



JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

March 2018 Edition

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JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

JSMW Leadership Message

Jai Jinendra!

The month of March is upon us and our society continues to be quite busy with many activities. From a successful Jains Got Talent 2 event on a snowy December day to continuing *Pathshala* and *Mahavir Janma Kalyanak* preparations to our *Chai pe Charcha* forums and other venues of interaction, many of our members continue to be engaged and creative.

Our new Temple project continues full steam ahead with permitting from the County underway and fundraising in earnest progressing domestically and internationally with our recent trip to India. We plan to move forward this fall with some work at the site in preparation for the next ceremony soon.

Everyone's engagement, support and volunteerism will make this *Dream into a Reality*.

What part will you play?

Contact us and together let's make it happen.

Pavan Zaveri, President, Executive Committee

Sushil Jain, Chair, Board of Trustees

Bhupesh Mehta, Chair, Past Presidents' Council

Arvind Shah, Chair, Temple Committee

Inside This Edition

Administrative and EC Updates	2-4
Upcoming Events	5-9
Recent Events	9-12
General Announcements	15
Calendar	16

TEMPLE COMMITTEE UPDATES

Arvind Shah (Chair, Temple Committee) & Ashok Shah (Construction Committee Lead)

The following are the key activities of the Construction committee:

Completed tasks:

- Final submission of permit documentation to PG County
- Finalized Revit Model Contract with Tesla
- Received detailed design for Shila layout from Sompura

In-Progress tasks:

- Initial feedback/comments received from PG County. Response preparation in process. Final permit expected in June/July 2018.
- Initial deliverable from Tesla received.
- Identified few structure conflicts, NBJ (architect firm) are working on revising them.
- Working with CV Inc. (Civil Engineer) for site work planning for Shila Ropan event.
- RFI/RFP preparation for Shila's
- General Contractor RFI/RFP preparation

Upcoming Event in 2019:

- Shila Ropan Vidhi in early Q2 of 2019

Budget

- No changes

Volunteers Needed

Temple Construction Committee needs volunteers in the following areas:

1. Engineering (Civil, Structural, Mechanical, Electrical)
2. Project Management
3. Contract Management
4. Site Work Specialist

If you can help, please reach out to:

- Arvind Shah – Temple Committee Chair
301-461-6761 or ashah.2007@yahoo.com
- Ashok Shah – Construction Sub-Committee Chair
703-946-4417 or pearl4ashok@yahoo.com

JSMW Temple Committee Members

Arvind M. Shah – Committee Chair

Ashok R. Shah – Construction Lead

Ashok P. Shah

Atul Shah

Bachubhai Ajmera

Bhupesh Mehta

Devang Ajmera

Gita K. Shah

Harshid Shah

Jatin I. Shah

Jigar Shah

Kamlesh R. Shah

Kanu B. Doshi

Manna Shah

Manoj Dharamsi

Manu G. Shah

Paresh B. Shah

Pavan Zaveri

Pragnesh Shah – Finance Lead

Praveen Jain

Pravin Dand – Legal Lead

Sharad Doshi

Sushil Jain

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION RESULTS

Trustee elections were held at the Annual General Body meeting on December 3, 2017.

Congratulations to Bhupesh Mehta on his re-election and Dimple Doshi on his election to the Board of Trustees.

We thank the outgoing trustee Dr. Manoj Dharamsi for his continued service and leadership.

EDUCATION UPDATES

Monica Shah (Director of Education)

Our 2017-2018 Pathshala academic year has been a great success. With over 30 teachers and 165 students, the bi-weekly Pathshala sessions are in full motion. Parents and volunteers bring the community together with varying activities during Pathshala to include a speech class, Women's Group yoga sessions, casual Chai pe Charcha discussions and much more. All Pathshala classes are accompanied with language classes, adult classes, and each event is followed by lunch.

We've celebrated many activities in Pathshala this year including *Gyan Panchami* and *Diwali*. Up next is our coming *Mahavir Janma Kalyanak* (MJK) celebration. Our Pathshala students will put together a stage show performance for all to enjoy. After the MJK celebration, stay tuned to hear about the Pathshala Spring Camp in April/May and our end of the year celebration scheduled on June 3rd.

As always, we thank our many volunteers and parents who make our Pathshala a great success!

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Jatin Shah (Chair, Constitution Committee)

I am providing a progress report on the work done so far by the Constitution Committee:

Our first step was to build a team of dedicated members and I'm glad that Manubhai Shah has agreed to continue in an advisory role, and Jigar Shah (Baltimore), Tejas Doshi, Manoj Dharamsi and Pavan Zaveri has agreed to help with the review and updating of our constitution including finalizing the amendments that were tabled.

Our first task is to address Amendment 3 - regarding General Body Meeting Minutes and Amendment 4 - regarding Past Presidents' Advisory Council as discussed at length during the last Special General Body Meeting held in March 2017.

To address this outstanding issue, we have prepared Information Gathering sheet and reached out to all Executive Committee members, Trustees and Past Presidents' Advisory Council members as well as all other Past Presidents to receive their feedback/opinions/lessons learned etc. Current consensus is that what we have is adequate and needs to be executed better. We also want to address the concerns brought to us that the Immediate Past President needs to be part of the Council and may have to so codify in the revised Constitution.

We are also evaluating the Rule of Law regarding General Body Meeting minutes to ensure that we are in compliance with the State of Maryland Laws, if any, dealing with the issue of when the Minutes need to be released.

I would also like to reach out to all JSMW members for your concerns regarding any issues that may need to be addressed but have not been brought to our attention.

YOUTH COMMITTEE UPDATES

The active JYOC team was busy with the following activities:

- Completed the Soles4Shoes charity campaign with the successful collection of 300+ pairs of footwear! A big thank you to all the Pathshala kids, parents and all members that made this a huge success.
- Organized a Big Buddy event at Climbzone in Columbia, MD in January, 2018, with 30+ kids participating in a fun, high-energy team building activity.

https://twitter.com/s4s_shoedrives/status/937336927543545856



UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Navpad Ayambil Oli – March 23 through March 31, 2018

This year, we will have Ayambil on all 9 days at our temple between 12 and 1 pm except for Sunday, March 25 from 1pm to 2pm.

If you are planning to do Ayambil, please come and do it at temple with Sangh. Several members are volunteering to facilitate cooking Ayambil food for Tapasvis.

During the auspicious days, we will also have Aangi, Bhavna, Bhaktamar Pooja and Laghu Siddhachakra Pooja at the temple.

- Fri, Mar 23, 7pm Aangi and Bhavna
- Sat, Mar 24, 10am Bhaktamar Pooja
- Thurs, Mar 29 Mahavir Janam Kalyanak
- Fri, Mar 30, 7pm Aangi and Bhavna
- Sat, Mar 31, 10am Laghu Siddhachakra Pooja
- Sun, April 1 Ayambil Oli tapasvis parnu

Sponsorship for Ayambil is \$101 per day.

Each of the 9 Puja's of Laghu Siddhachakra can be sponsored for \$21.

Please bring your own boiled water.

Please send your names for Ayambil participation, volunteering to cook Ayambil food, sponsorship to Pallavi Shah at (301) 260-1264, Vaishali Chedda at (410) 564-4758, vaishali.chhedda@gmail.com or Jhalak Mehta at 240-461-1802, Mehta.jhalak@gmail.com.

2. Scholar Lecture – Wed, April 4 – Saturday, April 7, 2018

JSMW welcomes Champakbhai Mehta, a scholar in Jain philosophy from India, to discourse lectures at the Jain Center. Lectures will be at the Jain Center from 8:30 pm to 10 pm on Wednesday, April 4 through Friday, April 6 and 10:30 am to noon on Saturday, April 7.

Champakbhai studied for 4.5 years at the Shrimad Yashovijayji Jain Sanskrit Pathshala, in Mehsana, Gujarat. The Pathshala is a foremost institution in imparting education in Jain philosophy and rituals for the last 102 years, creating a number of scholars who later on chose monkhood.

Champakbhai has been teaching Jain Philosophy, Scriptures and sutras in Pathshalas and Sanghs for last 22 years and is currently the Principal at Jawaharnagar Jain Sangh Pathshala in Mumbai which has close to 700 students in attendance.

3. JSMW Health Fair – Blood-Work: April 8, 2018, Health Fair: May 6, 2018

In partnership with **American Diversity Group**, JSMW is organizing a health fair on Sunday, May 6, 2018 from 9 am to noon.

As part of this, a free blood draw event will be organized on Sunday April 8, 2018 from 8 am to noon.

Please note that for blood test overnight fasting after midnight (except water) is required to get accurate blood test results. Pre-registration is highly recommended.

Online Registration Link: <https://goo.gl/forms/gBcH64MAng5800Q32>

Services provided:

- Blood Test (Overnight fasting after midnight except for water): Cholesterol (Lipid profile), Anemia (Iron level), A1C Diabetes, Thyroid, Kidney Disease, Iron level, prostate cancer for males etc.
- Health Fair Consultation Advice: Internist, Cardiologist, Dentist, Ophthalmologist, Pain Management etc.

During the Health Fair, we will have 15-20 minutes talks by multiple health-care professionals to learn how to maintain a healthy mental and physical lifestyle. Stay tuned for the presentation topics.

Contact Shilpa Jain (events@jainsocietydc.org) or Jhalak Mehta (mehta.jhalak@gmail.com) for more information or to volunteer.

4. Mahavir Janma Kalyanak – Saturday, April 14, 2018

On Saturday, April 14, 2018, we will be celebrating Bhagwan Mahavir Swami's Janma Kalyanak, a very auspicious day for all Jains. Our celebration will feature stage performances followed by Swami Vatsalya Bhojan. This year's MJK celebrations will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2018 starting from 1 pm at Paint Branch High School located at 14121 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, MD 20866.

We request your generous donation towards several sponsorship opportunities available. More than one family can join hands to sponsor each of the available options listed below. Please contact Vishal Mehta (vicepresident@jainsocietydc.org) if you are interested to sponsor.

- Swami Vatsalya (starting at \$101). The total cost for Swami Vatsalya is about \$6,000.
- Kids & Teachers Gifts (starting at \$101). The total cost for Gifts is about \$1,800.
- Kids Snacks (starting at \$101). The total cost for Kids Snacks is about \$350.

If you wish to participate in the dinner, you are requested to RSVP by April 8, 2018 by clicking here, with the number of attendees (adults and children ages 5-15).

Online RSVP and details of various sponsorship opportunities are available at <https://jsmw.org/mahavir-janma-kalyanak-2018/?rmcb=1520474053>.

5. Spring Camp – Weekend of April 20-22, 2018

Back by popular demand given last year's success, JSMW will be hosting another Spring Camp the weekend of April 20-21-22 at Pecometh Camp and Retreat Center along MD's Eastern shore.

- Cost is \$115 per camper
- Includes 2-night accommodations plus meals
- Includes all religious and fun-filled activities 0020
- For questions or more information, please contact the camp committee at Camp@JainSocietyDC.org

6. Jain Workshop – Friday, April 27, 2018 to Sunday April 29, 2018

Jain Society Metropolitan Washington (JSMW), Jain Society of Northern Virginia (JSNoVA) and Jaina Education Committee have jointly organized the Jain workshop from Friday April 27, 2018 to Sunday April 29, 2018.

Workshop Theme and Purpose:

STRIKING A BALANCE: Examining Social, Cultural, and Spiritual environment that our youth face while growing up in North America

The main purpose of the workshop is to **educate both adults and youth (over 14 years of age)** with regards to the fundamental principles and philosophy of Jainism and how to apply these principles in all walks of life through practical examples. This includes social, business, family, ethical, religious and spiritual environment.

Workshop Moderator:

Workshop moderator is Pravin K Shah, Jaina Education Committee chairperson and Jain eLibrary Project in-charge. The workshop will be in English with some Hindi/Gujarati explanation.

Workshop Duration and Location:

Date and Time	April 27, 2018 Friday 5 pm to 9 pm (includes Dinner time before sunset) April 28, 2018 Saturday 9 am to 9 pm (Lunch, and Dinner time before sunset) April 29, 2018 Sunday 9 am to 4 pm (includes Lunch)
Workshop Location	Jain Society Metropolitan Washington (JSMW) 1021 Briggs Chaney Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20905
Food	Simple Vegan Jain food (absolutely no dairy product) will be served for breakfast, lunch, and dinner for all three days. No fried foods will be served as a way to promote healthy living.
Paper Product	All paper products such as plates, bowls, napkins, and glasses will be used of eco-friendly, bio- degradable, and from recycled materials.

Workshop Overview and Major Topics:

[http://www.jainlibrary.org/\\$workshop4/01_workshop_overview_and_major_topics.pdf](http://www.jainlibrary.org/$workshop4/01_workshop_overview_and_major_topics.pdf)

Workshop Registration and Fee:

The registration fee is \$50.00 per person. It includes all meals (lunch, and dinner) and workshop material. Please follow the link below to register and to make payment via Paypal or Credit card to the “**Jain Education International**”.

Free Registration for the past JAB participants and Coaches. An anonymous donor has sponsored the past JAINA JAB, YJA JAB participants. Please complete the registration form and on Paypal/Credit Card link, please pay \$1.00 instead of \$50.00. This way we will know that you are a past JAB candidate.

Please do not wait. We will close the registration once we reach to 40 participants.

In order to provide first preference to the Washington Metropolitan individuals, we will open up registration for this area only till March 15th. After March 15th, we will open it up for rest of the centers across the country. Please register before March 15th.

If you have any difficulty to filling out the Workshop registration form or if you have any other question, please contact Pratiksha Shah (703-589-7139, pratiksha77@gmail.com) or Megha Doshi (703-200-3080, meghandoshi@gmail.com).

Hotel Accommodation:

If you need Hotel accommodation, please indicate in the registration form. We will contact you within couple of weeks and provide you the details of the Hotel.

7. D.C. Central Kitchen – Saturday, May 12, 2018

On Saturday, May 12, 2018, from 8:30 am to 1 pm, we will be practicing the act of *Ahimsa* and *Jiv Daya* by participating in D.C. Kitchen event. For last 10 years, more than 50 volunteers have joined us for this community service project. Once again, JSMW is planning to prepare vegetarian meals for approximately 4,500 needy people in the D.C. 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*).

Event Date: Saturday, May 12th, 2018

Time: 8:30am to 1:00pm

Dress Code: Kurta, Salwar/ Long Pants, Shirt, Shoes, No Sandals. No exposed mid-riff

Address: The D.C. Central Kitchen, 425 Second Street NW, Washington DC, 20001

Phone: 202.234.0707 Ext. 108

We will save hundreds of lives by serving them Jain Food. We talk and preach about our Jain Principle of Ahimsa (Non Violence) and here is the opportunity to put it in practice.

This is an excellent opportunity to do a community service project, publicize Jainism to the mainstream, and volunteer services directly to the needy in our own community. We will be collecting names of about 45 to 50 dedicated volunteers to help us prepare and pack the food. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Bhupesh Mehta (Bhupesh@BhupeshMehta.com) at 240.455.4524 or Nilesh Shah at 410.531.6218. All volunteers must be 12 (or more) years of age.

We encourage you to come forward and donate for this cause generously. Please make your donation payable to "Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington" and please mention in the memo field: "DC Kitchen." We encourage you to mail your donations (\$21, \$51, \$101, \$151, \$501... any amount is welcome) to our mailing address: P.O. Box 4548, Silver Spring, MD 20914.

Note: If you are in school, we can provide up to 5 hours of community service certificate to our youth to help them with their school community service requirements.

8. JSMW Quarterly General Body Meeting – Sunday, May 20, 2018

Our quarterly General Body Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 1:30 pm at the Jain Center. We will be using these as a forum to increase communication and engagement.

The agenda will be as below:

- Approval of Minutes of March 3, 2018 Quarterly General Body Meeting
- Update on Constitution Revisions
- New Temple Project Update
- Any other items brought forward (with prior notice mainly due to time constraints)

9. Pathshala Year-end celebration, Volunteer and Senior Appreciation – Sunday, June 3, 2018

The Pathshala year-end celebration for will be held on June 3, 2018. Along with this, JSMW volunteer and senior appreciation events will also be organized. Stay tuned for more details in upcoming days.

Senior Appreciation: *"For what they have achieved throughout their life and for all they continue to accomplish, we owe seniors our heartfelt gratitude."* On June 3rd, we look forward to recognizing seniors of our Sangh (ages 60 and above) and show our appreciation. If you would like to nominate a senior, please send the name with a word of appreciation for the person being recognized to Rahul Jain at publicrelations@jainsocietydc.org.

Volunteer Appreciation: *"Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer."* It is with this feeling that we look forward to recognizing and thanking our volunteers. Please reach out to Sahil Shah at volunteers@jainsocietydc.org with any suggestions or questions.

10. Jain Youth Exchange Program Visit to Washington, DC, June 20-27, 2018

Please join us in welcoming the next cohort of youth from India as they tour the US, learn about Jainism in the USA and how we practice it. Volunteers will be needed June 20-27, 2018. Contact Sushil Jain (skjain99@gmail.com) or Tejas Doshi (tkdoshi@gmail.com) to volunteer. More details on their program will be provided by future emails.

11. YJA Biennial Convention, Chicago, IL – July 5, 2018 to July 8, 2018

The 13TH biennial Young Jains of America (YJA) Convention will be held from Thursday, July, 5 to Sunday, July, 8 in Chicago, IL. Convention attendees must be between 14-29 years of age. Registration is now open and fast filling up. Details can be found at <https://convention.yja.org/registernow>.

12. Various Extra-Curricular Activities at JSMW Pathshala

Pathshala has become a nucleus for JSMW community engagement and our members are facilitating several new activities.

Practices for Junior and Senior JSMW teams for Jain Academic Bowl (JAB) for JAINA 2019 are already underway. Summer activities for Pathshala will be announced in the near future.

Even if you're not a regular Pathshala attendee, you can support JSMW Pathshala by sponsoring events or prizes for the youth and/or purchasing a JSMW Pathshala T-Shirt.

For more information on any of our Pathshala related activities, please contact Monica Shah, Director of Education, at education@jainsocietydc.org.

RECENT EVENTS

1. JAINA 2017 - Jains' Got Talent – July 2017

JSMW would like to recognize all participants who performed and won a prize at the Jains' Got Talent competition held during the JAINA Convention 2017, at Edison, NJ in July 2017.

A certificate of appreciation as awarded to all the prize winners as listed below:

Ajeet Choxi

Aimee Doshi

Deesha Ajmera

Manan Zaveri

Rishab Jain

Sanket Shah

Sara Jain

Shriya Desai

Rushil Shah

Vanshika Shah

Yashvi Shah

Hearty congratulations to all winners!

2. Diwali on Capitol Hill, November 9, 2017

JSMW members represented the Sangh at the "Diwali on Capitol Hill" event hosted by BAPS, Indiaspora, and Hindu American Foundation. Members took the opportunity to network with officials from the House, Senate and local government as well as representatives from other interfaith organizations in the DC area.



3. JSMW Jains Got Talent – December 9, 2017

While it was snowing outside, the participants of JGT2 set the stage inside Takoma Park Middle School on fire with their mesmerizing performances. 40+ performances by kids, youth and adults (in both solo and group categories) packed the afternoon with a delightful show on December 9, 2017. The show was graced by well-known performing artists/teachers from the DC metro namely Amrita Mudar, Sheela Rani Rajshekhara and Tapsi Rath. Delicious desi finger-foods, Jain pizza and delicious cupcakes kept everyone coming back for more.

The winners for various categories are as follows:

#	SOLO Dance	Age	Act	#	SOLO Talent	Age	Skill	Act
1.	Shrushti Doshi	10	Bollywood	1.	Lay Shah	9	Musician	Keyboard/Piano
2.	Sanika Shah	7	Odyssey	2.	Dhriti Sheth	6	Gymnastics	Floor Exercises
3.	Dhriti Sheth	6	Bharatanatyam	3.	Ihaan Mehta	9	Musician	Piano
1.	Deesha Ajmera	16	Dance medley	1.	Anusha Jailwala	16	Musician	Violin
2.	Yashvi Shah	15	Bharatnatyam	2.	Soumya Jailwala	11	Musician	Violin
3.	Riya Kandalgaonkar	13	Bollywood	3.	Ajit Choxi	17	Comedy	Stand up
1.	Monica Shah	Adult	Bharatnatyam					
2.	Nidhi Dhanote	Adult	Bollywood					
3.	Nency Shah	Adult	Bollywood Folk Fusion					

#	SOLO Singer	Age	#	Group Talent	Age	Skill	Performers
1.	Dhruvi Shah	9	1.	Dancing Souls	5	Dancer	Aria Maru, Devika Shah, Saanvi Jain & Hiral Jain
2.	Yug Mehta	6	2.	Little Wonders	5	Dancer- Bollywood	Aarna Jariwala & Shlok Shah
3.	Keya Chheda	6	3.	Sizzling Divas	5	Dancer- Bollywood	Sanaya Mehta & Swara Shah
1.	Vanshika Shah	14	1.	J. Z. Drums	11-12	Musician – Drums	Rishab Jain & Manan Zaveri
2.	Khushi Bhansali	16	2.	V Dancers	9 - 15	Dancer	Yashvi Shah, Isha Rajani, Jahnavi Shah, Harshvi Shah, Kavya Zaveri, Kashvi Mehta
1.	Tushar Shah	Adult	3.	Musical Duo	12	Musician- Clarinet	Isha Rajani & Raina Shah
2.	Pulkit Gangwal	Adult	1.	Khushboo Gujarat Ki	Adult	Dancer- Bollywood	Darsha Desai, Krupa Shah, Mily Mehta, Ripal Shah
3.	Aatam Dhanote	Adult	2.	Remix	Adult	Singer	Dimple Doshi & Parag Mehta

A big thanks to all participants and volunteers for making JGT 2 a huge success!

4. JSMW Travels to India – February 2018

Team: Sushil Jain, Pavan Zaveri, Rahul Jain, Arvind and Sanyukta Shah, Pragnesh and Sonal Shah, Pravin Dand, Kamlesh and Arti Shah, Kamlesh P. Shah, Bhupesh Mehta, Sharad Doshi

Supporters: Piyush Jain (Ahmedabad), Kushal Bhansali (Ahmedabad), Sajjanraj and Kamala Mehta (Chennai), Hitendra Munoth (Chennai), Mahaveer Mehta (Bangalore), Lalitbhai Dhami and Amrishbhai (Tapovan), Vinod Desai (Mumbai), Ashwin Jogani (Mumbai), and Ashok Kothari (Mumbai), AND ALL OF YOU!!!

A team of delegates from the Jain Society headed to India in February to share about our New Jain Temple and Center project and encourage partnership and blessings from various Acharya Maharaj Sahebs and our Jain families in India. Everywhere, the team was received with open arms, bright blessings and incredible encouragement. Folks in India were very impressed with our planning, our preparation, how we've brought all the traditions together, the Knowledge Center we will be developing and our concept of Honorary Trustee with many expressing interest in being a part of this project.

Below is a brief summary of the Sanghs and Trusts we met with, the Maharaj Sahebs from whom we received inspiration and blessing, the organizations that received us with warm receptions and the individuals who expressed keen interest in helping us
Turn our *Dreams into Reality*....

February 8-9: Chennai

- Vepery Jain Sangh
- Prakashji Mutha
- JITO Chennai President Narendraji Shrishmal
- Shantilalji with Kesarwadi Tirth
- P.S. Surana of Surana and Surana Law Firm
- Babulalji Munoth
- Chandraprabhu Jain Sangh Trust with Darshan of Padamchandrasagarji Maharaj
- Sugalchandji Jain of Sugal-Damani Group
- Darshan at Kesarwadi Jain Tirth



February 10-11: Tirupati

- Suprabaath VIP Darshan of Tirupati Balaji / Neminath Bhagwan
- Swarn Jirawala Parshwanath Bhagwan Pratishtha with meetings with Trustees and Donors from Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore, Chennai, New York, and more



February 12-13: Bangalore

- Bangalore Jain Tirth Trustees Meeting
- JITO Bangalore Chapter Presentation
- Inaugurating JITO Business Network (JBN) Bangalore's 2nd Chapter: Titans with 80-90 active Jain businesspeople
- Adinath Bhagwan Chikpet Jain Sangh Trustees



February 13-15: Ahmedabad

- KEMS studio - 3D video production
- TESLA CAD - Revit modeling contractor
- Rajesh Sompura - discuss detailed construction drawings for marble
- Darshan/Manglik with Sadhvi Priyasneha at Kushalbhai Bhansali's home
- Aashirvaad from Acharya Vimalsen Maharajsaheb
- Darshan and Aashirvaad from Gacchapati Jaygoshsureshwarji Maharajsaheb
- Koba: Darshan and Project review with Acharya Padamsagarji Maharajsaheb
- Kumarpal bhai Shah, Kalpesh bhai Shah, Prakash bhai – Trustees
- JITO Ahmedabad Presentation
- Shreyans bhai of Shankeshwar Parshwanath Tirth



- Kalikund tirth with Kumarpal bhai with guru darshan of Acharya Maharajsaheb Ratnasundarsuri.
- Koat with Darshan, Project Review and Aashirvaad from Maharaj sahib: Dixha daneshwari Acharaya Gunratnasuri, Acharya Rashmiratnavijaysuri, Muni Bhavyaratnavijay



February 16-17: Mumbai

- Premlataben Kothari at Chandanbala Dehrasar
- Bandra-Kurla Complex Diamond market meet with Ashwin Jogani, Shailesh Jogani, Kaushik Shah
- Dinner with JIO leaders: Girlish Shah, Ashok Kothari, Ghevarchand Bohra
- Guru Darshan of Nayapadma Sagar Ji Maharaj Saheb



February 18-25: Pune, Bangalore, Chennai

- Very successful networking at JITO Connect
- Identified potential honorary trustees as well as other donors.
- Met with key Jain leadership for donation
- Met with Sanjay Mehta - Lawyer and TVSN Raju - CA/CPA regarding financial support from Trusts and Foundations India to overseas with plan to apply for permission through the RBI.

This whole trip was fundamentally a successful endeavor because of the long hours of dedication and commitment to arrange meetings, hotels, flights and more over the past few months by our Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Sushil Jain, in partnership with Kushal bhai Bhansali and Piyush bhai Jain of Ahmedabad. Our team of delegates was able to appreciate and enjoy the fruits of the past few years of trips to India Sushil bhai has made (6+, all mostly for Jain Society) building amazing relationships and fostering unparalleled goodwill from our new friends, family and supporters in India.

From the multiple cups of chai and coffee per day, wearing a lungi, doing darshan of so many Acharya Maharaj Saheb, the great hospitality received in each city and more, we, the members of the Jain Society, are truly indebted to all the hours and dedication put forth.

5. Yale University, Chaplain's Office Student Visit – March 14, 2018

The InterFaith Forum at Yale (IFFY) visited JSMW on March 14, 2018 as part of their interfaith field trip to Washington DC. JSMW volunteers welcomes a group of 27 Yale students at the Jain Center, served them dinner, gave them an overview of our history and a tour of our new temple project, and hosted a group discussion with Q&A on principles of Jainism. A very engaging Q&A discussion followed amongst the students and JSMW youth and adult volunteers on topics related to



reincarnation, karma theory, Ahimsa, Anekantvad, Aparigraha and the journey of our souls. The visit concluded by the visiting students participating in Aarti and Mangaldivo rituals. Several students stated they were very intrigued by what they learnt about Jainism just in an hour and were looking forward to discovering Jainism by learning more about it online.

A note of thanks to the following volunteers who helped with the planning and/or execution of this event: Shilpa Manoj Shah, Pinak Shah, Bhavana Mehta, Dinesh Mehta, Keyuri Rajani, Navin Vora, Pavan Zaveri, Pathik, Shah, Rahul Jain, Sandeep Mehta, youth members Rushil Jain, Yashvi Shah and Sara Jain, and Pathshala kids Isha Rajani, Harshvi Shah and Kashvi Mehta.



6. Today's Women

The Today's Girl Today's Women's Committee continues monthly programs typically on the first Sunday of each month after Pathshala with programs for different audiences depending on the topic. In recent months, the team has organized workshops/informational sessions on several diverse and interesting topics such as "quick tips on managing holidays", "demonstration of various traditional recipes", "smart money decisions for today's women" and "cryptocurrency".

Contact Shilpa Manoj Shah at Todayswomen@jainsocietydc.org to get involved or with questions.

7. Chai Pe Charcha

Periodically, we have been gathering Sangh members to discuss topics of interest and concern to all. Summaries are sent out by email and posted in the Jain Center. Please be engaged and share your thoughts for the Jain Society at the next one, April 29 at 10:30am in the Cloverly Cafeteria. All are encouraged to attend. Contact Pavan Zaveri (president@jainsocietydc.org) or Rahul Jain (publicrelations@jainsocietydc.org) for more information.

ON-GOING EVENTS

Following are the details of the ongoing programs at the Jain Center:

1. Bi-weekly Sunday School Pathshala from September to June. Please contact Monica Shah, Director of Education, at Education@JainSocietyDC.org or 443-306-9955.
2. Adult religious classes are held in parallel with Sunday school from 10:30 am -12:15 pm. Please contact Dr. Atul Shah at 301-274-0319, or Pravin Dand at 301-384-3367 for more information.
3. Every Saturday:
 - 8 am - 8:30 am - Namokar Mantra Jaap and Pranayam
 - 8:30 am - 9:30 am - Yoga
 - 10 am - Kesar Pooja
4. 2nd Sunday of each month: Snatra Pooja at 10:30 am followed by lunch.
5. 4th Sunday of each month - Dev Shashtra Guru Pooja at 10 am followed by lunch.
6. 4th Saturday of each month - Jinwani Event at 10:30 am followed by lunch.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CORNER: OUR UNSUNG HEROES

Volunteers are worth their weight in gold. They share their time and talents without any compensation, so it's crucial to acknowledge their contributions and let them know they are valued. They are critical to the success of our Sangh, so we want to make sure that we take the time to thank them for their contributions and continued commitment to our Sangh!

If you know of any individual(s) who you feel should be recognized in this section, please feel free to send their name(s) to Volunteers@JainSocietyDC.org any time.

**** Attention Volunteers ****

As announced in past newsletters, JSMW is now a certifying organization and has been granted the authority to administer President's Voluntary Service Awards to our volunteers. The President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) recognizes, celebrates and holds up as role models Americans making a positive impact as engaged and deeply committed volunteers. The Award enables community organizations – like JSMW – to amplify their gratitude by joining with the President of the United States to thank their most dedicated volunteers.

Various award categories include the official PVSA pin, medallion, or coin; a personalized certificate of achievement; a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States; or a combination of all the above.

We have simplified the process with fewer and easier steps to report your hours back to JSMW using a spreadsheet. Please visit our website, and download the spreadsheet from **About Us → Volunteers** link, and follow instructions mentioned within the spreadsheet. Once you are ready with all information, please forward this spreadsheet in its entirety to Awards@JainSocietyDC.org.

We will confirm a receipt of your submission within 2-3 business days and will ensure that your hours are entered in the PVSA system, as soon as they are approved by the approving official.

Please visit <https://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/the-award> for more details about this system or to get information on various milestones.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Request to Return Jain Center Library Books

A gentle reminder to all JSMW members to please return any library books back to the Jain Center that you may have checked out and are no longer reading.

Calling Volunteers to Help with JSMW Publications, Communications and Marketing

If writing, formatting and organizing of print, web, marketing and graphic design material sparks your interest ...

... Come join the JSMW publications and communications team!

Reach out at:

publications@jainsocietydc.org

Updated 3D video of our New Temple is now live online!

The new video reflects the changes in the Bhagwans in the Shankeshwar Parshwanath Temple and Adinath Temple.

It also includes 3D rendering of Sthanak and Upashray.

In addition, pre-function-area, classroom, library and office are also included.

Video of recent Khanan Vidhi highlights coming online soon!

<https://jsmw.org>

Donate to JSMW

Explorer various options to make your tax deductible donations to JSMW via Paypal, Amazon Smile, Check, Stocks and IRAs at:

<https://jsmw.org/supportjsmw/>

Connect with us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/jainsocietydc

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 20905 • **PHONE** (301) 236-4466

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED

2018 Calendar of Events (details inside)

Date	Program/Location
Fri, 3/23 – Sat, 3/31	Ayambil Oli – Daily lunch at Jain Center
Wed, 4/4 – Sat, 4/7	Scholar lecture at Jain Center Wed-Fri 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm, Sat, 10:30 to noon
Sun, 4/8 – 8 am to noon	Health Fair - Blood-work event at Jain Center
Sat, 4/14 – 1pm onwards	Mahavir Janma Kalyanak at Paint Branch High School. Followed by Swami Vatsalya
Fri, 4/20 – Sun, 4/22	JSMW Spring Camp
Fri, 4/27 – Sun, 4/29	Jain Workshop
Sun, 4/29 – 10:30 am	Chai Pe Charcha at Jain Center
Sun, 5/6 – 10:30 am	Health Fair: Main event at Jain Center
Sat, 5/12, 8:30 am – 1 pm	DC Kitchen - 425 Second Street NW, Washington DC, 001
Sun, 5/20 – 1:30 pm	Quarterly General Body Meeting at Jain Center
Sun, 6/3 – Time TBD	Pathshala year-end celebration, Volunteer and Seniors Appreciation events
Wed, 6/20 – Wed, 6/27	Jain Youth Exchange Program Visit to Washington, DC
Thur, 7/5 – Sun, 7/8	YJA Convention, Chicago, IL

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