



JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

A NON-PROFIT TAX-EXEMPT RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION, ID #54-1139623

April 2013 Newsletter

President

Paresh Shah
571-730-9803

Vice-President

Manna Shah
240-498-6183

Secretary

Jatin Shah
240-706-7844

Joint-Secretary

Autumn Dhanote
508-525-0211

Treasurer

Sanjay Shah
240-755-4404

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Kamlesh P Shah
301-933-3324

Director of Public Relations

Sharad Doshi
301-748-8111

Director of Publications

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410-531-2818

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Director of Events

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Director of Technology

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703-793-3049

Past President Council, Chair

Bhupesh Mehta
240-455-4524

Board of Trustees, Chair

Gita Shah
301-604-4076

Trustees

Pravin Dand
301-384-3367
Manoj Dharamsi
703-620-9837
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301-670-6844
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Atul Shah
301-274-0319

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jai Jinendra!

It is an honor and privilege to serve Jain Society in a Leadership capacity. On behalf of our entire executive committee, I would like to thank you for providing us this challenging opportunity to serve our active Jain Society. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the departing executive committee and our past president for their selfless dedicated service. I am really grateful for all the continued support and guidance from our past president, Bhupesh Mehta.

I would like to congratulate and welcome all the elected members of our executive committee. Thank you very much for your effort, time and dedication to our Jain Society.

Last year's Executive Committee has done an excellent job of organizing subcommittees for easy operations. We would like to encourage our members to take part in our committees and programs. Every week we have number of activities in our temple, please come forward and volunteer to help and organize these events.

As we continue to work towards the goal of building our new temple, we will need your help and support. Please volunteer and donate generously to our Jain Society.

Please send me your suggestions/comments for improvements in our services to the community to president@jainsocietydc.org

Paresh Shah
President, JSMW

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MESSAGE

Jai Jinendra. It is with great honor I express my thanks for selecting me to continue in my role as chairperson for the Board of Trustees.

Our "New Temple" project is ongoing. We need to work together, as this is not for only us but also for future generations to come. Thanks to all who have supported our \$1,000 for 1,000 women fundraising campaign. Again, I request all members to play an active role during the entire process of creating new temple.

Also, this year, we need to begin thinking about different activities to support and engage our immediate and extended community (including health care, volunteering at DC kitchen and other activities). Please make valuable suggestions that promote Jainism, while also supporting our communities.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Mahavir Jayanti celebration in April. Please take active role during entire event. Together we can do many things!

Gita Shah
Chairperson, JSMW Trustees



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Mahavir Jayanti – Janma Kalyanak Celebration

On April 27, 2013, we will be celebrating Bhagwan Mahavir Swami's Janma Kalyanak, a very auspicious day for all Jains. Our celebration will feature stage performances by our children, followed by Swami Vatsalya Bhojan. This year, to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary with the entire Sakal Sangh, Swami Vatsalya Bhojan will be sponsored by Kanu and Jyoti Doshi. If you wish to participate in the dinner, you are requested to RSVP by April 20, 2013 with the number of attendees (Adults and Children 5-15). Please RSVP through one of the following:

- Website: Register at www.JainSocietyDC.org
- Phone: Send a text message or call any one of the following people: Jatin Shah at (703) 926-7451 or Pragnesh Shah at (301) 305-4261

When	April 27, 2013, starting at 1:30 PM
Where	High Point High School 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD 20705
RSVP	Please RSVP by April 20, 2013

Program DVD

Stage program video will be available for small donation of \$10. To obtain a copy, please fill out the form on our website. Orders will be taken until May 20, 2013. We would like to thank Manohar Hegde and Manan Shah for donating videographer expertise, time and all raw materials for DVD production.

DC Central Kitchen

Over the last few, more than 45 volunteers join together on this community service project. Once again, JSMW has agreed to prepare Jain meal for 4,500+ needy and homeless people in DC-Metro area. This means 4,500+ individuals will be eating Jain meals on this day (and not eating meat), saving the lives of countless animals (Giving them Abhay Daan).

If you wish to donate for the event, please make your donation payable to "Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington" and in the memo field please mention "DC Kitchen" and mail it to our P.O. Box 4548 Silver Spring, MD 20914 (Please email us your donation amount (\$21, \$51, \$101, \$151, \$501... any amount is welcomed).

This is an excellent opportunity to do a community service project, publicize Jainism to the mainstream, and volunteer services directly to the needy. Names of about 45 to 50 dedicated volunteers will be collected to help us prepare and pack the food. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Bhupesh Mehta at 240-455-4524 or Nilesh Shah 410-531-6218. Volunteers must be at least 12 years old.



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NEW TEMPLE UPDATE

Fund Raising

Thus far, less than 40 percent of our members have pledged over \$1.5M for building the new Jain Center with Shikharbandhi Temple. We have already received donations of over \$800K so far. The remaining 60 percent of our members are earnestly requested to come forward with their 3-year pledge and donation for this noble cause. To make a pledge, please contact Manoj Dharamsi (703-620-9837 / mdharamsi@hotmail.com), any trustee or member of the Executive Committee. Please note that donations of over \$5,000 received for this New Jain Center Fund will be recognized (in multiples of \$5,000) on a plaque in the new Jain Center.

We have also started another fund drive called "\$1,000 from 1,000 Women". In addition to donating to the New Jain Center Fund, please also pledge and donate \$1,000 for each female member of your family or friends. Their names will be written on a wall or a pillar in the new Jain Center. So far, we have already received pledges from over 50 people.

Construction and Legal

Current Activities

- Vacating Pine St - Combining three plots 4241 Ammendale Rd, 4231 Ammendale Rd and Small property bought along with 4241 Ammendale Rd on Lincoln Ave
- Completing Temple Requirements
- Finalizing Architect Scope of work

Completed Activities

- Feasibility Study
- Natural Resource Inventory Forest Stand Delineation (NRI-SD) Study
- Traffic Study
- 4241 Ammendale Rd - **Tax EXEMPT for 3.52 Acre**
- Topography and Boundary Survey

Communication and Public Relations

- Strengthen our relationship with BAPS and the Beltsville Seventh-Day Adventist Church
 - Team members attended Diwali Annakut & Maha-Aarti at BAPS Temple. Dinesh Patel of BAPS introduced the committee to BAPS leaders where an overview of our project was presented. They offered their support for our Temple project and partnership in community service events as applicable.
 - Pastor Kermit Netteburg invited us to join Christmas Sunday service with congregation members. At service, we presented poinsettia plants to the Pastor. After the service, he introduced us and our construction project. In addition, Pastor Netteburg offered to help and host an event of mutual benefit.
- During Christmas, the team distributed holiday fruit and cheese baskets to households on Lincoln Ave & Macon Street. Other households were not home. Our goal was to reach at least 15 out of 26 households near our property to inform them of our construction status.
- Completed Social Media communication infrastructure, awaiting temple progress report to be posted.
- Working with Beltsville Public Library to help with small projects.
- Completed Logo competition.



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NEW TEMPLE UPDATE (continued)

Communication and Public Relations

Upcoming Activities

- Partner with BAPS on community service projects such as a Health Fair.
- Invite local schools to apply for environmental grants.
- Recommend EC to invite PG county Humane Society leaders on Mahavir Jayanti and give them "JIV DAYA" donation for animal shelter house.
- Consider new property beatification project to improve curbside appeal as people drive by.

JAINA UPDATE

JAINA Convention

Over 2,300 people have already been registered. The 17th Biennial JAINA Convention is being held from July 4th to 7th in Detroit, Michigan at the Suburban Collection Showplace Convention Center and is located in Novi - a Northwest suburb of Detroit. Please visit <https://registration.jaina.org/jaina2013/login.jsp> to register online. For registration assistance call 248-716-JAIN (5246).

JAINA Professional Group

JAINA is in the process of launching JAINA professional Group. The main motive of the committee is to create a directory of all Jain professionals who are in the field of various professions.

The goal is to:

1. Mentor young generation,
2. Create Inter-Intra Professional networking,
3. Professional development,
4. Professional and Political advocacy
5. Performance of professional community service activities etc.

Initial Target Professional Groups are:

1. Health Care Professionals (doctors, nurses etc.)
2. Engineers (IT, Civil, Architects etc...)
3. Attorneys
4. Diamonds & Jewelry
5. Finance & Accounting
6. Hotel, Motel & Construction

JAINA Projects

JAINA has various projects running throughout the year. If you would like volunteer for any project please check our current projects on Jaina.org. If you would like to join a team, Please contact Sushil Jain at skjain99@gmail.com

JAINA New Project: UPLIFTING UNDER PRIVILEGE FAMILIES FROM POVERTY BY EDUCATION

Approximately 17% of Jain families live at below poverty level in urban & rural parts of India. These families survived by secret assistance from community at large. However, due to lack of quality education many remained at the poverty level for several generations. This project will assist Jain families come out of poverty by quality education and vocational training.

Pilot Project:

Adopt a child for education and/or adopt a family to provide skill enhancement vocational training leading to higher paying jobs. JAINA has implemented several projects in this regards with great measurable successes. We request everyone to learn more about this initiative and participate.



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PATHSHALA UPDATE

Pathshala is an integral and vibrant part of Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington. In the current academic year for 2012-2013, there are 110+ students attending classes. In addition to Pathshala classes, we offer Hindi and Gujarati language classes. For those interested, Adult Classes are conducted at the same time as Children's Pathshala classes to encourage more parents to attend and learn Jainism.

We would like to thank our Volunteer Teachers for their service to our Pathshala. Our teachers are a key to success of our Pathshala. We would not have had such a vibrant Pathshala without the dedication and hard work of our teachers. Thank you!

Also, you may have registered your child(ren) for Pathshala, but may not be a member of Jain Society DC. If so, we request you to become a member by filling out a membership form that can be found at <http://jsmw.org/newsletter/Membership.pdf>.

Please contact Megha Doshi at 703-200-3080 or education@jainsocietydc.org for questions/suggestions.

Upcoming Class Schedule

APR		MAY		JUN	
7	21	5	19	2	16

Pathshala Page @ JainSocietyDC.org

The Pathshala page is updated on Jain Society DC website. This includes all the information about Pathshala, class locations, dates, timings, lunch sponsorship details & guidelines, lunch RSVP, class details, teacher's contact & curriculum. Please visit www.jainsocietydc.org/Pathshala.asp.

Pathshala Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Pathshala PTA is formed to help us organize various social events. Thanks to all the parents who stepped forward to form the PTA and create an interesting learning environment.

Outstanding Pathshala Student Award

Beginning this year, we will recognize Pathshala Students at the Mahavir Janma Kalyanak Stage Program. The basic idea behind this is to recognize extraordinary Pathshala students and also to encourage others to learn our Jain way of life.

Jain Academic Bowl (JAB) Tournament

In 1988, the Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington sponsored a pioneering religious knowledge competition called the Jain Academic Bowl, which promoted healthy competition between youth teams from Jain centers around the country at JAINA conventions.

This year, our Pathshala is participating in the JAB tournament organized by the JAINA Education Committee at the 17th JAINA Convention to be held in Detroit from July 4th to July 7th 2013. Thanks to all the kids who have shown interest to work and represent our Pathshala in this year's competition. Be sure to come out to cheer them on!



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YJA UPDATE

Young Jains of America (“YJA”), the youth branch of JAINA, has been very active these past few months and many youth from the DC/MD/VA area have been taking an active part in the organization and its activities.

In January, over 40 youth across North America (including several youth from our area) attended an educational webinar where Hemang Srikishan, a Pathshala teacher in Chicago, presented a session on The Challenges of Jainism, followed by a question and answer session. In February, 11 JSMW youth joined other Northeast and Mid-Atlantic young Jains at the annual Poconos Ski Retreat, where youth enjoyed social activities and several highly educational sessions and discussions over the weekend.

Two Young Minds Publications were also released, and everyone is encouraged to read these articles written by Jain youth. YJA is always open to article submissions, just email youngminds@yja.org. Adults and youth alike are welcome to submit articles to JAINA’s Huffington Post Blog, as well. Please e-mail priyal.gandhi@yja.org, if you are interested.

There are many more exciting events coming up and everyone between the ages of 14-29 are welcome to participate. YJA is a great way to meet new Jains, become involved in the community, and learn something new. If you are not already on YJA’s e-mail listserv, you can join by simply completing the Contact Us form on the YJA website (kindly note that it is not currently supported on mobile browsers).

To stay connected, “like” the Young Jains of America Facebook Page and follow @yjatweets on Twitter. You can also visit our website at www.yja.org, which is constantly updated with upcoming events. For youth attending JAINA Convention 2013 in Detroit, Michigan, join the Facebook group for Youth Activities (Ages 14-20) or Jain Networking Forum (Ages 21+).

Ongoing Activities

- Bi-weekly Sunday School Pathshala from September to May. Please contact Pathshala Coordinator Megha Doshi for any questions at 703-200-3080.
- Adult religious classes are also held in parallel with Sunday school. Please contact Atul Shah at 301-274-0319, or Pravin Dand at 301-384-3367 for more information.
- Adult Adhyatmik studies each Sunday - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Abhishek each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
- Monthly Shamuhik Samayik (Third Saturday) – 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Monthly Snatra Pooja (Sundays) - 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch.
- Dev Shastra Guru Pooja on 1st Sunday of each month - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch.
- Monthly Executive Committee meeting. Please contact Secretary Jatin Shah for any questions.
- Seniors Group at Jain Center - Please contact Fatechand Shah at fateshah@yahoo.com for upcoming seniors gathering.



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TREASURER'S UPDATE

Donations Received from November 16, 2012 through February 28, 2013

New Temple Donation

Shah Associates (Paid by Mahesh P & Premila M. Shah)	\$	10,000.00
Raju & Rupal Desai	\$	8,500.00
Arvind and Nayna Mehta	\$	5,000.00
Harshid & Hemangini Shah	\$	5,000.00
Pragnesh & Sonal Shah	\$	5,000.00
Bhupendra & Dipali Shah (Paid by V & B Shah, LLC)	\$	3,500.00
Paresh & Shilpa Shah	\$	3,498.00
Jatin & Ami Shah	\$	3,000.00
Pravin & Jyotsna Gohel	\$	2,501.00
Ashok and Pallavi Shah	\$	2,500.00
Dilip & Leena Parikh	\$	2,500.00
Nilesh & Megha Doshi	\$	2,500.00
Prakash & Kirtida Mehta (Paid by Mehta Foundation Trust)	\$	2,500.00
Ramesh & Varsha Mehta	\$	2,500.00
Ashok and Mina Shah	\$	2,000.00
Nitesh & Tanuja Shah (Paid by Atul & Aruna Shah)	\$	1,923.00
Vasant & Jyoti Gala	\$	1,700.00
Harish & Dina Shah (Paid by Atul & Aruna Shah)	\$	1,500.00
Vijay & Khushali Chheda	\$	1,500.00
Jatin & Parul Jain	\$	1,251.00
Jatin & Alpa Nagda	\$	1,250.00
Dilip & Kusum Dharamsi (Paid by Sunil & Pallavi Dharamsi)	\$	1,200.00
Niren & Jaya Nagda (Paid by Schwab Charitable Fund)	\$	1,001.00
Mahaveer Nabiraj & Family	\$	1,000.00
Prashant B. & Rajul Shah	\$	1,000.00
Umit & Sonal Shah	\$	1,000.00
Tushar & Nishma Shah	\$	425.00
Ramesh & Jaishree Junankar	\$	201.00
Pramathesh & Minaxi Broker	\$	117.84

New Temple Donation (Youth and Children)

Parita Ashok Shah	\$	1,095.00
Parth & Raina Ashok Shah (Paid by Ashok & Mina Shah)	\$	500.00

Membership

Deepak & Reema Jain	\$	151.00
Deval & Laura Mehta	\$	51.00
Ketan & Bijal Kothari	\$	151.00

Donation for \$1,000+ for 1,000+ Women

Kamlesh & Gita Shah	\$	5,000.00
Sharad & Sonal Doshi	\$	2,000.00
Keyuri & Kanvi Shah (Paid by Paresh & Shilpa Shah)	\$	1,502.00
Puneet & Mamta Jain	\$	1,001.00
Kirit & Bharti Khajuria	\$	1,001.00
Arvind & Nayana Mehta	\$	1,000.00
Nilesh & Manna Shah	\$	1,000.00
Sudhir & Dharini Khona	\$	560.00

General Donations (\$50 and Over)

(Snatra Pooja, General Donation, Mangal Divo, Aarti, Shantikalash, Gyan Pujan, School Scholarship, Jiv Daya, Swantsari Pratikraman Ghee Boli, Swapna Ghee Boli, Swamivatsalya, 18 Abishek & Pathsala Lunch)

Kamal & Jyoti Sanghani	\$	5,000.00
Kamlesh & Gita Shah	\$	2,000.00
V & B Shah, LLC	\$	1,000.00
Sanjay & Sangeeta Shah	\$	801.00
Sanjay & Indu Jain	\$	351.00
Allap & Sheetal Shah	\$	263.00
Jignesh & Nehal Goda	\$	251.00
Rita S. Jain	\$	251.00
Kalpesh & Nita Shah	\$	201.00
Ramesh & Varsha Shah	\$	201.00
Ashok & Pallavi Shah	\$	182.00
Dipak & Nila Shah	\$	151.00
Maitreyee Pasad	\$	146.00
Kunal & Manisha Jain	\$	145.00
Nancy Shah	\$	145.00
Ashish & Shilpa Jain	\$	125.00
Vinod Singhai & Seema Jain	\$	125.00
Nilesh & Manna Shah	\$	121.00
Nimesh Chheda & Vaishali Shah	\$	111.00
Jayant & Mrudula Shah	\$	101.00
Punamchand & Chandra Vora	\$	101.00
Purvi & Kaushal Shah	\$	101.00
Hetal Shah	\$	61.00
Jatin & Ami Shah	\$	51.00

Special Donations (Pooja for Special Events)

Sonali Bhavsar	\$	301.00
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JAIN CENTER LOCATION: 1021 BRIGGS CHANEY ROAD, SILVER SPRING, MD • PHONE (301) 236-4466

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 4548, SILVER SPRING, MD 20914 • WEB: WWW.JAINSOCIETYDC.ORG



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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED**

Calendar of Events

From	To	Program
Saturday April 27		Mahavir Janma Kalyanak Program
Saturday May 4		DC Central Kitchen
Thursday May 9	Wednesday May 15	Pravachan by Samirbhai Shah
Friday July 19	Thursday July 25	Pravachan by Nirmal Sagarji
Monday September 2	Monday September 9	Paryushan Parva with Jitendrabhai Shah
Monday September 9		Samvatsari Pratikraman
Saturday September 7		Swapna Ceremony
Tuesday September 10	Thursday September 15	Das Laskshan Parva
Wednesday October 30	Wednesday November 6	Pravachan by Bhadrabahu Vijayji
Monday November 4		Nav Smaran
Thursday November 28		Thanksgiving Day Ayambil