



# JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

August, 2016 Edition

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jai Jinendra!

On behalf of the entire Executive Committee, I take this opportunity to thank all our members for their continued support and ongoing participation within the community.

I am very proud to announce the launch of our website, [www.JSMW.org](http://www.JSMW.org), a site that is re-designed to better suite mobile platform while preserving the attractive looks that typically are available on a larger screen. I encourage you to visit our website and familiarize yourself with its new design and navigation structure.

Also, I am happy to announce the formal formation of the Youth Committee with a specific purpose: to educate youth about the different facets of Jainism, to expose youth to Jainism for daily use and practice, and to prepare our youth to be successful leaders of tomorrow. This group will report to and receive guidance from the Executive Committee. Please refer to the Youth Committee Operating Guidelines that are included in other area of this newsletter. We look forward to your suggestions, if any, to improve the operating guidelines. We will do everything we can to empower our youth community!

As we start wrapping up the summer months, I hope you had an opportunity to come out and attend our special events. Our Sangh went on a virtual Bhaav Yatra with Nayanbhai Sanghvi of Shatrunjay to increase our understanding of Palitana such that we will get even more out of the Yatra next time we get a chance to visit. Soon thereafter, we learned the miraculous benefits of chanting Bhaktamar Stotras through Dr. Manju Jain's personal experience with the extraordinary powers of the Bhaktamar Shlokas and their Ridhis and Mantras. The Health Information and Education fair enlightened the attendees with a lot of health related information and also provided them assistance with measuring the blood pressure, checking BMI, vision screening, ENT, Grip Strength test, and much more. We were blessed to have scholars like Samirbhai Panditji, Dr. Sanjeevji Kumar Godha, and Shree Atulbhai Kamdar visit us in the recent past.

It was my goal to organize one major event every quarter throughout 2016 calendar year. To that note, let us not forget our own dedicated Ladies Group (Mahila Mandal) – they showed one more time how well they can organize an event, this time Summer Picnic and Fun 2016. An event that attracted more than 325 people, it was fun-tastic event suitable for all age groups!

During the weekend of July 30-31, we had a very pleasant, joyous, and successful religious Panch Tirth Yatra (bus trip) to various Jain Temples in Pennsylvania and New Jersey area.

Very soon, we will be celebrating Paryushan Parva followed by Das Lakshan Parva. We have planned various activities during these auspicious days, as mentioned in other sections of this newsletter. All members are urged to come and visit the Jain Center during these celebrations.

Our next Annual General Body meeting and Elections 2016 will be held on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at our Jain Center. All members are invited to this meeting. The Executive Committee, Trustees, Temple Committee, and other teams will present various reports during 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. 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](mailto:President@JainSocietyDC.org).

*Janak Rajani, President*

*Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington*

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES & FUNDRAISING TEAM UPDATE

*Sushil Jain (Chairperson, Board of Trustees & Fund Raising Team Coordinator)*

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The plans for New Jain center are moving forward rapidly. In the recent special general body meetings updated plan for Jain Center Complex (24000 sq. ft.) & Temple complex (6000 sq. ft.) at the updated budget of little over \$12 million, nearly all-inclusive, was approved. In addition, the temple committee was empowered to make final decision on external & internal construction materials to be used in consultation & recommendation with subject matter experts.

Under Jain Center sustainability plan it was recommended and approved that New Jain Center (some income may be taxable) and Temple complex (church status - tax free income) to be two separate tax entity.

In an effort to raise needed revenue, various schemes were presented and approved for implementation as deemed appropriate by fund raising team. Although our intention is to not borrow any money, however, it is necessary to have back up plan. In an effort to meet our financial goals and objectives in timely manner to pay our construction invoices, general body also approved to obtain interest free and interest bearing loans, as well as, equity line of credit as needed.

In an effort to make all donations (New Jain Center donation prior to Sept 2015) more flexible, the motion for extending the deadline for allowing funds transfer between New Jain Center and General Fund prior to September 15th, 2016 was approved. Affected families will be contacted soon.

On Swapna ceremony day you will be able to see an exhibit with various schematic & conceptual drawings related to New Jain center along with various ways to make donations including land & being Founder member.

LET'S BUILD OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!!

## TEMPLE COMMITTEE UPDATE

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

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Listed below are the activities currently in progress:

- FRP (Fiber Reinforced Plastic) quotes received from three different contractors and waiting from Rajesh Sompura (Temple Architect) for one more FRP quote.
- County hearing will be at end of September for approving preliminary site plan. Our Civil Engineer (CV Inc.), Traffic Engineer, and the Landscape Architect are working with PG County officials.
- Nbj Architect will start detail design work by 1<sup>st</sup> week of August.
- Rajesh SOMPURA is scheduled to visit us on August 24<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held at our Jain Center.
- Kitchen Committee is working for preliminary layout and shall determine the type of equipment that will be required for our New Jain Center Kitchen.
- Security/Audio-Video/Telecommunication committee is working to determine preliminary location and equipment requirements for our New Center.

## TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

*Hemen Gandhi (Director of Technology)*

- **New Website:** As communicated in our previous newsletter, we had formed a team of volunteers who came forward to help us revamp our current website using the latest technologies. I am proud to report that the new website, [www.JSMW.org](http://www.JSMW.org), went live on midnight Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Going forward, we shall only use: [www.JainSocietyDC.org](http://www.JainSocietyDC.org) and [www.JSMW.org](http://www.JSMW.org) website addresses and recommend that you update your browser favorites immediately. I take this opportunity to specially thank *Rahul Jain* and *Mehul Doshi* to helping us modernize our website and give it a better look and feel using latest technologies.

## PATHSHALA UPDATE

*Megha Doshi (Director of Education)*

### Back to School.....Back to Pathshala (September 18<sup>th</sup>)!

It's hard to believe but it's time for the beginning of a new Pathshala year! Every year we have over a hundred students participate in Pathshala activities that promote Jain education and Jain unity. Pathshala topics range the full spectrum from philosophical discussions to ritual awareness. Activities are age appropriate from arts and crafts for our Nursery students to public speaking preparation for our Senior School students. Each year, JSMW Pathshala gets better and better and 2016 is going to be another exciting year! Check out the highlights!

### Registration is already open:

- Visit [www.JSMW.org](http://www.JSMW.org) website for complete information about schedule, location, times, class curriculum, contact information, teacher information, and much more.
- Students are welcome from age 3 to 10<sup>th</sup> grade plus adult classes are also available.
- Pathshala year consists of 20 classes from September 18<sup>th</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>, usually 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday with some exceptions.
- Pathshala is from 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. followed by lunch.
- Hindi and Gujarati classes are also available at 9:15 a.m.

### It takes a village to raise a child!

As a strictly volunteer run organization, success thus far is attributed to the countless parents who pitch in and make Pathshala prosper. However, there are countless tasks behind the scene to ensure Pathshala runs smoothly. Therefore, if you are interested in continuing to see JSMW Pathshala thrive, then we need you! For the 2016-17 Pathshala year, we are looking for energetic and positive parents who value the spirit of Pathshala and are willing to commit roughly one to two hours per week during the Pathshala year. Please contact our Education Director, Megha Doshi, at [Education@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:Education@JainSocietyDC.org) or call her at (703) 200-3080 if you are interested in formally volunteering. JSMW Pathshala is a foundation for our society's growth and it is also a platform for welcoming new leaders in our community. We hope to hear from you!

### JSMW 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Essay Competition: Summer 2016

As we work through Pathshala to provide our youth a foundation of Jain principles, we recognize that only the students themselves can be true masters of their soul. With that in mind, JSMW Pathshala is hosting its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Essay Competition! Big thanks to our Pathshala alumni student, Foram Shah, for taking the lead on this project and hats off to all students who participated!!! You all have done an amazing job writing thought provocative and truly inspirational essays. Essay competition winners will be announced during Swapna Ceremony 2016 celebrations. This competition encourages students to think about how Jain principles are actually applicable in their daily lives and therefore we request members to support this competition by sponsoring prizes. If you are interested in sponsorship, please contact us at: [Education@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:Education@JainSocietyDC.org).

## NEW POLICY REGARDING FACILITY USAGE

*Kamlesh P. Shah (Director of Facilities)*

The Executive Committee has a new policy that will be enforced starting September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. As per this policy, we now welcome the use of our facility by our members. In order to provide for the equitable and prudent use of our facility, we request you to use the *Facility Usage Form* to rent the Jain Center for private Pooja and other events. You can also rent tables and chairs for your private events outside the Jain Center as well by filling out the *Chair & Table Rental Form*. Both these forms are attached elsewhere in this newsletter. They need to be filled out completely and sent it back to the Director of Facilities via an email to: [Facility@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:Facility@JainSocietyDC.org), minimum two weeks prior to the event date. There are fee requirements that shall be enforced strictly. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation while we ensure the maximum use of our facility in an economic and efficient manner.

## **\*\* ATTENTION: JAINA Convention 2017 \*\***

The JAINA Executive Committee, JAINA Convention 2017 Convener, Gunvant Shah and its Board Members are excited to take this opportunity to invite you, your immediate and extended family members, friends and the Jain community around the world to join highly anticipated JAINA Convention 2017. It will be **held at the NJ Convention & Exposition Center in Edison, NJ from Friday, June 30th, 2017 to Tuesday, July 4th, 2017**. For the first time in JAINA history, the convention will be held for 5 days to help you get the most out of this exciting event. Please **register early** as we expect a record setting number of attendees and the space is limited. Registration has already started since **August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016**.

The Convention Planning Team are planning to invite many learned scholars and high profile speakers from both within and outside of our community. Please share this invitation with anyone that would enjoy a wide variety of religious, cultural and social programs. This will be a unique opportunity -- we hope to see you there!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ***Bhaktamar Maha Poojan: Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016***

We are very pleased to announce that Bhaktamar Maha Poojan will be held on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at Jain Center starting at Vijay Muhoorat 12:39 p.m. and will run about 4.5 hours. Shree Narendrabhai Nandu and his group will conduct the religious musical program and explain the meaning and significance of all 48 Gatha using a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation.

Poojans for each Gatha will be done on a large Bhaktamar Yantra and participants wearing Pooja clothes can perform the Poojan on Yantra and other members of their family not wearing Pooja clothes can take part in ceremonies on about 4' X 5' Bhaktamar Mandlo drawn in front of the Yantra. In addition to the main Yantra, small 6" X 8" Bhaktamar Yantra will be available to families for performing all 48 Poojans on their small Yantra.

24 families will be allowed to perform Poojan on main large Yantra by dividing Poojan of the total of 48 Gatha into 2 Gathas per family (Poojan of Gatha numbers 1 & 2, 3 & 4, 5 & 6, 7 & 8, etc.). Excluding Gatha number 1 & 2, 35 & 36, and 47 & 48, Nakro for doing Poojan of any of other 2 consecutive Gatha (Numbers 3 & 4, 5 & 6, 7 & 8 etc.) will be \$151. Allocation of Gatha for Poojan will be done on a first come first served basis of receiving Poojan request.

Poojan will start with Atma Raksha, Yantra Sthapan, Bhumi Shuddhi and Poojan of Kshetrapal Dev and Chakeshvari Devi; and will run for about 30 minutes. Nakro for performing various initial ceremonies/Poojans and performing Poojan on first 2 Gatha (Numbers 1 & 2) will be \$301.

There will be Gheeboli for Poojan on Gatha number 35 & 36 and 47 & 48. Gatha number 36 is the most important Bhaktamar Gatha. Poojan of Gatha number 35 & 36 will also include Poojan of Lord Adinath's feet on Mandlo. In addition to performing Poojan on the last two (numbers 47 & 48) Gatha, the labharthi will also perform the closing ceremonies including Ashta Prakari Poojan of the main Yantra.

Upto 25 families will be allowed to perform all 48 Poojan on a small Yantra. A 6" x 8" gold polished Bhaktamar Yantra will be provided to them for theirs to keep. Nakro for getting the Yantra and doing all Poojans will be \$251. Even if you bring your own Yantra, you will be charged \$251 to perform all 48 Poojans on your Yantra. These participants need to bring with them one Thali for keeping Yantra, a Divo, Dhoop, and a small Vatki/Katori for putting Vasakshep. Vasakshep and other Pooja items will be provided.

To participate in this poojan, please call Kanta Dharamsi at (703) 620-9837 (home) or (703) 798-5559 (cell).

Poojan will be followed by Arti, Mangal Deep and Shantikalash, and Gheeboli will be done for taking that labh. These last three ceremonies do not need Pooja clothes.

This program will be followed by Swami Vataslya Bhojan. Please submit your RSVP latest by Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. You can do this by visiting our website and clicking on "Bhaktamar Pooja Swami Vatsalya Bhojan" link under the "Registration" menu option located on the left.

You can sponsor this Swami Vatsalya Bhojan by donating a minimum amount of \$101 (Sadharmic Bhakti Bronze). Other sponsorship options include \$251 (Silver), \$501 (Gold), \$1,001 (Platinum), and \$1,501 (Diamond) levels. If we cannot get enough sponsors, members submitting their RSVP by the deadline (August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016) will be required to make a minimum contribution of \$10.00 per person (ages 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 (ages 5 and above). Note: In an event that we do have sponsors for this event, non-members will still be required to contribute a minimum of \$12.00 per person (ages 5 and above).

### ***Paryushan Parva: Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup> through Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>***

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Jitendra Shah has kindly accepted to grace the Paryushan Parva celebration this year at our Jain Center. During Paryushan Parva, Dr. Shah will deliver discourses in Gujarati during the morning and evening sessions. Evening Pravachan will be followed by Aarti & Mangal Divo. The programs during the Paryushan Parva will be held at the Jain Center except for the Swapna Ceremony and Samvatsari Pratikraman. The timings for Pravachans will be as follows:

#### **Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup> to Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Morning Pravachan: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Evening Pravachan: 8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

#### **Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>**

Morning Pravachan: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Afternoon Pravachan: 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Bhavana Program: 8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

#### **Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>**

Morning Pravachan: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

During the Paryushan we will serve lunch and dinner at the temple. If you wish to participate, please let us know at least 24 hours in advance, by replying back to this email. If you want to sponsor any of the days for Paryushan Swami Vatsalya at the temple, it is \$101 a day. You can sponsor any number of days as you wish.

#### **Swapna Ceremony on Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 p.m.:**

This year, the Swapna Ceremony will be celebrated in Eleanor Roosevelt High School located at 7601 Hanover Parkway Greenbelt, MD 20770 on Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Swapna Ceremony will start at sharp 1:00 p.m., with a Lecture by Dr. Jitendra Shah followed by Swapna boli, Parnu, Aarti, and Mangal Divo.

During the Swapna ceremony, members will have the honor of carrying each Swapna to the beats of drums and music. Gheeboli will be performed for all the Swapna's, including Parnu, Aarti and Mangal Divo at the Swapna Ceremony.

If you are interested in taking the Gheeboli for swapna's 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, the minimum Gheeboli for these swapna's will start with \$301. The minimum Gheeboli for Swapna's 10 through 14 will start with \$501 and the minimum Gheeboli for Lakshmi will start at \$2,001. A maximum of 10 families can join together for taking Gheeboli for a Swapna.

The Swapna Ceremony program will be followed by Swami Vatsalya Bhojan (dinner). Please RSVP your registration by visiting our website ([www.JSMW.org](http://www.JSMW.org)) and clicking on "Swapna Ceremony Celebrations" link under Events -> Registration menu option located on the top. *Note: RSVP will end on midnight, Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with no exceptions. Also, please enter a valid email address during the registration process. A confirmation email will be sent to the entered email id for your records of successful submission.*

We are looking for sponsors for the Swami Vatsalya Bhojan (dinner). You can sponsor the Swami Vatsalya Bhojan by **donating a minimum amount of \$101 (Sadharmic Bhakti Bronze). Other sponsorship options include \$251 (Silver), \$501 (Gold), \$1,001 (Platinum), and \$1,501 (Diamond) levels.** If you or a group of families wish to sponsor entire Swami Vatsalya Bhojan for a donation of \$6,001, please send us an email to [President@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:President@JainSocietyDC.org).

If we cannot get enough sponsors, members submitting their RSVP by the deadline (Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016) will be required to make a minimum contribution of \$10.00 per person (ages 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 (ages 5 and above). Note: In an event that we do have sponsors for this event, non-members will still be required to contribute a minimum of \$12.00 per person (ages 5 and above).

#### **Deravasi Samvatsari Pratikraman on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.:**

The Deravasi Pratikraman will be performed at Mangal Mandir located at 17110 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring MD 20905 on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. The program will start with a speech by Dr. Jitendra Shah from 2:30 – 3:00 p.m., followed by Ghee Boli between 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. The Pratikraman program will start at sharp 3:30 p.m. After Pratikraman, Aarti and Mangal Divo will be performed at Jain Center immediately thereafter.

#### **Pratikraman in English on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.:**

Samvatsari Pratikraman in English will be performed at Cloverly Elementary School located at 800 Briggs Chaney Road Silver Spring, MD 20905 starting at 5:00 p.m.

#### **Mothers' Pratikraman on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at Noon:**

All mothers' with young kids can now participate in an early Pratikraman at the Jain Center starting at noon.

#### **Sthanakwasi Samvatsari Pratikraman on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.:**

Sthanakwasi Samvatsari Pratikraman will be held at the Jain Center starting at 3:30 p.m.

#### **Tapasvi Bahuman on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>:**

Tapasvis (adults doing 3 or more consecutive Upwas, and children doing some Tapasya) will be recognized at the Jain Center immediately after Aarti & Mangal Divo (approximately at 7:00 p.m.) All members are requested to provide names of Tapasvi and their Tapasya by registering their name at a link that shall be provided via an email. The parna for Tapasvis will be held at the Jain Center on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> morning starting at 9:00 a.m. Various opportunities to sponsor the parna and other activities are available. We encourage you to please come forward and grab this opportunity as soon as you can by sending us an email to [President@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:President@JainSocietyDC.org).

## ***Das Lakshan Parva: Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>***

We will be graced with lectures that are recorded in Ajmer, India by Muni Shri 108 Praman Sagarji Maharaj. All programs during the Das Lakshan Parva will be held at the Jain Center at timings listed below:

### **Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> through Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.:**

Arti and Stuties at 7:30 p.m. followed by Pravachan

### **Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.:**

Abhishek and Daslakshan Parva Pooja at 9:30 a.m. followed by Pravachan and lunch

### **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.:**

Abhishek and Daslakshan Parva Pooja at 9:30 a.m. followed by Pravachan and lunch

### **Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.:**

Sugandh Dashmi Arti and Stuties at 7:30 p.m. followed by Pravachan

### **Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.:**

Arti and Stuties at 7:30 p.m. followed by Pravachan

### **Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.:**

Ratnatray parambh Arti and Stuties at 7:30 p.m. followed by Pravachan

### **Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.:**

Anant Chaturdashi Varshik Pratikraman at 5:00 p.m. followed by Arti and Stuties

During the weekend of September 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, lunch will be provided. Please visit our website and submit your RSVP information.

## ***D.C. Veg Fest: Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. onwards***

We are pleased to inform you that our Jain Society is hosting a booth at the annual D.C. Veg Fest festival, just like last year, to promote vegetarianism and nonviolence. Please support the program event by volunteering and / or donating towards the D.C. Veg Fest. This is an excellent opportunity to do a community service project and promote public awareness about Jainism. For more information and donations, please feel free to send us an email at [President@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:President@JainSocietyDC.org). If interested in volunteering, please contact Ayush Jain ([ayushjs300@gmail.com](mailto:ayushjs300@gmail.com)) at your earliest convenience.

Here are a few reasons to attend this festival:

- ✓ FREE admission
- ✓ FREE food samples
- ✓ The first 1,000 attendees receive a FREE tote bag full of samples and coupons!
- ✓ More than 130 vendors
- ✓ Live music
- ✓ Cooking demonstrations
- ✓ Presentations from renowned authors and celebrities
- ✓ More than 15,000 attendees
- ✓ Kids' activity area

## **Annual General Body Meeting and Elections: Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**

Our next Annual General Body meeting and elections will be held on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at our Jain Center. We are holding the elections early this year to facilitate a smooth transition from departing officials to the newly appointed / incoming officials. Also, during this years' Election Cycle, all members of the Executive Committee as well as two positions from the Board of Trustees' will be subject to elections. Furthermore, we will have elections for all positions within the Youth Committee.

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 various positions. 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 Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, or Youth Committee should send a nomination form to one of the following members of the Election Committee by midnight, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016: 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:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Allocated Time</b>
Prayers, Attendance, and Kick-Off	9:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.
President's Kickoff Comments, Approval of Special General Body Meeting held on May 1 <sup>st</sup> and May 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2016, Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report, Director of Education's Pathshala Report, Trustees' Report	9:40 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.
Updates from Temple Committee, Construction Committee, and Fund Raising Team	10:40 am - 11:30 a.m.
Any other items brought forward (with prior notice mainly due to time constraints)	11:30 am - 11:45 a.m.
Elections, Introduction of candidates and Casting of Votes	11:45 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.
Announcements of Election Results	12:20 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Lunch ( <b>Cloverly Elementary School located at 800 Briggs Chaney Rd Silver Spring, MD 20905</b> )	12:30 p.m. Onwards
Q&A for Temple Committees, Construction Committees, and Fund Raising Team	1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## **JAINS Got Talent: Saturday, December 3rd, 2016**

You have frequently heard me wax eloquently about the talented people we have in our Society. Well, it's time to take your game up a notch.

You Got Talent? We got the Stage!

Does your band rock and roll? Do your rhymes have power and flow? Is there a juggler lurking behind that person, a comedian nature hidden within you? Do you dance with stars or star at open mics? Then it's time to bring your stuff to the stage!

You can perform a skit or a comedy routine, recite a poem, dance, sing, mime, play an instrument, perform gymnastics, karate, magic, puppetry – any talent you have.

And, if you'd rather show your talents behind the scenes, we need your help with: MC (Master of Ceremonies – announcing the acts), writing scripts and jokes for announcers, ushering and handing out programs, backstage crew and everything else it takes to put on a show!

Your friends within the Sangh are waiting to cheer you on! Please be on the lookout for more information and sign up to share your talent at the first-ever Jains Got Talent show!



## ON-GOING EVENTS

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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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each moth – at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch.
- Dev Shashtra Guru Pooja on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month – at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 (noon) 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

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### ***Panch Tirth Yatra 2016: July 30-31, 2016***

It is our pleasure to report back to you that we had a very pleasant, joyous, and successful religious bus trip to various Jain Temples in Pennsylvania and New Jersey area during the July 30-31, 2016 weekend. This trip was not possible without the contribution, hard work, and tireless efforts put in by the Planning Team: Mehul Doshi, Vishal Mehta, and Allap Shah. A big kudos goes to them for organizing such a successful trip that had three buses visit other Jain Centers around us.

Listed below is the summary of the “Panch Tirth Yatra”:

- We had 125 yatris (48 families total) officially registered for this trip spread between three big buses: 97 adults (13 years and over), 26 children between 3 and 12 years, and 2 infants under 3 years of age.
- We visited six Jain temples: Atlantic City Jain Temple, Cherry Hill Jain Temple, Philadelphia Jain Sangh of Samarpan Temple, Siddhachalam, Jain Center of Allentown, and Jain Society of South Central PA.
- Our overnight stay for yatrees amongst first two buses was at Siddhachalam and for all yatrees in third bus was arranged at a nearby Super 8 Wyndham Hotel.
- On our way back, we also visited the VRAJ Temple in Schuylkill Haven, PA.
- We had at least one family who became a labhpati for each temple we visited: Jay and Rakhi Jariwala (Atlantic City Jain Temple), Moushmi Kothari and Jasu Doshi (Cherry Hill Jain Temple), Shantilal Shah and Bhadrash Mehta (Philadelphia Jain Sangh of Samarpan Temple), Dr. Sushil and Asha Jain as well as Parag and Nirali Mehta (Siddhachalam), Kanta Gada, Anila Shah, and Laxmi Mamania (Jain Center of Allentown), VRAJ, and Janak and Keyuri Rajani (Jain Society of South Central PA).
- On Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, we departed our Jain Center at 7:10 a.m. and on Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, we returned back to our Jain Center at 9:50 p.m.
- The yatrees’ age span ranged from 24 months to 79 years old. Despite this wide gap, each yatree 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 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, Sheetal Allap Shah, Bela Hemen Gandhi, Megha Nilesh Doshi, Mily Vishal Mehta, Ami Mehul Doshi, and Keyuri Janak Rajani.
- While we are wrapping up the expense versus income sheet, our initial estimates show a total expense of around **\$13,300** (\$6,000 towards bus expenses, \$900 hotel expenses, \$400 towards snacks while in the bus, and around

\$6,000 general donations to all temples visited) against a total income of around **\$15,500** including misc. donations.

- While at Siddhachalam, we celebrated birthdays of all those who were born in the month of July: Megha Doshi, Niyati Shah, Devang Ajmera, Monica Shah, Devika Shah, Asha Jain, Kanu Doshi, Kanta Gada, Laxmi Mamania, Aruna Shah, Bhauna Shah, and Harshad Shah. Thanks to Dr. Sushil Jain, we enjoyed delicious kalakand as part of the birthday celebrations.
- 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, Vishal Mehta, Mehul Doshi, and Manan Shah.
- Some pictures are located at this link: <https://flic.kr/s/aHskG8nKJP>. Thanks to Manan Shah for being our official photographers for the entire trip.

## ***Summer Picnic and Fun 2016: Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at Lake Fairfax Park, VA***

Our very own vibrant, enthusiastic and energetic Ladies of the Society (Mahila Mandal) proved their superb planning skills and excellent teamwork by organizing another successful event: Summer Picnic & Fun 2016. This event was enjoyed by our members of all ages. The event was hosted by JSMW, on Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Lake Fairfax Park located in Reston, VA. This park was conveniently located between Virginia and Maryland. The event received excellent response and feedback from its attendees.

This event would not have been possible without the selfless dedication, contribution, hard work, and tireless efforts put in by many individuals. Specifically, we would like to thank and recognize the entire Ladies Group; consisting of Jhalak Mehta, Keyuri Rajani, Manna Shah, Mily Mehta, Monali Shah, Monica Shah, Mina Shah, Padma Shah, Ripal Shah, Rupa Mehta, Savita Jain, Shilpa (Paresh) Shah, Shilpa (Manoj) Shah, Shraddha Jain, Swati Jain and Sujaini Shah. We apologize if we have missed thanking any one in person or listing their names here in this summary. Michchhami Dukkadam from the bottom of our hearts.

Listed below is the summary of the "Summer Picnic & Fun 2016" event:

- This event was attended by 266 adults, 39 children between ages 6 and 15 years, and 25 children between ages of 1 month to 5 years. We had reserved a large shelter at the park to accommodate all the guests. The festivities included plenty of fun games, Jain and Vegan lunch and a nice array of snacks and drinks.
- The festivities started with fun activities and games for members of all ages. Kids felt very welcome as they came in and selected tattoos, they were kept entertained at the carnival stations which included face painting, mehndi, plastic egg hunt, kick ball into bunny box, to name a few. We also kicked off some informal games like "Find Someone Who?" while several older kids played soccer, volley ball, and other games.
- Lunch options included 100% Jain and Vegan food. The scrumptious lunch included unlimited, all-you-can-eat, puri, chole, lemon rice, pickle, gulab jamoon, rava sheera (vegan) and drinks. This was followed by a nice array of snacks which included watermelon, popcorn, kachoris, banana chips, and most relished by all was unlimited cups of "chaas" (buttermilk) which was a big hit for a hot summer afternoon. Kids and adults also enjoyed cups of vanilla ice-cream.
- Our members were also treated to different forms of entertainment including games like "Musical Topi", Antaakshari, which by the way exposed several talented individuals as well as bathroom singers. Several of our very own enthusiastic kids and adults played Cricket and Kabaddi. There were also hula hoop relay races and other games that kept everyone busy the entire afternoon. Water balloons and water toys also were a big hit amongst the kids.
- This event was fully financed and paid through ticket sales. Also, we received generous donations from Giant and Wegmans grocery stores as well as from several of our members.
- There was tremendous positive feedback for this event from the members who had attended, as well as members who could not attend, expressing a regret to have missed this event, and demanding more such gatherings be organized in the future.

- We also had members participate in the “Mehndi event” for a nominal donation towards the temple funds.
- Some pictures are located at this link: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/janakrajani/sets/72157668444701303/>
- In closing, the Ladies Group is appreciative and thankful to each and every one of you as we cannot continue these fun events without the support from all of you.

### ***Jain Youth Exchange Program: Friday, June 24, 2016 through Wednesday, June 29, 2016***

On Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, a delegation of 12 JAIN youths arrived in Washington, D.C. for embarking a six-day journey in and around the nation’s capital. Starting with a stop at a local Cambodian Temple, they were welcomed at our Jain Center by our dedicated members. The youths participated in the darshan and Pooja at the Jain Temple followed by an interfaith dialog at the Muslim Community Center. They visited Baltimore Inner Harbor, Washington monuments, Air and Space Museum, U.S. Capitol, U.S. Department of State, Embassy of India, Library of Congress, and U.S. Chamber of Commerce. They also participated in a dialogue at the Humane Society of the US in collaboration with the Humane Society International for a discussion on animal rights and compassionate work here in the US, within India and around the globe. On behalf of entire Executive Committee, we thank the entire team that pulled this program together in very short notice. We would like to thank specifically Dr. Sushil Jain and Asha Jain for hosting this delegation at their home; all volunteers including Jayesh and Rupa Mehta, Paresh Shah, Vishal Mehta, and their families; and specifically Hemen Gandhi for taking care of these 12 youth visitors all 5 days and spending his time taking them around Washington, D.C. Hemen’s mother also prepared yummy theplas for these youth so they can feed themselves while en-route to Los Angeles, CA.

### ***Health Education and Information Event: Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016***

After many years, JSMW successfully held a Health Education & Information Event with the help of several medical professionals, vendors & volunteers on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We had a total of 17 doctors/health service providers and four vendors including representatives from Montgomery County Human Health & Services. Fourteen (14) doctors provided excellent presentations on their areas of specialty, and the presentation was well thought out and informative for the audience.

This event was organized with a heavy focus on providing necessary education and health related information to our members. All medical practitioners and providers enlightened the attendees with a lot of health related information and also provided them assistance with measuring the blood pressure, checking BMI, vision screening, ENT, Grip Strength test, and much more. There were about 50 members who actively attended and participated in this event.

## **CALL: Nominations for UHJT and JAINA Representatives**

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We would like to invite nominations for the position of UHJT Representative for one year term (Calendar Year 2017) and JAINA Directors for one term spanning over two years (Calendar Year 2017-18). The Past Presidents Council (PPC) will review all nominations received and send their recommendation to the Executive Committee by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. The Executive Committee will appoint the UHJT Representative on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

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](mailto:PresidentsCouncil@JainSocietyDC.org) email address no later than midnight, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*Pragnesh Shah (Treasurer) & Dipak Shah (Joint Treasurer)*

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We are currently in the process of migrating our accounting software and membership information in a newer version of Quick Books accounting software. As a result of this migration, we are not able to provide all donation records for this period. Please accept our deepest apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. We will provide a cumulative list of donation records in the next newsletter, which is planned to be released around mid-November. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please send us an email at [Treasurer@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:Treasurer@JainSocietyDC.org) any time.

## **\*\* ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS \*\***

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We are proud to announce that 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 of the above.

It is very critical that you track all voluntary hours and send a complete log with detailed information to [President@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:President@JainSocietyDC.org) email address. We will ensure that your hours are entered in the PVSA system and are tracked for reaching various milestones that qualifies you to be eligible to receive one of the awards listed above.

## **SCHOLARS DURING PARYUSHAN**

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We are proud to announce that JSMW have requested the following scholars to visit us and they have graciously accepted our invitation:

- Paryushan Parva 2016: Dr. Jitendra Shah
- Paryushan Parva 2017: Dr. Falguniben Zaveri
- Paryushan Parva 2018: Champakbhai Mehta
- Paryushan Parva 2019: Narendrabhai Nandu
- Paryushan Parva 2020: Chandrakant Mehta (NJ)

# YOUTH COMMITTEE: Operating Guidelines

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## Article I: PURPOSE

**Jain Awareness:** To educate youth about the different facets of Jainism; to expose youth to Jainism for daily use and practice

**Jain Unity:** To unite the youths as a unique identity and develop friendships; to prepare youths to be successful leaders of tomorrow

**Social Service:** To assist and promote charitable community activities

Each year, the JSMW Youth Group will be required to host a minimum of one activity within each purpose. A list of activities is available via Attachment 1 of the Youth Committee Operating Guidelines.

## Article II: MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.** Regular membership requirements:

- (1) Between the ages of 13 and 19;
- (2) Members must have at least 1 parent / legal guardian that is a JSMW member. If not, they must make an additional \$25 donation to JSMW;
- (3) With permanent residency in Metropolitan Washington area.

**Section 2.** Alumni membership will be open to individuals between the ages of 20 and 24. Alumni members shall provide support and encouragement to Jain Youth Committee and actively participate in all activities. Alumni members shall not hold positions on the Executive Board and shall not have voting privileges.

**Section 3.** Membership of an individual who has displayed conduct that compromises the mission and purpose of Jain Youth Committee may be canceled for as much as a 3 year period. Such action shall be effective upon a 3/5th vote of the Youth Executive Committee. If the individual in question is on the Youth Executive Committee, then he/she shall be ineligible to vote.

## ARTICLE III: YOUTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Section 1.** The Youth Executive Committee shall consist of Youth Chair, Vice Chair, Membership/Records Lead, Events Lead, and Public Relations Lead. The Youth Chair shall be starting at least their sophomore year in High School and other committee members shall be starting at least their freshman year of High School.

**Section 2.** The Youth Executive Committee shall have elections once a year, in conjunction with the JSMW Election cycle and processes. Only one person from a member family shall be elected to the Youth Executive Committee. The same person cannot be elected to the Youth Executive Committee as well as the JSMW Executive Committee during the same period. Elected Youth Executive Committee shall be administered by the JSMW Election Committee that manages and monitors JSMW EC elections. Individuals can be nominated or self-nominate. The nominee shall be elected based on a simple majority of the votes cast. Runoff elections shall be conducted in the case of a tie. For specific details on the election process, refer to JSMW Constitution, as same guidelines apply.

Qualified members per Article II shall vote for the Youth Executive Committee. The age requirement, membership fee, and donation requirement must be satisfied at the time of the election in order to vote.

**Section 3.** Any Youth Executive Committee member who fails to fulfill the terms of office or fails to serve in an agreed upon official capacity may be removed. Such action shall be effective only upon a 3/4<sup>th</sup> vote of the Youth Executive Committee. The member in question shall be ineligible to vote in these proceedings.

## ARTICLE IV: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

**Section 1.** The Youth Chair shall be the official spokesperson of Jain Youth Committee. The Youth Chair shall promote the objectives of Jain Youth Committee and provide leadership and overall direction to the Youth Committee. The Youth Chair shall exemplify the ideals of Jainism and will act as a role model for other Jain youths to follow.

Specific duties include:

- (1) Presiding over all the meetings and voting in case of a tie;
- (2) Establishing activities for the year and coordinating specific goals and programs;
- (3) Serving as a liaison between Jain Youth Committee, Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington, attend JSMW Executive Committee meetings;
- (4) Appointing temporary committees required to carry out Youth Committee activities.

**Section 2.** The Youth Vice-Chair shall assist the Youth Chair in the management and direction of the Youth Committee and shall assume the Youth Chair's place in his/her absence.

Specific duties include:

- (1) Assisting the Youth Chair in performing his/her duties;
- (2) Organizing volunteers to work on community service projects;
- (3) Preparing an Annual Report of the year's activities;
- (4) Attending all meetings of the youth committee.

**Section 3.** The Membership/Records Lead shall maintain the records and membership roster of the Youth Committee.

Specific duties include:

- (1) Preparing a written report of all meetings and events for presentation at subsequent meetings;
- (2) Collecting all records from the other Youth Executive Committee at the end of the terms and prepare the Annual Report of the year's activities;
- (3) Ensuring an up to date membership application is on file for each member;
- (4) Assisting adding more members;
- (5) Attending all meetings of the youth committee.

**Section 4.** The Public Relations Lead shall conduct correspondence with the members and others, issue announcements of all activities, organize and carry out an *active* recruiting program, and encourage membership involvement in Youth Committee activities.

Specific duties include:

- (1) Organizing phone committees and/or online forums to remind members of upcoming events;
- (2) Preparing and forwarding all major announcements received from other Youth Executive Committee for publication in the JSMW Newsletter and/or Pathshala announcements;
- (3) Communicate with Young Jains of America and other youth groups;
- (4) Attending all meetings of the youth committee.

**Section 5.** The Events Lead shall develop, recommend and implement events and programs for the organization.

Specific duties include:

- (1) Managing activity details and discussing nature of programming with the Youth Executive Committee and preparing a program calendar for the year;
- (2) Preparing a brief summary of major events with recommendations for improving future events;
- (3) Selecting the specific program sites and attending to the details of events;
- (4) Providing details of upcoming activities to the Public Relations Lead;
- (5) Attending all meetings of the youth committee.

## **ARTICLE V: ADVISORY BOARD**

**Section 1.** The Advisory Board shall consist of exactly two Advisers. The Adviser may be from the JSMW EC Board, BoT, or a General Body member, but both will be appointed by the EC within 1 month of the Youth Group elections.

Specific duties include:

- (1) Reviewing minutes from all events;
- (2) Ensuring activities align with Article 1;
- (3) Provide guidance for activities being planned;
- (4) Communicate with EC on health and status of Youth Group.

## **ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES**

**Section 1.** An amendment to these Operating Guidelines may be ratified with the approval of Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington Executive Committee. Any Youth Committee member can propose an amendment with 35% youth member signatures or any EC member can propose an amendment with a majority vote.

**Section 2.** The Operating Guidelines shall constitute the operating basis for the Jain Youth Committee.

## **ARTICLE VII: YOUTH GROUP TERMINATION**

**Section 1.** If the Advisory Board and/or JSMW Executive Committee conclude that the Youth Group is not fulfilling the purpose identified in Article I, they may vote to terminate the Youth Group with a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority vote.

### **Youth Committee Operating Guidelines**

#### **Attachment 1**

##### **Jain Awareness**

1. Intra-pathshala JAB
2. Navakar Jaap
3. Arrange local speakers to come and present to JSMW Youth
4. Present about Jainism to local high school or colleges
5. Add a "Youth Corner" to the JSMW publication

##### **Jain Unity**

1. Temple sleep-in/lock-in
2. Ice Skating
3. Bowling
4. Game night
5. Movie night
6. Six flags/ King's Dominion trip
7. Youth choir (like the new adult choir that was formed in JSMW)
8. Youth theater/skits/plays/dramas
9. Youth Jain-related discussion and swadhyay groups
10. Introduce new kids to pathshala/youth group from our high schools and middle schools that may not come to temple
11. Garba/cultural night
12. Runathon/Walkathon

##### **Social/Temple Service**

1. DC Kitchen
2. DC VegFest
3. Pathsala lunch cleanup/serving/setup crew
4. Hygiene kit drive
5. Temple clean up
6. Bake sales and game tournaments to raise money for new temple
7. Essay writing workshop - older youth help younger youth with college essays, SAT essays, etc.
8. Youth tutoring programs- older youth tutor younger youth
9. Serving Paryushan meals
10. Volunteer at a Senior Center
11. Habitat for humanity (in the summer)
12. Canned food drive
13. Clothes drive
14. Book donation/drive/exchange

# 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](http://WWW.JSMW.ORG)

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED**

## 2016 Calendar of Events

Date	Program
Sun, Aug. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Bhaktamar Maha Poojan
Mon, Aug. 29 <sup>th</sup> – Mon, Sep. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Paryushan Parva with Dr. Jitendra Shah
Tue, Sep. 6 <sup>th</sup> – Thur, Sep. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Daslakshan Parva
Sat, Sep. 24 <sup>th</sup>	D.C. VegFest in Washington, D.C.
Sun, Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Diwali Day
Mon, Oct. 31 <sup>st</sup>	New Year Day
Sun, Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Annual General Body Meeting and Elections 2016
Sat, Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jains Got Talent Event

**JAIN CENTER LOCATION:** 1021 BRIGGS CHANEY ROAD, SILVER SPRING, MD 20905 • **PHONE** (301) 236-4466

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# JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

## 2016 ELECTIONS NOMINATION FORM

### To Be Filled By Nominator:

I hereby nominate: \_\_\_\_\_ for the position of (select one only):

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Trustee (BoT)        | <input type="radio"/> Director of Facilities (EC)       | <input type="radio"/> Director of Events (EC)      |
| <input type="radio"/> President (EC)       | <input type="radio"/> Director of Public Relations (EC) | <input type="radio"/> Youth Chair (YC)             |
| <input type="radio"/> Vice President (EC)  | <input type="radio"/> Director of Volunteers (EC)       | <input type="radio"/> Vice Chair (YC)              |
| <input type="radio"/> Secretary (EC)       | <input type="radio"/> Director of Publications (EC)     | <input type="radio"/> Public Relations Lead (YC)   |
| <input type="radio"/> Joint Secretary (EC) | <input type="radio"/> Director of Technology (EC)       | <input type="radio"/> Membership/Records Lead (YC) |
| <input type="radio"/> Treasurer (EC)       | <input type="radio"/> Director of Education (EC)        | <input type="radio"/> Events Lead (YC)             |
| <input type="radio"/> Joint Treasurer (EC) |   |  |
- Legend: BoT = Board of Trustees, EC = Executive Committee, and YC = Youth Committee*

Date	Full Name of the Nominator	Signature of the Nominator
------	----------------------------	----------------------------

### 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
------	----------------------------	----------------

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, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016:

### **-: 2016 ELECTION COMMITTEE :-**

#### **Shilpa (Manoj) Shah, Chair**

5414 Meadow Pond Dr

Ellicott City, MD 21043

Phone: 410-788-4090

Email: shilushah11@gmail.com

#### **Kalpana Hegde**

626 Winners Cir

Catonsville, 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.JSMW.org](http://www.JSMW.org) on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. **Elections will be held during the Annual General Body meeting** scheduled on **Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.** at our Jain Center located at 1021 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.JSMW.org](http://www.JSMW.org).



# JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

## RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

### 1. POSITIONS

This nomination form must be filled for any of the positions listed in the above form.

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

**Executive Committee (EC)**: There are **13** positions listed in the above form that are part of the Executive Committee. The term of all positions on the EC is two years.

**Youth Committee (YC)**: There are **5** positions listed in the above form that are part of the Youth Committee (YC). The term of all positions on the YC is one year. For positions within the Youth Committee, there are minimum and maximum age requirements. Please refer to the Youth Committee Operating Guidelines for more details.

### 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 EC since the constitution does not allow more than one person of the same family in the EC during the same cycle. The same rule applies to the BoT and YC.
- 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 same position on the EC or BoT for a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms.
- Retiring Trustees shall be eligible for re-election, subject to term limits.

### 3. VOTING RIGHTS

- Members of JSMW may vote at a General Body Meeting provided their membership is paid and in good standing 30 days prior to the General Body Meeting.
- New members paying membership dues after that 30 day period will be eligible to vote at the next General Body Meeting.

### 4. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

**Board of Trustees Nominees**: To be eligible for election to the BoT, 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.

**Executive Committee Nominees**: To be eligible for election to the EC, a person must be a life member of the Society for at least two years prior to the year of the election. For the President, a candidate must have held a position on the EC for at least 2 complete terms to be eligible. For the Vice President, a candidate must have held a position on the EC for at least 1 complete term to be eligible.



# JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

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

**Youth Committee Nominees:** To be eligible for election to the YC, a youth must fulfill regular membership requirements: must be between the ages of 13 and 19; must have at least one parent / legal guardian that is a JSMW member (if not, the youth must make an additional \$25 donation to JSMW) and must be with permanent residency in Metropolitan Washington area. Furthermore, the Youth Chair shall be starting at least their sophomore year in High School and other committee members shall be starting at least their freshman year of High School.

**Eligibility Requirements for Nominators:** A person who is eligible for casting a vote during the elections is also eligible for nominating a candidate for that position.

## 5. GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- During the ballot counting process, one representative from each candidate shall be allowed to witness entire counting process, along with the Election Committee members.
- During the General Body meeting, the voting right of a Member may be suspended by the Election Committee Chair, if such Member is causing any sort of disruption to the General Body meeting. Shouting or otherwise disrupting the General Body meeting, talking during a Member's address, or while meeting/election is in progress may result in the Election Committee Chair ejecting the offending Member from the meeting/election venue.
- Election Committee or their representative(s) will have a right to ask for a photo identification to identify the member and to validate proof of age, if needed.
- JSMW Secretary shall provide Membership list [Name, Address, and Primary Phone Number], upon request, to the candidates that are deemed eligible by the Election Committee (eligibility is usually verified 22 days prior to the Election Day). Such list should ONLY be used by the eligible candidates and ONLY for election campaigning purposes. Eligible candidates shall be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement that clearly communicates to the eligible candidates that such Membership list shall be solely used for the election purposes and cannot be misused or sold to others for any reason. If any member has requested their contact information not be publicly published, such information shall be excluded from the Membership List.
- JSMW Secretary should be responsible for maintaining latest membership list and ensuring latest Membership list is cut-off solely for the Election purposes (Membership List is frozen) based on 30 calendar days prior (before) to the Election Day.
- Ballots that are determined to be fraudulent or duplicates may be disqualified at the Election Committee's discretion with just cause. Disputes will be handled by the Board of Trustees.
- If two candidates get an equal number of votes, then the tie will be broken by a random draw.

## **JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON**

### **GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION OF**

### **JAINA DIRECTOR AND UHJT REPRESENTATIVE**

#### **Selection of JAINA Directors**

The Executive Committee (EC) shall nominate 3 directors to JAINA each odd calendar year for a term of 2 years. The term limit for nomination of the same candidate shall be 2 consecutive terms (4 years). This term limit will not apply to the nominated JAINA Director, if he/she is serving as a member of the JAINA Executive Committee.

One of the directors shall be the President or any other member of JSMW as designated by the President. For selection of other two directors, the Past Presidents Council (PPC) shall announce to all members the requirements and duties for the positions and request them to submit the attached nomination form . The Past Presidents Council shall review all nominations received and recommend their choice of two candidates for JAINA Directors to the Executive Committee for their approval. The Executive Committee shall make the final selection.

If a JAINA Director resigns before completing his/her term, then the Past Presidents Council will recommend to the Executive Committee a new JAINA Director for the remaining term.

The Executive Committee reserves the right to withdraw the nomination of a JAINA Director under special circumstances, provided the Executive Committee approves it with a ¾ majority vote.

#### **Selection of UHJT Representatives**

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

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

JSMW Executive Committee reserves the right to withdraw the nomination of a UHJT Representative under special circumstances, provided the Executive Committee approves it with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority vote.

### **Requirements for the position of JAINA Director**

Nomination for selection as JAINA Director 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 JAINA Director**

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

### **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 Executive Committee with the UHJT activities (quarterly) and submit UHJT updates for JSMW publications

### **Timeline:**

The Executive Committee shall invite nominations for the positions of JAINA Directors and 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 Past Presidents Council (PPC) will review all nominations received and send their recommendation to the executive committee by Dec 31. The executive committee will appoint the JAINA Directors and UHJT Representative(s) before January 31.

**Only for the year 2013/2014:** Since the guidelines will be approved by the general body on Dec 15, 2013, the timeline for 2013/2014 will be as follows: The Executive Committee shall invite nominations for the positions of JAINA Directors (for the calendar year 2014) and UHJT Representatives immediately after the approval of the guideline at the general body meeting on Dec 15, 2013. The deadline for receiving nominations will be Jan 15, 2014. Past Presidents Council will send their recommendation to the executive committee by Feb 7, 2014. The executive committee will appoint the JAINA Directors (for the calendar year 2014) and UHJT Representatives by March 1, 2014.

**Nomination by a member of the Past Presidents Council (PPC) or Executive Committee (EC):**

Since all JSMW life members (of minimum 2 years) are eligible for selection as a JAINA Director or UHJT Representative, members of the Past Presidents Council or members of the Executive Committee 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 Executive Committee 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 Executive Committee for selection of candidates for that position.







# JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

1021 Briggs Chaney Road Silver Spring, MD 20905

## Application for usage of Jain Temple for Religious Purpose / Private Event

*A complete application must be sent to the Director of Facilities via email to: [Facility@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:Facility@JainSocietyDC.org), minimum two weeks prior to the event date.*

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's first name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Street # and Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Resident #: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Date From: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Date To: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Time From: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Time To: \_\_\_\_\_

**Minimum Donation:** Choose one of the following:

- Facility used with food: \$251.00/day
- Facility used with no food: \$151.00/day

**If granted permission, event holders must abide by the below rules and regulations:**

1. The Director of Facilities may charge you \$100 extra, over and beyond the total expenses, if deemed necessary for hiring a facility cleaner after the event.
2. No food shall be allowed or consumed after sunset. At all times, food served must follow Jain principles.
3. Ensure that all trash is picked up, bagged, placed properly and secured in the trash cans and set out on the porch.
4. Ensure that all recyclable items are properly sorted and placed within their respective bins.
5. No trash/food shall remain in kitchen and/or kitchen sink.
6. All chairs and tables must be placed in their proper place and stacked properly.
7. Property must be vacuumed before you leave.
8. Ensure that property (example: doors and windows) is locked prior to exiting the building.

**\*\* If your event is on a Sunday ensure to place all recycling bins at the curb side for Monday pickup \*\***

**Submission of application does not automatically give anyone permission to use the facility.  
Permission will be granted on a first come first serve basis.**

I/We have read and fully understand the rules and regulation.

Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# JAIN SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

1021 Briggs Chaney Road Silver Spring, MD 20905

## Application for Renting Chairs & Tables for Private Event

**A complete application must be sent to the Director of Facilities via email to: [Facility@JainSocietyDC.org](mailto:Facility@JainSocietyDC.org), minimum two weeks prior to the event date.**

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's first name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Street # and Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Resident #: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile # \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Pick-up Date \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Return Date \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

Item Name	Quantity	Amount \$	TOTAL
Chair		\$1.00	
Table		\$5.00	
<b>Grand Total:</b>			

**If granted permission to rent, members must abide by the below rules and regulations:**

1. Member must pay \$101.00 (One hundred and one dollars) deposit towards renting chairs & tables at the time of pick-up.
2. Cost of damaged/lost item will be deducted from Deposit amount.
3. Member must pay rental amount as donation at the time of return.
4. Member must make appointment with Director of Facility one week prior to the actual pickup date.
5. All chairs and tables must be clean upon return.
6. Member will be responsible for paying full price of item if any chairs and/or tables is/are damaged or broken.

**Submission of application does not automatically give anyone permission of picking up the items.  
Permission will be granted on a first come first serve basis.**

I/We have read and fully understand the rules and regulations.

Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pick-up by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_