



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 • PHONE: (301) 236-4466

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Gautam Shah, Editor

10-1

March 2010

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301-260-1264

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703-435-8118

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301-358-3370

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703-999-5396

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Coordinator

Arpit Doshi
301-540-8988

Youth Members

Shivali Choxi
Parakh Jain
Kruti Mehta
Parita Shah
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Payal Vora

President's Message

Jai Jinendra. It is my pleasure and privilege to continue to serve our Jain community as President. I am very thankful to all for your love, support and trust in my abilities during last two years.

Considering the growth in our membership and numbers of activities, we need more volunteers in addition to hard working executive committee members. This year we are planning to do more new activities to widen our horizon outside our Jain Community to increase the awareness of Jainism and Jain Society in non-Jain institutions and communities. These will include providing meal to homeless people through DC Kitchen, support local animal shelters, giving lectures and providing material on Jainism in local school students, who is studying world religions; promote value and power of "Non Violence" (Ahimsha) etc.

In order to serve our community, internally and externally, I need your physical and financial support. Please commit at least 3 to 4 hours of your service per week and some fix amount of regular donation to Jain society on the monthly basis, and ask your friends and family members to do the same.

Learn the Jain way of life and also teach to your children and grand children, because this is the best way to insure we pass on our heritage and values to our future generation. We live in a very challenging world it is easy for

our young vulnerable youngsters to choose path of least resistance. We need to pass on our culturally, socially and spiritually rich inheritance to them. Jain Center is most suitable to accomplish the same. If you are ready to offer your volunteer service, please contact me or any of our executive committee members. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome, please contact me at 703-946-4417 or write me at ashok.shah@fgould.com

- Ashok R. Shah (President)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message	Page 1
Mahavir Jayanti	Page 2
Executive Committee Update	Page 2
JAINA Convention	Page 3
Meals for Homeless	Page 3
Humane Society	Page 3
Youth Corner	Page 4
YJA Convention	Page 4
Seniors Group	Page 5
Ongoing Activities.....	Page 5
Donations	Page 7

Special Announcement

Connect With Youth Committee on Facebook at

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wallandref=searchandgid=2263918810>

Mahavir Jayanti Celebration March 28 2:30 PM

On March 28th, 2010 starting at 2:30 p.m., we will be celebrating Mahavir Jayanti - Bhagawan Mahavir Swami's Janma Kalyanak, a very auspicious day for all Jains. Our celebration will feature stage performances of religious programs by our children and some adults, followed by a Swami Vatsalya Bhojan (dinner).

When March 28 2010 at 2:30 P.M.
Where High Point High School, 3601
Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD
20705
RSVP By March 24 2010

If you wish to participate in the dinner, you are requested to RSVP by March 24, 2010, about the number of attendees (adults and children of age 5 to 15).

Please RSVP using ONE of following ways:

1. Email: Dinner@JainSocietyDC.org giving details of your name (both husband and wife), number of children and guests and phone number.

2. Website: Register at our web site
www.JainSocietyDC.org/Registration.asp

3. Phone: Calling any ONE of the following persons: Ashok-Pallavi Shah at 301-260-1264, Nilesh-Manna Shah at 410-531-6218, or Paresh-Shilpa Shah 703-435-8118.

We will make arrangements for extra food to accommodate attendees who do not RSVP by March 24st. However, members who do not preregister by the deadline will be required to make a minimum donation of \$8.00 per person to the Swami Vatsalya Fund.

Directions to: High Point High School
From Capital Beltway I-495, take I-95N. Take exit 29B, Rt. 212 (Power Mill Road) towards

Calverton. Drive 1.2 miles, the school is on your left.

From Baltimore, take I-95S to Washington. Take exit 29B, Rt. 212 (Power Mill Road) towards Calverton. Drive 1.2 miles, the school is on your left.

Mahavir Jayanti Video DVD:

Stage program video will be available for small donation of \$10 (Mailing requests will be additional \$3). DVD request forms will be available at the registration desk. Please fill the form and pay at the time of registration. DVD pickup date at our temple will be announced via email.

You can also contact Manohar Hegde 410-744-6009 mhegde4@yahoo.com or Nilesh Shah at 410-531-6218 nilesh_shah99@yahoo.com for orders after Mahavir Jayanti. Orders will be taken only till Aril 15, 2010.

We would like to thank Manohar Hedge for donating videographer expertise, time and all the raw materials for DVD production. We collected \$ 310 donation from the sale of DVD last year.

All proceeds from DVD sales will go to the Jain Society for the benefit of pathshala.

We would like to thank following sponsors Mahavir Jayanti Swami Vatsalya Bhojan (dinner) for donation of \$501 each.

- ✚ Bhupesh & Pallavi Babu
- ✚ Khimji & Devkuvar Dharamsi
- ✚ Sharad & Sonal Doshi
- ✚ Arvind & Nayana Mehta
- ✚ Ajit & Shilpa Shah
- ✚ Charlie & Hemal Shah
- ✚ Kiran & Reeta Shah
- ✚ Nilesh & Manna Shah, Manoj & Shilpa Shah
- ✚ Pathik Ashok Shah
- ✚ Satish & Mayuri Shah
- ✚ Sidhdharth & Smita Shah

Executive Committee Update

We as the Executive Committee team would like to thank all members of Jain Society for having put faith in us and electing us to run the Jain Center activities for the year 2010. We welcome three new members to our executive committee, Rajeshree Dalal as our treasurer, Arpit Doshi as our youth coordinator and Parakh Jain as our youth member. We assure you that we will keep up with our work and your expectations.

Our First Executive Committee meeting was held on Jan 23, 2010 at the Jain Center with a potluck luncheon meeting. Various ideas were discussed in the meeting for the upcoming year. Sharad Doshi, Nisheet Mehta, Jai Bhandari, Jatin Shah, Heman Gandhi and Praveen Jain were appointed as the members at large for the year 2010 by the elected executive committee.

Executive Committee attended the Leadership training held on March 6, 2010. Dr. Sushil Jain presented leadership tips and training to manage and build an effective organization. We thank Dr. Sushil Jain to present such a simple yet rich in content training session.

The Executive Committee team is in the process of organizing Mahavir Jayanti Program 2010 which is one of the major events of the year. We have been trying to do our best every year and various team leads and teams have been formed in process to organize a successful event.

Executive Committee has also subdivided the Jain Center tasks into sub committees for easy operation and better accountability. The subcommittees are as listed below:

- ✚ Technology: Web, Multimedia
- ✚ Facility: Garden, Indoor, Outdoor
- ✚ Hospitality
- ✚ Publications
- ✚ Food
- ✚ Pooja / Snatra Pooja / Bhavpooja
- ✚ Pathshala
- ✚ Inventory / Library

- ✚ Event: Non religious, Religious, Bhavana
- ✚ Volunteer / Member service
- ✚ Seniors
- ✚ Swadhyay Group

We would encourage members to volunteer their service to our Jain Society by taking active part in one of these committees. To join any of the committees listed above, please send email it to secretary@jainsocietydc.org.

- Bhupesh Mehta (Secretary)

JAINA Convention

Jaina convention 2011 will be held in Houston, Texas from July 1 2011 to July 4 2011. The bi-annual JAINA convention is attended by 3500 to 6000 people of all ages from all over the world. The convention activities includes world renowned speakers on topics of Social, Economic, Health Ecology and spiritual development in various language and for age appropriate attendees. Every evening guest is entertained by various dance and music items with professional entertainers as well as performers from North American Jain Communities.

The purpose of JAINA convention is three fold.
1. Offer an opportunity for family, friends and Jain community to come under one roof and rejuvenate their relationships.
2. Understand, Explore and Participate in what we are doing to help each other, socially, morally and spiritually.
3. Energize our spiritual values and pass it on to next generation.

Preparation for convention 2011 is progressing well. The hotel and convention center contracts have been signed. We are now in process of identifying potential food caterers. Registration information for participating in these conventions will be shared in coming months.

We need your help - please provide your input by 6th March on following topics

- ✚ Identifying convention theme and logo

✚ What can we do to improve JAINA convention

There's leadership and organization development camp at Siddhachalam from April 2 - to April 4 2010. Family members are encouraged to participate. We have several fun activities planned for all.

JAINA is leading a legislative initiative to insure Vegetarian meals are available in schools in USA. Currently vegetarian meals are not available in many US school.

Vegetarian Meals for Homeless

Friends, last year 43 of our volunteers made this community service project very successful. Once again we have accepted the challenge and agreed to prepare vegetarian meal for over 4000 needy and homeless people in Metro DC area on Sunday 15 May 2010. We need your help in raising \$3000 for groceries. Also we are collecting names of 45-50 volunteers to help us prepare food. Please contact following if you are interested in participating and contributing - Bhupesh Mehta 301-358-3370, Paresh Shah 703-435-8118 Raju Desai 703-999-5396.

The Montgomery County Humaine Society

Each year we send hundreds of dollars to India in support of Jiv Daya. This year Jain Society's Executive Committee has decided to support Montgomery County Humaine Society and donate up to \$1000 to a specific cause. We need your help, please donate to Jain society of Metropolitan Washington for the cause of Local Humaine Society. We feel that it is important to support our local Jiv Daya programs and help build friends in local community.

Youth Corner

This upcoming year, the youth committee aims to increase the participation of youth

and young adults of all ages in our Jain community.

As the new youth coordinator for the 2010-2011 year, I, as well as the youth committee, aim to introduce new social and educational events to our youth and young adults. The following list is just some events currently being planned for the upcoming year:

Social events:

- ✚ One day ski-trip
Ages: 14-25
Tentative date: April 2010
- ✚ Spring picnic at Black Hills Regional Park
Ages: ALL
Tentative date: April-May 2010
- ✚ Amusement park trip
Ages: ALL
Tentative date: Summer 2010

Educational events:

- ✚ Visit Jain Center of America in NY
Ages: ALL
Tentative date: Spring-Summer 2010

Details of these events will be posted on the Jain Society website, under 'Youth Corner', and passed along to students during Pathshala as events get set.

As the new coordinator, the youth committee and I will require an active involvement from parents of Pathshala students to help increase the youth participation in the activities listed above. We look forward to working with you this upcoming year. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to Email at jsmwyouthcommittee@gmail.com

- Arpit Doshi (Youth Coordinator)

YJA Convention

This year, the Young Jains of America will be hosting their 9th biannual National Convention from July 2-5, 2010 in New Brunswick, NJ. Join nearly 800 young Jains from across the country to experience the YJA

2010 National Convention. The convention aims to provide Jain youth the opportunity to engage in spiritual, networking, and social activities. The convention offers enriching dharmic discussions and unique social events from a range of activities that involve art (talent competition) to a night of memories (formal dinner and dance). The result is a network of Jain youth to carry our tradition to the next generation. Take an opportunity to connect, network and make lifelong friendships. I encourage all youth aged 14-25 to attend the convention in New Jersey. Registration fees begin at \$275 and \$315 for JNF participants. Your registration fee includes accommodations, meals and access to all events for the 4-day event. Also included are transportation to and from Newark International Airport and a souvenir bag filled with keepsakes such as Jain literature and souvenir items. The deadline for the first registration period is MARCH 15TH 2010! Prices will increase after this date. For more information and/or to register, please visit: <http://youngjainsofamerica.org/2010convention/register>.

Seniors Group

The Senior Group at the Jain Center was formed two years ago in March 2008 to organize seniors 55 years of age and above. The primary objective of this organization is to assist seniors in the areas of personal, legal and financial matters as well as health management encompassing physical and spiritual health. At present, the group has a membership of over one hundred individuals. A majority of senior group members are actively at work in their professional fields.

To kick-off the New Year, the group met in January 2010 at the Jain Center. The activities included physical fitness routine of yoga exercises conducted and performed by the seniors, a light hearted video presentation that depicted the means we can use to entice group members for enhanced participation in activities and gatherings. As usual, this was followed by a fun filled routine of interactive games, jokes and anecdotes.

The February 2010 meeting was held on Valentine's Day at Madras Palace - a local vegetarian restaurant. This provided a well deserved respite considering the historical snowfall we experienced here in Washington DC metro area. The group members were able to socialize with their family and friends. In addition to having a great cuisine, everyone enjoyed a fun filled routine of interactive games, jokes and anecdotes.

Following are upcoming senior group get-to-gathers:

- ✚ March 20 - Saturday at 3.30 PM
- ✚ April 17 - Saturday at 3.30 PM
- ✚ May 16 - Sunday at 3.00 PM

For more information about the Senior Group, please contact Kanti Gangar at 301-598-3093

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

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

- ✚ Bi-weekly Sunday School Pathshala from September to June. Please contact Pathasala 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 1st Sunday of each month - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch
- ✚ Monthly Executive Committee meeting 2nd Saturday of each Month - 10:30 a.m. Please contact Secretary Bhupesh Mehta for any questions.
- ✚ Seniors Group at Jain Center - Please contact Kanti Gangar at 301-598-3093 for upcoming seniors gathering.

Shah Associates CPA P.A.



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Maryland 

(240) 813-0240

Virginia 

(571) 249-4411

Contact: Praveen Jain, CPA (praveen@praveenjain.com)

September 2010 Swapna Ceremony – Swami Vatsalya

If you missed an opportunity to sponsor Swamivatsalya Bhojan during this Mahavir Jayanti celebration, you can still sponsor it during Paryushan Parva celebration. We are taking names of sponsors for Swami Vatsalya during the Swapna Ceremony on Sep. 5th 2010.. Total cost for Swami Vatsalya is \$ 5,500. You can be a joint sponsor with other families with minimum donation of \$ 501. If you want to take advantage of this opportunity, please call Kanta Dharamsi at 703-620-9837 or Pallavi Shah at 301-260-1264 or Sanyukta Shah at 301-869-7196 or contact any of the executive committee members.

Comments and Suggestions are welcomed

You can submit your suggestions, concerns and questions anonymously or by providing your name by going online to our website <http://www.jainsocietydc.org/comments.asp>

Appeal to Members

Please provide your email address, because email is the best & fastest way of communication. By providing your email you will get the latest program details and last-minute changes. This will not only save trees but also save cost for the society.

DONATIONS TO JAIN SOCIETY (OVER \$51)

Received as of February 28 2010

Amount	Donor	Purpose
\$ 2,053.00	Khona Hemraj and Hemlata	Gheeboli
\$ 1,656.00	Anonymous Shravak	Gheeboli
\$ 750.00	Verizon through Shefali Dalal	General Donation
\$ 501.00	Ganger Ashok and Nayana	Gheeboli
\$ 501.00	Shah Raju and Monica	General Donation
\$ 501.00	Bhandari Sumangala and (Daughter) Sheetal	Gheeboli
\$ 260.00	Shah Jatin and Ami	Jiv Daya
\$ 250.00	Shah Nilesh and Manna	Swamivatsalya
\$ 150.00	Shah Satish and Mayuri	Gheeboli
\$ 122.00	Shah Kalpesh and Komal	Gheeboli
\$ 101.00	Ghandhi Kavita	Gheeboli
\$ 101.00	Joglekar Anjajana	Gheeboli
\$ 100.00	Mehta Bhupesh and Yash	DC Kitchen
\$ 100.00	Shah Parash and Rina	Humane Society
\$ 71.00	Shah Ashok and Pallavi	Gheeboli
\$ 51.00	Jain Sanjay and Indu	General Donation

New Memberships

\$ 151.00	Shah Rupen and Sangeeta	Life Membership
\$ 151.00	Shah Rushabh and Manpreet	Life Membership
\$ 60.00	Jain Kunal and Manish	3 Years Membership

Sincere Apology

Dear Members, during last donation reporting period, we acknowledged receiving a large number of donations from lots of donors. We are very thankful to all donors for their great generosity. Limited volunteers' pool and time frame resulted in few errors in the donation reported in previous newsletter. Donations received for some other purpose were reported as 'Gheeboli'. For this error, we offer our sincere apology; please forgive us (Michchhami Dukddam). We will make all the effort in the future to indicate right purpose of the donation received.

Members: If you are not receiving either the newsletter or the emails from Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington. Please go online to our website http://www.jainsocietydc.org/update_profile.asp and update your information.



JAIN

SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

Web address: www.JainSocietyDC.org

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED**

Upcoming Events for 2010

Sundays 2nd & 4th @ 10:15 am..... Pathshala (Adult & Children)
Sundays @ 8:00 am.....Adult Adhyatmik Studies
Sundays @ 9:00 am.....Abhishek
Sundays Monthly @ 10:00 amDev Shasta Guru Pooja
Sundays Monthly @ 10:30 am.....Snatra Pooja
Saturday @ 11 AM – 2 PMKesar Poojan
Sunday, March 28 @ 2:30 pm.....Mahavir Jayanti Celebration
Wednesday, May 5 – Wednesday, May 12..... Samirbhai Shah
Saturday, May 15 – Sunday May 16.....Dr. Kamala Mehta
Friday, July 9 – Sunday, July 11..... Dr. Falguni Zaveri
Friday, July 16 – Tuesday, July 20.....Pandit Dhirajlalji Mehta
Saturday, September 4 – Saturday, September 11.....Paryushan Parva: Nautambhai Vakil
Sunday - September 5.....Swapna Ceremony
Saturday, September 11.....Samvatsari Pratikraman
Monday, September 12 – Wednesday, September 22Das Lakshan Parva
Wednesday, October 27 – Saturday, October 30Tarlaben Doshi
Saturday, November 6.....Diwali
Sunday, November 7.....Nav Smaran
Thursday, November 25.....Thanksgiving day Ayambil
Sunday, December 12Annual General Meeting and Elections