



JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

November, 2015 Edition

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jai Jinendra!

Wish you and your family a very Happy Diwali filled with joy and a prosperous New Year blessed with prosperity and good health.

On August 23rd, we had a Special General Body Meeting to discuss and approve the plan for new Jain Center (including New Jain Temples, Educational and Social building) and murtis (Tirthankars, Gandhars, Dev, Devis for the new Jain Temples). Both the new temple design and the placement of various murtis in the new Jain Temple were approved unanimously.

Both Paryushan and Das Lakshan Parva were celebrated with tremendous joy and devotion. All attendees benefitted from Nirmal Sagarji's expert and insightful Pravachans and also performed Rishabhdev's 21 Maha Abhishek Pooja right after the Parva. We had daily Swadhyay in addition to Abhishek and Pooja. We were graced with a series of talks by Pandit Kumud Chand Soniji right after Das Lakshan Parva. A lot of pictures taken during these events are posted on our website as well as on our Facebook page. I encourage you to take the time and have a look at how beautifully these events were celebrated.

For the first time ever, we celebrated Paushadh on Saturday, September 12th at our Jain Center. We had 17 individuals who came forward and took this opportunity to understand the life of a Jain Sadhu in greater detail by living like one for some time!

During the weekend of October 10-11, we had a very pleasant, joyous, and successful religious Panch Tirth Yatra (bus trip) to various Jain Temples in New York and New Jersey area. This trip was not possible without the contribution, hard work, and tireless efforts put in by many individuals. A big kudos goes to them for organizing such a successful trip after a long time.

I take this opportunity to welcome Sandeepbhai Mehta who recently joined the Executive Committee as the Director of Publications. He replaced Tapanbhai Shah, who resigned earlier in October due to other commitments.

Our next Annual General Body meeting and elections will be held on Sunday, December 13th, 2015 from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Cloverly Elementary School located at 800 Briggs Chaney Rd Silver Spring, MD 20905. All members are invited to this meeting. The Executive Committee, Trustees, and other Committees will be presenting various reports in this meeting.

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. Every week we have number of activities in our temple, so please come forward and donate your time, energy, ideas and enthusiasm by volunteering to help and/or organize these events. As always, we are looking forward to a large participation in all our future programs.

In any organization, there is always a room for improvement to streamline and deliver better results. Your constructive comments and/or suggestions are always welcome, please contact me at (410) 415-3033 or send me an email at President@JainSocietyDC.org.

Janak Rajani, President
Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington

A MESSAGE FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Earlier last month, on behalf of The Board of Trustees, I had sent out a package containing details about the new fund raising campaign to each and every member of the Jain Society. I am sure that all of you had time to review the enclosed documents explaining the fund raising schemes and the relevant forms. Since then we successfully held 3 information sessions for the members to get more information and ask questions to the trustees who were present there. Several members took advantage of these sessions.

We had a very good response from the members for sponsoring the Donation items from the Fixed Nakro List. As mentioned earlier in the campaign document, a meeting was held on November 1st, 2015 at the Jain Center to announce the lucky members who were allocated the sponsored items. Congratulations to them. The fund received will be used in the construction of the Jain Center. Even though a few desired items may have been allocated, there are many more items that can be sponsored on a first come first served basis. The item will be allocated to the sponsor once full payment has been received. The list of Fixed Nakro Items will be continually updated on the Jain Society's web site.

One of the other major schemes initiated last month was for you to donate money to the "General Fund." Any donation made to the General Fund will be available for your use in any activity related to the New Temples and New Jain Center including Pratihtha. I hereby encourage all the members to generously donate every year to this General Fund and build up your available balance to spend during or before the Pratihtha. Remember that any donation to Jain Society is tax deductible and could help you in your tax planning.

We need funds immediately, so that once the building and the site drawings are finalized and various permits are received from the Prince Georges County, we can start construction of the New Jain Center including the Temples and finish the project on time. The Construction and Temple Committees will provide an update in their report printed elsewhere in this Newsletter.

It is my humble request to you all the members to open your heart and the bank account and donate to the Jain Society so we can accomplish our goal of building the authentic and best Shikharbandhi Temples and the Jain Center in the Nation's Capital.

If you have any questions, please feel free to send me an email at ChairPerson@JainSocietyDC.org and I will respond back as soon as possible.

Pravin Dand
Chairman
Board of Trustees, JSMW

PROGRESS FOR THE NEW JAIN CENTER TEMPLE

After the Swapna Ceremony event, a project schedule for our New Temple was developed and coordinated with all consultants and JSMW construction committee. Once we receive comments from all consultants and construction committee members, we will finalize the project schedule so that we can monitor progress for our New Temple.

New Temple design was awarded to three design firms, as listed below:

1. **nbj Architectural:** They are a Virginia based architecture firm (responsible for design of Social and Education portion of Jain Center). General Body already approved Floor Plan Design provided by nbj. Currently, building elevations are provided to construction committee. We will review and select appropriate design and also provide our feedback for improvement in selected elevation. Then nbj will proceed for remaining portion of Schematic Design.
2. **Rajesh Sompura:** He is an India-based temple architect (responsible for temple design). General Body already approved Temple floor plans. Construction committee reviewed floor and ceiling plan, exterior elevations and provided comments to Rajesh Sompura. We will receive revised drawings in next few weeks.

3. **CV, Inc.:** This is a Civil Engineering firm (responsible for site work design, which includes design of parking lot, driveways, and landscaping and site utilities). Preliminary site plan was submitted and approved by General Body. CV Inc. is currently working on storm water design for Prince George County's approval.

Arvind Shah, Temple Committee Chair, JSMW

Ashok R. Shah, Construction Committee Lead, JSMW

PATHSHALA UPDATE

We have had a fantastic opening to our 2015-16 Pathshala Year with an enrollment of 154 students. Of those students, 32 students also attend either Hindi or Gujarati language classes and 49 students attend advanced Sutra classes. Our team consists of more than 35 enthusiastic teachers, including our alumni students, follow the JAINA curriculum emphasizing on the Jain "Way of Life." With active parent participation & our dedicated teachers, we yearn to make each class a positive experience for the students enrolled at JSMW Pathshala. Listed below are highlights of Pathshala activities conducted so far during this year:

- Paryushan / Das Lakshan Parva matrix and goodies distribution to all Pathshala students for collecting punya points,
- "Halloween Candies: What we can eat and what we cannot" – an interactive presentation by Raju Shah,
- Leftover Halloween Candy collection and donation to local dentists for troops overseas, and
- Diwali Card contest conducted by JSMW Pathshala PTA headed by Savita Jain and Deepty Bhansali.

JSMW Essay Competition 2015: 2nd Annual Competition Winners

JSMW Pathshala hosting its 2nd Annual Essay Competition. This competition was to encourage Pathshala students to think about how Jain principles are actually applicable in their daily. Our Pathshala teacher, Monica Shah had taken a lead on this project. Hats off to all the kids who participated!!! They have done an amazing job of writing thought provocative and truly inspirational essays. Below is the list of all winners of this competition:

Class B, C Winners: What makes you a Jain?

- 1st Place: Harshvi Shah
- 2nd Place: Ajay Maloo

Class D, E, G Winners: What is your connection with Jainism?

- 1st place - Deesha Ajmera
- 2nd place - Palash Shah

To read all submitted essays, please visit <http://www.JainSocietyDC.org/Pathshala.asp>

Adult classes are also conducted by Dr. Atul Shah & Pravin Dand on Pathshala days between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. We encourage you to visit our website and spread the word to anyone who would like to register for these classes. Please feel free to contact Megha Doshi at education@jainsocietydc.org or (703) 200-3080 for any questions / suggestions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual General Body Meeting & Elections: Sunday, December 13th, 2015 at 10:15 am

Our next Annual General Body meeting and elections will be held on Sunday, December 13th, 2015 from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Cloverly Elementary School located at 800 Briggs Chaney Rd Silver Spring, MD 20905 (where our Pathshala classes are held).

All members are invited to this meeting. The Executive Committee, Trustees, and other Committees will be presenting various reports in this meeting.

The General Body meeting will be followed by elections (for two Trustees positions) for the calendar year 2016. Rules and regulations for the elections and the nomination form can be downloaded from our website or can be found in the insert provided elsewhere in this newsletter. Any member interested in serving in the Board of Trustees should send this nomination form to one of the following members of the Election Committee by midnight, November 20th, 2015: Shilpa (Manoj) Shah - Chair, Kalpana Hegde, or Allap Shah. We look forward to your participation in this meeting!

Note: Lunch will be served immediately thereafter.

Below is the complete meeting schedule:

Time	Activity
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Prayers in the Gym area
10:30 am - 11:15 am	President's Kickoff Comments, Approval of Special General Body Meeting held on August 23 rd , 2015, Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report, Director of Education's Pathshala Report, Trustees' Report
11:15 am - 11:45 am	Updates from Temple Committee, Construction Committee, and Fund Raising Team
11:45 am - 11:50 am	Any other items brought forward (with prior notice mainly due to time constraints)
11:50 am - 12:10 pm	Elections and Casting of Votes
12:10 pm - 12:20 pm	Announcements of Election Results
12:20 pm - 12:30 pm	Aarti / Mangal Divo in the Gym Area
12:30 pm Onwards	Lunch in School Cafeteria
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	Q&A for Temple Committees, Construction Committees, and Fund Raising Team

Nominations for UHJT (United Hindu-Jain Temples) Representative:

We would like to invite nominations for the position of UHJT Representative. The Past Presidents Council (PPC) will review all nominations received and send their recommendation to the Executive Committee by December 31st, 2015. The Executive Committee will appoint the UHJT Representative on or before January 31st, 2016.

A detailed guideline document and the nomination form for the selection of UHJT Representative is located on the website and has been provided as an insert elsewhere in the newsletter. Please fill out the UHJT Representative Nomination Form and send the filled form back to PresidentsCouncil@JainSocietyDC.org email address no later than midnight, December 23rd, 2015.

ON-GOING EVENTS

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

- Bi-weekly Sunday School Pathshala from September to June. Please contact our Director of Education, Megha Doshi at education@JainSocietyDC.org or (703) 200-3080.
- Adult religious classes are also held in parallel with Sunday school. Please contact Dr. Atul Shah at 301.274.0319, or Pravin Dand at 301.384.3367 for more information.
- Kesar/Chandan Poojan each Saturday - at 10:00 a.m.
- Snatra Pooja on 2nd Sunday of each month – at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch.
- Dev Shastra Guru Pooja on 1st Sunday of each month – at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch.
- Namokar Mantra Jaap followed by Kesar Pooja on last Saturday of each month - at 9:00 a.m.

PAST EVENTS: A Brief Synopsis

Panch Tirth Yatra Bus Trip: A Memorable Experience

We had a very pleasant, joyous, and successful religious bus trip to various Jain Temples in New York and New Jersey area during the October 10-11th, 2015 weekend. This trip was not possible without the contribution, hard work, and tireless efforts put in by many individuals. I apologize if I have missed thanking any one in person or listing their names below. Michchhami Dukkadam from the bottom of my heart. Listed below is the summary of the Panch Tirth Yatra:

- We had 79 yatris (30 families total) officially registered for this trip spread between two big buses.
- These two buses were led by our Sanghpati “Mehta” family: Bhadreshbhai, Manjuben, Sandeepbhai, Jhalakbhen, Maneet, and Kashvi.
- On Saturday, October 10th, we departed our Jain Center at 6:17 a.m. and on Sunday, October 11th, we returned back to our Jain Center at 9:40 p.m.
- We visited Cherry Hill Temple, Long Island Temple, Jain Center of America, Siddhachalam, and Franklin Derasar. Thanks to our very own Dr. Atulbhai Shah for ensuring we have enough cabins for our yatris during the overnight stay at Siddhachalam Temple.
- On our way back to Silver Spring, we also visited the BAPS Swaminarayan Temple in Robinsville, NJ.
- The yatris’ age span ranged from 15 months to 73 years old. Despite this wide gap, each yatri had fun as well as had the chance to participate in various religious activities, including seva Pooja at various temples, just to name a few.
- The time in the two buses were spent playing Jain Bingo, Jain puzzles, Antaakshari (with the youngest singing English songs and Jain stavans), and other games with prizes being distributed for the winners. The various activities / entertainment for young and adults were compiled and planned together by Jhalak Sandeep Mehta, Ripal Sahil Shah, Ami Mehul Doshi, Keyuri Janak Rajani, and Nimesh Chheda. The prizes were purchased and donated by Keyuri Rajani.
- There were two iPad raffles up for grabs for donation of \$5/ticket. The lucky winners of these two devices were: Asha Jain and Moksh Shah (son of Harshid and Hemangini Shah).
- The “To-go” dinner ordered from BAPS Swaminarayan Temple on Sunday, October 11th was sponsored by Vaishali Chheda and Ashok Shah, courtesy of Globex Realty, Inc.
- I am happy to share with you that this trip has broken even with the expenses incurred, including \$5,646 towards bus expenses, \$2,965 general donations at all temples visited, \$290 towards snacks while in the bus. Snacks related planning, picking up from the stores, and its distribution to the yatris was carried out by Allap Shah and Mehul Doshi.
- Thanks to Jhalak Sandeep Mehta, we enjoyed delicious Jain brownies and cupcakes, while in the bus.
- I take this opportunity to thank many volunteers who dedicated their time and energy in making this yatra so successful, fun and enjoyable, specifically Allap Shah, Sanjay Jain, and Vishal Mehta.
- A link for some pictures taken during the trip is posted on our website. Thanks to Nimesh Chheda and Vishal Mehta for being our official photographers for the trip.

Finally, work is in progress to get a return gift, that of an 8x10 color picture taken at the Franklin Derasar of the entire group of yatris. I will get in touch with you, all the bus yatris, as soon as this picture is ready for delivery.

Paushadh (Posho) at the Jain Temple:

Paushadh (Posho) is a way to experience the life of a Jain Sadhu / Sadhavi. We tend to appreciate better another way of living if we live it ourselves. Paushadh gives us that opportunity to live one day as closely as a Jain Sadhu Muni (males) or a Jain Sadhviji (females). This process enables us to realize how much does a Jain Sadhu Muni or a Jain Sadhviji goes through towards their spiritual upliftment and move close to their goal of Moksha. Even though we may be busy with our materialistic world fulfilling our responsibilities, we should take a day off, live this

life style to gain deep insight towards the benefits of Diksha and understand how it helps us to realize our real goal of this human life. Every Jain should do Paushadh (Posho) at least once in their life.

On Saturday, September 12th, on the occasion of Chaudas, we had 17 individuals who came forward and took this opportunity to understand the life of a Jain Sadhu Muni or Sadhviji in greater detail by living like one for some time! The Paushadh started from 7:00 a.m. and concluded at 7:00 p.m. - it was a full day event filled with various activities and Swadhayay conducted by Pandit Nirmal Sagarji. Members who participated in the Paushadh performed at least Akashnu (or more tap). It was a first time experience for many Bhagyashalis and some of them vowed to do Paushadh again in the near future!

D.C. Veg Fest on Saturday, October 3rd:

The D.C. "VegFest" event took place at N St. SE and First St. SE in Washington, D.C. As done in the past, we had set up a booth at this event. This was our third year at this event and was an excellent opportunity to do a community service project and promote public awareness about Jainism. After counting, we gave away about 1400 samples and received positive feedback from the public - even though the weather wasn't too great due to heavy winds and rain.

To all volunteers who represented our Society by participating in this event, I thank you so much for donating your time, your efforts in making and bringing the food at this event. We gave away about 1400 samples in that kind of weather. It was a great contribution from all volunteering adults and youth to Abhay Daan and Gyan Daan. Also, the youth members learned the names of various daals and were better prepared to answer questions raised by the event attendees! As in the past, JSMW booth rocked again with samples running out - within 30 mins per lot. On behalf of entire Executive Committee, we take this opportunity to thank Chetanbhai Ajmera, Nitinbhai Sogani, and all volunteers for their help in setting up and taking care of the ongoing activities at the booth throughout the event.

YES, YOU CAN HELP TOO: Amazon Smile

We are in the process of building a brand new temple over the next few years. We will need all the funding we can get to support the construction costs and make this project a grand success. If you like to shop on Amazon, JSMW has registered with Amazon Smile where 0.5% of your shopping expenses get donated to the JSMW temple fund! This is a great way to support the new temple effort as you look forward to your holiday shopping.

A link was provided via email to all members. If you have not received this email, please send a request to President@JainSocietyDC.org email address. Once you get at that link, it is very important to login to your Amazon account, using your regular Amazon username and password combination. This will register your preferred charity as "Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington."

Whenever you go to shop on Amazon, use smile.amazon.com link before doing your shopping and a percentage of your final price will benefit the JSMW temple fund! Remember the final price of your purchase will stay the same, but only by using "smile.amazon.com" will JSMW get a portion of the final amount.

Every little bit will make a big difference as we progress towards temple construction. This will be a combined Shwetambar / Digambar temple and will help preserve Jainism for a long time to come in the DC metro area. Thank you for the support!!

On behalf of entire Executive Committee, we take this opportunity to thank Pathik Shah and Pinkesh Gala for setting this program for us.

Answer Key to Test Your Knowledge

Following is the answer key to the Test Your Knowledge section located on Page-8:

Answer Key: 1-C, 2-b, 3-c, 4-a, 5-b.

NEW WEBSITE UPDATES

Our current website, www.JainSocietyDC.org is a bit outdated, lacks “cool” features and does not have an account login setup where our members can login to register for Swami Vatsalya Bhojan during various activities, submit their donations online from their account, etc.

We have formed a team of volunteers who have come forward to help us revamp our current website using the latest technologies. The platform chosen for the redesign effort is WordPress - a Content Management System that is completely free and comes with thousands of free templates to choose from, giving our new website any look we want. WordPress is safe, secure, and super flexible system that can be extended by using plugins providing us additional functionality.

The redesign team is moving really fast and has already made significant progress towards the website redesign effort. Some of the features that will be implemented in the website redesign effort include:

- A new look and feel, easy to navigate, and aesthetically pleasing design with clear navigation,
- Secured account login allowing registered members to update their contact information, register for Swami Vatsalya Bhojan, submitting donations securely by using auto-debit from linked bank account or credit card transactions,
- Mobile-ready design supporting both iOS and Android platforms,
- Ability to link accounting data to online account such that members can login on the new website and download an automated donation receipt for tax purposes.

As you can imagine, this is a long list of nice-to-have features, some features being too complex, and will take a lot of time to add them in the new website. As a result, we will implement this task in a phased manner. We request you to be patient while the new website is “Under Construction.” We will send you more information with updates and as we make progress in the near future.

On behalf of entire Executive Committee, we take this opportunity to thank Hemen Gandhi, Rahul Jain, Ripal Shah, Megha Tatiya, Mehul Doshi, Arihant Jain, Arpit Shah (India), Arpit Jain, and Mahaveer Prabhu for coming forward and volunteering their talents, time, and treasure in this very important task.

POLICY REGARDING PICTURES AND VIDEOS

JSMW reserves the right to use any photograph/video taken at any event sponsored by JSMW, including but not limited to Pathshala, without the expressed written permission of those included within the photograph/video. JSMW may use the photograph/video in publications or other media material produced, used or contracted by JSMW including but not limited to: brochures, invitations, books, newspapers, magazines, television, websites, etc. To ensure the privacy of individuals and children, images will not be identified using full names or personal identifying information without written approval from the photographed subject, parent or legal guardian. A person attending a JSMW event who does not wish to have their image recorded for distribution should make their wishes known to the photographer, and/or the event organizers. By participating in a JSMW event or by failing to notify JSMW your desire to not have your photograph used by JSMW, you are agreeing to release, defend, hold harmless and indemnify JSMW from any and all claims involving the use of your picture or likeness. Any person or organization not affiliated with JSMW may not use, copy, alter or modify JSMW photographs, graphics, videography or other, similar reproductions or recordings without the advance written permission of an authorized designee from JSMW. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Should you have any questions or need additional clarification, please feel free to email President@JainSocietyDC.org.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY PROJECT

We are planning to publish our members' directory by the end of January-2016. Following information shall be included in this directory: Last Name, Member's and their Spouse's names, Home Address, Home phone number, Profession, and unmarried children names.

Several youth members have come forward and have agreed to volunteer their time by contacting our members to verify that their contact information as per our records are accurate. These youth have started placing calls to gather the information. If you have not received such a call, please be on the lookout and kindly cooperate by verifying your information during such contact. If you have received a voicemail from one of our youth members, please return the call at your earliest convenience so we can close out this project. All information collected will be solely used for our membership directory, will strictly remain confidential and will not be shared with anyone outside the Executive Committee. We would like to thank our youth volunteers: Aimee Doshi, Kanvi Shah, Deesha Ajmera, Ayush Jain, Akhil Ajmera, Sanket Shah, and Rushil Shah for stepping forward in helping us out in this very important task.

The rates for advertisement in this directory are: \$500 for a full page (5.5" x 8.5") and \$250 for a half page on black and white printing. To obtain more information for advertisement for inside front page, inside and outside back page, color advertisement, or in the preparation of the directory, please contact Janak Rajani at (410) 415-3033 or send an email at President@JainsocietyDC.org.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Test your knowledge of Jain Religion and Philosophy by answering the questions listed below. Answers can be found at the bottom of Page-6.

1. Where are Abu Delwada temples?
a. Punjab b. Gujarat c. Rajasthan d. Madhya Pradesh
2. In which language are 45 Jain Agams written?
a. Sanskrit b. ArdhaMagadhi c. Hindi d. Pali
3. How many Pads, Sampadas, letters are there in Navkar Mahamantra?
a. 8 Pads, 8 Sampadas, 64 letters b. 9 Pads, 8 Sampadas, 64 letters c. 9 Pads, 8 Sampadas, 68 letters
d. 9 Pads, 9 Sampadas, 68 letters
4. Who composed Bhaktamar Stotra?
a. Acharya Shri Mantunga b. Bhagwan Mahavir c. Bhagwan Adinath d. Acharya Shri Gautam Swami
5. Who forms Chaturvidhi Sangh?
a. Gandhar b. Tirthankar c. Acharya d. Dev

TREASURER'S REPORT

Following is a list of all donations received between August 1, 2015 and October 31, 2015. *Note: Dear Members and other donors, Jain Society appreciate your generous donations. Please check the below list, if we miss anyone's name or if you find any error, please do let us know by sending an email to Treasurer@JainSocietyDC.org.*

General Donations (21 Abhishek, Snatra Pooja, Aarti Mangal Divo Ghee Boli, Pathshala, Jivdaya, Speakers)					
Dr. Navin C. Shah M.D.	\$1,001	Priyank Chaudhary	\$251	Jigar Jitendra Shah	\$101
Sandeep & Jhalak S. Mehta	\$957	Revive Physical Therapy LLC	\$251	Kanu & Jyoti Doshi	\$101
Allap & Sheetal Shah	\$674	Natwarlal and Pushpa Shah	\$225	Mahendra Maloo	\$101
Bhadresh & Shefali Dhila	\$602	Ajit & Shilpa Shah	\$201	Raman & Durga Ruia	\$101
Harshid & Hemangini Shah	\$602	Ramesh & Priti Mehta	\$201	Kaushal and Hemali Shah	\$85
Vishal & Mily Mehta	\$507	Shailesh & Mona Shah	\$201	Pratixa Khona	\$76
Manchand & Nirmala Maloo	\$501	Naren & Datta Khona	\$162	Divyang & Kina Shah	\$51
Hansraj & Usha Maru	\$500	Deepak & Sunila Merchant	\$151	Harshvina Desai	\$51
Ashok & Pallavi Shah	\$457	Paresh & Shilpa Shah	\$151	Hitesh & Jyoti Shah	\$51
Pravin & Veena Dand	\$453	Saroj Shah	\$151	Hitesh & Mina Vora	\$51
Gaurang & Kalyani D. Mehta	\$403	Swetal & Darshini Shah	\$151	Nilesh & Manna Shah	\$51
Jitendra & Niranjana Tejani	\$403	Karan & Prema Bapna	\$150	Premji & Kokila Gada	\$51
Kishor & Jayshree Mahadevia	\$402	Reema Consulting, Rajesh & Sujata Vora	\$112	Sanjay & Indu Jain	\$51
Sushil & Asha Jain	\$400	Hemen and Bela Gandhi	\$111	Sudhir & Dharini Khona	\$51
Kantilal & Meeta Gangar	\$377	Pramathesh & Minaxi Broker	\$108	Ravindra & Manju Kasliwal	\$40
Hitesh & Falguni Doshi	\$353	Ashvin & Ranjan Shah	\$101	Nayan & Kashmira Vaywala	\$30
Tushar and Nishma Shah	\$353	Ashwin Mehta	\$101	Jitendra & Hansa Modi	\$25
Mulchand & Ratanben Shah	\$301	Bachubhai & Hansa Ajmera	\$101	Lalit & Hansa Mehta	\$21
Gunvanti Bhavsar & Pinkesh Gala	\$299	Dimple & Rupal Doshi	\$101	Subhash & Arti Choxi	\$16
Minaxi Shah	\$251	Hiranya & Anupa Maru	\$101		

New Temple					
Pradhuman Zaveri	\$29,787.30	Rishi & Shilpa Dharamsey	\$1,250	Seema Jain	\$101
Charulata N. Parekh	\$5,001	Dhiren & Deepti Khona	\$1,001		
Prashant & Nirmala Jain	\$1,501	Ujjaival & Deepal Shah	\$301		

New Memberships					
Amish B. Mehta	\$151	Jignesh & Jaimini Shah	\$151	Pragneshkumar & Sonal Shah Niranjana & Ila Shah	\$151
Dhairya J. Shah for Swara Shah	\$151	Nimit Shah	\$151	Sharad & Sonal Doshi for Ravi Doshi	\$151
Harshid & Hemangini Shah for Keval Shah	\$151	Pathik Shah	\$151		

Swami Vatsalya and Daily Lunch Sponsorships					
Nimesh & Vaishali Chheda	\$505	Tushar and Nishma Shah	\$251	Kalpesh & Nita Shah	\$101
Kamlesh & Gita Shah	\$501	Vipul & Parul Mehta	\$251	Kiran & Sharmila Mehta	\$101
Pragneshkumar & Sonal Shah	\$501	Jasvant & Urmila Doshi	\$202	Kirit & Bharti Khajuria	\$101
Kanu & Jyoti Doshi	\$424	Saurabh Dalal	\$202	Manish & Nirmala Vora	\$101
Jatin & Parul Jain	\$386	Subhash & Hemlata Shah	\$202	Maulin & Nima Shah	\$101
Harilal & Jhaver Gangar	\$352	Subhash & Arti Choxi	\$201	Mulchand & Ratanben Shah	\$101
Nilesh & Manna Shah	\$352	Bhupesh & Pallavi Babu	\$151	Naren & Datta Khona	\$101
Ramesh & Priti Mehta	\$352	Ajaykumar S. Mallesha	\$101	Nimit Shah	\$101
Shailesh & Mona Shah	\$352	Ashok & Pallavi Shah	\$101	Nitin B. & Chandrika Parekh	\$101

Kantilal & Meeta Gangar	\$303	Ashvin & Ranjan Shah	\$101	Pankaj & Smita Shah	\$101
Niren & Jaya Nagda	\$303	Bachubhai & Hansa Ajmera	\$101	Prashant & Rajul Shah	\$101
Gyan & Kumi Shah	\$302	Bharati Chetan & Suzanne Sanghvi	\$101	Sahil & Ripal Shah	\$101
Vipul & Nilima Shah	\$301	Dharmi & Sushila Chaudhari	\$101	Saurabh M. Shah	\$101
Pratixa Khona	\$253	Harsh Lakhani	\$101	Taraben & Shefali Dhila	\$101
Devang & Rani Ajmera	\$251	Harsukh & Rekha Kamani	\$101	Vasant & Jyoti Gala	\$101
Hemal S. & Syrakes Shah	\$251	Jatin & Ami Shah	\$101	Vishal & Mily Mehta	\$101
Kiran & Rita Shah	\$251	Jayvanti Shah & Nipa Shah	\$101	Yogendra & Rupa Sheth	\$101
Pravin & Veena Dand	\$251	Jigar Jitendra Shah	\$101	Manohar & Kalpana Hegde	\$51
R. H. & Rekha Chheda	\$251	Jitendra & Niranjana Tejani	\$101	Sanat & Sunita Mehta	\$51
Sudhir & Dharini Khona	\$251	Jyoti M. Shah	\$101	Dinesh & Bhavna Mehta	\$25

Panch Tirth Yatra to NY and NJ Temples					
Sandeep & Jhalak S. Mehta	\$1,551	Prashant & Nirmala Jain	\$350	Saurabh M. Shah	\$200
Nimesh & Vaishali Chheda	\$650	Sahil & Ripal Shah	\$311	Vishal & Mily Mehta	\$175
Jignesh & Jaimini Shah	\$452	Amit Patani	\$275	Pratixa Khona	\$150
Bhavesh & Nita Shah	\$450	Harshid & Hemangini Shah	\$275	Devendra & Kanta Kapoor	\$125
Kaushal & Hemali Shah	\$426.85	Mehul & Ami Doshi	\$275	Jayvanti Shah & Nipa Shah	\$100
Allap & Sheetal Shah	\$375	Rupen & Sangeeta Shah	\$250	Jitendra & Hansa Modi	\$100
Sanjay & Indu Jain	\$375	Rajan Nayanbhai Shah	\$200		
Janak & Keyuri Rajani	\$350	Ravindra & Manju Kasliwal	\$200		

Special Donations (Birthday, Anniversary, Pooja In Memory)					
Shah Foundation, Inc.	\$5,000	Samir & Anita Mehta	\$250	Payesh & Niyati Jhaveri	\$51
Narendra & Sangita Shah	\$501	Manish & Nirmala Vora	\$216	Ashok & Pallavi Shah	\$25

Paryushan & Das Lakshan Parva (Various Ghee Boli and other Donations)					
Kamlesh & Gita Shah	\$3,001	Rakhi D. Modi	\$550	Hitesh & Jyoti Shah	\$233
Atul & Aruna Shah	\$2,500	Jatin & Toral Shah	\$537	Kalpesh & Komal Shah	\$233
Akshay & Shaila Shah	\$1,152	Devang & Rani Ajmera	\$513	Jitendra & Niranjana Tejani	\$202
Sandeep & Jhalak S. Mehta	\$1,062	Vinod K Singhai and Seema Jain	\$503	Chirag H Kapadia	\$201
Vikas & Ruchi Jain	\$1,002	Krunal & Darsha Desai	\$501	Sudha Udani	\$201
Ajit & Shilpa Shah	\$1,001	Mahaveer & Anitha Nabiraj	\$501	Charulata N. Parekh	\$151
Pavan & Meenal Zaveri	\$1,001	Megha Tatiya	\$501	Deepak and Anita Padliya	\$151
Bhupendra & Kokila Mehta	\$901	Saurabh and Priya Jain	\$500	Hiraben Mehta	\$151
Bhupesh & Yash Mehta	\$890	Pinkesh Jain	\$401	Jasvant & Urmila Doshi	\$151
Pradhuman and Laxmi Zaveri	\$803	Sahil & Ripal Shah	\$401	Rasik & Kalpana Parekh	\$151
Sushil & Asha Jain	\$752	Kanu & Jyoti Doshi	\$381	Ronak and Jayna Mehta	\$151
Miheer S. Khona	\$751	Shailesh & Mona Shah	\$381	Sachin & Ruchita Shah	\$151
Mrugesh & Jasmili Majmudar	\$751	Dipak & Nila Shah	\$334	Jigar Jitendra Shah	\$137
Nimit Shah	\$701	Nitin B. & Chandrika Parekh	\$302	Nilesh & Megha Doshi	\$126
Rakhi M. Shah	\$701	Hemen and Bela Gandhi	\$301	Janak & Keyuri Rajani	\$125
Nilesh & Manna Shah	\$612	Manohar & Kalpana Hegde	\$263	Dinesh & Bhavna Mehta	\$111
Sanjay & Indu Jain	\$603	Hiral Shah	\$251	Shilpa Udani	\$111
Sudhir & Shraddha Patni	\$601	Rashmi & Madhvi Doshi	\$251	Amber Jain	\$101
Hiranya & Anupa Maru	\$600.50	Sanjay Kumar Jain	\$251	Arpit Jain	\$101
Raju & Monica Shah	\$600.50	Ashok & Pallavi Shah	\$234	Kamlesh & Arti Shah	\$101
Gautam & Dhruvi Shah	\$600	Nimesh & Vaishali Chheda	\$233.50	Parash & Rina Shah	\$101
Nitin and Meeta Sogani	\$552	Ajaykumar S. Mallesha	\$233	Pavan Jain & Chetana Shah	\$101

DIWALI CELEBRATIONS AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, WASHINGTON DC

With pure intention of light, "Live and let others live", Jain Society of Metro Politian Washington (JSMW) opened the Diwali celebration for 2015 at "Diwali in D.C." event on November 4, 2015 at the Library of Congress, Washington DC. More than thirty members of Congress, senators and over 1,100 prominent Indian Americans and their Congressional representatives across the United States attended the event hosted by the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans. JSMW was the event co-sponsor alongside other community organizations. Over 35 members of JSMW attended the event with fresh garlands of Mogra in atmosphere, mouthwatering Indian sweets and other Diwali food, great architecture, paintings, and lightings of the Jefferson Hall in the Library of Congress.

For over two hours, public leaders shared their thoughts on the diverse contributions of Indian Americans to the economic and cultural framework of the American landscape. They highlighted the importance of nurturing and advancing the longstanding relationship between India and the United States. Guests included Virginia Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi from California, Committee on Foreign Affairs Chairman Ed Royce from California, Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick from Pennsylvania, Rep. Ander Crenshaw from Florida, Rep. Joe Crowley from New York, Rep. Mike Honda from California, Rep. Daniel Webster from Florida, Rep. Rob Woodall from Georgia, Rep. Lois Frankel from Florida, Rep. Sanford Bishop from Georgia, Rep. Randy Hultgren from Illinois, Rep. Grace Meng and Rep. Ami Bera from California. It was indeed the opportunity to spread the wealth of Jain ideas, roots and history of celebrating Diwali among the attendees.

Rep. Bera, Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans, is currently the only Indian American serving in the United States House of Representatives. He began the festivities with brief remarks about the importance of honoring Diwali in the lives of Indian Americans living in the United States.

Congressional leaders and other dignitaries shared their well-wishes for a *Happy Diwali* with the enthusiastic crowd who stood together in celebration under the artfully detailed ceiling of the Jefferson Hall in the Library of Congress. Congressman Joe Crowley explained the historic and aesthetic significance of the Jefferson Hall. The crowd reacted with a deep sense of pride for their Indian American heritage which include Jainism.

This historic event was the result of a collaborative effort from logistics to catering, made possible by multiple organizations and many volunteers from Metro Politian Washington D.C. and other North-East region area. All attending members of JSMW felt that Light up the Capitol (Diwali in DC) with congressional leaders is a great opportunity to share our Jain faith and traditions with elected officials of USA in fostering a deeper understanding between cultural communities. We were fortunate to capture of great memories of the event in photographs that will be shares soon by our members attended the event. TV Asia USA channel has captured the coverage of the event which include the small video message from some of the JSMW members at the event. TV Asia USA is planning to broadcast the event details during Diwali week of November 9, 2015 at their channel in USA.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Young Jains of America (YJA) Board comprises of incredibly talented and skilled Jain young adults who passionately volunteer to make a difference for Jain youth from ages 14-29 through a local, regional, and national events. Since 1991, for the past 24 years, YJA has served over 10,000 members. YJA's mission is to be recognized nationally and internationally as an umbrella Jain youth organization for establishing a network for and among youth to share Jain heritage and religion.

We are extremely happy to share with you that Ravi Doshi, son of Sharadbhai Doshi, Director of Public Relations, has been selected in the YJA 2015-16 Executive Board as the Director of Fundraising. Congratulations Ravi on your selection and to your proud parents as well! Way to Go.

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.JAINSOCIETYDC.ORG

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED**

Calendar of Events

Date	Program
Thursday, November 26	Namokar Mantra Jaap and Thanksgiving Ayambil
Saturday, December 5	Social Event - Gujarati Play "Rang Rangilo Gujarati" Venue: High Point High School, Beltsville, MD
Sunday, December 13	Annual General Body Meeting and 2016 Elections
Wednesday, December 23	Nominations for UHJT Representative Due



JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

2015 ELECTIONS NOMINATION FORM

To Be Filled By Nominator:

I hereby nominate: _____ for the position of Board of Trustees.

Date	Full Name of the Nominator	Signature of the Nominator
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To Be Filled By Nominee:

I accept the above nomination, and if elected, agree to serve the JSMW to the best of my abilities. Furthermore, I certify with my signature below, that I have read the amended Constitution, approved on September 30th 2012, in its entirety.

Date	Signature of the Candidate	E-Mail Address
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Home Phone Number	Cell Phone Number	Office Phone Number
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Nomination Form completely filled and signed by Nominator and Nominee must be received by any of the following members of the Election Committee by midnight Friday, November 20, 2015:

- : 2015 ELECTION COMMITTEE :-

Shilpa (Manoj) Shah, Chair

5414 Meadow Pond Dr
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Phone: 410-788-4090

Email: shilushah11@gmail.com

Kalpna Hegde

4 Catonridge Ct
Catonville, MD 21228

Phone: 410-744-6009

Email: khegde4@yahoo.com

Allap Shah

13417 Latrobe Ln
Clarksburg, MD 20871

Phone: 562-587-5524

Email: AllapShah@gmail.com

The list of nominees will be posted at www.JainSocietyDC.org on Sunday, November 29, 2015. **Elections will be held during the Annual General Body meeting** scheduled on **Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.** at Cloverly Elementary School located at 800 Briggs Chaney Rd Silver Spring, MD 20905.

This form is based on the amended constitution, approved on Sunday, September 30, 2012. Please find the approved amended constitution online at www.JainSocietyDC.org.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

1. POSITIONS

This nomination form must be filled for the position of Board of Trustees.

Board of Trustees: The term of the Board of Trustees is three years. Annually, there will be two positions available for elections.

2. RESTRICTIONS

Only members with voting rights are eligible for contesting for election.

A member can be nominated for only one elected position.

Only one member of a member family can contest for any one position in the Board of Trustees since the constitution does not allow more than one person of the same family in the Board of Trustees.

All candidates must be present at elections unless the candidate provides a written notice to the Elections Committee in advance.

A person can be elected to the Board of Trustees for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

Retiring Trustees shall be eligible for re-election, subject to term limits.

3. VOTING RIGHTS

Duly paid membership shall entitle only the member and his/her spouse to vote as members of the General Body. Married children are not eligible for voting or contesting for election because of the membership of their parents.

4. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Board of Trustees Nominees: To be eligible for election to the Board of Trustees, a person must be a life member of the Society for at least three years prior to the year of the election, and must have paid a minimum of \$25,000 to the Jain Center Fund at least 30 days prior to elections or \$5,000 to the Jain Center Fund prior to September 30, 2012. The Jain Center Fund only includes funds donated for building the temple and excludes payments for Gheeboli, general donations, membership fees, charges for programs and other specific fund donations.

Board of Trustees Nominators: A person who is eligible for casting a vote during the Board of Trustees elections is also eligible for nominating a candidate for that position.

JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION OF

UHJT REPRESENTATIVE

The Executive Committee (EC) shall nominate two representatives to UHJT. During the first year, JSMW will select two candidates, one for a term of one year and other for a term of 2 years. Next year onwards, only one representative shall be selected each year for a term of 2 years, and will be nominated as a representative to UHJT along with the representative selected during previous year for 2 years. The term limit for nomination of the same candidate shall be 2 consecutive terms (maximum of 4 years).

For selection of the UHJT Representative(s), the Past Presidents' Council (PPC) shall announce to all members the requirements and duties for the position and request them to submit the attached nomination form. The PPC shall review all nominations received and recommend their choice of candidate(s) for UHJT Representative to the EC for their approval. The EC shall make the final selection.

If a UHJT Representative resigns before completing his/her term, then the PPC shall recommend a new UHJT Representative for the remaining term to the EC.

JSMW EC reserves the right to withdraw the nomination of a UHJT Representative under special circumstances, provided the EC approves it with a 3/4 majority vote.

Requirements for the position of UHJT Representative

Nomination for selection as a JSMW UHJT Representative is open to all members who have been life member of JSMW for a minimum period of two years prior to the year for which the selection is being made. Eligible members shall submit the attached nomination form mentioning their accomplishments/voluntary services as requested on the form.

Duties of UHJT Representative

1. Represent JSMW and be a liaison between UHJT and JSMW.
2. Attend most (at least 75%) of the meetings, teleconferences, video conferences, and online web meetings.
3. Take active part in UHJT activities. Lead UHJT projects as required and recruit volunteers for the same.
4. Update the EC with the UHJT activities (quarterly) and submit UHJT updates for JSMW publications.

Timeline:

The EC shall invite nominations for the positions of UHJT Representative using the same time line as given in JSMW constitution for the election of EC and BOT members (currently, invite nominations a minimum of 43 days prior to the Annual General Body meeting and the deadline for receiving nominations shall be a minimum of 22 days before the Annual General Body meeting). The PPC will review all nominations received and send their recommendation to the executive committee by December 31st. The EC will appoint the UHJT Representative(s) before January 31st of the following year.

Nomination by a member of the PPC or EC:

Since all JSMW life members (of minimum 2 years) are eligible for selection as a UHJT Representative, members of the PPC or members of the EC are not barred from sending their nomination. However, if a member or spouse of the PPC is nominated for one of these positions, then that person shall abstain from and exclude himself/herself from all proceedings including voting done by the PPC to recommend candidates for that position to the executive committee. Similarly, if a member or spouse of the EC is nominated for one of these positions, then that person shall abstain from and exclude himself/herself from all proceedings including voting done by the EC for selection of candidates for that position.