



JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

April, 2015

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jai Jinendra!

It is an incredible honor to serve as the President of the Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington (JSMW). I am truly humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve, and I vow to work tirelessly every single day to prove worthy of this great honor that you have granted me.

I take this opportunity to thank members of the Executive Committee (EC) team and their willingness to serve in various capacities. A big kudos to our past President, Pareshbhai Shah, for his selfless dedicated service. The strong foundation that he has set forth, I will strive to continue. With excellent support from him as well as our key players in the EC team, I have no doubts that we will excel to meet our Community's expectations. I am really grateful for all the continued support and guidance I have received so far, and look forward to working together with him for a smooth transition. To Pareshbhai's family, I am sure you have sacrificed a lot of "family" time, so thank you for all your hard work and time that you have devoted and dedicated to our Jain Society.

I would like to welcome and introduce our newly elected Trustee, Bhupeshbhai Mehta. Being an active leader in the community, Bhupeshji has served in the core EC for more than 8 years. Also, with the help of Presidents' Council and the EC, we have appointed following members, as JAINA Directors, to represent JSMW for the year 2015: Sharadbhai Doshi, Harshidbhai Shah, & Bhupeshbhai Mehta. Congratulations to the newly appointed leaders, we know you will represent us very well!

We will celebrate Mahavir Janma Kalyanak (MJK) on Saturday, April 25, 2015. The MJK planning committee is working very hard to make it a successful event. Our Pathshala students along with some parents will perform during this event. This will be an excellent program to attend and join our new generation in celebrating Bhagwan Mahavir's Janma Kalyanak by showcasing their hidden talents and treasures.

I would like to remind you that the Jain Center belongs to all its members and ownership comes with certain responsibilities. I would like to encourage you, our members, to take part in our committees and programs. Every week we have number of activities in our temple, so please come forward and volunteer to help and organize these events. Volunteering and making financial contributions to our temple should be an integral part of us. I encourage everyone to actively participate, volunteer, and donate generously during our community efforts.

Please send me your suggestions and/or comments for community improvements via email at: President@JainSocietyDC.org.

Janak Rajani, President

Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington

A MESSAGE FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I would like to thank the Board of Trustees for appointing me as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the current year. I will do my best to carry out the duties as required by the Constitution.

I sincerely welcome Mr. Janak Rajani to his position as the President of the Jain Society for the next two years and assure him of the cooperation and help of the Trustees and all of the members of the Society. He was elected during the last Special General Body Meeting held on March 29th. On behalf of all the members and the Board of Trustees, I also applaud and sincerely thank the outgoing President Mr. Paresh Shah for his dedication and hard work in managing the affairs of the Society for the past two years.

In the coming months, the Executive Committee has planned several programs such as Mahavir Jayanti on April 25th and an official visit to our Temple on Sunday, May 24th by His Eminence Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, President, Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialog. Several religious activities are also planned. I request that you plan to participate in as many activities that your schedule may allow.

The New Temple Committee work is progressing according to the schedule and you will hear more about the progress they have made in the past several months from the Committee Chairman. A high level update is listed in this newsletter.

In the meeting held by the Board of Trustees on April 4th, Dr. Sushil Jain was appointed as the Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee reporting the Board of Trustees. It is my humble request to all the members to give him all the help he needs in managing the very big and important task of raising funds so we can have our dream Temples and the Jain Center.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me any time if you have any concerns or suggestions.

Pravin Dand
Chairman
JSMW Board of Trustees

NEW TEMPLE UPDATE

Completed Activities

- Feasibility Study
- Natural Resource Inventory Forest Stand Delineation (NRI-SD) Study
- Traffic Study
- 4241 Ammendale Rd - Tax EXEMPT for 3.52 Acre
- Topography and Boundary Survey
- Vacating Pine Street – Combing two lots 4241 and 4231 Ammendale Road
- NBJ Architect Contract and Indian Architect Rajesh Sompura for New Temples, and Civil Engineer Contracts
- Demolition of two houses on 4241 and 4231 Ammendale Road
- Bhoomi Poojan
- Preliminary three design options by nbj Architect
- Given a contract for Traffic Study (Entry and Exit from Ammendale Road).

Current Activities

- Combining two lots 4241 Ammendale Road and Lot 17 (15000 square feet on Lincoln Avenue)
- Comments received from Jain Society’s members are evaluated by Construction Committee Members and given to nbj Architect. Based on these comments, nbj Architect will prepare two Schematic designs by April 3rd
- Traffic Engineer is studying and will prepare a report for entry and exit from Ammendale Road by April 20th
- Preliminary design of two temples by Sompura will be completed by end of April.
- Civil Engineer to prepare Preliminary Site Plan.

Future Activities

- Approval of nbj Architect’s Schametic Plan Drawings by Temple Cimmittee and General Body
- Approval of SOMPURA’s (Indian Architect) Schametic design of temples by General Body.

PATHSHALA UPDATE

JSMW Pathshala is an integral and vibrant part of Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington. In the current academic year for 2014-15, there are 155 students attending classes. In addition to Pathshala classes, we offer Hindi and Gujarati language classes. For those interested, adult classes are conducted by Dr. Atul Shah & Pravinbhai Dand at the same time as children’s Pathshala classes to encourage more parents to attend and learn Jainism. Please participate and take advantage of these opportunities.

Our teachers are a key to success and we would not have such a vibrant Pathshala without the dedication and hard work of our teachers. We want to take this opportunity to thank them for everything they do for the Pathshala. **THANK YOU!**

We also want to thank all the volunteers and parents who encourage and drive the kids to attend Pathshala, sponsor Pathshala day lunch, and devote countless hours to keep this institution running. Because of this teamwork, we are doing an excellent job passing Jain values to the next generation.

Please contact Megha Doshi at 703-200-3080 or education@jainsocietydc.org for questions/suggestions.

Test your knowledge of Jain Religion & Philosophy by solving the crossword puzzle below. Answers can be found at the bottom of Page-5.

1			2		3															
					4															5
6					7							8								
					9															
					10															

ACROSS

1 - Sacred Mantra of Jainism
 4 - Who gained victory over inner enemies
 6 - What word is commonly associated with Vruksha and Sutra
 7 - Jain Scriptures
 9 - Fasting for 36 hours
 10 - King of all Devtas

DOWN

1 - Accessory used to do Mantra Jaap
 2 - Holly book of Jainism
 3 - A famous Pilgrimage place in Bihar
 5 - The beauty of every Shravaks forehead
 8 - Another word for Attachment

Jain Academic Bowl (JAB) Tournament

Once again, our Pathshala is participating in the JAB tournament organized by the JAINA Education Committee at the 18th JAINA Convention, to be held in Atlanta from July 2nd to July 5th 2015. We have 2 teams including 11 kids participating in the tournament. Our alumni students Priyal Gandhi and Foram Shah are coaching the teams. Thanks to all our students who have shown interest to work and represent our Pathshala in this year's competition. *Be sure to come out and support our teams and cheer them on!*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mahavir Jayanti – Janma Kalyanak Celebration: *Saturday, April 25, 2015*

On April 25, 2015, we will be celebrating Bhagwan Mahavir Swami's Janma Kalyanak, a very auspicious day for all Jains. Our celebration will feature stage performances by our children, followed by Swami Vatsalya Bhojan. If you wish to participate in the dinner, you are requested to RSVP by April 20, 2015 with the number of attendees (Adults and Children ages 5-15). Please RSVP through one of the following:

- Website: Register at www.JainSocietyDC.org
- Phone: Send a text message or call any one of the following people:
 - Jatin Shah at 703.926.7451 or
 - Pragnesh Shah at 301.305.4261

When:	Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 1:30 PM
Where:	Laurel High School 8000 Cherry Ln., Laurel, MD 20707
RSVP:	Please RSVP by April 20, 2015

We are still looking for a sponsor for the Mahavir Jayanti Swami Vatsalya Bhojan (dinner). We hereby encourage and request a donation of \$6,000 from one family or \$501 per family from twelve (12) families to sponsor the Swami Vatsalya Bhojan. Please contact Paresh Shah at 571.357.5769 if you are interested in sponsoring the Swami Vatsalya Bhojan.

If we cannot get a sponsor, members sending RSVP by the deadline (April 20, 2015) will be required to make a minimum contribution of \$10.00 per person (age 5 and above). We will make arrangement for extra food to accommodate guests and members who have not sent their RSVP by the deadline. Such individuals can participate in the dinner by contributing a minimum of \$12.00 per person.

In an effort to raise donations and encourage your timely participation at the event, we have planned raffle prizes this year. Every member of the family who checks-in at the registration desk by no later than 2:30 p.m. and has sent their RSVP before the deadline will receive **one free** raffle ticket. The attendee must collect a raffle ticket from the registration desk for him/her **only**. Attendees checking-in after 2:30 p.m. can still participate in the raffle drawing by purchasing tickets for a nominal price of \$5 per ticket. Also, additional tickets (no limits) can be purchased for a nominal price of \$5 per ticket any time during the event. All the winners will be picked before the end of the program. Winners must be present when called upon, be able to show their ticket to verify their participation and to claim their prize.

!!!! Raffle prizes include an iPad Mini, \$50 and \$25 gift cards. !!!!

Mahavir Janma Kalyanak video & photo set DVD:

Stage program video and photos set will be available for small donation of \$15. DVD request forms will be available at the registration desk. You can also go online and submit a form at <http://goo.gl/R52qze> or contact Janak Rajani at 410-998-9786. Orders will be taken till May 17, 2015. We would like to thank Manohar Hedge, Manan Shah, Bhavesh Shah & Rajesh Rao for donating videography and photography expertise, time and all the raw materials for DVD production. They are preparing DVD for this event. All proceeds from this sale will be used towards our Pathshala.

DC Central Kitchen

Over the last few years, more than 45 volunteers join together on this community service project. Once again, JSMW has agreed to **prepare Jain meal for 4,500+ needy and homeless people in DC-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).

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.

If you wish to donate for the event, please make your donation payable to "Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington" and in the memo field please mention "DC Kitchen". Donations can be mailed to our address: P.O. Box 4548, Silver Spring, MD 20914.

This is an excellent opportunity to perform community service, publicize Jainism to the mainstream, and volunteer services directly to the needy. Names of about 45 to 50 dedicated volunteers will be collected 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 410.531.6218.

Event Date:	Saturday, May 16 th 2015
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

Volunteers must be 12 years of age or above.

Please note: If you are in school, we can provide community service certificate to our youth to help them with their school community service requirement.

Answers to Crossword Puzzle:

ACROSS: 1 - NAVKAR, 4 - ARIHANT, 6 - KALP 7 - AAGAM 9 - UPAVAS 10 - INDRA

DOWN: 1 - NAVKARVALI, 2 - KALPASUTRA 3 - RAJAGRUHI 5 - TILAK 8 - MAMATA

ON-GOING EVENTS

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

- Bi-weekly Sunday School Pathshala from September to May. Please contact our Director of Education, Megha Doshi.
- 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.
- Monthly Snatra Pooja (Sundays) - 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch.
- Dev Shashtra Guru Pooja on 1st Sunday of each month - 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Following is a list of all donations received between October 16, 2014 and March 15, 2015.

DONATIONS FOR NEW TEMPLE	
Pradhuman and Laxmi Zaveri	\$25,581
Ajit & Shilpa Shah	\$10,000
Yogendra & Rupa Sheth	\$5,001
Dimple & Rupal Doshi	\$5,000
Sushil & Asha Jain	\$5,000
Dhiraj & Nalini shah	\$2,500
Dhiraj & Nalini shah	\$2,500
Prashant & Nirmala Jain	\$1,501
Deepak & Anita Padliya	\$1,500
Jatin & Parul Jain	\$1,251
Jatin & Alpa Nagda	\$1,250
Natwarlal & Pushpa Shah	\$1,001
Divyang & Kina Shah	\$1,000
Pramathesh & Minaxi Broker	\$216
Pankaj B Shah	\$51
NEW TEMPLE (YOUTH)	
Sahil & Manshi Sailesh Shah	\$501
Poonam Dipak Shah	\$500

Bhoomi Poojan/Kalash, First Ayambil for New Temple, Swami Vatsalya	
Bhupesh & Pallavi Babu	\$5,001
Hemin & Dipali Shah	\$5,001
Pradhuman & Laxmi Zaveri	\$5,001
Ashok & Pallavi Shah	\$5,000
Bhupendra & Kokila Mehta	\$5,000
Navin & Nirmala Vora	\$3,232
Atul & Aruna Shah	\$553
Jatin & Parul Jain	\$151
Saurabh M Shah	\$151
Dimple & Rupal Doshi	\$112
Special Donation (Pooja at Home, Nisha Kapasi Diksha, Vastu Pooja)	
Pragneshkumar & Sonal Shah	\$501
Kamal Sanghani	\$500
Vishal & Mily Mehta	\$351
Ujval Mukeshbhai	\$501
NEW MEMBERSHIPS	
Gita Pancholy	\$151
Vishal & Mily Mehta	\$151

GENERAL DONATIONS

(Paryushan, In memory of, Community Service, Aarti, Mangal Divo, Gyan Poonan, Shanti Kalash, Ladoo Pooja, Swamivasthya, Devsastra Pooja, Snatra Pooja, Ghahuli Competition)

Kamlesh & Gita Shah	\$5,001	Ramesh & Jaishree Junankar	\$151
Adinath & Aruna Patil	\$2,000	Palak & Heena Shah	\$121
Satish & Mayuri Shah	\$2,100	Nilesh & Manna Shah	\$117
Jayesh & Parul Mehta	\$1,402	Jay & Rakhi Jariwala	\$108
Vikas & Ruchi Jain	\$1,008	Rajesh & Sujata Vora	\$108
Minaxi Shah	\$1,001	Harilal & Jhaver Gangar	\$101
Kamlesh & Arti Shah	\$511	Kamlesh & Chandrika Shah	\$101
Punamchand & Chandra Vora	\$451	Mulchand & Ratanben Shah	\$101
Verizon	\$402	Nilesh & Rupal Shah	\$101
Kalpesh & Nita Shah	\$401	Rita S. Jain	\$101
Ajay & Reshma Palvia	\$390	Sanjay & Sangeeta Shah	\$101
Nimesh & Vaishali Chheda	\$263	Shilpa Udani	\$82
Pratixa Khona	\$252	Natwarlal & Pushpa Shah	\$75
Dinesh & Bhavna Mehta	\$251	Vishal & Neha Ranpura	\$72
RSD Financial LLC	\$251	Dipak & Nila Shah	\$61
Naren & Datta Khona	\$201	Mukesh & Neeta Mehta	\$60
Praveen & Sunita Jain	\$201	Allap & Sheetal Shah	\$51
Shailesh & Mona Shah	\$201	Nilesh & Megha Doshi	\$51
Nicholas & Stephanie Kambouris	\$160	Chetan & Sonal Ajmera	\$21
Ashok & Pallavi Shah	\$152	Jatin & Parul Jain	\$21
Nitin & Meeta Sogani	\$151	Kailash & Anita Gagngar	\$21
Rajiv Zaveri & Asha vali	\$151	Vishal & Mily Mehta	\$21
		Janak & Keyuri Rajani	\$11

18TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION



The 18th Biennial JAINA Convention is being held from July 2nd to July 5th in Atlanta, Georgia at the Georgia International Convention Center and is located in College Park - a Southwest suburb of Atlanta. The Jain Society of Greater Atlanta, the 2015 JAINA Convention Board, and the JAINA Executive Committee look forward to welcoming you. In addition to spiritual development, the Convention will also focus on health and well-being, social and ecological issues. Our goal is to provide a memorable experience for all age groups and showcase achievements of Jain community.

To learn more go to: <http://convention.jaina.org>.

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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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED**

Calendar of Events

Date	Program
Sunday, April 12	Snatra Pooja
Saturday, April 25	Mahavir Janma Kalyanak Program
Saturday, May 16	JSMW - DC Kitchen
Sunday, May 24	Visit by Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran
Wednesday, June 17 - Saturday, June 20	Pandit Dhirajbhai Lectures
Thursday, July 2 - Sunday, July 5	JAINA 2015 Convention - Atlanta
Tuesday, August 11 - Friday, August 14	Tarlaben Doshi's Lectures
Thursday, September 10 – Thursday, September 17	Paryushan by Nirmal Sagar
Friday, September 18 – Sunday, September 27	Daslakshan Parva
Wednesday, November 11	Diwali
Thursday, November 12	Nav Smaran
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving Day Ayambil
Sunday, December 13	Tentative Annual General Body Meeting and 2016 Elections