly plentiful in pulses. It is also important to steer clear of dairy products. Not only are they high in saturated fats, the proteins in them also appear to raise cholesterol on their own, apart from the effect of dairy fats. Researches at the University of Toronto put vegan diets to the rest. They asked, since vegan diets, soya products, oat bran, almonds and certain plant fats can reduce cholesterol, what would happen if they were used all at the same time? Well, the combined effect was astounding - a nearly 30 percent drop in LDL (bad) cholesterol. Heart disease strikes an alarming 10 percent of Indians, and it begins in children and teenagers. In Mumbai alone, a person dies of a heart attack every 33 seconds. The World Health Organisation predicts that by 2010, Indians dying from heart attacks will account for more than one-third of deaths worldwide. By 2020, the body count from heart disease death in Indians is expected to reach 7 million - roughly the population of Hyderabad. You can protect yourself and your family. The best advice is to choose a healthy vegan diet, including a variety of vegetables, legumes, grains and fruits - and watch your cholesterol drop. Information source : PETA'S, Animal Times, Monsoon 2004 Issue.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### **SRI RAJARAM JAIN HONOURED FOR HIS LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

Prof. Rajaram, Director, Shri Kundkund Bharati Prakrit Shodh Sansthan, New Delhi has been felicitated and declared 'Man of the Year-2004' by the renowned institution of USA, A.B. Institute for his scholarly research in Jainism, editing of ancient and unpublished manuscripts, publicity of Prakrit and Jain studies, and other valuable services. Dr. Rajaram Jain had been honoured in the year 2000 by Rashtrapati-Samman Puraskar and Acharya Kundkund Puraskar. He has so far published about 30 authoritative books on Jainism besides more than 200 research papers. He has been honorary member of various educational bodies, like University Grants Commission, National Council for education, research and training (N.C.E.R.T.) and universities.

### **JAIN MINISTERS IN RAJASTHAN CABINET FELICITATED**

Chief Minister Mrs. Vasundhara Raje Scindhia, has inducted Mr. Gulab Chand Kataria as Home Minister and Mr. Pratap Singh Singhvi as Minister of State in her cabinet. Jaipur Jain Society felicitated their achievements and appointments and expressed hope that they will contribute effectively for the developmental activities of the community. Dr. Tara Chand Jain delivered the welcome address.

### **RAJAT JAIN NAMED VICE-PRESIDENT, MD FOR WALT DISNEY INDIA**

Rajat Jain has joined the Walt Disney Company (India) Private Limited, as Vice-President and Managing Director, it was announced today by Andy Bird, President, Walt Disney International. "Jain, a senior entertainment industry executive with extensive experience, who was most recently Executive Vice-President and Business Head for SET MAX at Sony Entertainment Television India Limited, will join Disney effective August 1, 2004", a Walt Disney release said. In addition, Jain will also assume the role of Vice-President and Managing Director, Walt Disney Television International (India), overseeing Disney television activities in India, the release added.

### **SHRI SIDH RAJ BHANDARI ELECTED PRESIDENT OF JAIN VISHWA BHARATI, LADNU**

Shri Sidh Raj Bhandari, past Director of Reliance Industries Ltd. was elected unanimously as President of prestigious educational institution of Terapanth Dharm Sangh, Jain Vishwa Bharati at Ladnu in Rajasthan. The elections were held at the birth place of Acharya Bhikshu at Siriyari, where the Chaturmas of Acharya Mahapragya is presently being held.

## REGRETTABLE

### MR. R. K. JAIN, DEPUTY COMM. COMMERCIAL TAXES, BHOPAL DIES IN POLICE CUSTODY

July 15 R.K. Jain, the commercial tax department deputy commissioner arrested on bribery charges died under mysterious circumstances in custody. His relatives cried murder even as a magisterial probe was ordered into the death.

"A custodial death is confirmed, but it's not clear whether it was a suicide or a murder as alleged by Jain's relatives," superintendent of police Pawan Shrivastava said. The medico-legal diary shows that apart from a deep red mark on Jain's throat, no other injury marks were visible, the officer said. A case of unnatural death has been registered.

### RAJENDRA S. LODHA INHERITS M.P. BIRLA EMPIRE, MEMBERS OF BIRLA FAMILY DISAPPOINTED



Kolkata: The contents of the will of the late Priyamvada Birla has shaken the entire Birla family. The will is said to have bequeathed all of the Madhav Prasad Birla group's assets, estimated to be around Rs 5,000 crores, to the group Chartered Accountant and family friend Mr. Rajendra S. Lodha. Mr. Lodha is also on the Board of several Birla companies. He is also the chairman of several Birla family trusts, which control numerous charitable institutions including hospitals and educational institutions. The development is unparalleled in more ways than one.



This is the first time that Birla assets and property have seemingly gone out of the Birla fold to a non-Birla and a non-relative. This is also reckoned to be the first time that a development of this magnitude has taken place in the history of

**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 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.

#### Advertisement Tariff - "AHIMSA TIMES"



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



family-run businesses in India. Yashovardhan Birla, KK Birla, SK Birla, GP Birla and CK Birla were all present at Birla Park, when the will was opened. However, Kashi Nath Taparia, Priyamvada Birla's brother, wasn't around. It is said that Mr. Lodha himself opened the will and announced the brief contents. Mr. Rajendra S. Lodha is a celebrity member of Jain Society. Please click here to view his personal profile.