



# JAIN

## SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

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Nilesh Shah, Editor

11-2

August 2011

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## President's Message

**J**ai Jinendra. The Executive committee, with all your help and support, has achieved some important milestones in the progress of the society. We are proud to announce that we now have a full fledged working **JSMW office** at the temple with an improved high speed internet connection. I want to thank Paresh Shah for giving us the computer and monitor. We now have the ability to use **shopping cart for the online payments** for our website [www.JainSocietyDC.org](http://www.JainSocietyDC.org). The team has also helped install **security cameras** in and around the temple. Thanks to Narendra Khona for providing us with a camera and cables.

I am thrilled with the grand success of Fundraising Drama and Mahavir Jayanti Program. I would like to thank all participants, coordinators, teachers, parents and all the volunteers who have put on hundreds of hours to make the Fundraising Drama and the Mahavir Jayanti Program such grand and successful events. Both the events exceeded expectations and **we have already received pledges for over \$1.3m!**

The pledges we received speak to the profound generosity and commitment of our members for the New Temple. These donations for the seed money will allow us to accelerate the construction process to build an international pilgrimage site for Jain people.

I want to thank the Fundraising Drama participants Kanti Gangar, Sharmili Mehta, Aruna Shah, Jayuben, Bhavin Savla and to NarendraBhai Nandu for preparing our members to perform the drama. Thanks to Manoj Dharamsi and Kanta Dharamsi for overall background support in hosting and helping Narendra Bhai and his group with the Drama.

Mahavir Jayanti Program was the outcome of the very hard work and talent of 112 children, their teachers and parents. I want to specially thank Bela Gandhi, Manish Jain and Mega Doshi for their whole hearted contribution and

commitment for "Jains Around the World" program. I also want to thank the organizers Manna Shah, Paresh Shah & Mina Shah along with our MC Savita Jain. I also want to thank Pravin Dand for providing us with the projector screens.

I am very proud to announce that Dr. Sushil Jain has been elected as the President of JAINA. The Jaina Convention 2011 success was the result of very well organized work by Dr. Sushil Jain and Manoj Dharamsi. We had a very strong representation from our members at the JAINA Convention 2011 and we are pleased to report that Paresh Shah received JAINA Recognition award.

I am thankful to all the sponsors for sponsoring the "Gandhi Before Gandhi" Drama.

On behalf of the Executive Committee I want to thank all volunteers for their help during our past programs. Without your dedication, selfless devotion, and spirit of volunteerism we would not be successful. As always, we are looking forward to a large participation in all our future programs.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome, please contact me at 240-455-4524 or write me at [president@Jainsocietydc.org](mailto:president@Jainsocietydc.org)

- Bhupesh Mehta (President)

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message .....	Page 1
Trustees Report.....	Page 2
JAINA update.....	Page 2
Sub-committee Report.....	Page 3
Upcoming Events .....	Page 4
New Temple .....	Page 8
Youth Corner.....	Page 10
Seniors Group.....	Page10
Pooja Committee .....	Page10
Pathsala Report.....	Page11
Past Events .....	Page 11
Ongoing Activities .....	Page 12

## Board of Trustees Update

We are pleased to report that we were able to raise over \$1.3 million in pledges during a gala luncheon held on Saturday, April 30, 2011 and during Mahavir Jayanti program held on Sunday, May 1, 2011. We were fortunate to have with us Narendrabhai Nandu who graced the gala luncheon as well as Mahavir Jayanti program and helped us raise the funds. The fund raising should not stop here with \$1.3 million but we have to march forward and make a very concentrated effort and reach out to all the members of the community and raise at least another million dollars in pledges before the 2011 year is over.

The Construction Committee has completed the Traffic study and as we write, the Topography and Boundary Survey along with Natural Resources Inventory/Forest Stand Delineation project is underway. We are also looking into the vacating process whereby the two parcels of land can be combined. In our next report we will provide you with more details.

The Executive Committee has arranged several series of lectures and other religious activities at the temple during the month of August and we also have Paryushan Parva beginning on August 25<sup>th</sup>. We request you all the members to actively participate in as many activities as you can and during all this activities. Please remember the new Shikharbandhi Temple and donate generously towards the fund raising goal.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am making once again a strong appeal to all our members to donate generously for the new Jain Center and to help in any way they can to successfully complete the Temple building project.

Pravin Dand  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

## JAINA Update

Over 2,800 Jains, 35 dignitaries (scholars/sadhu-sadhviji) attended the 16th Biennial JAINA Convention in Houston during 4<sup>th</sup> July long weekend. The conference theme was "Live and Help Live." The events started on Friday with blessings from many scholars, monks, and nuns followed by dinner and then 'Gandhi Before Gandhi' drama. The convention was officially inaugurated by lighting of the candles by Lata Champsee, D.R. Mehta, Sushil Jain, and Dr. Neal Barnard, Udai Jain, and other sanghpatis. Many parallel sessions took place including lectures on Basic principles of Jain Dharma, Community Service, ABCD on Entrepreneurship, Yoga for Seniors, Jain Way of Entrepreneurship, Practicing Ecology in Daily Life, Jainism and Sustainability, Social Challenges for Seniors, Animal Rights, Vegan Diet and more. The evening entertainment program included a beautiful stage program called "Swagatam" by Jain Society of Houston and cultural programs by various US Jain Centers. In parallel to these programs, youths were having their own programs which included Jainism 101, Jain Networking Forum, Government Activism, Comparative World Religion, Easy Jain Cooking, and more. The convention came to a close on Monday with the closing ceremonies and blessings from the monks and nuns.

## Constitution Committee

- Working to bring the Constitution in line with today and the future of our Jain Society
- Implementing many revisions throughout the document
- July: Review by EC and Trustees
- August: Constitution Committee to revise
- September: Anticipate presenting to General Body for review and then approval
- Thoughts: Contact Pavan Zaveri at pavanzaveri@yahoo.com or Manu Shah at manu.shah@gmail.com

## Sub-Committee Report

**Technology Committee** team which includes Hemen Gandhi, Rajesh Rao, Kunal Jain and others did a great job during the Fundraising and Mahavir Jayanti Program. Technology committee helped setup the computer, software and internet in our JSMW office. They also helped in setting up the security system for our temple.

**Beautification Committee** team which includes Bhavna Mehta, Shilpa Shah and Yash Mehta, did a great job on both the events – fundraising and Mahavir Jayanti program. The team worked on getting the decoration items organized and document it. New forms have been created and a process has been implemented to rent the decoration items from the temple. If you wish to rent the decoration items please contact Bhavna Mehta at mehta04@gmail.com, or Shilpa Shah at shilushah@hotmail.com or Yash Mehta at mehtaya@gmail.com.

**Volunteer Committee** team includes Jatin Shah, Arpit Doshi and Khyati Mehta. The team have put together a database of volunteers and categorized them into expertise for easy execution of events. The current volunteer form is revised and is now available on our website.

**Public Relation (PR) Committee:** Rupen Shah is leading the PR committee. The objective of the PR committee is to raise awareness about Jain community in the Washington DC metro region. The endeavor is to get the county and state officials get involved in the temple project. The PR Committee has formed alliances with major media outlets such as OneIndia, Indian Express; with Student bodies such as UMD and with government officials in Indian Embassy, State of MD and MD Counties.

**Membership Committee**, which includes Nilesh Shah and Sailesh Shah, is working on updating our member database by collecting the latest information from the members.

The Most Important Key to Success for any organization is effective communication. We at JSMW want to make sure every family of the Jain Society gets the newsletters, updates and other event changes in a timely fashion. Therefore, it is very important for us to update our members database so we can reach all of you via mail and / or email. We will need following information from our members to update our database:

- (1). Member's surname
- (2). Member's and spouse's first name
- (3). Unmarried Children name and birth date
- (4). Home address
- (5). Phone numbers (Home, Cell, Work for member, spouse and children-young adults)
- (6). Email address (for member, spouse and children-young adults)
- (7). Profession and expertise (for member, spouse and children-young adults)

### Food Committee:

Food committee, which includes Harshid Shah and Dimple Doshi as usual, had done wonderful job during all major events. The committee is responsible for ordering the food, serving the food as well as cleaning and making sure everything goes smooth. The committee also came-up with a master check list which will take care of all the aspect of food ordering as well as paper goods requirements. The master check list can help to handle any future Mahavir Jayanti, Swamivatsalaya and other events.

## Advertisement in Newsletter

We allow printing of advertisements in our newsletters to offset the cost of printing and mailing them. Charges for advertisement are \$250 for half page and \$500 for full page. Interested parties are requested to please contact Harshid Shah at 703-723-9363 or Jatin Shah at 703-729-0383.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Jayesh Khona's Lectures Aug. 13 & Aug. 14 (Sat. & Sun.)

We are happy to announce that Mr. Jayesh Khona, who is a Professor and teaches Jainism in High Schools and Universities, will be among us on August 13 and August 14th, 2011.

Saturday, August 13th: 10:30AM to 12:00 PM  
(Topic – “Dharmo Rakshati Rakshatah” in Gujarati)

Saturday, August 13th: 01:30PM to 03:00 PM  
(Topic – “Dev guru dharam pasay” in Gujarati)

Sunday, August 14th: 10:30AM to 12:00 PM  
(Topic – “ABCD of Jain Dharma” (Ahimsa, Bhakti, Charity & Dedication) in English – Youths and Adults

Sunday, August 14th: 01:30PM to 03:00 PM  
(Topic – “Jainism and Jain Way of Life” in English) – Youths only

Education: M.A & Philosophy in Jain Dharma - 1993  
(Bangalore, India).

Experience:

Jain Teaching at Local universities & high school: - South Asian Philosophy class at UC Santa Clara university Religious studies at UC Berkeley during summer. Asian religion at Cabrillo College at Santa Cruz. Hired as a full-time Jain panditji for 5yrs at Jain Center of Northern California. 2002 to 2007. Talks on Jain dharma- on graduations at local schools / During the Coir festivals / When Natural Disasters during Tsunami, etc. Performing Jain Wedding:- Since 2002. Jain Vidhi Vidhan :- For all kinds of pratistha / poojan / anniversary etc...

### Shree Samirbhai Shah Thu, Aug. 18 to Sun, Aug. 21

We are fortunate to have Shree Samirbhai Shah (a well-known Jain Scholar visiting from India) with us from August 18 to 21. In addition to delivering Pravachan in Gujarati on weekdays, he will also perform 18 Abhishek and Astapad Bhav yatra during the weekend at our Jain Center. His program will be as follows:

Thu. Aug 18: 8:30 PM – 10:00 PM

Fri. Aug 19: 8:30 PM to 10:00 PM

Sat. Aug 20: 18 Abhishek (9:00 AM to Noon)

Sun. Aug 21: Astapad Bhav yatra (10:00AM to 12:00 PM)

#### 18 Abhishek Sat. Aug 20 - 9 AM to 12:00 PM

Shree Samirbhai Shah will be performing 18 Abhishek. Please take advantage of this auspicious opportunity to do the Abhishek of the Moorties at our temple for a nominal donation of only \$101 per Abhishek. You can also bring your home Pratimaji and perform all 18 Abhishek on them for a donation of \$ 51 per family. For participation, please contact Kanta Dharamsi at 703-620-9837 or Pallavi Shah at 301-260-1264.

#### Astapad Bhav yatra Sun. Aug 21 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Shree Samirbhai Shah will also be performing Astapad Bhav Yatra with full Audio Visual experience on Sunday August 21 from 10:00AM to Noon.

#### Pravachan by Manak Muni Aug. 21 from 1:30PM to 3:00PM

We are fortunate to have H.H. Manak Muniji in town and he will bless us with his pravachans on Sunday from 1:30PM to 3:00 PM.

## Paryushan Parva Thu. Aug 25 to Thu. Sep 1

We are pleased to announce that Shree Bhadrabahu Vijayji has kindly accepted to grace our Paryushan Parva celebration.

During Paryushan Parva, Shree Bhadrabahu Vijayji will deliver discourses in Gujarati during the morning and evening sessions. Evening Pravachan will be followed by Aarti & Mangal Divo. The programs during the Paryushan Parva will be held at the Jain Center except for the Swapna Ceremony and Samvatsari Pratikraman. The timings for Pravachans will be as follows:

### Thursday Aug 25

Morning Pravachan ... 10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Evening Pravachan ..... 8:15 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

### Friday Aug 26

Morning Pravachan ... 10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Evening Pravachan ..... 8:15 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

### Saturday Aug. 27

2:00 – 2:30 p.m. at High Point High School  
Beltsville, MD.

### Sunday Aug 28

Morning Pravachan ... 10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Evening Pravachan ..... 8:15 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

### Monday Aug 29 to Wed Aug 31

Morning Pravachan ... 10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Evening Pravachan ..... 8:15 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Also please note that from Aug. 25 (Thursday) to Aug. 31 (Wednesday), we will perform evening Samuhik Pratikraman stating at 6:45 p.m. at the temple. All are welcome to join.

## Swapna Ceremony Saturday, Aug. 27 - 2:00 PM

Swapna Ceremony will be celebrated in High Point High School Beltsville, MD on Saturday Aug. 27, 2011. Program will start at 2:00 p.m. with a Pravachan by Shree Bhadrabahu Vijayji followed by Parnu, Aarti, and Mangal Divo.

During the Swapna ceremony, members will have the honor of carrying each Swapna to the beats of drums and music. In order to involve more and more society members to join the Ghee Boli for Swapna Ceremony Celebration, we have decided to introduce a Raffle system for Swapnas # 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7. These Swapnas will be pre-assigned using the raffle system.

The Swapna ceremony program will be followed by **Swami Vatsalya Bhojan** (dinner). We are looking for members to sponsor the Swami Vatsalya Bhojan. The total expenses are around \$5501. Please volunteer to sponsor or partner with other families and friends, and become sponsor for this auspicious event. A group of families can join together to sponsor it. Alternately, separate individual families can sponsor by making a donation of about \$501 each. Interested sponsors/donors are requested to contact Bhupesh Mehta at 240-455-4524 or via email at [president@Jainsocietydc.org](mailto:president@Jainsocietydc.org). If we do not have enough members to fully sponsor the Swami Vatsalya Bhojan, a minimum donation of \$8.00 per person will be requested from all members.

If you want to participate in dinner, please inform us the number of participants (adults, and children of age 4-11 & 12-17) by Tuesday Aug 23 by going on-line on our website at <http://www.JainSocietyDC.org/Registration.asp> or calling Paresh/Shilpa Shah at 703-435-8118 or Nilesh/Manna Shah at 410-531-6218. We will make arrangements for extra food to accommodate guests and members who have not sent their RSVP by August 24. Such

individuals can participate in the dinner by donating a minimum of \$10.00 per person to the Swami Vatsalya fund.

**Directions to High Point High School** located at 3601 Powder Mill Road Beltsville MD 20705:

- From Capital Beltway I-495, take I-95N. From Baltimore, take I-95S to Washington. Take exit 29B, Rt. 212 W (Powder Mill Road) towards Calverton. Drive 1.2 miles, the school will be on your left.

## Raffle for Swapna Boli

Family interested to participate in the raffle can buy one or more raffle tickets by paying a donation towards Ghee Boli. Donation towards Ghee boli for each raffle ticket for Swapnas 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 will be \$151.00. Each raffle ticket will be only for one family.

Please register your name by 26 August with contact details to Paresh Shah at kparsh@gmail.com or 703-435-8118 OR Ashok Shah at ashok.shah@fgould.com OR 703-946-4417.

Winning tickets will be drawn during the evening Pravachan on the Friday August 26, by Shree Bhadrabahu Vijayji and the winners will be contacted and informed. In case of poor response towards the lottery system, we will reduce the number of Swapnas from the lottery system and perform ghee boli for the remaining Swapnas in the Swapna Ceremony program.

## Jain Bhavana Program with Kummar Chatterji on Aug 28

We will have a Jain Bhavana Program with Kummar Chatterji on Sunday, Aug 28th 2011 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Kummar Chatterjee was born in remote town in West Bengal. He started learning music at the

age of 7. He obtained master degree in music from Allahabad Prayag Sangeet Samiti. Over the last two decades he has mastered a unique style of Bhajans (Praises of almighty by his devotees) in various Indian Languages.

Kumar Chatterjee has mesmerized his audience across India, Middle East, Hong Kong, Europe and U.S. He has performed at the US JAINA Convention to thousands in attendance. In 2009; he was invited by the Parliament of the World Religion Conference to perform in their musical concerts in Melbourne, Australia.

## Deravasi Samvatsari Pratikraman

**Thursday, Sep 1 at 3:30 PM**  
**Pravachan at 2:30 PM**

Deravasi Pratikraman will be performed in **Mangal Mandir (17110 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring MD 20905) on Thu. Sep 1, 2011.** Program will start with a speech by Shree Bhadrabahu Vijayji at 2:30 PM. Pratikraman program will start at 3:45 p.m. sharp with Gheeboli for reciting Pratikraman Sutra. Samvatsari Pratikraman will start exactly at 4:00 p.m. sharp. To avoid causing any disturbance while the Pratikraman is in progress, all Pratikraman participants are requested to come by 2:30 PM, or definitely before 3:15 p.m. and be seated before 3:30 p.m. Please do not bring any children under the age of 8 years. After Pratikraman, Aarti and Mangal Divo will be performed at Jain Center at 7:30 p.m.

## Pratikraman in English Thursday, Sep 1 at 5:00 PM

Samvatsari Pratikraman in English will be performed at Jain Center stating at 5:00 p.m.

## **Sthanakwasi Samvatsari Pratikraman Thursday, Sep. 1 at 4:30 PM**

Sthanakwasi Samvatsari Pratikraman will be held at **Jain Center on Thursday, Sep. 1.** Aloyana will be recited from 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. followed by the Pratikraman stating at 5.30 p.m.

## **Tapasvi Bahuman Thursday, Sep 1**

Tapasvis (adults doing 3 or more consecutive Upwas, and children doing some Tapasya) will be recognized at the Jain Center after Aarti & Mangal Divo at 7:30 p.m. Members are requested to provide names of persons performing Tapasya. **Parna** for Tapasvis will be held on Friday, Sep 2 morning starting at 9:30 a.m.

## **Das Lakshan Parva Sept 2 to Sept 11**

Daslaxan Pooja and Pravachan will be held at the Jain Center from September 2-2011 to September 11-2011. On September 2, 6, 7, 8, and 9 there will be Aarti and Daslaxan Pravachan starting at 7:30pm. On September 3, 4, 5, 10, and 11, starting at 9:30am, there will be Abhishek, Daslaxan Pooja, Daslaxan Pravachan and lunch. On Sunday, September 11th, Samvatsari Pratikraman will begin at 5:00pm. For more information, contact Meeta Sogani at [meetasogani@gmail.com](mailto:meetasogani@gmail.com) or Pavan Zaveri at [pavanzaveri@yahoo.com](mailto:pavanzaveri@yahoo.com).

## **Overnight Stay at Jain Center**

**A**dult Members (maximum of 15 people) are welcome to stay overnight at the Jain Center during Paryushan and Das Lakshan Parva celebrations as per rules and registration information provided in the next paragraph. Manna Shah has volunteered to coordinate registration for staying overnight during

Paryushan Parva. If you or a member of your family would like to stay overnight during Paryushan Parva, please contact Manna Shah at 410-531-6218.

### **Rules and Regulations:**

Members of our Jain Society will be allowed to stay overnight at the Jain Center during programs scheduled at Jain Center, provided that they (1) sign and submit the Liability Release Form, (2) submit a proof of their having medical insurance coverage, and (3) make a donation for overnight stay in the amount stated below. Non-members will not be allowed to stay overnight at the Jain Center unless they become member to take advantage of this privilege.

The donation amount for overnight stay shall be \$8 per night with a maximum of \$40 for a period of up to 8 days during Paryushan Parva, and \$50 for a stay of up to 10 nights during Das Lakshan Parva. This donation does not cover any food or medical expenses incurred during stay at Jain center. Donation for overnight stay at the Jain Center during other scheduled programs (e.g., Jain camp) will be decided by the Executive Committee.

Guest speakers or invitees getting honorarium from Jain Society for their services will be allowed to stay overnight at the Jain Center without any donation. They will be allowed to stay overnight at the Jain Center from one day prior to the commencement of the scheduled program until one day after the completion of the scheduled program.

Persons staying at the Jain Center shall maintain the facility in accordance to good safety and hygiene procedures. Prior to leaving the facility, all food (cooked or raw) must be removed, and trash must be taken out.



**Future Site Location:  
4241 Ammendale Road, Beltsville, Maryland**

**Announcement:** Special General Body Meeting will be held on October 2, 2011 at 2pm

**Objective:** Discussion on requirements for New Jain Temple



**- On OneIndia.com, May 7, 2011**

**Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington raises \$1.3 mn**

Saturday, May 7, 2011, 16:02 IST



Washington, May 7: The Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington DC has announced that it had an immensely successful Fundraising and Mahavir Jayanti celebration program.

The two day event started on 30th April with a fund raiser for construction of a new temple over a 5.35 acre facility in Beltsville MD. The plans include the construction of a new Temple (Shikharbandh Mandir), as well

**- In India Tribune, May 2011**

**JSMW fundraiser nets over \$1.3 million for new Jain temple**



Silver Spring, MD: On April 30, the Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington held a kickoff fundraiser event for its new temple. The event, which featured theatrical performances emphasizing key Jain religious themes, raised over \$1.3 million in pledges toward the construction of a new 5.35-acre facility in Beltsville, Maryland. The amount raised is the largest single yield for any fundraising kick-off event for a Jain

**- In India Abroad, June 3, 2011**

**Jains raise \$1.3 million for new temple**

A snapshot from the event

A Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington fundraiser raised over \$1.3 million in pledges for the construction of a new temple at the 5.35-acre facility in Beltsville, Maryland. The event featured theatrical performances highlighting the Jain Diaspora around the world and key Jain religious themes.

"The pledges we received speak to the profound generosity and commitment of our members for the new temple, especially in light of the economy," said Bhupesh Mehta, president, Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington.

"We had a very enthusiastic response for our fundraising efforts,"

said Pravin Dand, chairman of the organization's board of trustees. The plans include the construction of a new temple — to be called the Shikharbandh Mandir — and a community facility that will host events. The overall project is expected to take three years to complete at a cost of \$4.5 million.

**- On rediff.com, July 7, 2011**

**Jains raise \$1.3 million for new temple**

Last updated on: July 07, 2011 22:12 IST



A Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington fundraiser raised over \$1.3 million in pledges for the construction of a new temple at the 5.35-acre facility in Beltsville, Maryland.



## Temple Subcommittee Updates

*Chair: Prakash Mehta*

### **Construction (Lead: Arvind Shah)**

- Traffic study completed in June 2011 by the Traffic Group
- According to their findings, no need to install traffic light @ Lincoln & Ammendale Road. Report is valid for 12 months and creates savings of ~\$150,000.
- Developed specifications for contractor selection process for the preliminary engineering studies.
- Prepared RFP and obtained bids from three potential firms.
- Awarded engineering study contract to AB Consultants of Lanham, MD.
- Retained Meyers, Rodbell & Rosenbaum, P.A. law firm for preliminary county permits.
- In progress: Survey work by Miss Utility for identification of all telephone, cable, gas, electric, and water lines on both properties.
- In progress: Topological, Boundary & Natural Resource Inventory surveys.
- Hired landscaping contractor to remove all dead trees.
- Awarded lawn maintenance contract for weekly upkeep. (Maintenance will be deferred through Paryusan/Daslaxan period.)

### **Public Relations (Lead: Sushil Jain)**

- Informing community of progress being made in regards to new Community Center.
- Developed new format for newsletter content to enhance information distribution. This current newsletter is a step in the right direction. We invite your feedback in this regards.

### **Fundraising (Lead: Manoj Dharamsi)**

- Thank you letters sent out for pledges received at fundraising events.
- Developing appropriate method of recognizing corporate donors.
- Plan to make strong efforts to solicit pledges from those who have not done so yet.
- Working on a formal process and methods of making pledges.
- Request to everyone who has pledged to send your periodic payments to help pay for construction activities.

### **Budget (Lead: Praveen Jain)**

- Building Draft SOP for Finance with plan to then develop a process and procedures for Temple committee.
- Develop and update cost estimates of New Jain Center project on continuing basis.



FRONT ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION

## Youth Corner

I am very happy that our Art Competition was a huge success and I would like to congratulate the winners:

Ages 2-5: Anushka

Ages 6-10: Deesha Ajmera

Ages 11-14: Kajal Vora

Ages 15-18: Priyal Gandhi

Thank you all participants and everyone is very proud of your work.

### Upcoming Youth Events (2011-2012)

1. Lecture by Professor Jayesh Khona - August 14, 2011 at the Jain Center
2. Game Night - September 2011 (First day of Pathshala) place: TBD
3. Sports Tournament - October 2011 at the Jain Center
4. Pathshala Teacher Appreciation Month - October 2011 at Jain Center
5. Charity Dinner - November 2011
6. Trip to NYC Temple for ages 13+ - Winter Break 2011

In order for interaction and unity in our Jain community, the youth will have to step up and voice their opinions and all of their suggestions will play a great role in trying to better our community. One of our biggest tasks this year is fundraising money for our new temple.

### Youths:

If you have any ideas, suggestions, or just want to give your amount total to the Jain Center to help raise money for the new temple, please email Bhupesh Mehta at [president@jainsocietyDc.org](mailto:president@jainsocietyDc.org) and me, Payal at [payalmvora@yahoo.com](mailto:payalmvora@yahoo.com).

I am looking forward to hearing from all the youths as well as parents with their new ideas and/or suggestions.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to contact us:

E-mail: [jsmwyouthcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:jsmwyouthcommittee@gmail.com)

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&ref=search&gid=2263918810>

My email: [payalmvora@yahoo.com](mailto:payalmvora@yahoo.com)

Cell: 301-509-8173

Youth Coordinator,  
Payal Vora

## Senior Group

The Senior Group at the Jain Center meets once a month for the various activities pertinent to the Seniors such as Discussions on Health and Finance related topics, Picnics, Sight seeing trips etc. We normally meet on Saturdays between 4 and 7 pm at the Jain Center. Dinner is provided by monthly sponsors consisting of up to three Families of the Member Body. Anybody who is 55 years of age and over is welcome to join and attend the meetings/events. One time membership to join the Senior Group is \$ 101/couple and \$51/single.

For more information, please feel free to contact Kanti Ganger by calling 301.598.3093 or by email at [kantigangar@yahoo.com](mailto:kantigangar@yahoo.com)

## Pooja Committee:

The Pooja Committee has been performing various Poojas such as Vastuk Pooja, Panch Kalyanak Pooja and Antaray Karma Pooja at the residence of our members and at the Jain Center. Poojas have been performed at the residence of following members during months of May and June:

Reetaben Shah, Sandeepbhai and Jhalakben Mehta, Pradipbhai and Nimita Shah, Narendrabhai and Sangitaben Shah, Arvindbhai and Nayanaben Mehta, Virendrabhai and Anilaben Shah.

If you wish to perform any Pooja, please contact Jyoti Doshi at 301-670-6844.

## Pathsala Report

**J**ain Sunday School for children age 4 to 17 is held twice a month from September through May from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. It consists of 7 levels of classes. Each student spends a minimum of 2 years in a class. A planned curriculum is followed for each class. Last year, we had more than 85 students' enrollment. This year we will be adding a Nursery Level class for 3 year old children.

Before and after Sunday Jain Pathshala, we have started Gujarati and Hindi Classes.

The 2011-12 school year starts on September 25, 2011. We urge all members to enroll their children as soon as possible and take advantage of this unique opportunity of teaching our religion. Please fill out the form located on our website. Registration form is attached with this newsletter and will be available during the Swapna Ceremony program. The website also provides the information about the timetable and the curriculum.

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

Please contact Pathshala coordinator Paresh Shah at 703-435-8118 (kparsh@gmail.com) for any questions/suggestions.

Adult religious classes are also held in parallel with Sunday School in the Jain Center. Please contact Dr. Atul Shah at 301-274-0319 or Pravin Dand at 301-384-3367

## Past Events

**F**ollowing are the details of the past programs held at the Jain Center:

- ✚ July 13<sup>th</sup> to July 16<sup>th</sup>: Lectures by Tarlaben Doshi
- ✚ July 16<sup>th</sup> : "Gandhi Before Gandhi" Drama
- ✚ July 1<sup>st</sup>: Bhavna program in the memory of our member Anjuben Vora, wife of Bhavi L. Vora,
- ✚ June 17<sup>th</sup> to June 22<sup>nd</sup> :Adhyatmic Swadhyay sessions with Pandit Abhaykumarji Jain
- ✚ May 28<sup>th</sup>: Lecture by Shri Shrutapragya Swamiji
- ✚ May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Art Competition
- ✚ May 21<sup>st</sup>: DC kitchen Event
- ✚ May 1<sup>st</sup>: Mahavir Jayanti
- ✚ April 30<sup>th</sup>: Fund raising luncheon
- ✚ April 17<sup>th</sup>: Samuhik Ayambil and Sidhchakra pooja

## Member's directory:

We are also planning to publish Members directory by end of 2011. Following information will be included in the directory. Surname, Member's and Spouse's Names, Home Address, Home Phone, Unmarried Children Names with their Birth Month and Year. Please send all of the above information at secretary@jainsocietydc.org or submit your information at <http://www.JainSocietyDC.org>

The rates for advertisement in the membership directory are: \$200 for a full page (5.5"x 8.5"), and \$125 for a half page for a black and white printing. To obtain more info for advertisement for inside front page, inside & outside back page, colour advertisement, or in the preparation of the directory, please contact Harshid Shah at 703-723-9363 or Bhupesh Mehta at 240-455-4524.

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES

**F**ollowing are the details of the ongoing programs at the Jain Center:

- ✚ Bi-weekly Sunday School Pathashala from September to June. Please contact Pathashala coordinator Paresh Shah for any questions at 703-435-8118.
- ✚ Adult religious classes in are also held in parallel with Sunday school.
- ✚ Adult Adhyatmik studies each Sunday - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- ✚ Abhishek each Sunday at 9:00 am
- ✚ Monthly Snatra Pooja (Sundays) - 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch
- ✚ Dev Shasta Guru Pooja on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch
- ✚ Monthly Executive Committee meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each Month - 1:30 p.m. Please contact Secretary Nilesh Shah for any questions.
- ✚ Senior Group activities at Jain Center - Please contact Kanti Gangar at 301-598-3093 for upcoming seniors gathering.

## Fourteen Auspicious Dreams of Mother Trishala



Do you want to know more about 14 dreams of mother Trishala? Please read the article below.

Queen Trishala, mother of Lord Mahavir saw at mid night fourteen beautiful and auspicious dreams after conception.

They were:

1. Elephant
2. Bull
3. Lion
4. Goddess Laxmi
5. Garland of Flowers
6. Full Moon
7. Sun
8. Large Flag
9. Silver Urn
10. Lotus Lake
11. Milky Sea
12. Celestial Airplane
13. Heap of Gems
14. Smokeless Fire

### Explanation:

\* The first dream queen Trishala saw was an ELEPHANT. She saw a big, tall and impetuous elephant. It had two pairs of tusks. The color of the elephant was white and its whiteness was superior to the color of marble. It was an auspicious elephant and was endowed with all the desirable marks of excellence. This dream indicates that her son will guide the spiritual chariot and save human beings from misery, greed and attraction of life.

\* The second dream queen Trishala saw was a BULL. The color of the bull was also white, but it was brighter than white lotus. It glowed with beauty and radiated a light all around. It had noble, grand and majestic hump. It had fine, bright, and soft hair on his body. Its horns were superb, and sharply pointed. This dream indicates that her son will become a spiritual teacher of great sages, kings and other great personalities.

\* The third dream queen Trishala saw was a magnificent LION. Its claws were beautiful and well poised. The lion had a large wellrounded head and extremely sharpened teeth. Its lips were perfect, its color was red, and its eyes were sharp and glowing. Its tail was impressively long and well shaped. Queen Trishala saw this lion descending towards her and entering her mouth. This dream indicates that her son will be as powerful and strong as lion. He will be fearless, almighty, and capable of ruling the entire world.

\* The fourth dream queen Trishala saw was a GODDESS LAXMI, the Goddess of wealth, prosperity and power. She was seated at top of mountain Himalaya. Her feet had sheen of golden turtle. She had delicate and soft fingers. Her black hairs were tiny, soft and delicate. She wore rows of pearls interlaced with emerald and a garland of gold. A pair of earring hung over her shoulders with dazzling beauty. She held a pair of bright lotuses. This dream indicates that her son will attain the great wealth, power and prosperity of this world.

\* The fifth dream queen Trishala saw a celestial GARLAND OF FLOWERS descending from the sky. It smelled mixed fragrance of different flowers. The whole universe was filled with fragrance. The flowers were white and woven into the garland. They bloom during all different seasons. Swarms of bumblebees flocked to it and they made humming sound around the region. This dream indicates that the fragrance of her son's teaching will spread over the entire universe.

\* The sixth dream queen Trishala saw a FULL MOON. It presented an auspicious sight. The moon was at its full glory. It awoke the lilies to bloom fully. It was bright like a well-polished mirror. The moon radiated whiteness like a swan. It inspired the oceans to surge skyward. The beautiful moon look like a radiant beauty mark in the sky. This dream indicates that her son will have a great physical structure and be pleasing to all living beings of the universe.

\* The seventh dream queen Trishala saw a HUGE DISC OF SUN. The Sun was shining and destroying darkness. It was red like the flame of the forest. Lotuses bloomed at its touch. The Sun is the lamp of the sky and the lord of planets. The sun rose and put to end the evil activities of the creatures that thrive at night. This dream indicates that teaching of her son will to destroy anger, greed, ego, lust, and pride from the life of the people.

\* The eighth dream queen Trishala saw a very LARGE FLAG flying on a golden stick. The flag fluttered softly and auspiciously in the gentle breeze. It was attracting the eyes of all. Peacock feathers decorated its crown. A radiant shiningwhite lion was on it. This dream indicates that her son will be great, noble and well respected leader of the family.

\* The ninth dream queen Trishala saw a SILVER URN (Kalash) with full of crystalclear water. It was a magnificent, beautiful and bright pot. It shone like gold and was a joy to behold. It was garlanded with strings of lotuses and other flowers. The pot was holy and untouched by anything sinful. This dream indicates that her son will be perfect with all virtues.

\* The tenth dream queen Trishala saw a LOTUSLAKE (PadmaSagar). The thousands of lotuses were floating on the lake, which opened at the touch of the Sun's rays. The lotuses imparted a sweet fragrance. There were swarms of fishes in the lake. Its water glowed like flame. The lily-leaves were floating on the water. This dream indicates that her son will help to liberate the human beings that are tangled in the cycle of birth, death and misery.

\* The eleventh dream queen Trishala saw a MILKYSEA. Its water swell out in all directions, rising to great heights with turbulent motion. Winds blew and created waves. A great commotion was created in the sea by huge sea animals. Great rivers fell into the sea, producing huge whirlpools. This dream indicates that her



son will navigate through Life Ocean of birth, death and misery leading to Moksha or Liberation.

\* In her twelfth dream, queen Trishala saw a **CELESTIAL AIRPLANE**. The airplane had eight thousands magnificent gold pillars studded with gems. The plane was framed with sheets of gold and garlands of pearls. It was decorated with rows of murals depicting bulls, horses, men, crocodiles, birds, children, deer, elephants, wild animals and lotus flowers. The plane resounded with celestial music. It was saturated with intoxicating aroma of incense fumes. It was illuminated with bright silvery light. This dream indicates that all gods and goddesses in heaven will respect and salute to his spiritual teaching and will obey him.

\* In her thirteenth dream queen Trishala saw a great heap of **GEMS**, as high as Mount **MERU**. There were gems and precious stones of all types and kinds. These gems were heaped over the earth and they illuminated the entire sky. This dream indicates that her son will have infinite virtues and wisdom.

\* In her fourteenth dream queen Trishala saw a **SMOKE LESS FIRE**. The fire burned with great intensity and emitted a radiant glow. Great quantities of pure Ghee and honey were being poured on the fire. It burned with numerous flames. This dream indicates that the wisdom of her son will excel the wisdom of all other great people.

After having such fourteen wonderful dreams, queen Trishala woke up. Her dreams filled her with wonder. She never had such dreams before. She narrated her dreams to king Siddhartha. The king called the soothsayers for the interpretation of dreams and they unanimously said, "Sir, Her Highness will be blessed with a noble son. The dream augurs the vast spiritual realm, the child shall command. Her Highness will become the Universal Mother. "After nine months and fourteen days, Queen Trishala delivered a baby boy. The boy was named Vardhaman meaning

ever increasing. Immediately after the birth of prince Vardhaman, Indra, the King of heaven, arrived with other gods and goddesses. He hypnotized the whole city including mother Trishala and King Siddharth. He took the baby Vardhaman to mount Meru and bathed him. He proclaimed peace and harmony by reciting **BRUHAT SHANTI** during the first bathing ceremony of newborn

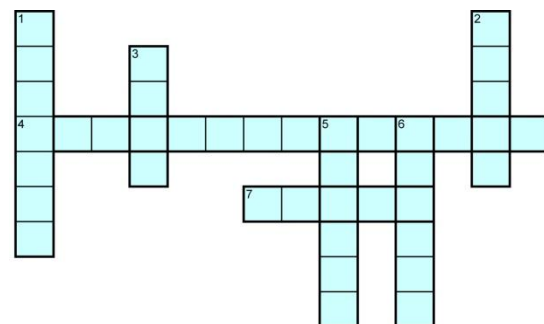
Tirthankara. After renunciation and realization of Absolute self-knowledge, Prince Vardhaman became Lord Mahavir, the twenty-fourth and the last Tirthankara of Jain religion.

**Information Courtesy : Mr. Pravin K. Shah  
Chairperson JAINA Education Committee**

## 14 Dreams Crossword

### Down

1. This Dream had a pair of something made from flowers
2. The name of the Goddess in mother Trishala's dream
3. The number of tusks the white elephant had
5. The color of the Flag fluttering in the wind
6. Mother Trishala described the claws of the lion as being as long as



### Across

4. What was floating on the lake dream
7. Mother Trishala dream about the moon meant that what would be brought to the world?



# Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington

A non-profit tax-exempt religious organization, id # 54-1139623

JAIN CENTER LOCATION: 1021 BRIGGS CHANEY ROAD, SILVER SPRING, MD • PH: (301) 236-4466  
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 4548, SILVER SPRING, MD 20914  
WEB ADDRESS: [www.JainSocietyDC.org](http://www.JainSocietyDC.org)

## JAIN SUNDAY SCHOOL - Registration Form For Academic Year Sept. 2011- May 2012

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name Father's Name Mother's Name

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency (If other than above) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Addresses: \_\_\_\_\_

**Enrollment** (you can enroll only those children who will complete age 3 by September 30, 2011, i.e., born before September 30 2008 or earlier):

### Jain class (Nursery, pre alpha,

Name of Student	Date of Birth	School Grade	<u>A,B,C,D,E,F,G)</u>		Amount
			Last Year	This Year	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Additional Donation for School Rental (\$50, \$100, \$400, other amount) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Donation:** \$100.00/student for enrolling in pathshala. For Gujarati/Hindi class \$25/student/class.

If you have any questions about classes please check with Paresh Shah – 571 73 9803/kparsh@gmail.com

Donation Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ by Cash OR with Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Please make the check payable to “Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington”

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or hand-deliver your completed Registration form before September 2nd, 2011 to:  
Paresh Shah, 2656 Meadow hall Dr, Oakhill, VA 20171

For Office use ONLY:



# JAIN

SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 4548, SILVER SPRING, MD 20914

Web address: [www.JainSocietyDC.org](http://www.JainSocietyDC.org)

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED**

## Upcoming Events for 2011

Saturday, August 13 - Sunday, August 14: ..... Jayesh Khona  
Thursday, August 18 – Friday August 19: ..... Samir Bhai Shah  
Saturday, August 20: ..... 18 Abhishek by Samir Bhai Shah  
Sunday, August 21: ..... Astapad Bhav Yatra by Samir Bhai Shah  
Sunday, August 21: ..... H.H. Manak Muni  
Thursday, August 25 – Thursday September 1: ..... Paryushan Parva  
Saturday, August 27: ..... Swapna Ceremony  
Thursday, September 1: ..... Samvatsari Pratikraman  
Friday, September 2 – Sunday, September 11: ..... Das Lakshan Parva  
Monday, October 3: ..... Ayambil  
Wednesday, October 26: ..... Diwali - Prakshaal, Laddu and Pooja  
Thursday, October 27: ..... Nav Smaran  
Wednesday, November 9: ..... Diwali Program  
Thursday, November 24: ..... Thanksgiving Day Ayambil  
Sunday, December 11: ..... AGM and Elections  
Sunday, January 1: ..... New Year - Pooja