



JAIN AHIMSA TIMES

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"THE SEARCH FOR PERFECTION BEGINS WITH DETECTING IMPERFECTION"

"MICHHAMMI DUKKADAM "



The most important festival of Jainism i.e. "Paryushan "is past us. One custom to be followed after the last day of Paryushan (Samvatsari) is that of saying "Michhami Dukkadam ". On Samvatsari day the ritual of "Pratikraman" is performed. Since "Samvatsari" is an annual event so is the Samvatsari Pratikraman. Under Samvatsari Pratikraman there comes the retrospection of all bad deeds and mistakes committed in the past year. We are critical of the bad deeds and resolve not to let them happen in the future. We also request forgiveness from all the living beings in the world if we might have knowingly or unknowingly caused harm to them. Thus, after the Pratikraman it is customary to request forgiveness from everyone we know and meet by saying "Michhami Dukkadam". The idea

behind it being that - "After requesting forgiveness from all living beings in general as part of Pratikraman, I do so one-to-one with you." We become more specific and personal by doing so. In addition to requesting forgiveness, one has to grant forgiveness too. Thus by forgiving everyone and requesting forgiveness from all we lighten ourselves and our mind from past year's misdeeds. "Michchhami (Mithya) means fruitless / forgiven and Dukkadam (Dushkrit) means bad deeds. Therefore the meaning of Michchhami Dukkadam is 'My bad deeds be fruitless'. So the idea behind conveying Michchhami Dukkadam is that if I have caused any harm to you then may those bad deeds be forgiven, become fruitless. MICHHAMMI DUKKADAM! Forgive me for my ignorance! Self-Realization: I am pure soul. I am not body. Concentrate on three spiritual jewels: Right Knowledge, Right Vision and Right Conduct. While meditating, exhale and inhale through the process, drawing our energy from the naval to head. Concentrate on endless virtues and attributes of our soul. The practice of meditation helps us to purify our mental state, to control our emotions of hatred, greed, etc., and feel eternal happiness and serenity.

DELHI CM MRS. SHEILA DIXIT PROPOSES MINORITY STATUS FOR JAINS



While attending Kshnavani Samaroh of Bh. Bhagwan Mahaveer Memorial Samiti, New Delhi at her secretariat, Mrs. Sheila Dixit accepted the request of Jain Samaj for granting minority status. She promised to move the official proposal to the central government. As Delhi is a union territory, technically this proposal also requires the consent of the central government. She also accepted the demand of Jain society for closure of Gazipur slaughter house. After 2600 birth anniversary celebrations of Bh. Mahavir, this was for the first time that all the Jain sects participated in this function. The samaroh was attended by almost all the known Jain personalities of Delhi. Mrs. Sheila Dixit thanked the Jain community and Mr. Narendra Bhiku Ram Jain for not only hosting a very successful function but also for bringing the entire Jain community on one stage.

The function was followed by a dinner hosted by Mrs. Sheila Dixit.

INDIAN FIRM WOCKHARDT MARKETS VEGETARIAN INSULIN

It is estimated that there will be 57 million diabetics in India by 2025. An Indian company has launched what it claims is Asia's first vegetarian insulin. The new insulin is derived from yeast, as opposed to pigs or cows. The company says that this insulin will also avoid other viral infections such as BSE and CJD associated with insulin derived from animals. Until now nearly 90% of the insulin available on the Indian market was derived from pigs or cows. Wockhardt says it has launched the yeast-based insulin after 10 years of research. Insulin-dependent diabetes patients have to use the drug for life and for that reason a vegetarian variety is welcome in India, which has the world's largest population of diabetics.

But medical experts believe selling the new product to an existing patient will not be easy because switching over to the new insulin might lead to complications. Most insulin products currently on sale in India are manufactured by foreign multinational companies, but are assembled and packaged in the country. This will be the first type of insulin to be manufactured inside India. Wockhardt has priced a 10-centilitre bottle of the insulin at 130 rupees (nearly \$3). Other insulin products are available at between \$5 and \$8 a bottle. The World Health Organisation predicts that by 2025, the number of people suffering from the disease in India will rise from 30m to 57m. News- Dr. Sulekh Jain, E-Mail : scjain@earthlink.net

JAIN COMMUNITY DECLARED AS MINORITY COMMUNITY BY RAJASTHAN GOVT.

The State Cabinet took a decision at a meeting held on the 3rd September, 2003 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister, Shri Ashok Gehlot in favor of Jain community and decided that Jains may be given the status of a 'minority community'. Jain community had been repeatedly making this demand for a long time. With this decision, Rajasthan has come in the same category as few other states, where this status has already been given.



TERAPANTH SAMANS VISIT VARIOUS TOWNS AND HIGHLIGHT JAINISM IN USA

Having attended the JAINA Convention held from 3rd to 6th JULY, 2003 in Cincinnati in USA, the two Samans belonging to Terapanth sect, Shri Sthitpragya Ji and Shri Srutpragya Ji took up a tour to various towns, starting from Woodbridge in Connecticut Dist., Clarks wheel in Tenessy Dist. and Ashland in Kentunky Dist. At every place, they were warmly received by the Jain community there. They gave discourses on Jainism besides organising Navkar Mantra recitation, meditation and yoga exercises and conducted preksha dhyam programmes. They have been delivering a series of lectures on topics like 'how to keep healthy', 'how to avoid mental tension', 'how to control anger' and 'how to change old habits'.

THEFTS IN TAMILNADU, ARCHAEOLOGICALLY PROTECTED JAIN TEMPLES - A REGULAR FEATURE



It has been reported that over 1200 years old Jain idols, made of Panchdhatu were recently stolen from Thirumalai heritage temples in Tamilnadu which are with ASI. The theft as it appears, has been carried out in a highly organized and planned way and involvement of big king-pin suspected behind the whole racket, who may be exporting such idols out of country and who may have probably planned such theft with the connivance of staff concerned. The cost of such ancient idols cannot be calculated in terms of money since they have immense historic and heritage value. The question is whether ancient Jain temples are safe with Archaeological Survey. Many such thefts also go unnoticed since there are no Jains to complain in Tamil villages. For further details contact: Axxon Tech, E-Mail : axxon@vsnl.com or E-Mail: jains_raj@yahoo.com.

ANCIENT JAIN TEMPLES IN TAMILNADU NEED TO BE RENOVATED AND LOOKED AFTER

There used to be total 108 Jain Temples in Kanchipuram alone, a temple town in State of Tamilnadu. Today almost all temples have been converted to Hindu temples except one, known as Thiruparutikundram temple, which is also in totally dilapidated condition. The temples are reported to be belonging to Digambar sect. Unfortunately, the Digamaber Samaj and the Head Bhattarakas at the temples are not in position to save even one temple by any means. Out of total 500 Jain Temples in Tamilnadu only one temple is in good condition which is located in Pozhal, Chennai. It is high time that the Jain Samaj, whatever sect or sampradaya, wakes up and moves forward with full force to save these ancient treasures and centres of our heritage. After all, there is no dearth of resources with the Trusts and institutions controlled by Jain community.

A SECOND CENTURY JAIN TEMPLE FOR DEVOTEES AT SITTANNAVASAL NEAR TRICHY

Sittannavasal is a small village located 16 kilometres from Pudukottai and 58 kilometres from Trichy, which has the remains of a 2nd century BC Jain cave temple. It is a celebrated Jain centre having a cave inhabited by monks in the 2nd century BC and a rock-cut temple of the 7th century AD. The cave temple is said to have been excavated in 7th century AD by the Pallava king Mahendravarman. The rock cut cave temple had beautiful paintings in natural colours similar to Ajanta and stone beds known as "Eladipattam. Another attraction was a cave in which the Jain monks sought refuge in those days. There are a few sculptures of Jain Thirthangaras in the Ardha Mandapam and inner shrine of the cave temple.

The ceiling of the Ardha Mandapam contains fresco paintings of the 7th century AD. Many of the paintings are typical of the 9th century Pandyan period and include exquisitely detailed pictures of animals, fish, ducks, people gathering lotuses from a pond and two dancing figures. One can see inscriptions dating back to the 9th and 10th centuries. There are many pre-historic burial sites around Sittannavasal and among the relics unearthed are burial urns, cists and Kungupatarai. Sittannavasal can be approached either from Trichy or Pudukottai. Trichy being an important city of Tamil Nadu, is well-connected by all means of transport.

SECOND ALL INDIA JAIN DOCTORS CONVENTION - 2003

22nd & 23rd November, 2003

On Medical Basis of Jainism

Venue :- Shri Mahavirji Atishay Kshetra (Raj.)

Sannidhya ; - Upadhyay Sri 108, Gyan Sagarji Maharaj

Chairman: Dr. D. C. Jain, K-16, Green Park Extn., New Delhi - 110 016 Tel :26198822, 26198833

Secretary: Dr. S. C. Jain, 32, H. I. G. Duplex, Brij Vihar, Ghazibad, Tel : 0120-2624635

JAINA MEMBERS TO VISIT RAJASTHAN & GUJARAT

Jaina has recently announced details of Jaina Yatra 2004. The 17 days yatra will start from Mumbai in the third week of January 2004. The participants will visit temples of Ranakpur, Osiaji, Falodi, Jaisalmer, Nakodaji, Jalore, Bramanwadaji, Mt. Abu, Pawapuri (Rajasthan), Tarangaji, Sahankheswer, Girnar and Palitana. Participants will also visit Poostak Bhandar of Jaisalmer, Shri Yashovijay Pathshala in Mehsana, L.D. institute of Indology in Ahemdabad and some other places. Yatra details can be requested from Mr. Dilip V Shah, E-Mail : dilipvshah@aol.com

10TH CENTURY JAIN MONUMENT FOUND IN CHIKATOLUR VILLAGE

A Jain monument dating back to the 10th century has been found in Chikkatolur village near Somvarpet taluk recently. The monument is about 15 feet high and 20 feet wide. There are several inscriptions on the stone edith supporting the monument. However, there is no idol inside. Mr Ramesh who had about four months discovered a Jain temple in Kallapanahalli says:"immediately after I found the monument, I contacted Professor Havalaiiah of Archeology Department in Mysore University. He is investigating the spot in order to find out more about the monument. "According to Professor Havalaiiah, it is a Jain monument dating back to 10th century. The inscriptions indicate that it could be a memorial constructed by the daughter of a Jain saint, who would sit on this very spot and meditate for peace of mind.

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During the 10th century, this place was ruled by the Kongalvas. There are a lot of Jain temples in Kalkandur and nearby places where prayers are performed, says Professor Had thther e temples are ialaiiah. Anostone edith installed here in memory of the son of a chef who was killed during a war has also been found. Several `Veeragallu have bevmmed to this day anen found around the Jain monument which remain uncared for, he added."An open well here shows signs of habitation. It could even have been a prosperous residential area during those days, he exclaims. This particular Jain monument does not seem to be a part of any historical document, said Ramesh. However, Mr D N Krishnaiah's book on History of Kodagu says that 35 `Kolegallu' have been found in Chikkatolur alone and this could have been one of the `Kolegallu.' The Jain monument found in Chikkatolur has made it possible to find out more about Kodagu district during the 10th century, adds Ramesh. News source: E-Mail: ymalaiya@yahoo.com & jainhistory@yahoogroups.com

RIGHT TO CONVERT TO ONE'S OWN RELIGION - OFFICIAL VIEW (SUPREME COURT - INDIA)

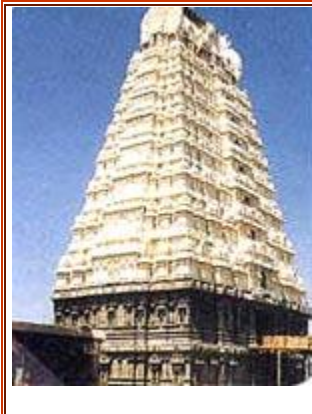


According to Supreme Court of India the constitution does not provide any fundamental right to convert any one to own religion. The court dismissed a petition challenging an Orissa State Law which required police verification of all religious conversions. Citing the SC's ruling in Rev Stanislaus vs Madhya Pradesh, a Bench of Chief Justice V. N. Khare and Justice S. B. Sinha said that "what is freedom for one is freedom for the other, in equal measure". At dispute was a 1999 provision added to the Orissa Freedom of Religion Act, 1967, stipulating that a person wanting to convert to a particular religion must make a personal declaration which would be verified by the

police also. Petitioner's counsel Janardhan Das said this provision was unwarranted as it makes a person wanting to convert to a religion of his choice a suspect in the eyes of law. As early as 1976, the Orissa High Court had struck down as unconstitutional the Orissa Act. It quashed all criminal proceedings against those who were alleged to have resorted to conversion through inducement or by "force" or "fraud". It had also held that the Act violated Article 25 (1) of the Constitution which guarantees propagation of religion and conversion - something the petitioners had argued "is a part of the Christian religion". On appeal, however, the SC in 1977 overturned the decision. Recalling that judgment by a Constitution Bench headed by the then Chief Justice A N Ray, the apex court said on Tuesday: "What Article 25(1) grants is not the right to convert another person to one's own religion, but to transmit or spread one's religion by an exposition of its tenets."

Thus, the court said, it must be remembered that Article 25(1) guarantees "freedom of conscience to every citizen, and not merely to the followers of one particular religion". It said: "The Article postulates that there is no fundamental right to convert another person to one's own religion because if a person purposely undertakes the conversion of another person to his religion, that would impinge on the freedom of conscience guaranteed to all the citizens of the country alike." Source: www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com

NEGLECT OF JAIN HERITAGE IN TAMILNADU



The Jains of Tamilnadu are worried about systematic demolition of their heritage. Jain caves and temples all over the state are being vandalised and converted into temples for Perumal (Vishnu) or Adinatheswara (Shiva). 'Panchola' idols from Jain structures are regularly stolen. There is also deliberate attempt to show that Jains were an insignificant community in Tamilnadu and did not contribute to its heritage. Now Jains have sought heritage site status for their monuments. The London-based Hashad N. Sanghrajka, trustee of Institute of Jainology, has filed an application with UNESCO for heritage status for a 2,500-year-old Jain temple at Thiruparathikundram. The temple, is located just 80 km from Chennai, and is the only remaining site out of the eight Jain monuments that once existed in Kancheepuram. In Tamil Nadu, the Jains are known as 'samanars', or saints, who lived in natural caves in ancient times. From among 1,000 recorded sites, today only 100 exist."There are still in Tamil Nadu about 40,000 families of Tamil Jains who were uprooted from what was their roots in Madurai in the 6th and 7th centuries". They relocated to Tindivanam, Arcot, Vindavasi, and Thrivannamalai regions and these people are extremely poor. A temple now known as Pandikovil was a Jain site where now Dravidian castes offer animal worship, though Jains shun violence. At the Pogaimalai cave site, bloodstains and vermillion are apparent.

WORLD VEGETARIAN AWARENESS MONTH – OCTOBER



World vegetarian day has been observed since 1977 bringing together vegetarians from all over the world for a common cause. It brings awareness to the ethical, religious, environmental, health, and humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle. One million people a year become vegetarians in the US alone, and millions in Europe, Australasia too. Following vegetarian cooking books can be freely downloaded:

The Higher Taste Cook Book - www.krishna.tv

The Higher Taste Cook Book - read it on-line first: www.webcom.com A site for vegetarian baking without eggs.- www.eggless.com A Guide to Gourmet Vegetarian Cooking and a Karma-Free Diet: www.mediarama.it

Should we all be vegetarians - very positive article from TIME magazine:

www.time.com News Courtesy: Jaya Tirtha Charan Dasan, E-Mail : jtcd@xtra.co.nz

TAMILNADU GOVERNMENT SPENDS 27 LAKHS TO RENOVATE JAIN SHRINE

The state government has drawn up a master plan to give a facelift to the 8th century Jain temple at Thiruparuthikunram, 7 km from here, and turn it into a tourist destination of high standards. The execution of the plan will be over in six months. The government has allotted Rs 27 lakh for the renovation of the shrine. Jain religious leaders, who visited the place recently, had expressed their anguish at the poor state of the shrine which houses a six-foot sitting Mahaveer idol and a 2,000-year-old Tharmakura tree. The compound wall and part of go puram have been damaged. The murals and stuccos are in the danger of crumbling. News-Dr.Sulekh Jain, E-Mail : scjain@earthlink.net

FORMER AUSTRALIAN CRICKET CAPTAIN GREG CHAPPELL RECOMMENDS VEGETARIAN DIET

Recommending vegetarianism for every player and athlete to boost performance, former Australian cricket captain Greg Chappell has said his health has improved dramatically after he switched to a meatless diet. Chappell has also penned a book, "Health and Fitness", where he espouses the cause of vegetarianism. The former Australian batsman says giving up meat and dairy products in favor of healthier foods, including soya and vegetables, made him feel stronger and healthier. "We are the only species of animal on earth that still consumes milk products after being weaned. To make things worse, we do not even consume our own milk products but get them from another kind of animal, Chappell, who was recently in Mumbai to promote PETA's "Vegan Campaign", said. News - Dr. Sulekh Jain, E-Mail : scjain@earthlink.net



ANOOP VORA UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF JAINA

At the election meeting held at 12th bi-annual JAINA Convention at Cincinnati in the first week of July, Dr. Anoop Vora, who is the Chairman of Jain Society of Rochester and Founder Chairman of Alumni Association of Mahavir Jain Vidhyalaya at Rochester has been unanimously elected as President of JAINA (A Federation of 57 Jain centres in USA and Canada) for the next session. Dr. Vora holds Master's Degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Business Administration. He has written several books and articles on Jainism and has been closely associated with JAINA activities. He had been actively involved in the rehabilitation of earthquake - stricken victims of Gujarat. Dr. Vora originally hails from Vallabhipur in Gujarat.

VIDEO CD PRODUCED ON SRI SHATRUNJAI TIRTH

Bapalal Mansukhlal Shah Trust has produced a Video CD on Sri Shatrunjai Tirth. This VCD is a seventy minutes movie on Palitana. Its a transcendental journey of Sri Shatrunjay tirth with melodious music, stavans and songs. You can view clips of the movie at www.in.geocities.com/palitnamovie. This Video CD is on sell. Price of the cd is Rs 300 in India and Rs 600 for USA and other countries. For more detail contact mehi33@hotmail.com or palitnamovie@yahoo.co.in



UCSD FINALLY STOPS KILLING DOGS FOR MEDICAL TRAINING

WASHINGTON-For the first time, students signing up for basic physiology and pharmacology courses at the University of California, UCSD will not be performing invasive procedures on live dogs. Until now, dogs were used in six-hour teaching exercises and killed once the class was over. The university has now decided, however, to give the dogs a break. Several other medical schools have already done away with crude, obsolete dog labs and replaced them with more exciting, clinically relevant, and humane teaching methods, says Larry A. Hansen, M.D., a professor at UCSD. "Medical students are learning to preserve and prolong life, and the lethal dog labs ran counter to that basic goal. A study authored by Dr. Hansen, published in Academic Medicine, found that a majority of U.S. medical schools, including Harvard, Stanford, and Yale, no longer use live animals in any of their pharmacology, physiology, or surgery courses. For several years, Dr. Hansen and other prominent members of the medical community have been urging UCSD to replace the lethal dog labs with high-tech alternatives. Now, UCSD joins the University of British Columbia, and other medical schools that have recently abandoned live animal labs in favor of more modern teaching methods. News-Dr. Sulekh Jain, E-Mail : scjain@earthlink.net

EIGHTH PARICHAY SAMMELAN OF JAIN BOYS & GIRLS TO BE HELD AT NEW DELHI



Akhil Bhartiya Jain Parishad, New Delhi is organising a 'Parichaya Sammelan' (Introduction Meet for boys and girls) for matrimonial purposes at FICCI Auditorium, New Delhi, on 2nd October, 2003. Those interested may contact the Parishad office at the following address and obtain further details and application forms. A.B.D. Jain Parishad, R-10A, Green

Park Extn., New Delhi-110016 (India) Tel: 91-11-2..., 26167988 Fax: 26197656; E-Mail : abdjain@vsnl.net Website-www.abdjain.com



CONFERENCE POSTPONED

The Ahimsa Sammelan, to be organised by the Bharatiya Ahimsa Sansthan Mahasangh, Calcutta and scheduled to be held on 20th and 21st September, 2003 at Jaipur in the holy presence of Digambar Muni Shri Pulak Sagar Ji has been indefinitely postponed, according to the Mahasangh sources.

INTERNATIONAL PREKSHA MEDITATION CAMP AT SURAT IN OCTOBER

On Being witness to the miraculous transformation in the personality in behavior of the practitioners, more and more people are motivated and inspired to seek the opportunity for them to learn and practice techniques of Preksha Meditation. Thus, on repeated requests from various people, an "International Preksha Meditation Camp is being planned to be held between 8th to 16th October, 2003 at Surat in the state of Gujarat in India. The camp will be equally useful for experienced participants as well as first time participants, as special efforts will be made to acquaint them with the philosophy and scientific principles behind the Preksha Meditation practices. It may be mentioned that due to constraints of space only a limited number of participants will be admitted to the programme. Those interested to join may therefore complete the online registration form by visiting the web site: www.preksha.org before 31st august 2003. The registration fees is Rs. 5100/- . The details of camp are available on the web site: www.preksha.org

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JAIN DOCTORS TO BE ON 3RD AND 4TH JANUARY 2004

Jain Doctors Federation, Ahmedabad, is holding an international conference of Jain doctors at Koba-Gandhinagar, under auspicious nishra of P.P. Acharyashri Padmasagarji. Religious leaders, various experts on Jainism, Jain doctors & scientists will discuss religion & science from various aspects. The topics likely to be covered range from Karmavad, Anekantvad, Reincarnation, Ecology, Ethics, Psychology, Scripture, Jain Sculpture, Quantum mechanism, Laws of physics, biology; all in context of Jainism. The effect of Jain life style, food, attitude and particularly Penance (tapa) on human physiology & various new & old aspects of disease prevention will be elaborated. Importantly, unity of Jain doctors' brotherhood, ahimsa treatment (non-violence) & allied topics will be discussed. A workshop on Jain meditation (1and 1/2 hours) also will be conducted. For information contact: Dr. K. K. Shah ,Address:206-7-8 Sangini complex, Near Parimal Railway Crossing, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad or Dr. Himanshu Shah, Jain Sasthan, 103, Abhigam, Opp: Doctor House, Ahmedabad, Phone 79-6460236, USA contact: Dr. Dinesh M. Shah, 2034 Via Del Rey, South Pasadena, CA 91030 (323) 258-4010, E-Mail : dinesh.m.shah@kp.org News-Dr.Sulekh Jain, scjain@earthlink.net

PREKSHA CAMP ORGANISED AT MUMBAI BY TERAPANTH YUVAK PARISHAD

A largely-attended camp on Preksha Dhyana was organised by the Terapanth Yuvak Parishad at Kandivalli from 13th to 17th August, 2003 under the guidance of Muni Shri Sanjay Kumar Ji and Muni Shri Prasanna Kumar Ji at the inspiration of Acharya Mahapragya Ji, who is holding his Chaturmas this year at Bombay. A total of 351 participants reportedly attended the camp regularly and were highly impressed and benefited by the programme. The participants, mostly for educated elite class, belonged to both the sexes and all age groups included important persons like the famous film actress, Bhagyashree. The participants stayed for all the five days at the camp premises and had a busy schedule throughout the day from 5 AM to 10 PM.

BOOKS FROM JAINA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The following books have been published recently by JAINA. These can be obtained from: Pravin K. Shah, Chairperson, Phone: 919-859-4994; E-Mail: education@jaina.org

Jain Philosophy and Practice I (JES 302 - Level III) : This is an excellent book for youth / adults interested in learning Jainism in English. The book has 32 chapters, 30 color pictures, and total 165 pages. The book is printed in India and we have received the first shipment of 3000 books. 2500 of 3000 books have been distributed to various Jain centers at the advanced purchase price of \$4.00 per book. You can purchase from the education committee at a price of \$6.00 per book which includes the postage of \$1.84 in USA. Send an e-mail to Dr. Pradip Shah, E-Mail : pradipks1@aol.com.

JAINA Story Book (JES202 - Level II) : The book contains 40 popular stories incorporating many historical and religious aspect of Jain religion. We have incorporated all suggestions received after the completion of the first phase. The Story book is complete and the draft is being edited by youths. The pictures are being updated for high resolution images. The book will be ready for printer by the end of September 2003.

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Jain Philosophy and Practice II (JES 401 - Level IV) : This book is meant for advanced study in Jainism. It is compiled for college level youths. The phase two activity is complete. It contains 25 chapters and 300 pages covering in detail the various aspects of Jainism. The book is in final review by various scholars. As per the plan the book would be available by the end of October 2003.

Jain Anushtān CD and Sutra Book (JES 201 -* Level II) : The CD and book consist of Sāmāyika and Chaitya-Vandan sutras and selected Stavans and Stutis in Devanāgarī and English languages including meaning in English language. The audio CD will have correct pronunciations of these sutras and Stutis. Neha and Rakesh Jain of Columbus OH are overall coordinator of the project and they are working with Seagull Corporation - Poona, India. The book would be available by December 2003.

First Step to Jainism Book (JES 205 - Level II) : Born out of the suggestions by level II Pāthashālā teachers at the last teacher's conference, this book is a new edition to our education series. It is a level 2 book with a fresh look and effective, kid-friendly design. It has completed Phase 2 review process by committee members. The book would be available by October 2003.

JAINA Education CD : CD containing JAINA Education material and Literature has been published in August 2002. The CD not only has all the Pāthashālā material, but also contains many books, articles, Jivadaya material, hundreds of images of temples and Tirthankars, and many unique presentations. It contains more than 10,000 pages of text and 2,000 images. A must for anyone interested in Jain philosophy. So far we have sold more than 5000 CDs. The cost is \$5.00 per CD which includes postage. Send an e-mail to Dr. Pradip Shah - pradipks1@aol.com

"That Which Is: Tattvartha Sutra" : A Classic Jain Manual for Understanding the True Nature of Reality. Though the book is an old publication, it is meant for those, who are looking for an authoritative translation of the Tattvartha Sutra (Tattvarthadigama Sutra) by Umasvati. It is translated by Dr. Nathmal Tatia and has a foreword by Dr. L. M. Singvi. It is now on sale in USA for \$12 + shipping for a cloth-bound book until July 31st (\$40 thereafter) from Rowman Littlefield Publishers. It can be purchased online from: www.rowmanlittlefield.com . This book was sponsored by the Institute of Jainology and Dr. Nathmal Tatia, who is a renowned scholar of Jainism.

TRUPTI JAIN OF MAHARASHTRA CLINCHES WOMEN'S SINGLES TITLE FOR BADMINTON

Maharashtra's 21-year-old Trupti Jain (Murgunde) clinched the women's singles badminton title by winning over 17-year-old junior National champion Krishna, playing her first final in the senior section. She is commerce graduate from Pune. News courtesy: Mr. Mahavir Sanglikar

MR. AKSHAY JAIN AWARDED SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA PRIZE

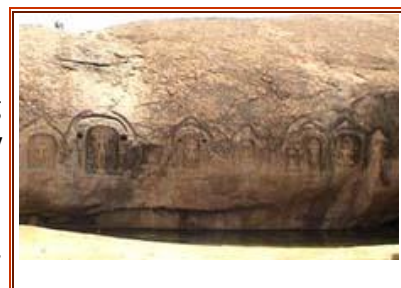


A brilliant Jain Student AKSHAY JAIN has recently been awarded with the SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA PRIZE (Former President of India) award for all round proficiency in curricular and extra curricular activities in the B.Tech degree programme for the period 1999-2003. Resident of Satna (M.P.), Akshay has completed his B.Tech. in June 2003 from Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai. He had been sent to Germany for three months Scholarship in January 2003 by I.I.T., Chennai. Apart from studies, he was the Inter I.I.T. champion of swimming and won number of Gold medals. His beautiful paintings were exhibited on various occasion. In a grand function of 40th Convocation of I.I.T. Chennai, Mr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Human Resource Development Minister, Govt.

of India has awarded this prestigious prize to Akshay on 9th August 2003. News -Sudhir Jain, E-Mail : mrsudhirjain@yahoo.com

JAIN HERITAGE CENTERS IN TAMILNADU BEING DESTROYED BY LOCAL GOVT.

This photograph is an example of the Jain Hill near Madurai which is full of Jain inscriptions and thirthankar idols. These historical monuments are regularly being destroyed by local government and vested mining interests. There is hardly any organization in Tamilnadu to protest against this. If you desire to protest against this destruction, please send your protest letter to Secretary , Govt of Tamilnadu, Archaeological Survey of India, and Prime Minister of India to save Jain cultural heritage. For further details contact: jains_raj@yahoo.com



FEATURE FILM CALCUTTA MAIL DEPICTS JAIN SAINT IN OBJECTIONABLE POSITION

Recently released Hindi feature film "CALCUTTA MAIL" shows Jain Stankvasi Maharaj, dancing in a group, in the first song of the film. This purely depicts the idea that next time Jain saints will be taken for granted in films and will be shown dancing like other Hindu saints. Jain saints never dance in their life. People in theatre were laughing on Jain community. I request you to take up the matter and take sufficient action against the guilty. New Source: Mr. Mehul Shah, E-Mail: mehulelx@hotmail.com

SURESH JAIN ASKED TO RETIRE ON GRAFT CHARGES

The Central Government has issued directive for compulsory retirement of senior Indian Administrative Service officer Suresh Jain. The bureaucrat was facing charges of irregularities during his tenure as Collector, Hoshangabad, M. P. The officer had been relieved by the court of law but the new directive came following the report of the departmental inquiry pending against him. It may be mentioned that Suresh Jain was accused of irregularities in allotment of precious land on token rates causing losses to the state exchequer. The Central government took the decision on the base of the fresh inquiry. Jain is currently posted with State Election Commission. State Election Commissioner G.S. Shukla informed that he was aware of the orders but did not receive any direct orders from the General Administration Department. He said action will be taken as per directive received from GAD. Source: www.centralchronicle.com

DIGAMBAR SAINT KIDNAPPED AT BHILAI AND LATER RELEASED

Some unknown persons kidnapped the famous Digamber Jain Acharya Virag Sagarji on 16th August 2003 from Bhilai (Chhattisgarh). Acharya Virag Sagarji has been having his Chaturmas at the Jain Temple of sector 6 of famous Steel City Bhilai. At about 1 A.M. midnight, Acharya Shree went out of the temple for urination when suddenly some persons came in a maruti van and applied some chloroform type thing on his nose so that Acharya Virag Sagarji became unconscious. After that they took Acharya Virag Sagarji away in a van. Next morning, the Jain community of Bhilai and police tried to locate him and found Acharya Virag Sagarji in half-conscious state, about 70 Km. away near a village. Acharya Virag Sagarji had taken Maun-Vrata (Vow of silence) and Upavas (fast) on that day. Thousand of Jain people gathered there and requested Acharya Virag Sagarji to return to Bhilai and take aahar (food). After persuasion, Acharya Virag Sagarji returned to Bhilai alongwith hundreds of followers, who all walked on foot with him all the way. To protest against this ugly incident, Jain community of various cities of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh closed their shops on 17th/18th August and demanded strict

police action against the culprits. Memoranda have also been given to the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh and senior officials. News Courtesy: Mr. Sudhir Jain, E-Mail : mrsudhirjain@yahoo.com

KARNATAKA CHIEF JUSTICE N. K. JAIN THREATS TO CLOSE DOWN COURTS



The Hyderabad-Karnataka Horata Samithi, which is spearheading an agitation for a separate statehood to the region, has called upon the President of India to initiate impeachment process against Karnataka Chief Justice N. K. Jain for his reported threat to the Gulbarga advocates that he (Mr Jain) would close down the courts if the advocates did not resume work immediately. It may be mentioned here that, the members of the Gulbarga Bar Association led by its President Kashinath Mothakpalli, Hyderabad-Karnataka Yuva Horata Samithi President Raju Kulgeri and others had met Justice Jain at the Eiwan-e-Shahi guest house in Gulbarga demanding the setting up of the High Court Bench at Gulbarga. Justice Jain had reportedly expressed his anguish over the advocates' agitation and told them that if they did not start attending the courts, he would close down the courts and withdraw all the facilities. In a joint press conference, addressed here today by Hyderabad-Karnataka Horata Samithi President & former minister Vaijnath Patil, condemned the reported statement of Justice Jain. "It was really unbecoming of the Karnataka Chief Justice to threaten the advocates by saying that he (Justice Jain) would close the courts. It was not the prerogative of Justice Jain whether to allow the courts to run or not." These are the people's courts, and Justice Jain was not above the people in a democracy".

MR. NAVEEN JAIN FILES LAW SUIT AGAINST INFOSPACE & OTHERS



Mr. Naveen Jain blamed JP Morgan Securities, Mellon Investor Services and Ellen Alben" for mistakes that led to a \$247 million judgment against him. The former chief of Bellevue-based InfoSpace filed a lawsuit in court against his former company and others claiming their errors led a federal judge to rule Jain broke insider-trading laws.

According to Mr. Jain InfoSpace and its advisors acted negligently or in bad faith when the company filed an IPO prospectus containing errors that led to enormous personal liability on him. U. S. District Judge had earlier ordered Mr. Navin Jain to pay \$247 million to InfoSpace as a result of a shareholders lawsuit.

DEVLOK GAMAN

Muni Sri Vishwadharm Sagar Ji Maharaj, disciple of Acharya Shri Virag Sagar Ji belonging to Digambar sect, left for his heavenly abode on the 2nd August, 2003 at Bhilai. He had taken Sallekhana Samadhi vow 17 days prior to his death.

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