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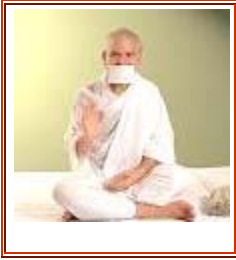
NATURE STRIKES FEROCIOUSLY IN JAPAN

We have lost innumerable fellow friends in one of the severest earthquake in the north east Japan. We convey our deepest commiseration to the people of Japan. To the world, Japan is a symbol of compassion, charity and progress and we are sure that you will definitely trounce this catastrophe too. We on behalf of World Jain Community express our solidarity with you.

"God grant you the serenity,
To accept the things you cannot change,
Courage to change the things you can"

BHAGWAN MAHAVIRA AND WORLD PEACE

(Message from Acharya Dr. Shivmuni M.S. on the occasion of Mahavir Jayanti)



Bhagwan Mahavira the 24th Tirthankara, the great Hero. He took renunciation at the age of thirty years and during the next twelve and a half years, Vardhamāna, the great hero practiced very severe austerities, bodily mortification and attained omniscience (kevala jñāna). Next thirty years he spent in teaching the duty of renunciation and joy of mercy. Bhagwan Mahavira gave to mankind the basic concept of metta bhāvnā to all the worldly creatures. He taught mankind is one. Every being can reach to godhood i.e Parmātmān. He taught Ahimsa, Satya, Asteya, Celibacy and Aprigraha. These are the fundamental teachings by practising where we can get peace in the whole world. This world is going through tension, depression and world war. But by following the teachings of Mahavira that is Ahimsa – non violence, anekāntwad and aparigraha- non attachment we can solve all the world problems and everybody can live peacefully.

To Know more about Dr. Shivmuni and his sect you can log on recently launched website [www. jainacharya.org](http://www.jainacharya.org). Dr. Shivmuni is presently in meditation at Mahavideh Jain Temple, Ghevera Mor, Nangloi, Near Neel Gaon, Rohtak Road, Delhi-110041. He will bless the participants of Akshaya Tritiya Varshitap Parna Mahotsva (year long fasting completion ceremony) from 3rd to 6th May, 2011 and thereafter his group will move towards Delhi. Information about Dr. Shivmuni and Varshitap Parna Mahotsva can also be requested on telephone no 28351043, 9873484086 and 9654484086.

MAHAVIR SWAMI THE 24TH TIRTHANKAR

-पुष्पेन्द्र मुनि-



जिस समय महावीर का जन्म हुआ था, वह धार्मिक गलतियों के चारित्रिक स्खलन, वैचारिक दुराग्रह प्रबल हिंसा और भोग-प्रधानता का युग था। उस समय मानवता दानवता के स्तर पर उतर आयी थी और प्राणों का अवमूल्यन हो चुका था। धर्म, देवता और भगवान के नाम पर पशुबलि नरबलि आदि के रूप में पशुबलि हत्या का ताण्डव चल रहा था। कहते हैं उस समय 363 धर्ममत प्रचलित थे। परन्तु लोगों का आचार धार्मिकता से दूर हट गया था। थोथे क्रिया काण्ड की आड़ में बेशुमार अनाचार, अत्याचार और दुराचार फैल रहे थे। मंदिर मठ आदि की सम्पत्ति पर व्यक्तिगत अधिकार हो रहे थे। आर्थिक अग्रता के तल पर मनमाना भोक्षण हो रहा था और अधिनायकता के आधार पर विरोधियों का मुंह बन्द कर दिया गया था। कुतर्कों के आगे सत्य और न्याय की चिंता जल रही थी। नर नारी चौराहों पर नीलामी होते थे अपहरण, बलात्कार आदि तो होते ही थे सुन्दरियाँ

बलपूर्वक वे याएं, गणिकाएं अथवा नगरवधुएं बना दी जाती थी।

राजकुमार वर्धमान यदि चाहते तो इस चारित्रिक पतन और अमानवता की राजाज्ञा द्वारा न केवल अपने पैतृकराज्य अथवा वज्जिदेश में वरन मालवा से बंगाल या अरब सागर से बंगसागर तक रुकवा सकते थे परन्तु बल प्रयोग में उनका विश्वास नहीं था। आपातस्थिति (इमर्जेंसी) का प्रयोग उन्हें दूसरोंके बदले स्वयं पर करना मान्य था। आपातकाल जानकर ही 30 वर्षों की मादक जवानी की अवस्था में वे मानवता तीर्थ के परिवव्राजक बनें। प्रायः 12 वर्षों की कठिनतम तपस्या के बाद सर्वदर्शी सर्वज्ञ तीर्थकर होकर वे लोककल्याण की भावना से मानव मन सुधार की दीक्षा में अग्रसर हुए। उन्होंने बल की जगह प्रेमए तर्क, प्रज्ञा और आत्मबल से जनमानस को अनुकूल दिशा में मोड़ा था और सम्यक्त्वए तपए पंचयामए छह द्रव्यए नौ तत्त्व आदि की शिक्षा अर्थात् श्रुतज्ञान का प्रचार प्रसार किया था। महावीर की महत्ता चमत्कारों में नहीं है वरन वह है उनकी अकिंचनताए कठोर साधनाए सर्वोदयी लोकोपकारी उपदेशए अहिंसाए अपरिग्रह, अनेकान्त में जिनके आगे बड़े से बड़े तार्किक नतमस्तक थे। महावीर के साथ सबसे बड़ी कठिनाई यह थी कि वे अनुशासनहीनताओं के बीच आत्मानुशासन के लिए आगे आए थे। महावीर को जो भी चाहिए था वह तर्क की बुनियाद पर चाहिए था। वे जान रहे थे कि समाज को बदला जाना है और तेजी से बदला जाना है किन्तु इसके लिए वे भावना की अपेक्षा तर्क और विज्ञान का आश्रय लेना चाहते थे। महावीर ठोस तथ्यों और उनकी स्वाभाविक परिणतियों के पुरुष थे।

महावीर सम्यक्त्व पुरुष थे। 'मैं' उनका परम सूत्र था। मैं कौन हूँ मैं कैसा हूँ मैं क्या कर सकता हूँ इस पर उनकी सारी क्रान्ति टिकी हुई थी। और आज हमारी क्रान्ति वह कौन है वह क्या कर रहा है इत्यादि की खोखली नींव पर टिकी हुई है। महावीर कहते हैं जब तक हम 'मैं' को नहीं पकड़ते ए आत्मावलोकन नहीं करते तब तक कोई क्रान्ति संभव नहीं है। इसलिए महावीर जो करना अथवा कहना चाह रहे थे उसका पूर्वसार 'मैं' से संबंधित था। मनुज ही नहीं एक एक धड़कन के सम्मान की बात महावीर ने कही। उन्होंने कहा जहाँ भी कोई धड़कन है उसका सत्कार ए आदर करो। सम्मान की इस भावना ने सहनशीलता और समवेदना को जन्म दिया। यही समवेदना और सहिष्णुता भगवान महावीर बनी।

न्यूनाधिक 40 वर्षों तक लोक में धर्म प्रचार ए समाज सुधार ए वैयक्तिक अभ्युदय की दीक्षा देते हुए वे कार्तिक की अमावस्या को पावापुरी में मुक्त हुए थे। उनके न्याययुक्तए निरुकांक्षित आदि भाव आचार ए विचार और प्रचार का फल है कि उनके अनुयायी जैनों की परम्परा अद्यतन अविच्छिन्न चली आ रही है। लोकतन्त्र ए अनुशासन ए संगठन और सामाजिक सम्बन्धों को लेकर भगवान महावीर ने जो चिन्तन दिया औश्र जिस ढंग से अपने युग की समस्याओं को सुलझाया उसका इतिहास जितना रोचक है उतना ही ज्ञान वर्धक भी है। और वह आज भी हमारे युग की समस्याओं को सुलझाने में सहायक हो सकता है। हम अहिंसा कु पुजारी महावीर से यथाप्रसंग प्रेरणाएं लेते रहें हैं लेते रहेंगे और उनके प्रकाश में जीवन एवं जगत की समस्याओं का स्वस्थ समाधान हमें मिलता रहा है और मिलता रहेगा। संपर्क सूत्र रू श्री तारक गुरु जैन ग्रन्थालय, गुरु पुष्कर मार्गए उदयपुर राजस्थान 313001, Shri Tarak Guru Jain Granthalaya Udaipur. E-Mail: tguru1966@gmail.com

TEMPLES

MOODBIDRI DIGAMBAR JAIN BASADI IN KARNATAKA NOW IN A SHAMBLES



Moodbidri which is one of the largest Jain pilgrimage centres in the world is now in a shambles. The city's culture-rich temple, the Tribhuvana Tilaka Chudamani, popularly known as the 1000-pillar Basadi, is gradually beginning to lose its charm. The temple, built in 1430, is now a sorry sight, with its crumbling walls and damaged roofs. This is due to the highway traffic and mining in the vicinity. In fact a part of the temple complex also fell off recently. The three-storey temple complex is managed by a private trust called Dhavala Thraya Trust under the Jain Mutt of Moodbidri. The trust is facing financial difficulties and unable to maintain the temple. Swamiji of Jain Mutt

Bhataraka Charukirti Panditacharyavarya is observing the damage but for the shortage of funds unable to carryout the necessary maintenance. He says that appeal to the government regarding mining and traffic problems is not responded. In spite of the fact that local MLA is a Jain community member nothing is happening.

ANCIENT JAIN IDOLS EXCAVATED IN PATAN GUJARAT

Palanpur: Four ancient Jain idols and 29 pillars of a temple belonging to 12th or 13th century were recovered in Jangral village, about 25 km from Patan during an ongoing digging work for the construction of a primary health centre building. The digging work has been stopped. The discovered idols and pillars are believed to be of 12th or 13th century. The state archeological department is working on these objects. According to ASI a lot of ancient treasure is buried in Patan and nearby region. Earlier also, monuments belonging to 12 to 13th century era when Jainism was the dominating religion have been discovered from the area. In 12th and 13th century several Jain temples were built right from Mount Abu to Mehsana Patan and Suredranagar.

CHANDIGARH TO HAVE A BHAGWAN PARSHVANATH TEMPLE

Chandigarh will soon be on the world Jain tourism map with the world's tallest idol of the 23rd Tirthankar Bhagwan Parshvanath being installed at a new temple in Sector 18 of Panchkula. The idol is unique as it has water oozing out of 1,008 hoods of cobras. According to Digambar Sect Saint Guptisagarji Maharaj the artisans took six months to make the idol. The saint is himself stationed at Digambar Jain temple in Sector 27 to oversee the construction work. The statue is made of black marble from Makrana in Rajasthan. The final trials of water flow from the mouths of all cobras are going on. According to Guptisagarji Maharaj tirthankar Parshvanath finds reference in Vedas also for turning adversities into opportunities and bliss, the elevated human with a Midas touch.

TEMPLE PRATISHTHA

A Jain temple has been built at Dev Nagar, Near Bhatia School, Saibaba Nagar, Kandivali West. The Shikharband Jinalaya is now ready and its pratishtha will be held on the 12th march, 2011. Mulnayak idol is of Mahavir Swami. Pratistha will be done By Shirish Pranal Hemchand Gandhi family (Village Dhrol). Temple jinalaya is of 61 feet height with 7.5 feet wide wall of pure marble. Also two storeys Upashraya is spread over around 10,000 sq.feet area. The entire pratishtha programme will be held in the holy presence of Acharya Shri Jay Ghosh Suri Ji Maharaj.

अब 'कुण्डलपुर जुड़ेगा रेल लाइन से - संभावनाएँ बढ़ीं

संयुक्त प्रगतिशील गठबंधन सरकार का दूसरा रेल बजट 24 फरवरी, 2010 के दिन रेल मंत्री सुश्री ममता बैनर्जी के द्वारा वर्ष 2010-11 के लिए संसद लोकसभा में प्रस्तुत किया गया था। इसी तारतम्य में 'सामाजिक रूप से वांछनीय रेल संपर्कता संबंधी प्रस्ताव' शीर्षक के अंतर्गत पैराग्राफ 102 में आपने उल्लेखित किया था, "मैंने पिछले बजट भाषण में पिछड़े क्षेत्रों को जोड़ने के लिए 'सामाजिक रूप से वांछनीय परियोजनाओं' को शुरू करने की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया था। निम्नलिखित लाइनों के लिए सर्वेक्षणों को अद्यतन करने का प्रस्ताव है तथा इसके बाद इनके आवश्यक अनुमोदन के लिए योजना आयोग के माध्यम से प्रक्रिया शुरू कर दी जाएगी।" इस संबंध में अद्यतन सर्वेक्षण हेतु घोषित की गई कुल 114 परियोजनाओं में क्र. 41 पर 'जबलपुर-पन्ना वाया कुण्डलपुर-दमोह' का भी उल्लेख किया गया था।



इस प्रकार मध्या प्रदेश के दमोह जिले में अवस्थित श्री दिगम्बर जैन अतिशय-सिद्ध क्षेत्र कुण्डलपुर में विराजित 'श्री बड़े बाबा जी- भगवान ऋषभदेव जी' के दर्शनार्थ पहुँचने वाले दर्शनार्थियों की सुविधाजनक यात्रा हेतु रेल मंत्रालय के द्वारा प्रस्तावित 'जबलपुर-पन्ना वाया कुण्डलपुर-दमोह' रेल लाइन को भविष्य में बनाए जाने का मार्ग प्रशुभ हो गया है, ऐसा प्रतीत होता है। इस विषय में जैन समाज के श्रद्धालुजनोंसे अपेक्षा है कि वे अपने- अपने क्षेत्र के माननीय सांसद, विधायक, राजनीतिक दलों के पदाधिकारियों एवं सामाजिक संगठनों के पदाधिकारियों के साथ-साथ स्वयं भी उक्त रेल लाइन का निर्माण कार्य अतिथिगृह एवं प्राथमिकता के आधार पर प्रारम्भ किए जाने हेतु जनभावनाएँ माननीय रेल मंत्री, 239, रेल

भवन, रफी मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110001, फ़ैक्स 011-23382637, E-Mail : mr@rb.railnet.gov.in & mamata.sansad@sansad.nic.in के पते पर शीघ्र प्रेषित करें कराएँ। इस बिषय में आपके द्वारा किए गए प्रयास की जानकारी एवं पत्राचार की एक प्रति यदि मुझे भी उपलब्ध कराएँगे तो हमें इस संबंध में अपेक्षित प्रयास करने कराने में सुविधा हो सकेगी। सन्तोष सिंघईए श्री दिगम्बर जैन अतिशय सिद्धक्षेत्र कुण्डलपुर सिंघई आयरन स्टोर्स, स्टेशन रोड, दमोह - 470661, मध्यप्रदेश, E-Mail : manojjatin17@rediffmail.com, kundalpur@gmail.com

SAINTS

जैन संतो के सम्मान में डाक टिकिट जारी होंगे

उदयपुर, 4 मार्च 2011। भारत सरकार के डाक विभाग की ओर से इस वर्ष एक जैन साध्वी व एक जैनाचार्य पर स्मारक डाक टिकिट जारी किया जाएगा। 30 अप्रैल 2011 को स्थानकवासी जैन साध्वी उमराव कुंवर 'अर्चना' पर पांच रु. मूल्य वर्ग के डाक टिकिट का लोकापण अजमेर, राजस्थान में होगा। उमराव कुंवर 'अर्चना' प्रथम जैन साध्वी होंगी जिनके सम्मान में यह जारी होगा। आचार्य जयमल जी म. की स्मृति में डाक टिकिट 25 सितम्बर 2011 को जारी होगा। उल्लेखनीय है कि अभी तक दो स्थानकवासी संतों पर जिसमें जैन मुनि मिश्रीमल (24-8-1991) व आचार्य आनंद ऋषि पर (1-8-2002)में जारी हुआ था। तेरापंथ के आचार्य तुलसी पर (20-10-1998) में व आचार्य भिक्षु (30-6-2004) तथा मूर्तिपूजकसमाज के जैनाचार्य वल्लभ सूरी पर वर्ष 2009 में जारी हुआ था। इसके अलावा जैन समाज के गौरवशील व्यक्तियों पर डाक विभाग ने स्मारक डाक टिकिट जारी किए हैं जिसमें जगदीशचन्द्र जैन, वैज्ञानिक डा. विक्रम अंबालाल साराभाई, दानवीर भामाशाह, वी. शांताराम, डा. लक्ष्मीमल सिंघवी, इन्द्रचन्द्र शास्त्री, जवाहरलाल दर्डा, वालचन्द्रहीराचन्द्र, हरकचन्द्र नाहटा, वीरचन्द्र राधव गांधी इसके अलावा अनेक मंदिरों व प्रतीकचिन्हों पर डाक जारी टिकिट जारी हुआ है। डा. दिलीप धींग उदयपुर.

दिल्ली में होंगी भव्य एतिहासिक मुनि दीक्षाएं

दिल्ली ने कई बार सौभाग्य प्राप्त किया है दिगम्बर जैन दीक्षाओं को साक्षात् देखने का लेकिन इस बार दिल्ली की धरा पर प्रथम बार परम पूज्य श्वेतपिछाचार्य श्री विद्यानंद जी मुनिराज के पावन सानिध्य आजा व निर्देशन में तथा परम पूज्य अभीक्षण ज्ञानोपयोगी एलाचार्य श्री वसुनंदी जी मुनिराज के परम पावन कर कमलों द्वारा प्रथम बार भव्य एतिहासिक मुनि दीक्षाएं दिनांक 01 अप्रैल 2011 ए शुक्रवार के दिन प्रातः 10 बजे से ग्रीन पार्क की भूमि पर संपन्न होगी पहली बार है जब पूज्य आचार्य श्री व एलाचार्य श्री दोनों प्रथम बार मुनि दीक्षाएं प्रदान करेंगे अपितु दोनों ही संतो ने समाधि के अवसर पर क्षपक को मुनि दीक्षाएं प्रदान की हैं 01 अप्रैल 2009 को ही आचार्य श्री विद्यानंद जी मुनिराज ने अपने प्रिय शिष्य उपध्याय श्री निर्णय सागर जी मुनिराज को एलाचार्य पद प्रदान कर एलाचार्य वसुनंदी बनाया था और अब दो साल बाद आचार्य श्री अपनी शिष्य परंपरा को आगे बढ़ते हुए एदेखेंगे जैन शासन में जहाँ एक समय में दिगम्बर मुनियों के दर्शन दुर्लभ हो गए थे वहीं प्रथमाचार्य श्री शांति सागर जी मुनिराज ने दिगम्बरत्व को जीवंत किया एसी गौरवमई परंपरा में ही आचार्य श्री विद्यानंद जी मुनिराज और उन्ही के शिष्य एलाचार्य श्री वसुनंदी जी मुनिराज के द्वारा भव्य कल्याणकारी जैनेश्वरी मुनि दीक्षाएं प्रदान की जाएँगी इस अवसर पर आचार्य श्री विद्यानंद जी मुनिराज और एलाचार्य श्री वसुनंदी जी मुनिराज के साथ साथ आर्यिका श्री विद्याश्री माताजी एआर्यिका विधाश्री माताजी एआर्यिका सौम्यनंदनी माताजी एएलक विज्ञान सागर जी एएलक विमुक्त सागर जी एएलक ज्ञानानंद जी एएलक सर्वानन्द जी ए क्षुल्लक विशंक सागर जी एक्षुल्लक ज्ञान सागर जी एक्षुल्लक सुखानंद जी एवं क्षुल्लिका वीरनंदनी माताजी के भी सानिध्य की सम्भावना है News courtesy : Ankit Jain, Krishna Nagar, Telephone: 09212139316, E-Mail: vasunandiji@gmail.com

स्थानकवासी कौन और उनका अस्तित्व क्या

प्रस्तोता : श्रमण संघीय मंत्री श्री शिरीष मुनि जी म.सा. से आयावादी, लोयावादी, कम्मावादी, किरियावादी।।6।। -आचारांग सूत्रा

आचारांग सूत्रा में भगवान महावीर फरमाते हैं - जिस साधक ने आत्मा के स्वरूप को समझ लिया है, वही आत्मवादी बन सकता है, अर्थात् आत्मा के स्वरूप का प्रतिपादन कर सकता है। जो आत्मा के स्वरूप का विवेचन कर सकता है, वही आत्मा लोक के स्वरूप को स्पष्टतः समझ एवं समझा सकता है। जो लोक के स्वरूप को अभिव्यक्त कर सकता है, वही कर्म के स्वरूप को बता सकता है। जो कर्म के स्वरूप की व्याख्या कर सकता है, वही वास्तव में क्रिया-आचरण के स्वरूप का वास्तविक वर्णन कर सकता है।

आत्मा के स्वरूप को जाने बिना व्यक्ति लोक के, कर्म के और क्रिया के स्वरूप को नहीं जान सकता। इसलिए पहले आत्मा के स्वरूप को जानना आवश्यक है। जो आत्म-स्वरूप के बोध से युक्त है, वही आत्म-स्वरूप के बोध का प्रतिपादन कर सकता है। अतः वही आत्मवादी है और जो आत्मवादी है, वही लोकवादी है। लोक के स्वरूप का प्रतिपादन ही कर्मवादी एवं क्रियावादी बन सकता है। इन चार बातों में भगवान की समस्त वाणी समाविष्ट हो गई है।

जैन धर्म आत्मवादी धर्म है। जैन धर्म के किसी भी संप्रदाय की आराधना प्रति जैसी भी हो उसमें आत्मा को अलग कर दिया जाय तो वह अस्तित्वहीन हो जायेगी। सभी संप्रदायों ने आत्मा का अस्तित्व माना है। काल क्रम से विभिन्न संप्रदायों में मुख्य को गौण कर दिया और क्रिया काण्डों को प्रमुखता दी जाने लगी। आत्मा गौण हो गयी ऐसे समय में संप्रदाय भेद प्रारंभ हुआ। दिगम्बर, श्वेताम्बर भेद के पीछे मूल कारण था नग्नता व वस्त्र।

दिगम्बर ने नग्नता और निश्चयवाद को मुख्यता दी। श्वेताम्बरों ने व्यवहार के नाम पर वस्त्र को मुख्यता दी और आत्मा गौण होती चली गयी। क्रिया काण्ड, आडम्बर व पूजा प्रतियां मुख्य हो गयी। ऐसी अवस्था में स्थानकवासी परम्परा का जन्म हुआ जिन्होंने आडम्बर व पूजा पति का विरोध कर आगम अनुसार जीवन शैली को अपनाया। आगमों के आधर पर शुभ संयम पालने की घोषणा कर एक अलग परम्परा प्रारम्भ की। इस परम्परा ने द्रव्य पूजा एवं आरम्भ-समारम्भ का विरोध कर भाव पूजा एवं आगमानुसार क्रिया काण्ड प्रारम्भ किया। प्रांतीय भाषा में ठाणांग सूत्रा का हिन्दी अर्थ हुआ आस्थानांग सूत्रा। उसी प्रकार साधूओं की संख्या के लिए आता है आदि ठाणा अर्थात् आत्मा। स्थानकवासी का अर्थ हुआ आत्मवासी अर्थात् आत्मा में श्रिया रखने वाला आत्मा की साधना करने वाला, आत्मा को मुख्यता देने वाले संप्रदाय को स्थानकवासी कहने लगे। जिस स्थान पर रहते हैं उन्हें स्थानक कहा जाने लगा।

स्थानकवासी का मूल उद्देश्य है आत्म ज्ञान प्राप्त करना, उस पर श्रिया रखना एवं उसमें रमण करना। जो व्यक्ति इन गुणों से युक्त है या उन्हें प्राप्त करने का पुरुषार्थ कर रहा है उन्हें हम स्थानकवासी कहते हैं। इस परम्परा में सामायिक, स्वाध्याय व आत्म-ध्यान की प्रतियाँ सिखाई जाती हैं। कालक्रम से यहां भी आत्म-साधना गौण हो गयी। आत्म-ज्ञानी संतों की कमी हो गयी और केवल शब्द ज्ञानी महापुरुष की अधिकता होने से क्रियाएं जड़ क्रियाएं हो गयी। परम्परा में उफंचा-नीचा, अच्छा-बुरा, संप्रदाया व शिथिलता के नाम पर संप्रदाय भेद होने लगे और एक संप्रदाय अपने को श्रेष्ठ व दूसरे को निष्ठा व शिथिलताचारी कहने लगे। परिणामस्वरूप राग, द्वेष, निंदा, चुगली बढ़ने लगी और मान-सम्मान को प्राप्त करने की होड़ लग गयी। अपने-अपने भक्तों के आधर पर संप्रदाय अपने को बड़ा-छोटा मानने लगा और अपने-अपने भक्तों को सुरक्षित रखने में साधूओं की उफर्जा लगने लगी पिफर आत्मा गौण होने लगी। पुर्वाचार्य ने इस साम्प्रदायिक झंझावतों से मुक्त होने के लिए अनेक सम्मेलन लिए और श्रमण संघ की स्थापना की।

श्रमण संघ के प्रथम पट्टधर आचार्य आत्मराम जी म.सा. आत्म-ज्ञानी महापुरुष थे किन्तु वे परम्परा में आत्मा की साधना सब तक नहीं पहुंचा पाये तो उन्होंने आत्म-दृष्टि से आगमों पर टीका लिखकर एक दृष्टि संघ को प्रदान की। कालक्रम से संगठन आगे बढ़ता रहा। द्वितीय एवं तृतीय आचार्य श्री जी का काल बीता। उन्होंने इसे पोषण करते हुए संगठन को सुरक्षित रखा।

वर्तमान आचार्य श्री शिवमुनि जी म.सा. में दीक्षा काल से ही प्रभु महावीर की आत्म-साधना की प्यास, पीड़ा एवं तड़प थी और खोज करते रहे। जिसे प्यास होती है उन्हें पानी मिलता है। आत्म गुरु की कृपा से शासन देवों के सहयोग से अरिहंतों की साधना प्राप्ति हुई। आप आत्म-ज्ञानी बने और पूरे संघ में आत्म-ज्ञान की शिक्षा प्रदान कर रहे हैं और उसके अनुभव के लिए आत्म-ध्यान की प्रक्रिया जन-जन को सिखा रहे हैं एवं आप स्वयं अपने जीवन का अधिकांश समय आत्म-ध्यान में व्यतीत करते हैं। आप संघ में आत्मा के अस्तित्व पर प्रकाश डालते हुए आत्म के अष्ट गुणों का प्रचार कर रहे हैं। आनंद, शांति, ज्ञान की बात कर रहे हैं। संघ में साधू-साध्वी, श्रावक-श्राविका इस ओर आकर्षित हो रहे हैं। पूरे संघ में क्षमा, मैत्री, प्रेम, सहिष्णुता, आत्मीयता के गुण बढ़ रहे हैं। इसी से स्थानकवासी परम्परा का अस्तित्व टिक रहा है और आगे भी टिका रहेगा। भगवान पफरमाते हैं कि जानना मात्रा इतना है कि मैं आत्मा हूं, अष्ट गुणों से युक्त हूं। इस औदारिक शरीर से अष्ट कर्मों को क्षय कर अपने लक्ष्य के लिए पुरुषार्थ करना इसी लक्ष्य की ओर श्रमण संघ एवं उनके आचार्य व मुमुक्षु आत्माएं आगे बढ़ रहे हैं।

अस्तित्व को खतरा किन से? जैन धर्म में कहा है - जीव को अजीव माने तो मिथ्यात्व। अजीव को जीव माने तो मिथ्यात्व, धर्म को अधर्म माने तो मिथ्यात्व, अधर्म को धर्म माने तो मिथ्यात्व आदि। जीव आत्मा है और अजीव शरीर है एवं शरीर के निमित्त से बनी वस्तुएं जड़

है। जड़ को जड़ मानते हुए उसका उपयोग कर्म क्षय करने में किया जाय उससे अपने परिणामों को शुभ किया जाय तो उसमें कोई दोष नहीं है। इसके विपरीत एक जीव दूसरे जीव से राग-द्वेष कर, अच्छा-बुरा मान कर सत्ता के प्रभाव का विपरीत प्रयोग कर राग-द्वेष करता है। स्वयं के भावों को ही अशुभ नहीं करता। पूरे संप्रदाय में विभाव का वातावरण उत्पन्न करता है। संघ भेद करवाता है। वह महा मोहनीय कर्म का बन्धन कर अधेगति का मेहमान बनता है। गुरुजनों से सुना कि एक बार पूज्य मरुध केसरी जी म.सा. के पास एक बस मूर्ति पूजक समाज के लोग चर्चा करने के लिए पहुंचे। तब पूज्य श्री ने पूछा - तुम मूर्ति को क्या मानते हो ? तो उन्होंने कहा हम मूर्ति को मूर्ति मानते हैं तो उन्होंने कहा पिफर हमारा तुमसे कोई विरोध नहीं है। इसी से उन्होंने उनको शांत कर सुन्दर समाधन किया। हम भी मूर्ति को मूर्ति मानते हैं।

में युवा पीढ़ी को प्रेरणा दूंगा। सत्य की गहराई में जाकर मूल कारण को समझें, सत्य को जाने सत्य को पहचाने। आत्मधर्म की साधना है - ज्ञाता-दृष्टा भाव में रहकर संसार से पार हो जाना। स्वभाव में रहने से स्थानकवासी का अस्तित्व टिका हुआ है। विभाव में स्वयं रहने वाले समाज को किस दिशा में ले जाना चाहते हैं उनसे सजग रहें। वीतराग धर्म की आराधना कर सच्चे स्थानकवासी बनें।

अतः युवा शक्ति को जागरूक करना चाहूंगा। वे किसी भी जड़ वस्तु का आलम्बन बनाकर अपनी आत्मा के परिणाम न बिगाड़े अपितु उसके निमित्त से पूर्वाचार्यों को स्मरण कर उनके दिये हुए आत्म-ज्ञान से युक्त आगमों का स्वाध्याय करे व उसके अनुभव के लिए शिवाचार्य श्री जी का सान्निध्य प्राप्त कर आत्म ध्यान का अनुभव लेकर अपने जीवन में आनंद, शांति, ज्ञान को प्राप्त करें। शिवाचार्य श्री जी की पुण्यवाणी है कि विदेशी लोग स्वयं चलकर जैन धर्म व ध्यान को सीखने के लिए भारत आ रहे हैं। अभी अशोक विहार में 17 से 20 जून तक 50 विदेशी साधक आत्म-ध्यान का अनुभव करेंगे। युवा शक्ति अपनी शक्ति विरोध में न लगाकर आत्म-ध्यान व रचनात्मक कार्यक्रम द्वारा स्थानकवासी धर्म का प्रचार करें अन्यथा विरोध में स्वयं कर्मों का बंधन कर संसार बढ़ायेंगे, स्वयं आत्म निर्णय करें।

UPADHYAY RAMESH MUNI ALONGWITH OTHER SAINTS TO HOLD NEXT CHATURMAS AT RISHABH VIHAR, DELHI - It was a difficult decision for



Upadhyay Ramesh Muni alongwith other saints to decide next chaturmas venue as requests were coming from many other cities & also other parties of Delhi. Upadhyay Ramesh Muni group consists of Uppravartak Dr. Rajendra Muni, Surendra Muni & Dipesh Muni. Dedicated followers from Punjab, Haryana, U. P. & Rajasthan were pressing on their requests. Uppadhaya Ramesh Muni and Uppravartak Dr. Rajendra Muni enjoy very strong and loyal following in the Sthanakwasi Sect of Svetamber Jains. Presently the group is stationed at Rana Pratap Bagh area of Delhi. On 26th March, they celebrated Bhagwan Aadinath Jayanti. Speaking in the celebration programme Dr. Rajendra Muni said Bhagwan Aadinath who is also known as Bhagwan Rishab Dev introduced art, culutre and literature to the world. He introduced agriculture and other arts necessary for living. Before this Yuva Manish Shri Surineder Muni recited Bhaktamber Path. The group will participate and bless Mahavir Jatyanti programmes at Trinagar, Delhi. Thereafter the saint group will move to Navkar Teerth (Ghewara Mor) to bless the "Parana Celebrations" to be organised at Mahavideh Kshtra Jain Temple.

MUNI SHRI NIRMAN SAGAR JI SERIOUS AFTER ACCIDENT



Shri Nirman Sagar Ji Maharaj disciple of Acharya Shri Padma Sagar Ji Maharaj belonging to Jain Murti-Pujak Sangh who met with an accident and was injured from a fast-moving truck near Koba circle at Ahmedabad on the 3rd March, 2011 was admitted to Neuro-I.C.U. ward of the Civil hospital at Ahmedabad and is in serious condition having head injuries and breathing problem.

THREE JAIN MUNI INJURED AT PALSANA IN GUJARAT IN TRUCK ACCIDENT

Three Jain saints, moving from an upasra at Baleshwar to Lal Bangla Extension in Surat were involved in an accident with a fast-moving truck and two of them were admitted to Mahavir hospital there. They are Shri Satyadarshan Vijay Ji, Dharmgyan Vijay Ji and Sresdarshan Vijay Ji Maharaj. Shri Satyadarshan Vijay Ji Maharaj, being quite aged, was being carried in a wheel chair. The truck driver quickly ran away from the place of accident.

HONOURS & AWARDS

FAMILY MEMBERS OF L. C. JAIN REJECTS PADMA VIBHUSHAN OFFER



New Delhi, The family members of noted Gandhian L. C. Jain have turned down government offer to accept the Padma Vibhushan, the country's second highest civilian honour for which he was chosen posthumously. Shri L. C. Jain was known for his fierce opposition of state controls. Jain's family members and several NGOs said the late Gandhian was against accepting state honours. Jain, a recipient of the Magsaysay Award, breathed his last on November 14 last year at the age of 85.

SUMATI LAL KARNAWAT APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF BHARAT JAIN MAHAMANDAL



An educationist and eminent social worker, Shri Sumati Lal Karnawat was elected President of Bharat Jain Mahamandal. Presently, Karnawat is the national president of All India Shwetambar Sthanakwasi Jain Shraman Sanghiya Shrawak Samiti. He has been the head of the department of Commerce faculty at N.G. Bedekar college, Mumbai. He is the author of 25 books. He is also principal of Karnawat Classes and founder chief patron of Jain International Trade Organisation, as well as director of Karnawat Sanjana Realtors.

JAYANTI LAL C. SHAH HONORED WITH GLORY OF GUJARAT AWARD

Mr. Jayantilal C. shah was felicitated by "GLORY OF GUJARAT" award by Honorable Kamalaji Governor of Gujarat. The award programme was also attended by several prominent dignitaries including Shri Shankarsigh Vaghela, Ex. M. P. Smt. Urmilaben Patel. Mr. Jayntilal C. Shah has significantly contributed for various social and charitable activities. He is also founder Stallion Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. Ahmedabad and Espee Pharmachem Pvt. Ltd. a bulk drug export house, Ahmedabad.

LALIT JAIN NOMINATED CREDAI PRESIDENT



Lalit Kumar Jain, Chairman and Managing Director of Kumar Urban Development Limited has been elected as the new president of the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations (CREDAI). Jain who was earlier on the Vice-President of CREDAI (West) has been associated with CREDAI ever since its inception. He was also the secretary and president of the Promoters Builders Association of Poona.

ANGELA JAIN JOINS THE BOARD OF ITV



ITV has appointed Angela Jain, previously head of E4, as its director of digital channels and acquisitions. She takes the role vacated by Zai Bennett, who left ITV to become controller of BBC3. Peter Fincham, director of television at ITV, said in a statement: "Angela has a very impressive background in finding new talent, having an eye for acquisitions that create a real buzz and delivering returning favorites time and time again". Jain will be responsible for the programming on ITV2, ITV3, ITV4 and CITV.

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

BOOK "JAINISM IN PUNJAB" RELEASED AT ACHARYA TULSI MEMORIAL LECTURE



The Department of Religious Studies Punjabi University Patiala Organised Acharya Tulsi Memorial Lecture on 14 March 2011. Samani Chritra Prajna Vice-Chancellor, Jain Vishwa Bharati University, delivered the lecture on the theme "Acharya Tulsi's Contribution to Academic World." DR. Jaspal Singh, Vice Chancellor of Punjabi University Patiala presided over the Lecture Programme. Samani Ji highlighted to those human values on which Acharya Tulsi had laid emphasis over his life. She focused over the nonviolence, value education and science of living without which the proper sustenance of life is impossible. In his presidential remarks. On this occasion the book "Jainism in Punjab" written by Dr. Pradyumna Shah Singh was also released. The Vice Chancellor Dr. Jaspal Singh

gave copies of book "Jainism in Punjab" as token of honour to Shri Ravindra Jain(Malerkotala) and Purushottam Jain (Mandigobind Garh). Dr. Harpal Singh Pannu, Head of the Department delivered welcome address. Dr. Pradyumna Shah Singh Coordinator of the programme spoke over Acharya Tulsi. Source: Ravinder Jain, E-Mail: ravinderjain231049@gmail.com

JAINISM PHILATELY GROUP FORMED DURING INDIPEX 2011



During the World Philatelic Exhibition INDIPEX 2011, a meeting of Philatelists collecting Jainism and allied themes was organised on 15th Feb. 2011. Jain Stamp collectors from all over India attended this meeting. Meeting was started with Navkar Mantra prayer by Geetaben VeenubhAi bhavishi of Akola. Jain group decided to nominate state representative in the National body. Some of the names announced for the state representation were Mr. Sanjay Kumar Jain Patna (Bihar), Mr. Ajeet Jain Kolkata (W.B.), Mr. Vikas Jain Ajmer (Rajsthan), Mr. Atul Jain Bilaspur (C. G.), Mr. Sanjeev Jain Dehradun (Uttarakhand), Mr. Yogendra Kumar Jain (U.P.), Mr. Hemant Kumar Jain Mandla (M. P.), Mr. Binod Jain Guwahati (Assam), Mr. Vijay Shah Bhavnagar (Gujrat), Mr. Chhganraj Jain Bellary (Karnataka), Mr. Niraj Jain Amritsar (Punjab). Two beautiful multicolored special covers were also issued on this occasion which were designed by Mr. Pramod Kumar Jain of Pondicherry (9894252549). It was resolved that a strong persuasion should be made for issuance of a commemorative stamp on Acharya Gyansagar Ji Maharaj and Shrimad Rajchandra Ji Maharaj through the Jain members in the Philatelic Advisory Committee of Govt. of India.

JITO-TRADE FAIR 2011-HYDERABAD

On 15th, 16th, and 17th April 2011 JITO will be organising a grand trade fair. Please view the details of the JITO Trade Fair 2011 by clicking the link: www.jitohyd.org. Information source: Bhawarlal Jain, E-Mail : tradefair@jitohyd.org, Website : www.jitohyd.org

VINITA JAIN'S WORK DISPLAYED IN NORTH CAROLINA SHOW



Mar 14, 2011 - RALEIGH, N.C.- Vinita Jain, a local artist who specializes in acrylic and pastel painting, has announced that her pastel paintings titled "Dancing Waves" and "Melody" will be exhibited at the Pastel Society of North Carolina's show. Jain has enjoyed displaying her work on numerous occasions and this is the third year the society has held a show at the Ambleside Gallery. The exhibit, which started Feb. 5, will run through March 25.

About Vinita Jain: A native of India, Vinita Jain has lived in North Carolina for more than 10 years. As a child, art was a passion of Jain's, and she was first introduced to pastels when she came to N.C. Jain took courses in drawing and color theory at Meredith College and since has taken pastel workshops from renowned artists. Influenced by impressionists such as Edgar Degas and Vincent Van Gogh, Jain works mainly with soft pastels but has recently begun working with acrylics. For more information, visit www.vinitajain.net.

JAIN CONVENTION 2011 TO HOST SEMINAR ON JAIN ACADEMIC STUDIES

The next JAINA convention in Houston, the Academic Liaison Committee of JAINA is planning to organize a seminar to dwell on the need, issues, concerns, roadblocks and opportunities to take academic study of Jainism to a respectable status. The title of the seminar is "Jain Academic Studies, Strategies For Growth". A slot of 2.00 hours has been allotted for this seminar. Organizers of convention request participation as a speaker and as panelist in this important seminar. 50% of the time will be dedicated for formal presentations on various issues related to the subject and balance on panel discussions and Q & A. For further information contact Dr. Sulekh C. Jain, E-Mail: scjain@earthlink.net

DR. ANEKANT JAIN REPRESENTS JAIN RELIGION IN TAIWAN



Jain scholar and faculty member of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Sanskrit Vidya Peeth, represented India in the International Conference "Dialogue A common Human Bond" at Taipei, Taiwan on 21st & 22nd February 2011. The subject selected by Dr. Jain "Civilization from Discord to Reconciliation (With special reference to Jain Theory of Anekantavada)" was highly appreciated. The conclave was inaugurated by the President Ma Ying Jeou and attended by more than 40 distinguished scholars from different religions.

AHIMSA

AHIMSA FOUNDATION CONDEMNS FOREIGN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN LIBYA

Ahimsa Foundation, India, deeply regrets the military intervention in Libya by select group of nations in the name of supporting civil rights. We request all concerned parties to maintain restraint in their endeavour to bring eternal peace in Libya and other adjoining countries facing civil unrest. UNO should be actively involved to solve and handled these situations, instead of resorting the use of weaponry by some countries. In past also, military operations have not yielded the technical solutions to various social problems faced by developing nations.

This intervention will only cause higher number of loss of lives and further destruction of property. United States, Canada, France and England are the undisputed super powers in the world today. They control and command all kinds of resources and enjoy great positions. They are definitely in position to compel any one including the President of Libya, Col. Muammar Gaddafi to settle the problems in his country sincerely and with grace. Throwing the head of nation by military interventions of other countries can not be acceptable solutions in a civilized society.

The Jain community (Jain Samaj) strongly condemns, violence of any kind, at any place and for any reason. We once again request all concerned to immediately stop use of defence forces in the name of protecting civil liberties.

DIKSHA NEWS

Kumari Namrata accepted Jain Bhagwati Diksha on the 22nd January, 2011 at Pawapuri Teerth in Rajasthan in the holy presence of three Jain Acharya, Shri Gun Ratna Surishwar Ji Maharaj, Shri Ravi Ratna Surishwar Ji Maharaj and Rashmi Ratna Surishwar Ji Maharaj. Twentynfour other saints and Sadhwi were also present on this occasion to bless the newly-initiated Sadhwi. On the previous day, a long and well-decorated procession was taken out having music band and other instruments.

Smt. Kesar Behn Bhavanaji Dedhia will accept Jain Diksha at Mumbai on the 5th April, 2011. Further details about diksha can be obtained from E-Mail: navalpraksh@yahoo.com

Mumukshu Kanta Behn Lakhdhir Gada will accept Diksha at Shri Ajramar Sthanakwasi Jain Sangh (Vagadnagar,) Ajramar Chowk, Near Ramdev Park, Mira Road (East), Mumbai.

Jinesh Jain was admitted in saint order by Sri Rajesh Muni of Sthankwasi Swetamber Sect at Delhi on 19th March, 2011. Jinesh Muni will be known as Rishabh Muni. The entire diksha programme was completed without usual fanfare and extravagance. Organisers avoided use of fans, loudspeakers and mike in true Jain tradition.

MISCELLANEOUS

SUPREME COURT ORDERS BAN ON TOBACCO PACKING IN PLASTIC POUCHES



Supreme Court of India has turned down the petitions to consider loosening the ban ordered on the use of plastic material for packing tobacco products. The Court considered the report of the expert committee for studying the effects of consuming Gutka, Pan Masala and other tobacco products on health. The report was placed before the two judges, Justice G. S. Singhvi and Justice A. K. Ganguli by Solicitor General, Gopal Subramanyam. Subramanyam informed that 80% of the cancer was caused by the use of tobacco products. The ban has been imposed with effect from 1st March.

BAN TO BE IMPOSED SOON ON THE SALE OF GUTKA



Supreme Court is considering complete ban on the filling, packing and sale of Gutka after having imposed ban on the use plastic pouches for packing of tobacco products. In its hearing scheduled to be held on the 13th April, it would consider in detail the health aspects of the use of tobacco products and decide upon imposing the ban on its sale. The Health Ministry has informed the court that the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare has already submitted its report about this matter and informed the court about the dangerous effect of use of Gutka, Pan Masala and tobacco. The next hearing of the Supreme Court is therefore going to be very crucial for the Pan Masala and Gutka Industry.

BRUSSELS TO HOST PARLIAMENT OF WORLD RELIGIONS-2014

Brussels - the capital of the Belgians and of 500,000,000 Europeans has been chosen as the host city of the Parliament of the World's Religions in 2014. The selection of Brussels was made by the Board of Trustees of the governing organization at its March 13, 2011 meeting in Chicago.

MEMENTOES OF MAHATMA GANDHI SOLD AT RS. 23 LAKHS

An amount of Rs. 23 lakhs was collected at an auction of items of daily use by Mahatma Gandhi, such as some of his letters, khadi clothes, mementoes received by him etc. held at California on the 13th February, 2011. The auction was arranged by Bonhams sale of fine books and manuscripts. The buyers included people from U.S.A., India, South America, Canada and Europe. One of his letters bearing his autograph sold at \$15,860, one khadi cloth sold at \$4270, a collection of 60 photographs at \$4880, all together at \$50,752.



PHEROZE L. VINCENT - New Delhi, March 7: Experts from different faiths today by and large opposed euthanasia, but their reactions to the Supreme Court verdict varied somewhat based on subtle differences in their interpretations of their own religions. Islam is unambiguously against all forms of euthanasia, active or passive, said Imam Umer Ahmed Ilyasi, president of the All India Organisation of Imams of Mosques. "Giving or taking life is in Allah's hands. Euthanasia under any circumstances is strictly prohibited," he said. Even if a person is in a permanently vegetative state or in deep and incurable pain, euthanasia is a sin, Ilyasi said. "The suffering we endure is atonement for our sins. It is Allah's will and only He knows when we need to die."

Christian and Jain scholars had some praise for the verdict. "We are very happy that the verdict is in line with the teachings of the Catholic Church," said Thomas Aquinas Sequeira, deputy secretary-general of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India. "Active euthanasia is illegal and morally unacceptable. We don't have the right to take lives. God knows when to do that." Sequeira was the only one to make the active-passive distinction and said passive euthanasia could be legitimate if the medical treatment needed was "overzealous". He, however, said the Church opposed voluntary passive euthanasia, which is carried out on the patient's own request. "Nobody is allowed to will their death.

This is equivalent to suicide." A.K. Jain, president of the Ahimsa Foundation, a Jain organisation in Delhi, too lauded the court for not permitting active euthanasia. "We have to have faith in our karma and allow time to take its own course." Jain stressed that euthanasia was different from the Jain ritual of Santhara, or voluntary death by fasting. "In Santhara, one takes a conscious decision about one's own life. Due to the prolonged nature of Santhara, the individual gets ample time to reflect on his or her life. The vow of Santhara is taken when one feels that one's life has served its purpose. There exists a similar Hindu practice, known as Prayopavesa," he said. The tradition of Santhara had made headlines in 2006 when two elderly Jain women in Jaipur practised it. Santhara is optional for Jains and is said to be taken up mainly by women from the Shwetambara sect. Balwant Singh Dhillon, professor of Sikhism at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, said his religion had no specific texts on euthanasia but stressed that it did not allow one to take lives. "There is no precedent for euthanasia. If life is dependent on life support and if you have the ability to keep someone alive, then it is considered a service to humanity," he said. Parsi academic Roshen Dalal, author of *The Religions of India*, said Zoroastrianism did not permit one to take lives, and offered no precedent for euthanasia. *The above observations were printed in "The Telegraph" Calcutta on Tuesday, March 8th 2011*

AJIT JAIN ADDED BILLIONS TO BERKSHIRE: WARREN BUFFETT



New York: Ajit Jain long whispered contender to succeed Warren Buffett has been praised by the legendary investor himself for having added real wealth to the value of Berkshire Hathaway. Ajit Jain is working with Buffett-led conglomerate for over 25 years and presently in-charge of Berkshire Hathaway Reinsurance Group. Last year, Buffett had described Jain as a "superstar". For the year ended 2010, Berkshire Hathaway's profit jumped to \$7.9 billion from \$5.19 billion in the year-ago period. Berkshire Hathaway has business interests across diverse sectors apart from significant stakes in global majors including Coca-Cola and Conoco Phillips. Buffett is likely to explore business opportunities in India, during his forth coming visit to India this month.

TRUCK DRIVER SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS IMPRISONMENT - The driver of a truck, named Manoj Kumar Hari Ram Bishnoi, who had killed four Jain Sadhwi, Sadhwi Shri Hemrekha Shri Ji, Harshrekha Shri Ji, Padamrekha Shri Ji and Kanyarekha Shri Ji Maharaj, while on Vihar from Ahmedabad has been sentenced to seven years imprisonment and a cash fine of Rs. 6100/- under section 304 Part II by a fast track court of Mehsana. After staying at Simandhar Jain Upasraya at Mehsana over-night, they were moving on the Mehsana-Unjha highway, when the accident took place.



P. K. JAIN ARRESTED FOR CRICKET BETTING IN DEHRADUN

Recently, six persons including one Pramod Kumar Jain (46 Years) were arrested for placing bets on the World Cup matches. On a tip-off, the police raided an office and arrested the accused while they were betting on the match. This is the second such raid conducted by the district police in a gap of four days to bust betting rackets during the World Cup matches.

ANDHRA PRADESH OFFERS MINORITY STATUS TO JAIN COMMUNITY

March 8: The Andhra Pradesh State Government has declared that along with Muslims and Christians, Jains too will be

considered as religious minorities in the state hereafter. This means that the Jains will have privileges like running educational institutions etc. for their community. As per the 2001 census, there are around 41,486 Jains in the state out of a total population of 7.6 crore which amounts to around 0.1 per cent. The minorities welfare department issued the orders on Tuesday declaring the Jain community as a religious minority in the state following a representation from the Shri Bharatvarshiya Digamber Jain (DS) Mahasabha. It was stated in the representation that as per Article 30 of the Indian Constitution, Jains can be declared as a minority based on religion and language. Reacting to this in 2007, the then minority affairs minister, Mr A. R. Antulay, had written to the former CM, Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy, informing him that a religious community, which was less than 0.5 per cent of the population, would definitely fall under the minority category and had to be notified by the state government as a religious minority. In July, 2010, the minority affairs ministry had confirmed that for the purpose of determining minority, the unit taken into consideration should be the state and not the country.

LET US HELP JAPAN, THEY WILL NOT ASK

They Await Your Loving & Compassionate Urgent Response - We have all seen pictures on TV and in the newspapers. They have reported almost continuously. The pain is unimaginable. First the deadly Earthquake; then the Tsunami; then the nuclear blast.

Ask yourself: If not me, who will help in the time of their greatest need? If I were in their shoes.. Our Local Partners In Japan Have Two Teams of Disaster Relief Experts who can reach. The Children In Sendai, A City Very Close To Epicenter!! We Hope To Start Child Protection Centers In The Next Twenty Four To Forty Eight Hours In Moyagi, Fukushima, Iwata And Ibaraki Prefectures. Children Are The Most Vulnerable And Sometimes Their Special Needs Are Overlooked By Major Relief Agencies.

Only a few organizations like Save The Children, our local partner, have worked in Japan for the last twenty five years and have the expertise and contacts with local community groups to do an effective job of providing psychological counseling, care and support to children. The Government of Japan assisted by United Nations and most of the major countries of the world are capable of meeting immediate humanitarian needs, but may overlook children's emotional wellbeing. On your behalf International Service Society (ISS), A Humanitarian Service Society has pledged an initial support of \$20,000 to Save the Children which will enable them to commit resources of staff-power and supplies urgently. Our goals are Set Up Child Friendly Spaces, Reach 20% of The Affected Children, Have Safe Places for Play & Study, Co-ordinate With Other Groups.

The best way to get the childrens' minds off of the trauma of the Catastrophic Earthquake and Tsunami is to engage them in play and study. Some children of Japan are separated from their families and it is important for us to help them unite with their parents and siblings wherever possible. The need is great. Therefore, please send us an E-mail and tell me the amount of your gift so that we will add that amount without waiting for your funds to reach. E-Mail : shahbp@gmail.com

Please Help Us To Reach Your Friends, Family Members & Colleagues. Do let them know that ISS has nearly forty years of experience and 100% of your Gift goes for the cause. All Fundraising & Overhead Costs Are Met From Either Our Endowment Fund Income or From Gifts From Trustees. Double Your Individual Gifts of \$ 251 or more! Individuals Gifts of \$251 to \$ 5,001 are matched by India Foundation. Matching Fund budget is \$50,000 for matching your gifts. Make Your Tax Deductible Gifts Payable to India House of Worship. Please Mail Your Gift Today, While It Is Still On Your Mind! Thank You.

Sunil Dalal, Treasurer, India House of Worship, 1326 Mimosa Lane, Silver Spring MD 20904 USA. From: B.P. Shah, IHOW Secretary General, E-Mail: shahbp@gmail.com

DRAFT ANIMAL WELFARE ACT, 2011: GIVE YOUR COMMENTS

You can send your suggestions on the proposed Animal Welfare Act. A summarized draft of all suggestions will be submitted to the government for incorporation of our comments. Do not miss this opportunity and put your suggestions on paper now. Please write to us on E-Mail: pashuraksha@gmail.com or you can directly write to the Ministry of Environment & Forests on their E-Mail : animalwelfareact2011@gmail.com. From CS Praveen Kumar Jain, E-Mail: jain_praveen108@yahoo.co.in

Kindly include our suggestions on the Draft Act:

1. The offences under the Legislation should be made cognizable and non-bailable. Then only we can expect enforcement of animal welfare in actual sense. Most of the time the butchers are released in 2-3 hours by the police and police merely bothers for taking against on those, who are openly abusing/slaughtering animals specially cows/goats are slaughtered on roadside in many places in the country. Animal activists are threatened by these butchers and their rackets because they have no fear of law at present.
2. No exemption and relaxation should be given to any religion to kill and sacrifice the animals. Nobody should be given right to kill animals in the name of God or religion. Animal sacrifice is a day-to-day ritual in many religious monuments.
3. Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) and State Animal Welfare Boards (SAWB) (Referred as Board or Boards) to raid religious places periodically, where animal sacrifices are going on or they have reason to believe or received any information about sacrifice of animals.
4. Board officers to organize sudden inspections of all registered Slaughter Houses on quarterly basis and to submit report to the MOEF and also put the report on their respective websites.
5. AWBI & state board to Endeavour for inclusion of animal welfare/ care shiksha in school curriculum. This should be their duty.
6. Illegal slaughter of any animal including cattle/cow/bulls/goats should attract severe punishment; Cattle are the backbone of Indian Villages and Indian Economy.
7. Informants giving information of animal crime should be given protection/immunity.
8. Animals used by Army, Police and paramilitary forces to be taken care of and Board to ensure their well-being.
9. Experimentation on animals be banned completely, experiments on animals are of no use.
10. AWBI & State boards to setup regional level (east, west, south & north) laboratories to analyse and investigate injecting of lactation medicines in milch animals and also to ascertain the source of leather to check on illegal slaughter of animal and endangered species.
11. Entertainment, performance, joy rides etc. on/of animals to be regulated and the person/firm involved in such occupation to get license from AWBI & state boards.
12. Severe punishment to be imposed on transporters who are involved in Inhumane animal/bird transportation. Accused should not be given bail. Licenses/registrations of such defaulting transporters to be seized for 5 years.
13. Boards to organise training programmes for the enforcement of laws by the police and municipal bodies.
14. All illegal slaughter houses to be shut down immediately, police be asked to take severe action against the butchers, who are involved in contravening of law.
15. Rehabilitation of community pets - stray dogs, cattles also needs attention; their population shall be controlled by adopting and neuter.
16. Animal Shelters / Ambulances be provide at all taluka places.
17. ;Police powers be given to all recognized bodies for search and seizure.
18. Dog breeders, pet shops and fish aquarium to be regulated.
19. Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) be given more funds, staff and special court powers.
20. Separate rules to be framed for treatment of cows/buffalows and other milk giving animals with strict welfare norms. Offenders to attract severe punishment.
21. AWBI & State boards to make sudden visits of dairy farms/Tabelaas on quarterly basis.
22. AWBI to formulate std. of safety and welfare of animals in India and these standards to be made mandatory for all dairy farms/registered slaughter house.
23. AWBI to provide recognition to Dairy Farms/ Tabelas for their better care of cows and buffaloes.

Ahimsa Sangh, Vashi, Navi Mumbai, website: www.ahimsasangh.org, contact: 097022-68407

HEALTH TIPS

WHEN TO DRINK WATER



Rivers, ponds, lakes and streams - they all have different names, but they all contain water. Just as religions do - they all contain truths and purpose. I knew water is important but I never knew about the special times to drink it. Did you? Drinking water at the correct time maximizes its effectiveness on the Human body:

- 2 glasses of water after waking up - helps activate internal organs.
- 1 glass of water 30 minutes before a meal - helps digestion.
- 1 glass of water before taking a bath - helps lower blood pressure.

1 glass of water before going to bed - avoids stroke or heart attack.

JAIN FESTIVALS - MARCH 2011, COURTESY DR. RAJENDRA MUNI, NEW DELHI



S.No.	Date	Parv	
1.	03.04.2011	Pakshik Parva	Chaitsudi - 30
2.	05.04.2011	Amrit sidhi yog	
3.	06.04.2011	Kunthunath Bh. Janm Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 03
4.	08.04.2011	Ajitnath Bh. Moksh Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 05
5.	08.04.2011	Sambhavnath Bh. Moksh Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 05
6.	08.04.2011	Anantnath Bh. Moksh Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 05
7.	10.04.2011	Aaymil Aoli	Chaitsudi - 07
8.	12.04.2011	Sumatinath Bh. Moksh Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 09
9.	14.04.2011	Sumatinath Bh. Kewalgyan Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 11
10.	16.04.2011	Mahavir Swami Janm Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 13
11.	17.04.2011	Pakshik Parva	Chaitsudi - 14
12.	17.04.2011	Amritsidhi yog	
13.	18.04.2011	Padam Prabhu Swami Kewalgyan Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 15
14.	18.04.2011	Kunthunath Bh. Moksh Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 01
15.	18.04.2011	Aaymil Aoli Samapan	Chaitsudi - 15
16.	19.04.2011	Sheetalnath Bh. Moksh Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 02
17.	22.04.2011	Kunthunath Bh. Diksha Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 05
18.	27.04.2011	Neminath Bh. Moksh Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 10
19.	30.04.2011	Anantnath Bh. Janm Kalyanak	Chaitsudi - 13

DEVLOK GAMAN

JAIN SADHVI SHREE PADMAVATI COMPLETED HER SANTHARA AT MALERKOTLA



Jain Sadhvi Shree Padmavati Ji Maharaj (1928-2011) accepted the Santhara vow on 5th February 2011, remained on Santhara for a total of 177 hours and 40 minutes and left for the heavenly abode on 12 February 2011. Sadhvi Padmavati, born on 27 August 1928 to Kesar Devi and Daulat Ram Chaudhary of Tekwara, in Maharashtra, got initiated into the order of Jain Sadhvis on 31 March 1988. Her daughters, Sadhvi Shree Mahimashree Ji is also in the Jain order of Sadhvis and is also Founder of Tirthankar Sadhna Kendra at Malerkotla. Sadhvi Padmavati was staying at Malerkotla, during her last days when she decided to take Santhara. Although in advanced age, she was active and alert when she decided to accept Santhara. She had a peaceful end on 12 February. On 13 February 2011, the day after her departure to the heavenly abode, her body was taken in a huge procession through the streets of Malerkotla for cremation. Mr Purshottam Jain, renowned Punjabi Jain and writer who for a long time considered her as his religious -

MUNI YASWAI SAGARJI MAHARAJ LEFT HEAVENLY ABODE AFTER 51 DAYS IN SANTHARA

Kolkata: An 88-year-old Jain saint Munisree Yasawai Sagarji Maharaj of the Digambar community breathed his last in Kolkata after accepting Santhara. During the 51 days of remaining in Santhara he did not accept any food or water. In a rare honour to Yasawai Sagarji, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation reserved the wooden pyre of Kashi Mitra burning ghat from 2am to 10am for his cremation. In fact, Jain leaders had applied to KMC the day the monk started his fast to reserve the pyre for a month. The KMC agreed. There is no precedence for this in the KMC's history. Mayor Sovan Chatterjee personally asked chief municipal health officer J. C. Roy to pass an instruction to the sub-register of Kashi Mitra crematorium to arrange for everything. According to tradition, the monk was cremated in a sitting posture on the wooden pyre. Yasawai Sagarji passed away at 3.25pm on Monday. He had decided to breathe his last through meditation and by fasting unto death two years ago. A resident of Belgaum in Karnataka, Yasawai Sagarji Maharaj was attracted to Jainism at the age of 60 years. A father of four, he devoted himself to a saint's life 10 years ago, when he left family for good. Thereafter he attained three important feats of a Jain monk Brahmachari, Chhullak and Munisree. His brother, Devegouda Jinjouda Patil, was present when Munisree Yasawai Sagarji Maharaj breathed his last. The monk's son and all three daughters also present at the Belgachia temple. The funeral procession of the monk was attended by 10,000 devotees and may Jain Saints.

SADHWI SHRI MOHAN KUMARI JI disciple of eighth Acharya Shri Kalugani Ji Maharaj belonging to Jain Shwetambar Tera panth sect left for her heavenly abode on the 6th March, 2011 at Nokha (Rajasthan) at the age of 95 years. She expired soon after she had accepted Tivihar Santhara. She was born at Rajgarh (Churu Dist.) in Nahta family on Ashad Shukla 13 of Samvat 1973 and accepted Diksha at the early age of 10 years.

DR. DHARMSHEELA JI MAHARAJ disciple of Shri Kundan Rishi Ji Maharaj and Sadhwi Shri Ujjwal Kumari Ji Maharaj belonging to Jain Shwetambar Sthanakwasi Shraman Sangh left for her heavenly abode after accepting Santhara Samadhikaran on the 16th February, 2011 at Mumbai. She was born on the 13th July, 1937 at Kanhur village in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra. She accepted diksha 21st December, 1958 from Acharya Shri Anand Rishi Ji Maharaj. She was the pride of Shraman Sangh. Her main objective was to remove mutual differences amongst different sects and unite Shraman Sangh.

SAD DEMISE

PROF. VILAS ADINATH SANGAVE IS NO MORE



Prof. Vilas Adinath Sangave (1920-2011). Professor Sangave, 92, died in the early hours on 1st March 2011. He was bedridden for several days at his home in Rajrampuri area here. He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law. He was a pupil of Prof. Ghurye, who wrote a classic book Caste and Race in India (1932).

Dr. Vilas Adinath Sangave, an eminent Sociologist and Jainologist, was born on 2nd June 1920 in a Jaina family at Solapur in Maharashtra. He had his College education in Poona and got his Doctorate in Sociology (on the study of Jaina Community) in 1950 from the University of Bombay. He worked for some years as Professor of Sociology in the renowned Karnatak College, Dharwad and Rajaram College, Kolhapur. He retired in 1980 as Professor and Head of the Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, and since then he has been working as Honorary Director of Shahu Research Institute of Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

Dr. Vilas Sangave has to his credit forty Research Books and seventy-five Research Papers on Sociology and Social Anthropology in Marathi and English. His books in Marathi have run into many editions, have been translated into Kannada, Hindi and Gujarathi and have received prizes for best books from Bombay, Poona and Kolhapur Universities in Maharashtra. His book in English on Jainism has been translated into French. In recent years six large Research Volumes in Social History on "Rajarshi Shahu Chhatrapati Papers" edited by Dr. Vilas Sangave have been very much appreciated. Dr. Vilas Sangave's research publications in Jainology are considered as significant contributions to studies in Jaina Society,

Dr. Sangave was closely associated with several Universities and national level Research Institutes in Social Sciences and Jainology, Dr. Vilas Sangave has been specially honoured by the University of Cambridge (U.K.) in 1985 and by the Government of Bihar in 1989 for his distinctive services to research studies in Jainology. Dr. Vilas Sangave was also a renowned speaker in English, Marathi and Hindi and is known for his erudite and effective lectures on Jain Society, Religion

and Culture delivered in several Universities and Research Centres in India, U.K. and U.S.A. As a scholar member of Special Delegation of International Jaina Community, Dr. Vilas Sangave participated in the presentation of the "Jain Declaration on Nature" to His Royal Highness Prince Philip at Buckingham Palace in London, in, October 1990. Again, as a scholar member of official Delegation of Jain Religion from India, Dr. Vilas Sangave delivered an address on "Jainism": The Oldest Religion" in the "Parliament of World's Religions : Centennial Celebrations (1893-1993)" held at Chicago (U.S.A.) in September 1993. For his distinctive contributions to Jain Literature and Research Studies in Jain Sociology, Dr. Vilas Sangave was honoured with several National and Inter-national Awards. www.jainsamaj.org

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