



# 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

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N01-1  
February, 2001

### *President*

Kanta Dharamsi  
703-620-9837

### *Vice-President*

Dhiraj Shah  
410-480-2666

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Niru Shah  
410-551-8324

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301-236-4410

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301-963-3920

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301-260-1264

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Kamlesh R. Shah  
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301-670-0519

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301-384-3367

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Manoj Dharamsi  
703-620-9837

Arvind Shah  
301-869-7196

### *Youth Committee*

#### *Coordinator*

Nisha Jain  
703-425-6662

#### *Members*

Pinkesh Bhavsar  
301-598-7464

Amee Mehta  
703-318-8252

Avni Mehta  
301-210-0444

Nidhi Shah  
301-933-8123

## President's Message

Jai Jinendra.

We, the members of the Executive Committee, are committed to do our best. However, we would like to have more participation by members in various programs. Remember, Jain Society belongs to all members. We request all of you to feel free in making any suggestions. Also, we would like to see more activities and more participation by our younger generation, the future pillars of our Society. I will personally press on our youth committee to achieve this.

A big disaster struck Gujarat on our 51<sup>st</sup> Republic day. All of you are requested to send your generous donations to help the unfortunate victims of the earthquake.

Friday, April 6, 2001 will be the 2600<sup>th</sup> Janma Kalyanak of Bhagwan Mahavir. On that very auspicious day, at 12:39 p.m. (Vijay Muhurta), I would like to request all members to stop what they are doing and recite at least 12 Navkar. Details of other celebrations planned on this day and for Mahavir Jayanti Program on April 8 are given elsewhere in this newsletter.

We would like to take advantage of the Internet age and provide you, the members, with the most current news and updates at the spur of the moment via web page and via e-mail. (Please see additional information given on the next page).

Looking forward to full support from all,

Kanta Dharamsi

## General Meeting and Elections

A General Body Meeting was held at the Jain Center on Sunday, January 21, 2001 to elect members for the vacant positions. The final election results are shown on the left hand column. The elections were followed by a lively and open discussion about current activities and future agenda of the society.

We sincerely thank the outgoing President Pravin Dand, and all outgoing members of the Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, and Youth Committee for their dedicated work during the year 2000.

## Mahavir Jayanti Celebration

Mahavir Jayanti Celebration is scheduled on Sunday, April 8, 2001 starting at 2:00 p.m. As in the past, the celebration will include cultural programs by our children. Please note that we would like to limit participation in the cultural programs to items performed in a group of 2 or more participants. Members are requested to encourage their children to take part in the group cultural programs. Please provide details of your entries to Ashok R. Shah at 301-260-1264 before March 4, 2001. Directions to the currently planned location (Briggs Chaney Middle School) are given elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Youth committee is having a canned food drive for the homeless during Mahavir Jayanti program. Everyone is requested to bring at least one canned food item.

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## Jain Sunday School

Jain Sunday School is open to all children. The school year is from September through May and the classes are held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays from 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. Adult classes are also held in parallel. We urge all the members to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

## Membership

Most of our members (340) are life members. Those of you who have not yet become life members are requested to please become life members by sending a check for \$151 to our treasurer Manu J. Shah at 21009 Sunny Acres Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882.

## Phones To Remember

Pooja ..... Jyoti Doshi @ 301-670-6844  
Jain Sunday School .. Kamlesh Shah @ 301-838-9778  
Adult Classes ..... Pravin Dand @ 301-384-3367  
Equipment Rental ... Ashok R. Shah @ 301-260-1264  
JAINA Convention ..... [jainaconvention@aol.com](mailto:jainaconvention@aol.com)

## Condolences

One of our life members, **Sugan Dalal**, presently residing in Mumbai, passed away on January 18, 2001. We convey our hearty condolences to his family members and pray that his soul rest in peace.

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## List Of Donors (\$25 and above) Oct. 2, 2000 to Jan 30, 2001

### Adopt Jain Center Pledge

Ambudkar, Suresh & Indu.....	\$101
Desai, Raju & Rupal.....	202
Doshi, Kanu & Jyoti.....	101
Goda, Jitendra & Ila.....	202
Goda, Kishor & Damyanti.....	202
Gosalia, Rajni & Sarla.....	202
Jain Bhawanji & Kala.....	202
Khajuria, Kirit & Bharti.....	202
Kothary, Mahendra & Shaileshi.....	202
Mehta, Bhupendra & Kokila.....	202
Mehta, Lalit & Hansa.....	101
Nagda, Niren & Jaya.....	202
Shah, Arvind & Sanyukta.....	202
Shah, Jagat & Shila.....	202
Shah, Mulchand & Ratan.....	101
Shah, Vinod & Manjula.....	505

### Life Members

Shah, Kamal & Suparna.....	\$151
Shah, Umit & Sonal.....	151
Gangar, Sandeep.....	151

### 3-Year Members

Kothary, Rajesh & Bhamini.....	\$51
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### Other Donations

Ajmera, Praful & Raksha.....	\$ 75
Bansal Saguna.....	51
Chheda, Ratilal & Rekha.....	165
Desai, Arvind & Rama.....	501
Dharamsi, Manoj & Kanta.....	401
Doshi, Kamal & Arti.....	501
Doshi, Kanu & Jyoti.....	294
Gangar, Sandeep.....	51
Goda, Narendra & Jyotsana.....	251
Haria, Mansukhlal & Niranjna.....	150
Indam Engineers, Inc.....	101
Jain Damini.....	51
Jain Sangh Of Cherry Hills.....	351
Jain, Nisha.....	150
Jani, Sanat & Manjula.....	276
Khona, Naren & Datta.....	51
Kothary, Rajesh & Bhamini.....	\$75

Maru, Hiranya H.....	75
Mehta, Arvind & Nayana.....	30
Mehta, Heena.....	151
Mehta, Kiran & Sharmila.....	451
Mehta, Lalit & Hansa.....	25
Mehta, Prakash & Kirtida.....	70
Mehta, Sudhir & Hemali.....	752
Merchant, Deepak & Sunila.....	51
Mohnot, Sheel & Prabha.....	75
Momaiya, Ashwin & Pratixa.....	86
Naik, Dilip & Nisha.....	75
Sanghani, Kamal & Jyoti.....	501
Shah, Anil & A.P.....	30
Shah, Anish & Jayanti.....	101
Shah, Anupam & Mainaki.....	1,273
Shah, Ashok & Pallavi.....	54
Shah, Atul & Aruna.....	251
Shah, Bhupendra & Surekha.....	50
Shah, Deepak & Sampurna.....	75
Shah, Dhiraj & Nalini.....	532
Shah, H.R. & R.C.....	300
Shah, Has Mukh & Sudha.....	25
Shah, Jagat & Shila.....	30
Shah, Jawahar & Doler.....	180
Shah, Jyotin.....	75
Shah, Kamal & Suparna.....	251
Shah, Kamlesh & Arti.....	30
Shah, Mahendra & Bharati.....	221
Shah, Mahesh & Premila.....	300
Shah, Minaxi.....	101
Shah, Mohna.....	75
Shah, Mulchand & Ratan.....	51
Shah, Narendra & Sangita.....	101
Shah, Nayan & Jyotsana.....	150
Shah, Nilesh & Rupal.....	81
Shah, Piyush.....	41
Shah, Pragnesh & Neeta.....	51
Shah, Pravin & Kalpana.....	75
Shah, Rajiv & Sujaini.....	30
Shah, Shailesh & Mona.....	30
Shah, Talak & Ranjana.....	266
Talsania, Nayana.....	2,515
Turakhia, Bipin & Rashmi.....	286
Vora, Punamchand & Chandra.....	601
Vora, Rajesh & Sujata.....	30

## Youth Corner:

The Youth Committee is looking forward to a new year full of educational and social activities. To facilitate interaction within our young community, the following activities are being considered:

- Picnic and sports Day for youth in spring
- Jain Youth Camp for a weekend during the summer
- Trip to Siddhachalam
- Trip to other Jain Centers so we can see their centers and meet with their youth to have discussions

These are few ideas the youth committee is pondering on. Of course, the committee needs your support and input to figure out a way to bring more youth back to Jain Center and find out what activities would interest you. So, please contact me at 703-425-6662 with your suggestions.

Nisha Jain

## Children's Corner

Articles from  
Jain Sunday School Children

### THE DANGERS OF EVERYDAY LIFE

Hi!! I'm really trying my best to be a good Jain, so I feel it is my duty to inform you all of what lies hidden in everyday life...

In my school, the teachers sometimes hand out rewards. These for some reason, are never completely Jain. They usually fall along the lines of Twinkies, Jolly Ranchers, Jello, or Milky Way. Would you like me to name more, or is this enough?? This is all I need to write, because each one gets the particular ingredient on the bad list.

Hey, don't be mad if I ruin some of your favorite foods and you never want to eat them again!!

☸ Twinkies contain beef fat. I bet all of you are concerned about keeping in shape.... these things are pure fat!!

☸ As for Jolly Ranchers, some contain Red #40. Red #40 is crushed beetles. Scared when you see a bug?? Then don't eat them!! Those flavors are watermelon, grape, cherry, and a whole lot more.

☸ Jello... It's alive!! No, I'm serious.... well, at least it used to be!! Jello is nothing but hooves, horns, ligaments, and muscle tissue. Now think about this. It's the equivalent of just taking a bite into a hoof. Doesn't that thought just seem so nasty??

☸ Milky Way, it isn't that heavenly. It contains egg whites, and those I do not need to explain!! Eggs are lives thrown away, and that speaks for itself.

☸ And as for Indian sweets, some have silver foil on the top of them. Silver foil is made out of silver and bull intestines. Thin sheets of silver are placed between two sheets of bull intestines. Ok and if I have anything to say about this, let it be that it is just a scary idea!!

Now I'm going to make it easier for the next time

☸ Men, as for those trillions of ties in the closet, are they silk?? Ladies, ask yourselves the same question of your saris. I know that back before you knew about this, you bought these. Now that you know about how silk is made, as you undoubtedly do, are you really going to buy silk?? Didn't think so...

☸ Leather.... what can I say?? Not much to say about this, since everyone knows what this is made out of. It's like wearing skin.

☸ Take a look at your jewelry... do you have pearls?? Those are made from oysters. The company collects live oysters in their shells and puts a little foreign object inside the shell. Once that is inside there, the oyster releases liquid to protect itself. That liquid hardens around the foreign object to create a pearl. See how many lives get killed just to make a single necklace??

Just think about these until I can find the time to continue. Well, I'm going now. I hope you learned a valuable lesson from what I wrote. If anything I wrote saves lives, then it is totally worth the time.

Ami Momaiya

**EDITOR'S COMMENT:** Ami, daughter of Pratixa and Ashwin Momaiya, is currently attending Jain Sunday School.

# Directions for Mahavir Jayanti Program

We have requested the county to allocate Briggs Chaney Middle School to us on Sunday, April 8 for our Mahavir Jayanti program. (If there is any change in the location, we will inform you). Directions to Briggs Chaney School are given below:

**FROM I-495:** Take exit # 28A for New Hampshire Avenue North (Route 650N). Drive about 5.5 miles and turn right on the traffic light for Good Hope Road (called Bonifant Road on the left side). Pass one traffic light (Briggs Chaney Road). After about half mile, turn right on the stop sign for Rainbow Drive. After 0.3 mile, the school will be on your right.

**FROM I-95:** Take exit # 33 (Route 198 West) towards Burtonsville. After about 5 miles, turn left on Good Hope Road. Drive about half a mile and turn left on the stop sign for Rainbow Drive. After 0.3 mile, the school will be on your right.

**FROM JAIN CENTER:** Turn right on Briggs Chaney Road. Turn left on the first traffic light for Good Hope Road. Drive about half a mile and turn right on the stop sign for Rainbow Drive. After 0.3 mile, the school will be on your right.

## Teachings of Lord Mahavir

Every soul is independent. None depends on another.

All souls are alike. None is superior or inferior.

Every soul is in itself absolutely omniscient and blissful. The bliss does not come from outside.

All human beings are miserable due to their own faults, and they themselves can be happy by correcting these faults.

The greatest mistake of a soul is non-recognition of its real self. It can only be corrected by recognizing

its real self.

There is no separate existence of God. Everybody can attain God-hood by making supreme efforts in the right direction.

Know thyself, recognize thyself, be immersed by thyself - You will attain Godhood.

God is neither the creator nor the destructor of the universe. He is merely a silent observer and omniscient.

One who, even after knowing the whole universe, can remain unaffected and unattached is God.

Fight with yourself, why fight with external foes? He who conquers himself through himself will obtain happiness.

All beings hate pain, therefore one should not hurt or kill them. Ahimsa (non-violence) is the highest religion.

A man is seated on the top of a tree in the midst of a burning forest. He sees all living beings perish. But he doesn't realize that the same fate is soon to overtake him also. That man is a fool.

### COMMANDMENTS OF NON-VIOLENCE (AHIMSA)

1. Live and let live. Love all. Serve all.
2. Where there is love, there is life. Violence is suicide.
3. All souls are alike and potentially divine. None is superior or inferior.
4. All living beings long to live. No one wants to die.
5. Have compassion towards all living beings. Hatred leads destruction.
6. Silence and self control is non-violence.
7. I dislike pain, so all other beings also dislike pain.
8. A wise person does not kill, nor causes others to kill, nor consents to the killing by others.
9. Respect for all living beings is non-violence.
10. Non-violence is the highest religion.

#### SOURCE:

<http://www.ibiblio.org/jainism/database/QUOTE/quote.html>

## Upcoming Events

Friday, April 6, 2001: .....2600th Janma Kalyanak of Bhagwan Mahavir  
 Sunday, April 8, 2001: ..... Mahavir Jayanti Program  
 Wednesday, Aug 15 to Wednesday, Aug 22: ..... Paryushan Parva  
 Saturday, Aug 18, 2001: ..... Swapna Ceremony  
 Wednesday, Aug 22, 2001: ..... Samvatsari Pratikraman  
 Thursday, Aug 23 to Saturday, Sep 1, 2001: ..... Das Lakshan Parva  
 Friday, Nov 16, 2001: ..... Nav Smaran

*Please look at your membership status shown on the address label (M-LIFE means life member, and M-XX means that your membership expires after the year XX). If your membership has expired, please renew your membership in order to continue getting the newsletter and other information on Jain activities. Membership dues are \$151 for life membership and \$51 for 3-year membership. You are urged to become a life member. Please send your check to our treasurer Manu J. Shah at 21009 Sunny Acres Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882.*



**JAIN**

SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON



**LOCATION: 1021 BRIGGS CHANEY ROAD, SILVER SPRING, MD**  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

