



JAIN AHIMSA TIMES

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Conquering the Self

VARAM ME APPA DANTO SANJAMEN TAVEN YA |
MAAHAM PAREHIM DAMMANTO BANDHANEHIM VAHEHI YA || 1-16 ||

It is most auspicious to control the self through restraint and penance rather than calling for punishment from others, confinement or the end of life.

Our first priority should be to limit our desires and perform penance. When we become slaves of our passions and indulge in immoral deeds, we invite punishment of various kinds. The society and the laws of the land restrict our activities. We lose our independence and our lives become miserable. Thus it is best to control the self rather than be controlled by other segments of society



CHILD DIKSHA ACCEPTED BY GOVT. TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH JAIN SCRIPTURES - In a memorandum issued in Government of India Gazette dated 27th April, 2009, it has been announced that 'diksha' of Jain children not below the age of 8 years is permissible and is quite in accordance with the Jain scriptures. High Courts of Rajasthan and and Bombay have earlier accepted child diksha as a religious activity is permissible if the parents have given their consent. It has now been made clear both by the Apex courts and the Government of India that Bal Diksha is beyond the scope of Juvenile Justice Amendment Act and therefore it is not an unlawful act.

JAINS CELEBRATE BAL DIKSHA VICTORY

Ahmedabad: Following a sustained movement to prove Bal Diksha as a religious practice that has been performed for thousands of years, the Jain community has succeeded in keeping it away from the provision of the Juvenile Justice Act. The community is now planning to organise celebrations in various cities, including Ahmedabad and Surat. The Shri Jain Shashanam Trust had provided sustained legal and documentary support under the guidance of senior Jain monks. Bal Diksha has been opposed for many years and this agitation increased over the last 100. But it is a religious tradition and has continued for many centuries. Our great Diskhayug Pravartak Tapagchchhadhiraj Acharya Ramchandra Surishwarji Maharaj and Sagarsuri Maharaj had taken up the challenge of proving that Bal Diksha is a religious practice of Jains. Though Ramchandra Surishwarji Maharaj passed away 20 years ago, he started a great movement for Bal Diksha and created a momentum for it. Wherever he travelled, he inspired the Jain community through his lectures to come forward and work for the endeavour. Kirtiyash Suri Maharaj Saheb, Ramchandra Surishwarji Maharaj's grand disciple, had taken over the mantle and continued the campaign. Now the Union government has admitted that Bal Diksha is a centuries-old religious practice and has excluded it from the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Justice Act. The SJST conducted a celebration in Mumbai on June 7. Communities of senior Jain monks gathered at Madhavbaug in Mumbai, in the presence of nearly 4,000 people. Senior Jain monks, like Naypadma Suriji Maharajsaheb, Ashok Sagarji Maharajsaheb, Rajsekhar Suriji Maharajsaheb and Rajhans Suriji Maharajsaheb spoke about the historical significance of bal diksha.

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Ironically, bal dikshas have drastically gone down over the years. Only a small percentage of the roughly 13,000 monks in India were minors in 2007. "The number of small boys and girls taking Diksha is dwindling. The largest number of Dikshas come from the age group of 18 to 27 years, followed by those in the early 30s," said Gunsunder Vijayji Maharajsaheb.

TEMPLES

AMERICAN JAINS DEDICATE NEW TEMPLE AT SOUTH FLORIDA

With dedication ceremonies on April 17-19, the Jains of South Florida inaugurated their new Jain Center in the presence of Swamiji Devendrakeerty . Taking up 4,000 square feet, the center sits in an office park in Weston. The Indian-style interior is covered in white marble . Along with its land, the project cost \$1.45 million. Centerpiece is a Gabhara, a covered sanctuary housing three Thirthankars, Adinath, Mahavira and Simandhar Swami (whom Jains foresee as one of the next Thirthankars) . Another section is for Jains who also honor other streams of the faith. A floor-to-ceiling plaque bears Navakara Mantra . There's a large photo of Shrimad Rajchandra, a 19th century enlightened devotee, who translated Jain scriptures into the Gujarati language. At the dedication ceremonies, Jain leaders prayed mantras over the idols and applied the saffron paste. Among the visiting leaders was Swamiji Devendrakeerty, who has helped dedicate 54 Jain temples in a half-dozen countries since 1974. Like many others from India, the 120 families of the Jain Center work as doctors, engineers, CPAs and businessmen.

THEFT IN JAIN TEMPLES

The occurrence of theft cases in Jain temples are increasing day after day. Theft of Rs. 35,000 took place on the 27th May at Shri Sambhavnath Jinalaya in Madanganj, Kishangarh by breaking open a collection box. In a major case of dacoity and murder, gold items worth Rs. two crores and weighing 23 Kg. were looted from a century old Shri Chandraprabhu ji temple at Sahukarpeth in Chennai in the early hours of 10th June. The dacoits murdered the chief pujari Himmat mal belonging to Sirohi, Rajasthan and tied his assistant with rope. They then removed five pieces of 'kavach' (Angi) of the idols costing more than Rs. two crores and ran away with the booty. According to reports in the press, six persons have been arrested subsequently and nine Kg. costing about Rs. 1.2 crores of gold has been recovered. All the six persons are said to belong to Nepal.

HUMBLE REQUEST TO ALL THOSE VISITING SAMMET SHIKHARJI

Pilgrims visiting Shri Sammet Shikharji are advised not to buy any eatables or other material from the vendors while climbing the mountain on the way from Madhuban to Jal Mandir and other temples. In the interest of maintaining a clean and tidy environment on the mountain it is necessary to avoid throwing any unwanted material on the way like, empty bottles, polythene bags, left-over of food etc. The travelers are requested to carry with them their essential requirements and not to leave any unwanted material on the road. They should also not encourage any beggars on the way by giving money or food because they usually consume non-vegetarian food and alcohol from the money given to them which creates unholy atmosphere.



MISTAKEN IDENTITY!

Madurai, : A statue, being worshipped as God Karuppasamy by the people of Serumakkanallur near Papanasam in Thanjavur district, has been identified to be that of 'Mahaveer Jain.' Officials of Delhi Nehru Trust, an organisation doing archaeological research, identified the statue to be Mahaveer Jain sitting in 'Padmasana Posture.' A team of experts led by Tillai Govindarajan found the statue, measuring 3ft tall and 2.25ft wide. The statue belonged to later Chola period, when Jainism was the religion in some parts of the country. However, the local people worshipped the Mahaveer Jain as God Karuppasamy and were doing abhishekam and other poojas.

SAINTS



13TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF ACHARYA TULSI

A function was organised at JVB Ladnun in pious presence of Acharya Mahaprajna and Sri B.L. Joshi, Governor of Uttrakhand, in the memory of Acharya Tulsi of Terapanth. Acharya Mahaprajna remembering Acharya Tulsi told that the path (way) shown by Acharya Tulsi is still relevant today. We cannot imagine welfare of world till we understand value of SANYAM. A newly composed song was introduced by Acharya Mahaprajna himself. Sri B. L. Joshi stated: Life of Acharya Tulsi was unique. Acharya Tulsi was born in Ladnun and I got my education in the same place. Acharya Tulsi gave message of Anuvrata and a new

definition to religion. He lived his life on those ideals.

Yuvacharya Mahashraman told that some moments come into our life which make us sad and we feel pain - departure of a great personality like Acharya Tulsi was such an incident. Acharya Tulsi thought regularly for development of the university. He gave his acharyaship during his lifetime to Acharya Mahaprajna. We are thankful to Acharya Tulsi for his contributions to humanity. Sadhvi Pramukha Kanakprabha remembered that Acharya Tulsi's personality had many angles. He was symbol of great labour (purusharth) and equally he was a very lucky person (bhagyashali). Many great thinkers of nation told him that he should not lead a single sect but should give leadership for whole spiritual community. Acharya Tulsi regularly thought how we could develop sangh and society, how we can develop character building of the whole nation. Sri Surendra Choraria also spoke on the occasion. Sri B.L.Joshi was honored by literature and memento and that was presented by Sri Mangilal Sethia and Sri Kamal Baid. Some new books published recently were presented to Acharya Mahaprajna.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION



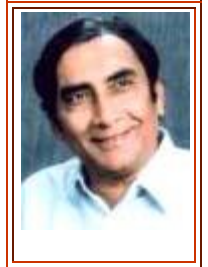
SHRI KESRIMAL BURAD ELECTED NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF AISSJ

Shri Kesrimal Burad was declared elected National President of All India Stanakwasi Jain Conference on 21st June 2009. Conference elections are ardently contested by aspiring community leaders. Conference members and Saints also watch it keenly. In fact Sri Roop Chandmuni 'Rajat' & Sri Saubhagya Muni 'Kumud' had to issue directions to other saints to restrain them from expressing opinion about elections and individual candidates.

Mr. Burad is a successful Businessman and has been associated with the conference for a long time. Mr. Kesrimal Burad is from Mewar (Rajasthan) but now settled in Bangalore. He was born on 15, Nov. 1935 to father Hangamilal & mother Gebri Bai. After matriculation in 1960, shifted to Bangalore for living. Today, his business interest relate to Real Estate, Software, Jewelers, Finance, & Entertainment. He has been a regular donor for the social & religious needs of the society. He is also on the board of several trusts & societies.

PADAMSHRI KUMARPAL DESAI HONOURED

Padmashri Kumarpal Desai has been conferred with yet another very prestigious award: Acharya Tulsi Anekant Sanmaan by Jain Vishwa Bharti & Preksha Vishwa Bharti. The award was announced in Jaipur by Shri Surendra Chauradia, Head of Jain Vishwa Bharti, in presence of Param Pujya Shri Acharya Mahapragyaji. This annual award is sponsored by M B Sarvagi Foundation and is given to the one considered to have contributed the most towards improving an awareness of Jain doctrines and values worldwide.



The award comprises of a cash gift of Rs 1 lac and a memento describing the award. Past recipients of this prestigious award include, Pandit Malvaniaji and Dr Laxmi Singhvi. Dr Kumarpal's contribution towards promoting Jain doctrines, principles and values internationally has been recognised for several years and he has been honoured with many prestigious awards including, Padmashri and Jain Ratna. Our heartiest congratulations to Dr Kumarpal Desai, the Trustee and Co-ordinator of Institute of Jainology, India.

PROF. PHOOL CHAND 'PREMI' HONOURED WITH AHIMSA INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Dr. Phool Chand 'Premi', Professor of Jain philosophy at Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi was honoured by Ahimsa International with Deputy Mal Adeshwarlal Literature Award in the presence of Upadhyay Shri Gupti Sagar Ji maharaj and a large number of Jain devotees on the 26th April, 2009. The award was handed over by Prof. Vachaspati Upadhyay, Vice-Chancellor of Shri Lal bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidhyapeeth, New Delhi in Shriram Centre auditorium. The award consisted of a shawl, letter of eulogy and a cash amount of Rs. 31,000/-. Dr. Jain has in the past received several awards from different Jain institutions for his rich contribution to Jain literature.



DINESH KUMAR JAIN NOMINATED INDIA'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO BELIZE -

Indian Ambassador Dinesh Jain presented his credentials to the Governor General of Belize Sir Colville Young at Belize House in Belmopan on Monday June 15. His Excellency Mr. Dinesh Kumar Jain was the first to present his credentials as the new High Commissioner of India to Belize. In his speech for the occasion, Mr. Kumar said he brought warm friendly greetings from the President of India, Her Excellency Mrs. Pratibha Devisingh Patil and her best wishes for the continued well-being, progress and prosperity of the people of Belize.

Mr. Kumar said both countries are proud inheritors of rich, ancient cultures and share democratic convictions and commitments to a peaceful world order. Both are both members of the United Nations, Non-Aligned Movement, and the Commonwealth, and as such, consult and collaborate together for promoting peace and security for all nations, socio-economic development of our peoples, and for sustainable development of the world.

RISHABH DAS JAIN APPOINTED M. P. ADVOCATE GENERAL

The Madhya Pradesh Government has appointed senior Advocate Rishabh Das Jain as the new Advocate General of the M. P. The post fell vacant after Ravinandan Singh tendered his resignation, following a disproportionate assets case filed in Lokayukt office recently. The state government's legislation department issued Mr Jain's appointment order under the clause 165 of the Constitution.

PETA DECLARED AS THE LARGEST ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANISATION BY LIMCA BOOK - The leading international organisation for the protection of animals, "People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals" (PETA), has urged the Bollywood superstar, Amitabh Bachhan to support the cause of PETA and play an active role in promoting vegetarianism, specially participating in the forth-coming conference on 'vegetarianism' to be held at Macao in China. Various other prominent figures from film industry like, Ritik Roshan, Karina Kapoor, Shahid Kapoor, Priyanka Chopra and Lara Dutt have already consented to join the conference. It may be noted that PETA has recently been declared as the largest institution in the world for the protection of animals against cruelty. PETA has now been included in the 'Limca Book of Records' as the biggest animal-rights and welfare organisation in the world.



CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & OTHER EVENTS



TERAPANTH MAHILA MANDAL DELEGATES MEET WITH PRESIDENT OF INDIA -

Speaking at a function held at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, President of India Mrs. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil said, increasing incidence of female foeticides is a most distressing phenomenon, which puts a question mark on the development of humanity. It is such a contradiction of the modern way of life which has shaken the concepts of the existence and identity of the human being. The problem is extremely grave and unnerving. However, we are yet to realize its critical consequences. Terapanth Mahila Mandal has brought to light a burning question facing the society and the nation. I appreciate the noble work of TMM. On this occasion she met with some representative of Terapanth Mahila Mandal in the leadership of President of

TMM Smt Rajani Bafana.

Smt Pratibha Patil launched the special issue of Anuvrat fortnightly Magazine and said we need to implement the philosophy of Anuvrat in practical life, not just in thoughts. This special issue was presented by Smt. Bharati Kanther to President. A book "Mahatma Mahaprajna" written by Yuvacharya Mahashraman was also presented by Smt. Saroj Chajjer to President. Smt. Pratibha Patil said we want peace and harmony because there is no alternative to it. In this age of nuclear bomb, communal violence and terrorism there is no way to resolve problems other than through peaceful and non-violent means. She said people need to adopt the golden principal of non-violence, ankeanta, world peace, brotherhood and communal harmony that was proposed by Acharya Mahaprajna. Courtesy: Lalit Garg, E-253, Saraswati Kunj Appartments, 25, I.P. Exten., Patparganj, Delhi-92, Mob.: 9811051133 email: lalitgarg11@gmail.com

JAIN VIDHYA ANCHALIK SANYOJAK WORKSHOP HELD AT JVB LADNUN

Saman Sanskriti Sankay, education department of JVB Ladnun, held a workshop in presence of Acharya Mahaprajna and Yuvacharya Mahashraman on 13th and 14th June at Ladnun. Representative of 243 centres from all over India participated in workshop. Yuvacharya Mahashraman delivered his keynote address to delegates discussing eight reason for ego. He confirmed that spirituality ends ego.



Muni Dinesh Kumar told that a person who studies Jainism lives his life according to the rules of anekant peacefully. National director Sri Jinendra Kothari informed that in 243 centres 11000 students had examination. On this occasion prizes were given to top students from class 1 to class 8 for year 2007 and 2008. All successful candidates received Vigya Upadhi. Some centres were also given prizes for outstanding performance. Anchalik

CHATURMAS 2009

FERVOUR MARKS RALLY BY JAINS

Women members of the Jain Samaj took out a procession to mark the beginning of Chaturmas in Vijayawada . Women took out a procession in their traditional attire carrying 'Purnakalash' on their heads. The procession meandered through Park Road, Vastralatha Centre, Samarangam Chowk Main Road and Sivalayam Street before culminating at the Jain temple. Jain philosopher, Panyas Praver Sri Uday Prabhu Vijayji spoke on the principles of non-violence taught by Lord Mahaveer. He also advised members of the Jain community to follow the other principles of Lord Mahaveer and spread his message in the society.



CHATURMAS LOCATIONS

Shwetambar Murti-Pujak Sect

1. Acharya Shri Jayantsen Suri ji maharaj at Chennai.
2. Muni Shri Padmratan Suri ji maharaj at Mandsore, M.P.
3. Muni Shri Veerratna Vijay ji maharaj Neemuch M.P.
4. Muni Shri HemRatna Vijay ji maharaj at Mumbai
5. Muni Shri Nayratna Vijay ji maharaj at Bhinmal, Rajasthan
6. Konkankesari Muni Shri Lekhendra Vijay Ji maharaj at Siddhachal Mahateerth, Shatrunjay in Gujarat.
7. Muniraj Shri Narendra Vijay jimaharaj at Jodhpur.
8. Marudhar Mani Upadhyay Shri Mani Prabh Sagar Maharaj will reach Jodhpur from Kapardaji for his chaturmas at Bhairubagh.
9. Muni Shri Maneesh Prabh Sagarji Maharaj Saheb and other group saints will have chaturmas at Mumbai (C.P.Tank).

Shwetambar Sthanakwasi sect

1. Acharya Dr. Shiv Muni ji maharaj, head of shraman sangh at Delhi.
2. Acharya Shri Ram Muni ji maharaj to hold chaturmas at Durg (Chhatisgarh)
3. Acharya Shri Hira Chand Ji maharaj (Ratna Hiteshi Shrawak Sangh) at Ahmedabad.
4. Shri Man Chand Ji maharaj of (Ratna Hiteshi Shrawak) at Beawar in Rajasthan.
5. Shri Kapil Muni Ji maharaj at Mettupalyam (Karnatak)
6. Pravartak Shri Kundan Rishi Ji maharaj at Bhonsari, Pune.
7. Up-Pravartak Shri Rajendra Muni ji maharaj alongwith Upadhyay Shri Ramesh Muni Ji, Shri Surendra Muni and other saints at Ashok Vihar, Phase I, Delhi. Contact Phone: 011-27229238.
8. Veteran saint Shri Kundan Rishi Ji maharaj at Bhansari, Pune.
9. Shri Gautam Muni ji maharaj disciple of Shri Pratap Mal Ji maharaj at Secunderabad.
10. Shri Vinay Muni ji maharaj alongwith four other saints at Jodhpur.
11. Sadhwi Shri Mainasundari ji & Shri Ratan Kunwar ji maharaj (Jain Ratna Hiteshi Shrawak) at Jodhpur.
12. Mahasati Shri Indubala ji maharaj (Ratna Hiteshi Shrawak) at Jaipur.
13. Sadhwi Dr. Surekhashri ji maharaj disciple of Shri Manohar Shri ji maharaj at Dahanu (Maharashtra)
14. Shri Dinesh Muni and other saints at Devendra Dham Udaipur. (Contact Numbers 09460904516 & 0294-2413518).

Shwetambar Terapanth sect

1. Acharya Shri Mahapragya to hold chaturmas at Ladnun (Rajasthan).

Digambar sect

1. Ganacharya Shri Kunthu sagar Ji maharaj at Shri Kunthugiri Atishay kshetra Hatakangle Ramling road, Aalte, Distt. Kolhapur.
2. Acharya Shri Abhinandan Sagar Ji maharaj is to hold chaturmas at Trimueri kshetra, Sheshpur Road.
3. Acharya Shri Kanaknandi Ji maharaj at Ram Garh Distt. Dungarpur (Raj.)
4. Acharya Shri Padamnandi ji maharaj at Hhadol (Sarada) Distt. Udaipur.
5. Acharya Sri Sukumal Nandi ji maharaj at Udaipur.
6. Acharya Shri Vardhman Sagar Ji maharaj at Champapur, W.B.
7. Acharya Shri Pushpdant sagar Ji maharaj at Gulalvadi, Mumbai.
8. Acharya Shri Bharat Sagar Ji maharaj at Vijay Nagar.

9. Muni Shri Pulak Sagar Ji maharaj at Banswada (Raj.)
10. Muni Shri Dherrya Sagar Ji maharaj at Parsad Distt. Udaipur.
11. Agya Sagar Ji maharaj at Bhasore Distt. Dungarpur.
12. Muni Sri Prasann Sagar Ji maharaj at Mysore.
13. Muni Shri Tarun Sagar Ji maharaj at Nagpur.
14. Acharya Shri Kushagranandi Ji maharaj at Jaingiri, Jatwada, Maharashtra.
15. Balacharya Shri Yogendra Sagar Ji maharaj at Sadhna Kendra, Bahi Parshwanath Chaupati, Mandsoore.



ACHARYA SHRI SHIV MUNI REACHING RISHABH VIHAR, DELHI FOR CHATURMAS - Accepting the request of Delhi Sthanak Wasi Jain Samaj, Acharya Dr. Shiv Muni along with other Saints & Sadhwis have arrived in Delhi to conduct the Chaturmas 2009. At the moment he is visiting various Jain localities and he is expected to reach Rishabh Vihar on 1st July 2009 (7.30 A.M.). The Chaturmas entry will be a big day for the Sthanak Wasi Jain Samaj and many celebrations are being planned on the entry day. Hundreds of followers are also expected from all over the country. Shri Vir Sain Jain (Telephone No. 22376700) has been appointed the Chairman of the Chaturmas Committee. The other committee members are Shri Ashok Jain (9810036789), President and Shri Sanjay Jain (9811049108) Secretary.

Acharya Shivmuni's Chaturmas Programmes are as follows:

1. Chaturmas Begining - 6th July 2009
2. Acharya Shri Anand Rishi Day - 22nd July 2009
3. Parushan Start - 17th August 2009
4. Samvatsari - 24th August 2009
5. Atamshukl Jayanti - 1st September 2009
6. Acharya Shiv Muni Birth day - 18th September 2009
7. Acharya Devendra Muni Birth day - 15th October 2009
8. Mahaveer Nirvan Day (Deepawali) - 17th October 2009
9. Shri Chauthmal Ji Maharaj Saheb Birth day - 2nd November 2009

Chaturmas of other saints at Delhi

Big Celebrations are also planned by Sthanak Wasi Jain Samaj of Ashok Vihar, Delhi on 5th July 2009 at the time of Chaturmas entry of Upadhyay Shri Ramesh Muni, Upravatak Dr. Rajendra Muni, Yuvamanishi Surendra Muni and other saints. The Chaturmas committee contact telephone numbers are 0986804222 & 9968018107.

Shrimad Vijay Ratan Sunder Surishwarji Maharaj of Mandir Marg Sect will make Chaturmas entry at Shrimandar Jain Sangh Bhawan, F-223, Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi (Contact Numbers 011-28311252 & 09811091638).



July	Month	Festivals
Courtsey Dr. Rajendera Muni, Delhi		
S.No.	Date	Festivals
1.	06.07.2009	Starting of Chaturmas
2.	07.07.2009	End of Ashtanhika Parv
3.	08.07.2009	Veer Shasan Jayanti
4.	09.07.2009	Sri Munisuvratnath Garbh Kalyanak
5.	16.07.2009	Sri Kunthunath Garbh Kalyanak
6.	22.07.2009	Janm Diwas, Acharya Samrat Shri Anandrishiji M. S.(S.S.)
7.	23.07.2009	Sri Sumatinath Garbh Kalyanak

8.	27.07.2009	Sri Neminath Janm, Tap Kalyanak
9.	28.07.2009	Sri Parsavnath Moksh Kalyanak
10.	29.07.2009	Bhagwan Parsavnath Nirvan Kalyanak(S.S.)
11.	31.07.2009	82nd Janm Diwas, Lokmanya Sant Varisht Pravartak Shri Roopchand ji M. S.(S.S.)

DIKSHA CEREMONY

(1) Shri Jitendra Kothari : Born on 23rd December, 1985 at Nimaj (Dist Pali) in Rajasthan, son of Shri Kushal Raj Ji Kothari, having passed B.Com. First year, accepted Jain Bhagwati diksha with diksha path by Upadhyay Pandit Ratna Shri Man Chandra Ji Maharaj in the holy presence of several other eminent saints and sadhwis, belonging to Akhil Bharatiya Shri Jain Ratna Hiteshi Shrawak Sangh, Shwetambar Sthanakwasi Jain sect. The diksha ceremony was held in the presence of hundreds of devotees at Pipar town in Rajasthan on 28th May, 2009. He has learnt by heart several Jain scriptures, including Dashvekalik Sutra, Uttaradhyan Sutra, Sukhvipak Sutra, Tatwarth Sutra and studied Antagarh Sutra, Samvayang Sutra, Kalp Sutra, Sthanag Sutra etc. He is well-verse in Hindi, Rajasthani and English as also Prakrit. He has been a 'vairagi' for about two years prior to his diksha.



(2) Km. Sindhu Kawad : Born on 20th August, 1987 at Jodhpur in Rajasthan, daughter of Shri Gautam Chand Ji Kawad, having business at Chennai, passed Senior Secondary examination and Diploma in Home science, accepted Jain Bhagwati diksha with diksha path administered by Upadhyay Pandit Ratna Shri Man Chandra Ji Maharaj belonging to Akhil Bharatiya Shri Jain Ratna Hiteshi Shrawak Sangh, Shwetambar Sthanakwasi Jain sect in the presence of several other saints, sadhwis and hundreds of devotees coming from different parts of the country, . The ceremony was held at Pipar town in Rajasthan on Thursday, the 28th May, 2009. She has learnt by heart several Jain scriptures, including Dashvekalik Sutra, Uttaradhyan Sutra, Sukhvipak Sutra, Tatwarth Sutra, Nandi Sutra, Acharang Sutra and studied Antagarh Sutra, Samvayang Sutra, Kalp Sutra, Sthanag Sutra. She is well-verse in Hindi, Rajasthani, Tamil and English as also Prakrit. She has been a 'vairagi'

for about three years prior to her diksha, Apart from these two diksha, two other aspirants, Shri Dali Chand Ji Bohra alongwith his wife belonging to Kosana village in Pali District also accepted Bhagwati Diksha at the same place but they did not desire to receive any publicity.

(3) Km. Bhumika Bothra - Accepted Jain Bhagwati diksha at Rajnadgaon (M.S.) at the age of 24 years. She is the daughter of Jas Raj ji Bothra resident of Durg. Diksha ceremony was held in the holy presence of Acharya Shri Ram Lal Ji maharaj of Sadhumargi Jain sangh in Shwetambar Sthanakwasi sect. The ceremony was held in the presence of several saints and sadhwi and a large number of devotees and followers. After diksha, Km. Bhumika was renamed as Sadhwi Subhag Shri ji.

(4) Km. Prem Lata Golechha - Daughter of Shri Mool Chand Ji Golechha, Km. prem Lata accepted Bhagwati diksha on the auspicious day, akshay Tritiya in the holy presence of Shri Dharmesh Muni Ji maharaj and other saints and sadhwi at Balotara, Rajasthan in Shwetambar Sthanakwasi Sadhumargi Jain sangh group.

(5) Km. Sapna Gylechha - Daughter of Shri Gautam Chand Gulechha accepted Jain Bhagwati Diksha with the blessings of Gyangachhadhipati 1008 Shri Prakash Chand Ji maharaj and in the holy presence of Shri Kanak Muni ji maharaj and other saints and sadhwi in the Shwetambar Sthanakwasi sect on the 25th June, 2009 at Jodhpur.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS & BOOK REVIEW

The Jaina Doctrine of Karma and the Science of Genetics - By Prof. Dr. Sohan Raj Tater. Pro Vice Chancellor, Singhania University Price: Rs. 1199/- Yr. of publication: 009. In this book the author has tried to bring Spirituality nearer to science with deep research of the Jain Doctrine of Karma and the Science of Genetics (Latest life science). With the deep research I

reached at the conclusion as under:-- We have two kinds of determinants of body processes and behaviour of organisms—the Karma and the genes—the two seemingly diverse systems performing similar functions. This book makes a comparative study of the doctrine of Karma and the science of genetics. Explaining the concept of Karma as known to various Indian philosophies, including Jainism, it deals with the concept of life in Jaina philosophy, and goes on to describe the classification, bondage, fruition and annihilation of Karma. Further discussing the developments in genetic science, along with its important aspects, it presents a comparative study of Karma and genes and brings out the fact that Karmas are the cause and genes are their effect.

Walk With Me: The Story of Mahavir - A Remarkable Revolutionary - Authors : Acharaya Chandanaji and Professor Vastupal Parikh, Publisher : Peace Publications, Toronto, Ont., Canada; Rochester Hills, MI, USA. Published in 2009 , E-Mail: mail@peacepublications.com , Price : US\$ 20.00; In India – Rs. 350.00 - Bhagwan Mahavir was a remarkable revolutionary. Remarkable because he preached a spiritual philosophy that was steeped in thousands of years of tradition, yet through his actions he revolutionized hundreds of generations that followed. In fact, his message is timelier now than ever before. Walk With Me is the story of an enlightened man who challenged an oppressive caste system, uplifted the status of women in society, and saved millions of animals from cruel, sacrificial slaughter. His was the first peace movement, the first environmental movement, the first movement for social justice, and the first movement to recognize the dignity and equality of every living being. His is a story of transformation, one that continues to inspire all who hear it. No one could tell Mahavir's story better than Indrabhuti Gautam, a learned Brahmin pundit who became his first disciple. Gautam was honored as a 'Ganadhar' or Group Leader, by Mahavir. He walked in Mahavir's footsteps for 30 long years. Walk With Me is a first hand account of the remarkable relationship that evolved between Mahavir and Gautam, and offers us the opportunity to see Mahavir through Gautam's eyes. This book is co-authored by Acharyashri Chandanaji and Professor Vastupal Parikh. Chandanaji is the founder of Veerayatan – a socio-spiritual Jain organization that has been serving the poor in Bihar and Gujarat for last 38 years. She is an 'Agam' scholar and an authority on Mahavir. She gave a series of lectures on Bhagwan Mahavir.

Dr. Vastupal Parikh, the author of very popular book – Jainism and the New Spirituality – has rendered Chandanaji's lectures in an easy to read and understand story format. Walk With Me is beautifully printed on art paper with several stunning colored pictures showing Bhagwan Mahavir's life. Worried about terrorism, wars, violence, environmental degradation, discrimination, and poverty? Listen to Gautam carefully and you will be inspired to be an activist. Reviewed by: Dr. Sulekh Jain, Houston, Texas.

Jainism & the New Spirituality - 2nd Edition - Hard Cover (Library Edition), Dr. Vastupal Parikh, Price: US\$ 35.00 This 2nd edition of Professor Parikh's popular book is now revised and expanded to add some new topics requested by our readers. This 216 page edition, illustrated with color photographs, is divided into five sections. First three sections provide an easily understandable overview of the Jain Principles and Practices for those trying to understand this ancient faith. This simple review also serves as background information for those who are concerned or active in resolving current global problems such as violence, war, terrorism, environmental degradation, poverty, globalization, and social justice.

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RELIGION

JAIN RELIGION IN BANGLADESH

Bengal witnessed the advent of Jainism during the lifetime of Mahavira who came to Radha (southern part of present West Bengal) to preach his tenets. It is believed that twenty-two out of the twenty-four Tirthankaras had attained their spiritual power in a mountainous region called Pareshnath Pahad in West Bengal. According to Bodhisattvavadanakalpalata, Jainism was a living religion in pundravardhana (northern Bengal) in the fourth century BC. The then leader of the Jaina church was Bhadrabahu, a native of Pundravardhana, who is credited with the compilation of a number of canons called Kalpasutra. After his departure one of his disciples, Godas by name, took over the charge of the Jaina church at Pundravardhana. His followers are called Godasgana. In course

of its subsequent development, the sect of Godasgana was divided into four more sub-sects called Tamraliptikiya, Kotivarsiya, Pundravardhanika and Dhasikharvatika. So it may be considered that the whole of Bengal came under the influence of the Jinas (the preachers of the Jaina tenets) by the 4th-3rd century BC. Archaeological remains clearly testify that Jainism was a living religion in Bengal during the early historic period. Alexander Cunningham first discovered a Jaina image at Mahasthangarh (Mahasthangad) in 1879, which was later on moved to the Varendra Research Museum, in 1912. It is worth mentioning here that Huen-tsang, the 7th century Chinese pilgrim found numerous digambara Jainas in

Pundravardhana (northern Bengal) and SAMANATATA (southeastern Bengal). The other well-known archaeological remains are as follows:

1. Standing Mahavira, black basalt, 73.6cm height, Bangladesh National Museum, c 10th-11th century AD;
2. Standing Parsvanatha, black basalt, 60.9cm height, Dinajpur Museum, c 10th-11th century AD;
3. Standing Tirthankara, black basalt, 93.9cm height, Dinajpur Museum, c 9th-10th century AD;
4. Standing Shantinatha, black basalt, 65 cm height, Varendra Research Museum;
5. Standing Rsvanatha, black basalt, c 10th-11th century AD, collected from Medinipur;
6. Standing Parsvanatha, black basalt, c 11th century AD, collected from Bankura;
7. Standing Parsvanatha, black basalt, c 11th century AD, collected from 24 Parganas;
8. Seated Rsvanatha, black basalt, 99cm height, Varendra Research Museum.

Vestiges of other remains have also been reported from Biharinath, Bahilara, Dharapath, Harmasra, Deulvirya, Pareshnath, Ambika Nagar, Chingry Devi, Barokala, Dhida and Kenduya of West Bengal. Some other fragmentary collections have also been made from PAHARPUR and Lalmai-Mainamati. A fragmentary iconic representation is on display in the Autosh Measum, Calcutta. It may have been collected from Faridpur. All these, however, prove that Jainism was in vogue throughout Bengal till 11th century AD.

Structural remains relating to Jaina centres of religious activities in Bengal are almost nil. The Gupta copper-plate found at Paharpur (c 5th century AD) refers to a Jaina monastery in the village Vatagohali. In course of digging in 1980-81 at Paharpur, vestiges of earlier structures have been traced below the 8th-9th century level. Scholars believe that these earlier structures may be related to the Jaina monastery at Vatagohali. Two temples dedicated to the worship of Tirthankara are still to be seen at Satmatha of Bogra town and Bakshi Lane of Meherpur town. But architecturally they are of 19th century origin. According to the local people these were built by some merchants who hailed from Gujrat of India.

The Jains of Bengal were the followers of the Digamvara canon. It is evinced by the fact that all the images of the Tirthankaras found in Bengal are nude. In every piece, the Tirthankara is depicted in kayatsarga, otherwise known as the Samapadathanaka pose. In a few pieces they are surrounded by their fellow Tirthankaras. But not a single piece other than Tirthankara has yet been found. In this connection it may be pointed out that the Jains of other regions of the subcontinent pay their homage, besides the Tirthankaras, to salak puruch, acharya, bahubali, yaksa-yaksi, chakravarti, basudeva, baladeva, shasana devi, dikpala, ksetrapala, navagraha, agni, nairit, brahma, shruti devi and harin-gomes. These facts prove that though Jainism was in vogue in Bengal in the early historic period, yet it never attained further elaboration in the country as it did elsewhere.

According to Jaina annals, the tenets of the religion were preached by twenty-four Tirthankaras, of whom the twenty-third, Parshvanatha, and the twenty-fourth, Mahavira, are historical figures. The latter, a contemporary of Gautam Buddha, lived between 540 and 468 BC and Parsvanatha preceded him by about two hundred and fifty years. The Jaina tenets owe their origin to the teachings of Parsvanatha and Mahavira. The teaching of Parsvanatha is called Chaturayama. It outlines a four-fold path to salvation, i.e., kindness to all living beings, avoidance of telling lies, abjuration of theft and the possession of belongings. In the next step Mahavira added another. It was not to wear any dress. Thus the Jains were divided into two sects. The followers of Parsvanatha are called Shvetamvara, those who wear white clothes, while the followers of Mahavira are called Digamvara, which means nude (literally, the sky is the cover).

Bengal witnessed the advent of Jainism during the lifetime of Mahavira who came to Radha (southern part of present West Bengal) to preach his tenets. It is believed that twenty-two out of the twenty-four Tirthankaras had attained their spiritual power in a mountainous region called Pareshnath Pahad in West Bengal. According to Bodhisattvavadanakalpalata, Jainism was a living religion in Pundravardhana (northern Bengal) in the fourth century BC. The then leader of the Jaina church was Bhadrabahu, a native of Pundravardhana, who is credited with the compilation of a number of canons called Kalpasutra. After his departure one of his disciples, Godas by name, took over the charge of the Jaina church at Pundravardhana. His followers are called Godasgana. In course of its subsequent development, the sect of Godasgana was divided into four more sub-sects called Tamraliptikiya, Kotivarsiya, Pundravardhanika and Dhasikharvatika. So it may be considered that the whole of Bengal came under the influence of the Jinas (the preachers of the Jaina tenets) by the 4th-3rd century BC. 1,800-year-old terracotta discovered.

Remains of a structure from the 1,800-year-old Jain dynasty discovered at Damdampir of Manirampur upazila in Jessore. A terracotta plaque, right, found at the site bears the image of the only female Jain Tirthankar, Mallinath Khulna office of the Archaeology Department has discovered an 1,800-year-old terracotta plaque bearing the image of the only female Jain

Tirthankar, Mallinath. The rare terracotta piece was discovered after digging a large mound of earth at Damdampir of Manirampur upazila in Jessore on December 18 but the discovery was kept secret for security reasons. "We did not immediately disclose the facts about this particular discovery for security reasons," said Shihabuddin Mohammad Akbar, director of the Khulna regional office of Archaeology Department. He said the digging began in 2004-05 financial year under the direct supervision of the Khulna Archaeology Department office. Besides the seven-inch-long red sandstone terracotta image of Jain Mallinath, more antiques including earthenware from the 200-year-old Jain dynasty were discovered at the site, Shihabuddin said. He said Mallinath was the daughter of Kumbharaja of Mithila and Prabhavati. Mallinath was 19th of the 24 Jain Tirthankars. Shihabuddin expects that more antiques will be found at the site where digging work is still going on.

If anyone has access to more accurate information on jainism in Bangladesh please let us know. From: Atul Bafna E-Mail : abafna@yahoo.com

MISCELLANEOUS



AHIMSA FOUNDATION & SAFFIYA TENNIS ACADEMY HOSTS JUNIOR TENNIS TOURNAMENT AT NEW DELHI - Ahimsa Foundation along with Saffiya Tennis Academy, New Delhi, hosted the Second Tennis Championship Tournament 2009 from 22nd to 28th June 2009. The tournament was organized at Bharti Nagar Tennis Club, Golf Links, New Delhi. The event was attended by more than 150 children in the age group of 6-14. This was the second effort on the part of the Tennis Academy to develop sports interest of children. The event received over-whelming response both from the children and the parents. It was really great to notice that over 42 degree temperature and scorching heat of Delhi did not deter the participation of young children. It was also noticeable to see that more than 35 girls participated in the event. The Championship was sponsored by Tapuria Jain & Associates, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi. Ahimsa Foundation while promoting the Jain Philosophy and Culture through its web portal www.jainsamaj.org and Ahimsa Times are also

actively involved in several other social projects of human importance. The foundation considers development of sports area which is important to promote for the development of the society. The closing ceremony on 28th June was attended by several eminent persons. The Chief Guest of the event was Mr. J.C. PEGU, Commissioner of Income Tax, New Delhi. A.K.Jain presided over the closing ceremony and thanked the children, parents and the members of the academy for participating and organizing this unique event for the children.

JAINS SHOULD BE READY FOR 2011 CENSUS OF INDIA

According to 2001 census of India, the total population of India was 120 Crores. The population of Jains was 48 lakhs, which was just 0.4% of the total population. This number of Jains is absolutely false one. According to many Jain leaders, social activists and social researchers, the number should be at least 2 to 4 crores (20 to 40 millions), comprising 1.66% to 3.32% of total Indian population. Then why it is not seen in the Census data? There are many reasons for it. The most important reasons are ignorance and meanness by the data collectors. While filling the data in the printed forms, the data collectors do not ask the religion to the respondent. (Actually they have to ask it, but they do not follow the rule). Instead, they 'assume' the religion and tick on the religion they want. As most of the surnames of Jains are like their other counterparts in their region, the data collectors 'think' that the family is a Hindu one, and they circle or tick the letter H instead of J. It is happening every time. It is not just ignorance, but many of the data collectors do it purposely. It is happening not in the case of Jains only, but also in the case of Buddhists, Christians, Sikhs and Adivasis.



Why Jain? Why should we write our religion as Jain? The answer is very simple. We should write it 'Jain' because we are Jains. When we are Jains, and if someone is converting us to other religion on paper, it is a very sad and bad thing. We should protect our identity. By writing 'Jain' we are going to help our Governments and our community to get the correct population of Jains. If the correct population of Jains is recorded, Government of India, All State and Union Territory Governments, Various Government Bodies, All Political Parties, Print and Electronic Media, Municipal Corporations, Zilla Parishads, Nagarpalikas, Grampanchayats will stop ignoring Jain community. The members of Jain community itself will become confident, as they will not remain members of a 'Tiny Minority community', but the members of 'Effective Minority community'. Courtesy: Mahavir Sanglikar sanglikar, E-Mail: msanglikar@yahoo.com

COURSES IN JAINISM AT SINGAPORE, PERTH AND KUALALUMPUR

Malaysian Jain Sangha had expressed interest last year for running the FOUNDATION IN JAIN STUDIES course there. This course has been on offer in London for many years. Eventually, the three coordinators from KL, Singapore and Perth worked out a time table which would allow the course to be delivered in all three cities in one tour lasting five weeks.

The Trustee and Hon. Secretary of the Institute of Jainology, London, Dr Harshad N Sanghrajka worked with the three coordinators and finalised the program. In all three centres seven day courses were arranged with a special two day course in Malacca. Two sessions were delivered each day, in Gujarati during the day and in English in the evenings. In all cases, extensive use of time was made on Saturdays and Sundays. Additionally a One Day workshop was run in KL and Perth with selected new topics.

The grand success of the tour is easily summarised in the feedback received from Western Australia and Singapore. KL Sangha was also overwhelmed by the results of the course. According to Mr Rakesh Shah, President of Western Australia Jain Sangha Inc, "Your clarity of thought, depth and lucid presentations with clear notes, and the very professional standards, including the use of technology, precise timing and comprehensive broad coverage of all topics has taken the Jain Community in WA by a storm. We have never seen such a powerful commitment and regularity of attendance here, and it is clear that you gave what the public wanted. We are all proud to be Jains, but you showed us why and also brought back the missing link between us and our culture. For your information we had over 150 people everyday for a continuous ten days listening to you for 2 hours daily. In addition most of the people were present for the full day on Sunday too. For Perth this is a record."

Mr Mayur Ghelani, President, Singapore Jain Religious Society wrote: "We had been apprehensive during the planning phase of staging the courses as to the number of participants that would commit to attending an intensive 20hrs course across 7 days! However, we were most pleasantly surprised with the overwhelming interest & desire to learn; and the numbers attending speak for the excellent "engagement" of participants, garnering their commitment for the same. Unanimously, ALL who attended found the sessions & overall course highly informative. They also acknowledged the extensive efforts in the preparation of the content & materials; as well as the knowledge and ability of the Instructor to keep them coming back for more ! " The Hon. Secretary deserves commendation of all the Trustees for having excelled in carrying out this highly successful mission on behalf of the Institute and above all promoting the true understanding of Jain philosophy in the far flung corners of the world. Courtesy: Press report of Institute of Jainology, London.

PRIME MINISTER'S NEW 15-POINT PROGRAMME FOR THE WELFARE OF MINORITIES - Free coaching and allied scheme for candidates/students belonging to the minority community has been announced by the Union Ministry of Minority affairs. The details of the scheme, including eligibility criteria for coaching/ training institutes and candidates/students, stipend payable to candidates/ students, fee payable to the coaching/ training institute and application format can be seen and downloaded from the website of the Ministry of Minority affairs www.minorityaffairs.gov.in. Jain students can avail the advantages of this scheme for pursuing their technical/professional courses.

JHARKHAND GOVERNMENT SOLICITS SUGGESTIONS FROM JAINSAMAJ ABOUT SHIKARJI DEVELOPMENT - The office of Shri Arun Kumar Singh, Secretary, Department of Tourism, Government of Jharkhand, INDIA solicits your advise / suggestions with regards to your experience of the sacred Sammed Shikharji (Parasnath). Please download and fill the attached questionnaire and send it to Mr. Arun Kumar Singh. We had also asked your suggestions regarding improving the infrastructure at Parasnath. We would be thankful to you if you could give us your few valuable minutes and mail us back this form with your suggestions / opinions. Dhananjay Kapoor.

SIX HELD IN JAIN TEMPLE MURDER CASE

CHENNAI: In a significant breakthrough, police have arrested six persons in the Jain temple murder and heist case and recovered a total of 9.22 kg of gold jewellery worth Rs 1.02 crore. At a press conference City Police Commissioner said all the six persons, two directly accused, Ram Bahadur Kohli (29) and Suraj Bahadur Kohli (24), and their accomplices, Ram Bahadur's wife Sita Devi (23), Ramesh (20), Kairiya Sher Bahadur (30) and Amar (28), were picked up from the city by a special police team .The police chief said a total of 11 persons, all Nepalis, were involved in the murder-for-gain that took place at Chandraprabhu Jain temple on Mint Street on May 28. Ten were present at the scene of the crime, while the kingpin, Bahadur Singh, a former



watchman of the temple, directed the operations from Nepal.

During investigation, it came to light that the entire conspiracy was hatched by Bahadur Singh, who had been working in the temple for the last two years. During questioning, the arrested persons reportedly confessed the crime.



TWO ANTIQUE IDOLS RECOVERED, SMUGGLERS' GANG BUSTED

New Delhi, June 23 Two people were arrested and two priceless antique idols were recovered from them as Delhi Police's Crime Branch said Tuesday it had busted a gang involved in smuggling of such artifacts. The accused, Suresh and Nepal Singh, were arrested from Delhi while they were trying to sell the two stolen antiquities. Archaeological Survey of India officials, after preliminary examination, confirmed that both sculptures are precious antiquities.

JAIN INFO SMS CHANNEL

This message is to inform you about a new Jain Info SMS channel. It is free to all members of the group and for all mobiles network across India. *After one normal SMS for subscription the channel is absolutely free forever. To subscribe please SMS - START JAINDHARM to 09223050606 and you will be subscribed to the channel. The channel will give information about Tirthankar Kalyanaks' tithi (one day in advance), Muni / Muni sangh Chaturmas and vihar, Ashtami aur Chaturdashi (Eight and Fourteenth Day of every month of lunar calendar), Panch Kalyanak pratishtha , Vidhan and other event across the globe , Fairs and special function at Tirth Places , Dates of different Vrats, Scholarship for Jain students , Tirth places and Tirth yatra related information, This list is not exclusive and we would be adding many more events in the list. We require help from all members of community for providing the information so we can provide all different information on time and accurately. To send info for publishing on the channel please send a mail to info@jainsofworld.com. Source: Naren Bhiku Ram Jain, E-Mail : naren.bhiku.ram@gmail.com



SPECIAL POSTAL COVERS ON JAINISM

Save Girl Child, Save Life, 08-03-2009 Bidasar – Akhil Bhartiya Terapanth Mahila Mandal, Jain Vishva Bharti, Rohini, Ladnun (District - Nagor) Rajsthan have issued this special cover on the occasion of International Women's Day. Theme of this special cover is "Save Girl Child, Save Life". Cover bears photo of Pujya Acharya Mahapragya and the mother of earth and humanity. Department of Posts, Govt. of India has provided Special cancellation on this cover on the

"Save Life – Save Girl Child" theme.

Shri Maina Sundar Bhawan Digamber Jain Dharmshala, 14-11-2008 Ara – On the occasion of Centenary year of Shri Maina Sundar Bhawan Digamber Jain Dharmshala, a special cover had been issued at Arah (Bihar) on 14th November 2008. cover was designed by Mr. Sanjay Kumar Jain of Bihar Philatelic Society and bears JAIN PRATIKA, photo of the Dharmshala and different social activities of the Dharmshala Trust. Department of Posts had provided Special Cancellation on this cover bearing centenary mono. Source: Sudhir Jain, Universal Cables Ltd.SATNA (M.P.) 485 005,E-mail : mrsudhirjain@hotmail.com





INDIA DENIES VISA TO US RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WATCHDOGS - The Manmohan Singh government has scuppered a proposed visit to India by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, a US organization that monitors religious rights worldwide and gives independent policy recommendations to the US President. A USCIRF team that was to leave for New Delhi on June 12 was not given visas in time, according to an associate at the commission, who said it was done with the obvious intent of blocking the trip. The Indian Embassy in Washington, the issuing authority for the visa, referred all questions to New Delhi, while acknowledging that the USCIRF team had applied for visas and the applications had been forwarded to New Delhi as is the standard practice for all such visits. The USCIRF has in its reports criticized violence against religious minorities in India. The Obama administration too did not press for the visit. Describing the proposed USCIRF visit to India as

incomprehensible, the US branch of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad said as the "largest functioning democracy in the world with an independent judiciary, a statutorily constituted Human rights Commission, an independent press and other supporting organizations would appear to be quite capable of taking care of the religious freedoms and human rights of its citizens." India not only offers freedom of religion under its constitution, but does not discriminate based on religion.

PICTORIAL WARNING HENCEFORTH NECESSARY ON ALL TOBACCO PRODUCTS

According to the orders issued by the Government of India, on the occasion of "No-Tobacco Day", it has become necessary to depict a pictorial warning on the labels of any of the tobacco products, particularly including cigarettes. The warning should be printed in a clear and prominent manner, ensuring that it occupies at least 40% of the total space available on the label. Although these orders were earlier issued in the year 2008, these were not seriously implemented by the producers of tobacco products, till one of the N.G.O. filed a petition in the Supreme Court. The Supreme court accepted the petition and ordered for the implementation of the orders to print pictorial warning on all the tobacco products with effect from 31st May, 2009. However, fresh supplies of tobacco products carrying pictorial warning have yet to arrive in the market on the plea that old stocks have not yet been exhausted.



DEVLOK GAMAN AFTER SANTHARA

Shri Bhanwar Lal Doshi (Kothari), living in Mahamandir area of Jodhpur town had accepted santhara from Jain Sthanakwasi saint Acharya Shri Shubh Chandra Ji maharaj on 7th June, 2009 at the ripe age of 90 years. He was in normal health when he decided to accept santhara. Santhara was concluded and he left for his heavenly abode 11 days after taking the vow of santhara. Hundreds of people from Jain community apart from all his relatives and friends joined the funeral procession, his body having been taken in a 'palaki'. Later, a 'gunawad sabha' was held to pay homage to the departed soul.

DEVLOK GAMAN

Muni Shri Purab Sagar Ji maharaj (67) alongwith his disciple and sanghpati, Shri Dileep Patni passed away on the spot after meeting with a road accident while moving on his vihar from Surat towards Mumbai on the Surat-Mumbai highway. The accident occurred between Vapi and Valsad, about 100 Km. away from Mumbai, when a fast-moving truck with trailer hit Balero car moving just behind the muni. He was accompanied with Acharya Shri Pushpdant sagar Ji maharaj, who had luckily a narrow escape but five other persons accompanying them got seriously injured. Source: Nitin Jain E-Mmail: jainitin33@yahoo.com

Jain monks are usually very particular about walking on the side of the road, not where a passing vehicle could hit them. But each year, some monk or nun die in road accidents. Should we not find ways for them to travel off the road? Walking on our narrow sidewalks is always a risk. and since Jain ascetics seldom travel alone, all the lay people who accompany them are also at risk. I really wish the Digambaras and Shvetamabaras, instead of spending billions of Rupees fighting court cases on Shikharji and other Jain laces of pilgrimage, could take lasting steps to ensure the safety of all Jain ascetics while they travel. Our monks and nuns spend all their lives walking, and hence their safety on the roads is of paramount importance. It is our monks who show us the path to Moksha. If we cannot keep them safe, how will we save our religion? It is our duty as shravakas to protect our monks and nuns. We must find ways to ensure the safety of our ascetics while they walk on the roads. From Mr. Manish Modi



Sadhwi Shri Harshlata ji Maharaj (86), disciple of Acharya Shri Kalaprabh sagar Ji maharaj and sadhwi Shri Hemant Shri Ji aharaj left for her heavenly abode at Rajkot. A large number of devotees joined the palaki yatra and paid their homage to the departed soul.

Sadhwi Shri Prakash Shri Ji left her heavenly abode after a very long period of illness at the age of 94 years. She was the disciple of Shri. Mani Prabh Sagarji Maharaj Saheb of Mandir Marg Sect. Her last rites were conducted at Shri Jinkantisagarsuri Smarak, Mandavla, Rajasthan. Shri Pukhraj Tejraj Gulecha of Mokalsar offered the land for last rites. She had large following in different parts of the country which was apparent from the presence of devotees at the time of agnisanskar.

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