Editor’s Note

Om Shri Veetragay Namah

Jai Jinendra,

Wow! What a wonderful, heartwarming response from all of you to the first issue of JCSC Connect published on the auspicious occasion of the 26th Anniversary of our Jain Center! The editorial team thanks you for your support and encouragement.

It is our pleasure to bring you the second issue of JCSC Connect. With enthusiastic response from our readers, the second issue has grown to 30 pages!

Here are some highlights:

- Information about JCSC Toastmasters Club in the Young Generation section
- Importance and meaning of Uvasagghar Stotra in the Devotion section
- A new series “Dharmakathanuyog” in the Education section
- Two articles about charitable organizations that will warm your heart in the Compassion section
- An article about a 110 year old Holocaust survivor whose life endorses Jain values in the Inspiration section
- An article about an event in Hawaii that shows how to let go of the past in the Transformation section
- Upcoming events at JCSC

We hope this issue connects us with each other in ways that will help us move ahead on our spiritual journey!

In Seva,

Dilip Parekh

Correction: In the May issue of JCSC Connect, in the article about Bhagwan Neminath, it was stated that HE lived 5000 years ago. Although some on-line references support that, according to the information in the book “Shri Panch Pratikraman Sutra”, the life time of Bhagwan Neminath was 86,600 years ago. We apologize for this error.

Front Cover: A stage setup at the Jain Center of Southern California on May 17, 2014 at the time of Saraswati Pujan. Photo by Yogeshbhai Shah.
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President’s Message

Jai Jinendra,

By now most of you have had an opportunity to review the inaugural issue of the ‘J CSC CONNECT’ magazine. We had a tremendous positive response from readers who felt connected. Thanks to all of you who have been very generous with your rave reviews, compliments, feedback and suggestions. Please continue to stay in touch and tell us how we can continue to make the magazine better. A lot of you felt that you now have an opportunity and outlet to share your thoughts, ideas, and experiences to help us all in our individual spiritual journey.

Jain Center continues to be busy. It is very hard to find a weekend when one or other activities is not taking place, as it continue to cater the diverse needs of our community. Since the beginning of this year, we already had more events than during the same period of any past years - from educational religious shibirs (day long religious discourses), dignitaries’ visits, Family Day Celebrations, Medical camp, Job Preparation Seminar and Job fair - in addition to all scheduled events such as JCYC & Adult Classes, Pujans, Bhakti Bhavnas, and Mahavir Jann Kalyanak and Anniversary Day Celebrations. In coming months, you will see many more new and innovative programs. However, all this has been possible because of help from all the volunteers and contributors like you.

I believe we can host many more such events provided we find more volunteers. I will invite every one of our community members to come forward and volunteer in the event and activities they enjoy the most. Collectively we can continue to march forward. Please let us know of your ideas and suggestion about what else Jain Center can do to enhance its activities, offerings and community participation.

A new session of Pathshala Classes will begin soon in the coming months. We are still trying to address the class room space challenges. We are studying the improvements to the upstairs configuration of the Post-office building and also changes to the cultural hall upstairs.

We are approaching the Paryushan and Das Laxna Mahaparva celebration. These are the most auspicious times of the year for all Jains. This is also the time for self-introspection. We will continue to make all efforts to help you make progress in your spiritual path. Please let us know if we can be of any help in your sadhana.

We still are striving to be debt free by the end of this year. Your help is very important to us. Please include Jain center in your thoughts and contribute if you have benefitted from it. If you have already pledged or made a donation, my sincere thanks to you.

Sincerely

Virendra Shah
Jai Jinendra,

Our “Sangh” (Jain Center) was established more than 30 years ago on some very sound principles which are rooted in our scriptures and tradition. At the same time, we did not forget to take into consideration the unique aspects of the place (क्षेत्र) we live in.

Primarily, it was decided then that it has to be non-denominational and non-sectarian in nature and at the same time accepting in its fold all those who believe in and to some extent practice that faith whose foundation is the Three Jewels (तीन धर्म):

सत्त्वनाथ - के जे सत्य होय, बीतराजा होय अनें हितोपदेशक होय.
सत्त्वनाथ - के जे निर्जन होय, बंध मलवतधारी होय अनें सत्य संग परिवाजी होय.
सत्त्वनाथ - के जे दक्कली प्रमुखत धर्म जीता पायामां तथा मुख्य होय.

These are our scriptural edicts and our tradition for the last 2600 years. Those who believe in these fundamentals are all welcome. Our faith is based on merits and virtues (व्यति पृष्ठ) and that is evident in our “NAMASKAR MAHAMANTRA”.

So, today, I have great pleasure in welcoming the brand new magazine very appropriately named “JCSC CONNECT”. Let us all connect with our सत्त्वनाथ, सत्त्वनाथ, अनें सत्त्वनाथ 50 we may all progress together on the path of Salvation (मोक्षमय).

I formally present to you the “JCSC CONNECT” with the hope and prayer that we all shall benefit spiritually rather than materially, because if we focus on our spiritual growth, material benefits are bound to follow, as it is said: हिरण्यः सत्यत रक्षित: - ॥ धर्मिनी रक्षा करे छे तेनी धर्म रक्षा करे ॥

Congratulations to the entire team, who worked so hard to produce such a beautiful piece in a very short time and the entire executive committee for coming up with such a wonderful idea. After a quarter of a century, we are embarking on a journey under the dedicated leadership of Shri Virendrabhai, whose enthusiasm will take our “Sangh” to a new level.

I wish them all great success.

परमामा अन्ने गुंडती कुशागी आपणा संघनी प्रगति साथी दिशामां कारे एकी मने शक्ता छे.
As a monk, Rishabhadev traveled from place to place. He remained in a state of continuous meditation and did not think of food or water. Since Rishabhadev remained deeply immersed in meditation he could not guide his followers on how they should live their life and obtain food as monks. They were confused and after sometime, Rishabhadev could see their miserable condition. He therefore decided to demonstrate the way a monk is supposed to live. Rishabhadev started going from house to house for alms in silence. However, people did not know what to offer Rishabhadev who was once their beloved king. They offered him ornaments, their homes, and other valuable items but no one thought of offering food. As a result, Rishabhadev had to continue fasting day after day.

After undergoing fasts for 400 days, Rishabhadev passed by a sugarcane farm located near the town of Hastinäpur. The farm belonged to his great grandson, Shreyäns. He offered sugarcane juice to his Great Grandfather. Thus, Rishabhadev ended his long fast with sugarcane juice. In commemoration of this event, people observe a similar austerity known as Varsitapa for 400 days. As it is not possible for people to fast that long, they fast on alternate days; and at the end of 400 days, they break their fast with sugarcane juice.
Graduation Garba is an annual event organized by JCYC to celebrate the graduation of Jain Center's high school seniors. Everyone is invited to attend and celebrate the completion of a successful year of JCYC and the wish the best for graduating seniors. On June 7th, more than 200 people showed up to join in this year’s celebration. Following a tasty dinner of Pav Bhaji, the garba was underway; there were multiple garba lines, with kids and adults of all ages showing off different steps.

During a short break, the graduates, Sailes Uncle, Falguni Aunty, and Poorvi Aunty were brought on to stage. The graduates were commended for their commitment to the Jain Center and were given a Dr. Suess book as a gift.

slowly and picked up speed, ending with very quick raas steps. Free dance, where all kinds of music was played brought everyone in the hall to their feet and onto the dance floor. The evening went on late into the night, leaving everyone with sore feet and fond memories!
Reflections Before Saying Goodbye..

Tirth Modi
In JCYC since he was 7
Will attend UCR in the fall

Most Memorable Moment
Making food in culture class

Advice for Younger Kids
Have fun in class, but pay attention!
Go to the events and join committee.

Final Thoughts?
I want to thank all the teachers for their time and dedication.

Praachi Shah
In JCYC since she was 4
Will attend UCR in the fall

One Word to Describe Pathshala.
Unforgettable. I got the chance to meet some of my lifelong friends & learned more about Jainism

Most Memorable Moment
Being on committee

Advice for Younger Kids
Come to every class

Riya Jain
In JCYC since she was 5
Will attend UCR in the fall

One Word to Describe Pathshala
Enlightening. Jainism taught me to look at the world with an open mind.

How will you stay Connected?
I will come back as a teacher to teach the young generation.

Final Thoughts?
Temple has made me who I am.

Riya Sanghvi
In JCYC since she was 8
Will attend UCSD in the fall

How will you stay Connected?
Our temple is welcoming and when I come home I will come to pray.

Advice for Younger Kids
Apply your knowledge outside

Final Thoughts?
I am eternally grateful to my parents for dragging me out of bed at 9. I wouldn’t be the person I am without pathshala.

Vaibhav Shah
In JCYC since he was 5
Will attend UCSD in the fall

One Word to Describe Pathshala
Eye-opening. Pathshala taught me how Jainism ties to my daily life.

How are you different because of it?
I’d be less open and my people skills would not be developed. I wouldn’t have a place to call my second home.

Advice for Younger Kids
Keep going to class. It gets better!

Ria Shah
In JCYC since she was 5
Will attend U Penn in the fall

One Word to Describe Pathshala
Educational

How are you different because of it?
I would be less religious and more closed-minded.

Advice for Younger Kids
Come on time!
Coaching Young Speakers and Leaders

By Deven Shah

JCSC started a Toastmasters program in 2011 to provide coaching in Communications and Leadership for 12-17 year old boys and girls. We have a registered Gavel Club with the Toastmasters International named “Lightning”. The coaching emphasis is for participants to develop in three areas.

1. **Learning to be their natural selves**: Having faith and belief in their natural ways and talents gives the participants more confidence in speaking. They learn how to be comfortable in their own skin, which leads to a healthy, sustainable self-confidence. With this core emphasis, we create an environment for them to develop their own speaking style. The program focuses on speaking voice, use of gestures and body movement, vocal variety, and bringing out energy while speaking. Participants give prepared and impromptu speeches in the program.

2. **Effective listening and critical thinking**: Listening gets as much emphasis in the program as speaking, if not more. Active listening allows us to understand different point of views, and analyze speeches for different types of objectives. Members learn how to give constructive feedback, which teaches how to express opinions while cultivating healthy relationships with one another.

3. **Develop team work**: Participants learn how to plan, coordinate and run meetings as a team. Some benefits already seen from this are their improved ability in setting and managing expectations, proactively planning and clearly communicating.

While doing all this participants become confident speakers, effective communicators and leaders. All participants engage in a 10-week program. We keep the group size to 15-18 members. The meetings are every week, and members are expected to attend all meetings. At the end of the 10-week program, we organize a family event where parents and friends are invited to celebrate the success of participants. Each member use that as an opportunity to speak in front of a larger audience.

Many participants have expressed interest in doing more after the initial 10-week period, so we have created a club for them to develop more advanced public speaking and leadership skills. Over 120 participants have taken advantage of this program over the past three years.

Here are a few comments from some of the participants, coaches and parents.

“To me, Toastmasters is a place where I can learn about others, and tell them about myself through speeches. In the past two years, I have almost completely eradicated my fear of public speaking. By using subtle yet powerful techniques, I can now connect to my audience effectively, and feel more comfortable speaking, even if I don’t have any preparation. I’ve also made new friends there, and caught up with some old ones. Toastmasters is a lot of fun, and I definitely want to continue.”

- Sahil Sanghvi, Participant
“In past several months, I have really enjoyed helping with Toastmasters at Jain Center. At each meeting I am always amazed at the enthusiasm and energy that the children bring to the club. It has been such an inspiring experience to watch their hard work and dedication to learn and improve their public speaking skills. It has been a great privilege for me to help coach them. I have learned a lot from watching them during the meetings. These children have a lot of talent and skills that I know they will do wonderful things with in the future.”

- Shefali Parekh, Coach at Toastmasters

“Toastmasters has been a growing experience for me. I came in very shy and timid. I would have a lot to say, but the fear of speaking in front of strangers forced me to keep my thoughts to myself. Through Toastmasters, I have been able to step out of my comfort zone and articulate my ideas clearly and confidently in new ways. I can see the change in my communication level both in meetings, and outside in the real world whether it is at club meetings or in the classroom. People are glad to hear my insight actively in discussions, and I am glad to have the training to organize my thoughts and speak appropriately in those discussions with ease and confidence.”

- Pranati Shah, Participant

“I was hesitant to join Toastmasters at first because I thought the program was only going to teach me how to speak eloquently. As I took part in the program, Deven Uncle pinpointed my strengths and weaknesses as a speaker, and gave my exercises to improve on those weaknesses. For instance, he encouraged me to become Toastmaster of the week, and prepared me with templates on how to organize my speech. He also allowed my imagination to run wild. During Table topics, Deven Uncle would always ask me questions that I was comfortable with. This allowed me to have a fun time throughout the meetings.”

- Vinit Parekh, Participant

“I am very happy Vinit (my son) has been part of the Toastmasters’ program, it is so engaging for the children. Through the program, the children learn the art of communication. It has helped Vinit become a better listener and learn to articulate his thoughts in a succinct and organized manner. The peer evaluation process has also helped him better assess specific strengths and weaknesses and find ways to improve on them. It is a self-empowering process that has helped the kids gain self-confidence and learn more about their own capabilities.”

- Poorvi Parekh, Parent

The next 10 week session begins on September 14, 2014. The meetings are held on Sundays from 8:30am to 9:55am. Please contact Deven Shah for more information at DVN@DevenShah.net
Sing devotional songs and hymns is a wonderful way of purifying ourselves and connecting with God. One of the very important Stotras that can help us achieve this is the Uvasaggahar Stotra.

This Stotra was written by Pujya Acharya Bhadrabahu Swami. The original Stotra had 7 stanzas, but presently only 5 stanzas are available and are recited. This Stotra is in praise of Lord Parshvanath Swami. Bhadrabahu Swami had immense reverence and connection from previous births with Parmatma Parshvanath and compassion for society, hence when an epidemic spread in the area where he was residing his followers urged him to do something to relieve them from their sufferings. The Uvasaggahar Stotra was born out of compassion for the society at large.

By chanting it, all major calamities in life will be averted. A request for attainment of right faith is made to God whilst reciting this Stotra.

Meaning of the Uvasaggahar Stotra -

To understand the meaning of the name “Uvasaggahar”, let us consider the two terms “Uvasagg” and “Har” separately. “Uvasagg” refers to the troubles, difficulties, unfavorable situations and sorrows which arise in the life of an individual and thereby disturb his peace and self-confidence. “Har” means to get rid of. Since this hymn helps us to get rid of our difficulties, sorrows and obstacles, it is known as “Uvasaggahar Stotra.”

1. **UVASAGGA-HARAM PASAM, PASAM VANDAMIKAMMA-GHANA MUKKAM VISAHARA VISA NINNASAM, MANGALA KALLANA AVASAM**

O Shree Parshvanath Prabhu, you with your “ParshvaYaksha” are capable of removing all ills and you who can also remove poison of the most poisonous snakes, I bow to you.

O Parshvanath Parmatma, the destructor of obstacles! I bow to you with utmost faith and respect in my heart, and while doing so I connect my existence with Your existence. By uniting with You, I have become one with You. O Parshvanath Parmatma! You are an emblem of welfare and prosperity. We become like one whose company we are in (Jena Shame Jaiye Tena Jeva Thaiye). I desire to reside in Your heart with this intention. I want to accept Your shelter and make my life pure, happy and prosperous as Yours.

2. **VISAHARA PHULINGA MANTHAM, KANTHE DHAREI JO SAYA MANUO TASSA GAHA ROGA MAREE, DUTTHA JARA JANTI UVASAMAM**

Those who recite “Vishhar Fuling Mantra” will get rid of all kinds of misfortunes, all kinds of illnesses, plague, fever etc. This Stotra helps us to get rid of our wrong tendencies, evil thoughts and ill feelings. By its constant recitation, we become optimistic and good thoughts are generated in us.
3. CHITTHAU DOORE MANTO, TUJZA PANAMO VI BAHUFALO HOI
NARA TIRIESU VI-JEEVA, PAVANTI NA DUKKHA DOGACHCHAM

Just sincere Namaskar (bowing) to You with faith will remove all sufferings from humans and Tiryanchas. O Parmatma, it is a secondary matter, whether I know Your hymn, whether I recite it correctly or not, when a person bows to Parmatma, expresses respect and devotion towards Him, surrenders totally at His feet, he is sure to benefit in various ways. All humans, birds and even animals acquire peace and happiness. Bowing to Parmatma enables humans and other living beings also to get rid of various troubles and difficulties.

4. TUHA SAMMATTE LADDHE, CHINTAMANI KAPPA PAYAVA BAHAIHYE
PAVANTI AVIGGHENAM, JEEVA AYARAMARAM THANAM

Attainment of Right Knowledge and Right Faith is a must to achieve “Moksha”. O Parmatma, by singing hymns in Your praise, I gain eligibility to attain Moksha. O Parmatma, You and Your hymn are like Chintamani and Kalpavruksh. Chintamani is a precious pearl and one who acquires this pearl, obtains whatever he desires. Kalpavruksh is the wish-granting tree. If one stands under this tree and desires something one definitely gets it. Similarly one gets all the worldly happiness by singing this hymn of Parmatma. When a person constantly recites this Stotra, he does not confront any hurdle at any moment in the journey of his life. He attains eternal emancipation with utmost ease.

5. IA SANTHUO MAHAYASA, BHATTIBBHARA
NIBBHARENA HIYAENA
TA DEVA! DIIJA BOHIM, BHAVE BHAVE PAAS
JINACHANDA

O Prabhu you are revered by the whole world; I also pray to You with a heart of full devotion. So please bestow me “Samkyatva” for this life and all my future lives. O Parshvanath Parmatma! I do not seek anything else, but I have only one humble request – “Please grant me Your precious religion, Your regime and the spiritual inclination to practice your amazing religion in each and every birth.”

This stotra is a humble plea to call Parmatma with a pure and innocent heart. It is a request giving expression to our pain and anguish. Reciting this stotra is such an excellent mode of worshipping Parmatma, that while reciting it, our vices and our faults are washed away, we get cleansed, and the soul becomes pure, holy and attains the right faith (Samyakdarshan).

(Parts of this article are based on a book titled “Shree Uvasanggalhar Stotra” written by Pujya Gurudev Shree Namramuni Maharaj. For more detailed information about the stotra, go to: http://parasdham.org/publications/books/Uvasaggahara_Stotra_Eng_007620.pdf)
Monday Swadhyay Summary

By Girishbhai Shah

The Monday Swadhyay is conducted by Girishbhai Shah from 8:30pm to 10pm. The current topic of discussion is “Adhyatmsar” – written by Pujya Yashovijayji Maharaj Saheb.

The Monday Swadhyay is conducted by Girishbhai Shah from 8:30pm to 10pm. The current topic of discussion is “Adhyatmsar” – written by Pujya Yashovijayji Maharaj Saheb.

At the beginning of the session, Pujya Yashovijayji Maharaj Saheb introduced the topic of discussion, which is related to the spiritual and philosophical aspects of the Adhyatmsar. He explained the importance of understanding these concepts in our daily lives.

The session was divided into several parts, each focusing on different aspects of the Adhyatmsar. The discussions were conducted in a very interactive manner, with questions and answers encouraged from the participants.

The participants were highly engaged throughout the session, and there was a great deal of enthusiasm and interest in the topic. The discussions were very thought-provoking and left a lasting impression on all those present.

Overall, the Monday Swadhyay session was a great success, and the participants left feeling inspired and motivated to continue their spiritual journey.
Wednesday Swadhyay Summary

By Rameshbhai Khandhar

Every Wednesday, from 8:30 pm to 10 pm, the Swadhyay in the form of religious discussion and Question-Answer session is conducted in the Aaradhna Hall at the Jain Center of Southern California by Shri Rameshbhai Khandhar with the support of Shri Rajnibhai Modi and Mahendrabhai Khandhar when they are present.

The discussion is based on Shrimad Rajchandra Vachnamrut (collection of about 1000 letters written to householders and Sadhaks regarding their daily life issues & sadhna) and other scriptures (Nav Tattva, Tattvarth Sutra, Samaysaar, Moksha Marq Prakashak, Dravya Sangrah, etc). Every attempt is made to make this swadhyay interactive with emphasis on its application in daily life activities.

The abstract of one of the recent swadhyay is narrated here in Gujarati:

1) Shresthbanda mahatma Shri Rajchandra ji ke darshan me pitaamhar ke liye chaal ke vidhi karyakram ke liye pratishtha maane ka rashtra utho. Swadhyay me Shrimad Rajchandra Vachnamrut par samayevidhi sadhna ke liye prashn- jawab karyakram karyakram ke liye pratishtha maane ke liye pratishtha maane ka rashtra vyakto. 
2) Swadhyay ke liye shram samah bhadro ke liye shram samah ke liye pratishtha maane ke liye pratishtha maane ka rashtra Vyakto.
3) Swadhyay ke liye shram samah ke liye pratishtha maane ke liye pratishtha maane ka rashtra vyakto.
4) Swadhyay ke liye shram samah ke liye pratishtha maane ke liye pratishtha maane ka rashtraVyakto.
5) Swadhyay ke liye shram samah ke liye pratishtha maane ke liye pratishtha maane ka rashtraVyakto.
6) Swadhyay ke liye shram samah ke liye pratishtha maane ke liye pratishtha maane ka rashtraVyakto.

There is no pre-requisite for this swadhyay/class, except the interest to learn and practice vitrag vijnan. Anybody with any level can attend and benefit. It will make us inquisitive and enthusiastic (Jignasu / Mumukshu), and settle us on Sadhana Path as taught by Mahavir Swami and all Gnanis.

Everybody is welcome to attend.
Sunday Jain Study Group – Group B Class

By Pravinbhai Mehta

The Jain Study Group (JSG) – Group B class is conducted by Pravinbhai Mehta on alternate Sundays from 10am to Noon.

The class is conducted in Gujarati. The class session include advanced discussions on “Nine Reals”.

Here is a typical example of the discussion conducted in the class.

'लंध' तत्वनी सामान्य उपरेणा

विश्वास सर्व प्राणीयों ध्येय ऐंठा मां सार्वं सुभ अने शांतिनी प्राप्ति करवी ते च अने ते ज प्राप्त करवामां जव प्रयाणशील छे। सर्वज्ञ लगवाने कहसं के सार्वं सुभ अंतरमां के; बदल शीघ्रावादी माणे नहीं। पालन अनाधिकारी अखल्यांने करावी जवा सुभं अल्पत्व न नदी त्यां अखल्यां जव सुभ शोधे के अने परिश्रमेव धुपी शाय के।

ते जे काला बंधनां. तेक बंधनो पथ;
ते काळा छेड दशा, मेक्स पथ लव अंत। --- श्री आत्मसिद्धिशाख -- गाथा 99

राज भेस अखल ते, मुख्य कम्यों गँध;
शाय निम्नतिर जाविद्य, ते जे बोधांनो पथ। --- श्री आत्मसिद्धिशाख -- गाथा 100

साथा सुभानी प्राप्ति माते अने बंधनांती सुभत ध्वान माते नीचे जावितित 3 जुहरीयातां पूढू ध्वान आवश्यक के।
1. बंधनांती बोध -- अनाधि काली मारी बुद्धने करावी हुं बंधाचें हुं अने परिश्रमेव अने ध्वान गतितं लंधक
2. शांतिनी (पुल्लवानी) काळा --- आ ध्वान गतितं संसार परिश्रमांधी मारे पुढवूचे के।
3. सत्य पुनर्जारी -- बंधनांती सुभत ध्वान माठेनी सत्य पुढारी

बहारी कोल परिस्थित, व्यक्ति के व्यवस्थासांधक माते बंधनांती काळा नवी पाल विषमां पडेली तुषा, कणमा, वासना, असाधित अने ममतव सांधकनेबंधनांती काळा के।

"तारो टोंपराते बंधनं चे आ संतनी पहेळी शिक्षा के। तारो टोंप चेतालो जे के परने पोतानु मानवधु के अने पोते पोताने बूझी जवूचा।" ---- श्रीमद्द राजशंकर पंतंग 108

आप्पला बंधनांती काळा माते विषयों भोग-उपलोग नवी पाल ते प्रतेशी आसाधित, अंकित, ममतव अने अवतारबिभि भुवाले के। देखामुख्य अे बायांने मुण मे। अे देखामुख्य टागवा माते प्राक्ष सत्तुपणा असने स्वप्नां अनुवेंधन अने स्वप्नां अनुसंधान अने भुवन्य साधन के।
We are pleased to bring you a new series called “Dhammakathanuyog”. This series will contain stories from Jain scriptures. In each issue there will be an article with a story which may continue for several issues.

धर्मकथानुयोग

मात्र विचारण द्वारा मात्रे श्री तीर्थकर भगवान्तोऽले जैन शासननी स्थापना करी. पुरावार्ताहोऽसे तीर्थकर प्रभुवा उपदेशनी सरणत्ता प्राप्तर चार विलाग कर्त्यः:
1. दध्यानुयोग 2. गध्यानुयोग 3. चरण-चरणानुयोग 4. धर्मकथानुयोग

गध्यानुयोगमां लगभग बधु गणित आचे. चरण-चरणानुयोगमां यथिः अने कर्म विचे आचे. दध्यानुयोगमां हीया तत्त्वनी छावावटेली समावेश योजेले हे अटळेते के तेहे लगाला बधु तत्त्वनी ज वात आचे. भजवाने मुण्डूळ बे तत्त्वो जोहां:
1. जव अने 2. अध्याय, आ बधु तत्त्वनी विस्तार करता नव तत्त्वमां वहे या हे.
2. जव 2. अध्याय 3. पाप 4. पुल्य 5. आध्याय 6. संसार 7. निर्वाण 8. बंध 8. मोक्ष

जवा सुधी आ ढळा अने हीया तत्त्वनी वातोऽने कथना माध्यमे पीरस्वानोऽ न आचे त्या सुधी सुह्म, गुढ तत्त्वनी वास्तवीऽक समजाप वाळ करवी अती हुक्कर बनी रहे हे. तेथी ज पुल्य महावीर स्वामिगी पोताना उपदेशां अनेक तत्त्वधे प्रेरक कथायो लढी तीढी हे.धर्मकथानुयोगमां आधारे प्राचीन कलमां " पदमालुयोग" नामानि विशेष कथा शासननी रचना रखे जत जे आज पावे विदुत्त फे. परंतु अनेक प्राचीन शासोऽमां तेने ठोलेन जेवा या हेणे हे.

आपा अनेक शासो दुपत होवा प्राचीन महार्षिहे पोतानी समृद्ध अने अनुभवना आधारे अनेक धर्म कथालोऽनी रचना कल्या माते बारे उदाहर कर्यां हे. आज कल्याणमां जैन दर्शनमां दृस्तर कथाओऽ हेती.

हेरू धर्मकथाहोऽ मुख्य सारे हे जवे हे के पावे छोडौ अने धर्मनी आराधनामां ताली जयो, कारणे जे धर्म द्वारा ज अँधे, काम अने मोक्षनी पुरुषार्थलोऽनी सिद्धे थाये हे. वालक होजे के सुवान होजे, पीढ होजे के घुड होजे, बधाने कथायोऽ तो गमती होजे हे.

धर्मकथाओऽ बोधने गुरुसंग करवा द्वारा जवन सुधारवा माते हे. जवन सुधरे, गळ्य सुधरे तो पावे निलंशति मेले. धर्म कृतयो प्रत्ये आदरलाव जो.धर्म आराधनामां जैन आचे, करी हपे अने शासन सुमानी लोकता बनाय.
આ પંચમ કાળમાં ધર્મના પ્રલાભને ધર્મના રક્ષા માટે પ્રયાસ માટે જોખમે ભૂનું પ્રયાસ કરી છે તેઓ શાહનાં પ્રલાભની તરફે ઓળખવા છે.

આવા આધ પ્રલાભની તરફ ગયાય:
1. પ્રવાસનીક પ્રલાભક: સુંદર પ્રવાસ કરાવાર
2. ધર્મકારક પ્રલાભક: ધર્મનું અધભૂત રીતે નિદ્રા કરવાર
3. વારી પ્રલાભક: અન્ય દર્શનીઓ સાથે વાખર કરવામાં સમાધી હોવ
4. નૈમિતિક પ્રલાભક: અષ્ટોગ શાસક જીવનમાં
5. પ. તાપવારી પ્રલાભક: મહાન તાપવારી કરવાર
6. વિદ્યાસ્તી પ્રલાભક: રોહિણી પ્રગતિ આપી વિદ્યાર્થીઓ સાધ્યમાં
7. માનરસ્તી પ્રલાભક: માન ઉપાસના વેદ સિક્ષણ મેળવવાર
8. કવિ પ્રલાભક: કવિ કલામાં અપૂર્વ આંત્રિક દર્શનવાર

જૈન શ્રમલી નીરાબી સાધક યોગી સાધના કરવા માટે દાણ, દર્શન અને આરિવ્યની આરાધના ઉપરાંત તપનો પણ આશ્રય લેતાં હોય છે. આ તપ તેમના ભાષ સપું પુરતા જે મદ્યનિત ન હતું પણ આધ્યાત્મિક સ્વાસ્થ્ય પણ પૂરેલું સામે હતું.

જૈનયાયવો જે મશ્રમી આપાવે પ્રાપ્ત થય છે તેમાં તેમશે અસાધારણ દ્રષ્ય કામ્યુ છે. તેનું વાતન આપલા કયો શાશ્વત છે. જે આવા આધાર્વીની સભ્યા આંગળીના ટેસ્ટે જાણતી જવાની તટલી સ્મરણ તો તેને આપલે અપવાડ તેમનું. પણ તેને સંબંધ ધ્યાન મદ્દી છે અને તે પ્રયુખ કાળથી આજ સુરક્ષિત સમયમાં આવારી લે છે. કેટલાકના નામ આ પ્રમાણે છે: શ્રી લાલના સ્વામી, શ્રી સ્વયંભૂ સ્વામી, શ્રી વૃદ્ધસ્વામી, શ્રી આર્યપુત્ર, શ્રી આર્યમંગુ, શ્રી પાદલીનતસૂરી, શ્રી સિદ્ધભોગ હીવાયસૂરી, શ્રી હરિમાદ્રસૂરી, શ્રી માનેંસૂરી, શ્રી માનનુંસૂરી, શ્રી જનફાલ્સૂરી, શ્રી વાસ્તુસૂરી, શ્રી સંતસૂરી, વયોગી. જૈન આધાર્યનું સાધનાનું ઘોરા ભૂમ લેખું હોવાને કાશે કોઈ વિવેક અસર જૈન સમાજ પર પડી નથી.

પ્રયુખ સમયમાં તારી સેહેલી જનશાસનની પ્રલાભના કરનારોમાંથી એક એવા શ્રી વૃદ્ધસ્વામી વિવેક આવા આપલે વીશારીનું. આધાર્ય શ્રી વૃદ્ધસ્વામી પ્રવાસનીક અને ધર્મપ્રક્ર પ્રલાભિક કહેવાય છે.

એ વિશાલ સ્વાસ્થ્યમાં અલુઝમ અગફત નગરી હતી. તેમાં તબુણન નામના ગામ હતું. તે ગામમાં એક ધનાખ્યું શેક રહેતા હતા. તેમને ટીમ હોમ સાહ્યી તેમાં પણ તપાસ કરતા પણ તેમની પ્રતિશા ભૂમ જ હતી. તેમને એક પુત્ર હતો તેમનું નામ ધનગીરી હતું. તે ભૂમ સ્વાસ્થ્યમાં હતો. પણ એવી અભિધ એવું યાન્ન સાવતું. વાણપાલકી જે વે શાંતિપ્રણ અને પ્રોપ્રેકશ હતો. લાખ, ધ્યાન અને તેને વૈયકો પ્રોફીલસ્માં એલો ઘંટી હતો. તેને કોઈ પણ જાતના કુલાયી વ્યાવહાર કે એના પિતાના વ્યાપરમાં ચેત યોગે નથી.

વધુ આવાતા અંક.
CRHP works for the poor and marginalized with a mandate to empower individuals and communities through integrated efforts in health and development. CRHP’s founders realized that health is not merely determined by the presence or absence of disease but rather, health needs are determined by a range of social, economic, and cultural issues facing communities. Therefore, CRHP embraces a holistic approach, mobilizing and building the capacity of communities to develop and be free from stigma and poor health. CRHP’s innovation is based on engaging the people within each community to bring about social change & justice thereby, uplifting everyone from poverty and disease. Great focus is placed on empowering women and developing their self-esteem and self-worth. By educating the most stigmatized, CRHP is able to empower the individual and give credit to her work and value despite gender, caste, religion and illiteracy. She, in turn, is able to provide assistance to those of her community, increasing their knowledge and access to vital and life-saving healthcare information.

What’s the problem?
India is a country of incredible diversity, culture, and tradition. India has come to dominate the global landscape in various sectors (i.e. information technology) but a sizable segment of the population is deeply marginalized and still does not have access to basic facilities or rights. One of these rights issues is deep-rooted gender inequality.

In Maharashtra, the Indian state where CRHP operates, the status of women remains low. 35% of rural married women report having experienced spousal violence. Half of Maharashtrian men believe that a husband is justified in beating his wife. Bride burning (immolation of woman for failure to produce a male child or pay sufficient dowry), female feticide, and widespread sexual harassment are all very real problems faced by women in Maharashtra. Less than 40% of married rural women participate in decision-making.

The daily violence and injustice faced by women produces an array of negative health outcomes including implications for murder, attempted suicides, mental ill-health, poor maternal and child health, and HIV risk. Ultimately, with these women trapped in the misery of their own lives, entire communities are also marginalized with respect to health, development, and human well-being.
What can CRHP do about this?
Freedom from violence is a fundamental human right. Since its inception in 1970, CRHP has implemented programs that aim to improve health and decrease violence against impoverished women and girls in rural India.

CRHP utilizes a multi-sectorial approach to promote gender equity and develop the capacity of women and girls. This is currently taking place in forty project villages. CRHP initiatives such as Village Health Worker Training, Women’s Self Help Groups, and the Adolescent Girls Program provide women and girls with the skills necessary to advocate for equity and change gender norms in their communities.

However, this is not enough. Recognizing the importance of male involvement in the mitigation of root causes of violence against women and girls, CRHP has implemented an innovative primary prevention strategy to complement its existing initiatives: the Adolescent Boys Program.

How does it work?
Acceptance of violent behavior, alcohol abuse, exposure to parental violence, and attitudes that reward male entitlement increase the risk of intimate partner and sexual violence against women. The purpose of the Adolescent Boys Program (ABP) is to build the capacity of rural males ages 12-18 to advocate for gender equity and decrease the risk of violence and discrimination against women and girls.

ABP covers many topics, including gender equity, reproductive health, peer pressure, and community leadership, and it also provides a foundation for the formation of self-help groups. The ten-week program utilizes a hands-on, gender-transformative approach designed to provide boys in CRHP project villages with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to promote gender equity at the individual and community level. Emphasis will be placed on violence against women and girls, gender norms, alcohol abuse, health promotion, decision-making, and communication skills.

By empowering the boys, CRHP hopes to improve the wellbeing of their female counterparts as the boys continue to use the skills and knowledge learned in the program to develop themselves and their villages.

What difference will it make?
Producing a radical social change is a long-term investment that entails the mindset change of one person at a time. We aim for ABP to transform the lives of each set of boys in a meaningful, substantive way which will eventually result in a concrete reduction in domestic violence in the area and the rejection of dowry as a cultural norm.

ABP will change the prevailing social norms and practices, encouraging the recognition of the equal value of females in society and developing the skills of the next generation of village men. Lessons in gender equity will have a far-reaching impact on their families and villages, especially for the women.

By learning about and practicing decision-making skills, the participants will engage with and handle the pressures of leadership positions, peer pressure, and village violence. Instilling a sense of responsibility for village development in the participants will contribute to healthier, more equitable villages. The health knowledge imparted through the program will serve to improve health outcomes for the boys themselves, their future children, and their communities at large.

Change can only be successful when it is an inclusive endeavor that involves all stakeholders. Here at CRHP, we believe that our boys are most definitely stakeholders in the improvement of the lives of our women and the community as a whole.

For more information about CRHP, visit www.jamkhed.org. To watch the video about the program, go to https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/shaping-a-brighter-future-adolescent-boys-campaign#home
My name is Delhi, I was born in the wilds of India in 1946. I was captured as a baby and sent to America on a cargo ship where I was purchased by the Hamid Morton Circus. I performed with them until 1974, when I was sold to the Hawthorn Corporation, a company that trained and rented elephants to circuses. For more than 50 years when I was not performing, I was chained with the rest of the Hawthome circus elephants in their window less barn in Illinois.

As with many elephants in captivity, my feet began to deteriorate and in April 2002, Hawthorn handler soaked my feet in full-strength formaldehyde causing severe chemical burns. After 20 months of continued inadequate care, the USDA exercised emergency intervention, confiscated me and turned me over to The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee on Nov. 23, 2003.

I was the first captive elephant in the American history to be seized from the owner for inhumane treatment, and my condition led to a landmark case of federal prosecution and the eventual release of the rest of the heard years later.

When I reached the Sanctuary, I had an advanced case of osteomyelitis – a life threatening bone infection affecting several toes of my front feet. This disease has never been cured in elephants and currently there is no reversal for the damage done – unfortunately it is permanent. The Sanctuary made preparations for hospice care, unsure if I could survive the condition much longer. However I had different plans. After 50+years in the circus, I was free at last, surrounded by good veterinarians and loving caregivers, and nothing was going to prevent me from enjoying it!!

The USDA required me be quarantined from all the other elephants for the next 8 months, so a special barn and yard was set up. Caregivers pampered me with foot soaks and playful soccer games, I took daily naps in my comfortable yard and soon began to thrive in my new home. The day came when finally I was released from quarantine, the gate opened my world to the full habitat and I did not look back since! I climbed the hill behind the upper pond and spent the rest of the summer in peaceful solitude, surrounded by quiet forest. I was often visited by the caregivers and all the other elephants.
In early 2006, I joined my resident heard in the Sanctuary and developed inseparable friendship with one of the fellow elephants, Misty. At age 62 I left this world quietly in my sleep on March 11, 2008.

I am very thankful to my caregivers for unconditional love and support when I needed it most. I wanted to bring my story to you and give most deserving attention to this amazing organization – The Elephant Sanctuary – and their compassionate members, volunteers and staff. May be you want to become a volunteer and give your time and resources and in return form a unique bond of love and friendship with elephant like me.

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee, founded in 1995, is the nation’s largest natural-habitat refuge developed specifically for endangered elephants. It operates on 2700 acres in Hohenwald, Tennessee – 85 miles southwest of Nashville. Its mission is to provide a safe haven for old, sick or needy elephants in a setting of green pastures, hardwood forests, spring-fed ponds, and heated barns for cold winter nights.

To learn more about The Elephant Sanctuary and all the resident elephants, visit www.elephants.com
When we think of Bhagwan Mahavir’s Samata (equanimity) and forgiveness when a shepherd hammered nails in His ears, we feel a sense of utmost reverence for this embodiment of peace and forgiveness. Incidents like these inspire us to develop such divine virtues in us. However, when we find ourselves in an unfavorable situation, we quickly lose our inner calm and peace, and look for someone to blame for what happened to us and knowingly or unknowingly develop bitterness and hatred towards that person. So besides our noble intentions, achieving these virtues remain more of an ideal for the lack of current role models who are practicing them in a real life on a day-to-day basis.

Alice Herz-Sommer is such role model of today’s time that we all should aspire to learn from. She was an accomplished pianist and the longest lived survivor of the Holocaust. She started giving concerts across the Europe in her 20s and 30s. Her beautiful life turned to a tragedy when at the age of 39, she was sent to Terezin concentration camp along with her 5 year old son. Earlier her mother was captured and killed in the concentration camp and later on her husband also died in the concentration camp. She slept on a frozen dirt floor, was threatened every day of her own life and that of her son, and was given very little food to eat. But she never developed a feeling of hatred towards Nazis, always laughed, and gave her son so much love that in such a gruesome environment of the concentration camp, he felt secure and unafraid.

So how did she do it? It goes back to her childhood. She was the born optimist of twin sisters. While her sister complained and waited for catastrophes to happen, Alice was always positive and laughing. In fact she laughed so much in one day that most people don’t laugh in whole life. Alice credits her mother for teaching her two very important things that helped her tremendously in coping with the tragic phase of her life. 1) To learn, learn and learn and to know all you can and 2) Be Thankful for everything in life – for being alive, being in a good health, seeing the sun, seeing a smile on someone’s face, for everything. Her mother also taught her to put something in the mind every day that no one can take away. Alice chose to put the beauty of music in her mind every day.
Inspiration

At early age she learned to play piano from her elder sister and then received formal training. She memorized music by heart and was very thankful to Mozart, Bach, Beethoven, etc. for giving us all, what she called an indescribable gift from God. Her love for music saved her life and that of many others in the concentration camp. Nazis used Terezin camp as a showcase to Red Cross to prove that the living conditions are not that bad. So they held regular concerts where Alice performed more than 100 concerts over two years imprisonment. She was told that as long as she performed well (on an old and somewhat broken piano), her and her son’s life will be spared. Many prisoners lived to listen to her music where many of them would have died of starvation and overwork. Alice believed that if you are truly spiritual, you probably don’t need that much food to survive. Music took her into some other dimension through which she helped not only herself and her son but countless others to cope with tragic times. Her love for music remained with her till death. At age of 108, she was practicing piano three hours a day. When one finger of each of her hand stopped functioning, she reworked her style so she can still play it like before.

Alice has many things to teach us on how to live life fully, filled with joy, forgiveness and love. Here are five key messages we can take from her life and aspire to implement so we can also become a mini-me of Bhagwan Mahavir:

1. Alice believed that “hatred eats the soul of the hater and not the hated”, and chose never to hate anyone no matter what. As Lord Buddha once said, “To be angry at someone is to drink a glass of poison and expect the person you are angry at to die”.
2. Alice learned to be thankful for everything in her life. She treated everything in her life as a gift from God.
3. Alice was pragmatic and knew that we all make mistakes and we need to learn from our mistakes. But instead people complain a lot and the complaining, according to her, doesn’t change anything. “I know about the bad things but I look only for the good things” – this mantra of Alice was at the foundation of her optimism and positivity.
4. She believed that the worst thing in life is boredom. According to her lot of people are very very bored and they don’t know what to do with their lives. Alice filled up her time with what brought her true happiness – music.
5. She played and laughed a lot with her son even in the concentration camp. She believed that if you are very close to your child and love him/her a lot, he/she feels secure and is not afraid of anything, let alone the concentration camp. If a child can play in a place freely then he/she feels the place can’t be that terrible.

Alice passed away at the age of 110 in February 2014 in her small London apartment. I can imagine as death approached her, she was probably doing one of the things she was loved for – laughing.

(Watch the conversation with Alice by Anthony Robbins, at www.karmatube.org/videos.php?id=3008)
I stood knee-deep in water, keenly watching my one shimmering lantern drift away from me to join the others. Within a few minutes, I could not tell which lantern was mine amidst the thousands of flickering lights in the water. I had seen photographs of the Hawaii Lantern Floating event, but nothing can take the place of being there in person and being at one with the elements of Nature; feeling the warm Hawaiian breeze on your face while waves of the cool ocean water push gently along your legs and seeing the beautiful shimmer of floating lights amidst a backdrop of the dark evening sky while listening to the soft sound of Polynesian music playing in the background.

Yet I was not alone along the alcove of Honolulu’s Ala Moana Beach. I was amidst thousands of people gathered to witness and participate in an event where 6000 lanterns were set afloat by families and loved ones to honor those who have passed and to promote peace and unity.

I was there as part of an interfaith group to participate in the 16th Hawaii Lantern Floating event in Honolulu. The annual event is organized by the Shinnyo-en Foundation, part of a Japanese Buddhist group that has temples in multiple locations in the US, including Honolulu, Hawaii and Orange County, California. The founder of the Shinnyo-en Buddhist order started the tradition of floating a lantern in the name of his two sons that he lost to illness at a very young age. He brought this tradition to Honolulu as a way to help others honor the ones they have lost and to unite people in an act of peace. The event is held each year on Memorial Day, not too far from the Pearl Harbor War memorial, which is a stark reminder of the destruction and loss that mankind is also capable of.

What started as a ritual performed by 30-40 people 16 years ago is now an event that draws over 50,000 people. Families lined up from dawn that morning to obtain a lantern kit, consisting of a foam board on which they could place a box frame made of thin plastic sheet with a candle in the middle. Individuals wrote names of family and friends that they have lost; either to natural causes, illnesses, accidents, violence or for reasons that are beyond our natural comprehension. Many wrote messages of love, pasted photographs and wrote the things that they may not have been able to say to the person while they were still alive. Each person was able to experience their own personal moment, even as they were amidst thousands of other people – or perhaps it was the ability to share this grief with others that made this a truly cathartic experience.

The crowd grew over the course of the day as people of all ages, ethnicity and economic background drifted towards the beach. There were some signs of police and emergency vehicles on standby, but no one was
scanned as they came to the beach and no bags were checked. A big stage was set up on one end of the beach where a short ceremony was held with Buddhist drummers as well as some Polynesian singers. At dusk, individuals with lanterns were asked to walk a few steps into the water and push their lanterns out. As the sky grew dark, the soft glimmer of the candle light coming through the plastic sheet on each lantern could be seen at a distant as the tides took the lanterns further out into the sea. The uniformity of the light and the lanterns was a stark reminder of the commonality of spirit and sentiments behind the individual lanterns. With 6000 lanterns afloat, it was as if the sea was covered with a blanket of glimmering lights slowly drifting into the distance.

Jain Dharma teaches us that this life is simply one amongst many as we go through the cycles of death rebirth along our journey to Moksha. Yet despite this grand scheme of things, most of us can at best experience our current lifetime and identify ourselves through the relationships we establish with those that we come across in this life time. Each soul travels independently along its journey towards Moksha and we will never be able to tell if the person that passes will remember anything from this life once they have passed. However, those of us who are still here, do have lingering memories and have the challenge of coming to terms with the loss created by the ones that have departed.

Whether the loss is associated with deep love, remorse, anger or guilt, we are left with a yearning for resolution; something that will allow us to release our emotions and establish a sense of peace. Jain religion explains that that if we allow feelings of anger, love or any form of attachment to linger, this further increases the karmic burden that prevents both the departed one as well as us from moving closer to the ultimate goal of Moksha. The lingering emotion that builds in us, if left unresolved, can corrupt our thinking and sense of logic. To avoid prolonging the karmic spiral we have to bring closure to the passions that linger and remove our attachments to those that have passed through a genuine sense of forgiveness.

The Lantern floating day was the first time I experienced the power of solitude with 50,000 people. There was a keen awareness that while we are overwhelmed by our own feelings, there are many others going through something similar and it is in the best interest of every soul that we learn to let go. The Lantern floating was so effective in its silence as each person, in their own personal way, regardless of their background, belief, drive or feeling, moved closer towards some resolution to their relationship with the ones that have passed.

I wrote on my lantern the following message of Universal Forgiveness

\texttt{Khamemi Saava Jive, Savve Jiva Khamantu Me, Mitthime savva bhuve su, Vairam majham nakenae}

“I forgive all living beings, I seek forgiveness from all living beings. I have friendship towards all. I have enmity towards none”.

In addition to seeking forgiveness from those we may have knowingly harmed, it is also an opportunity to seek forgiveness from those we may have harmed unknowingly, either through action, through words or through thoughts. We can have remorse over our intentional wrongdoings, but it is often the things we do or enable others to do unwittingly and unknowingly that cause more harm and where the consequences can take us by surprise.

While the feelings of anger, hurt, love or remorse come in many individual foms, colors, duration and sounds, the sensation of peace is perhaps best expressed when united with others in universal serenity. In a world that thrives on distinctions and differentiations, this was an evening of interconnection across all living beings: People, animals, earth, air, water and fire.
Since January, Young Jain Professionals has taken off with great vigor and full speed ahead. They have organized and hosted close to a dozen events across North America, including professional development events, community service initiatives, and spiritual/religious programs. This has brought Young Jain Professionals closer to their respective local sanghs, while also allowing members to connect with one another on core beliefs and values. This includes the use of online platforms such as Facebook, a blog, and monthly newsletters to allow busy professionals to stay easily connected to events, relevant discussions, and articles.

Some of the past events include:
- Professional Development Seminars, such as visiting a local Jain business or inviting co-founders of different businesses and professional speakers
- Northeast Regional Winter Retreat, which was filled with inspiring sessions, delicious Jain meals, and fun-filled snow activities
- Spiritual Retreat at Siddhachalam hosted by YJP and JCA in June, with workshops conducted by Professor Jeffrey D. Long, a Professor of Religion and Asian Studies at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania.
- Picnics/hiking trips in various cities to further unite the Jain community in a very friendly and casual environment

Upcoming Event on the West Coast:

Business Ethics Conference
Young Jain Professionals will also be partnering with JAINA & Claremont Lincoln University in hosting a Business Ethics Conference on the West Coast later this year from October 5th-8th. Save the date! If you are interested in helping or for more information, please contact sheenika.shah@yjp.jaina.org

For the most up-to-date information and upcoming events, please visit the YJP Facebook Page.

Career Spotlight Corner:
Since May 2014, the YJP newsletter has featured young Jain professionals in a Career Spotlight Corner, where he or she is interviewed about going above and beyond in their career, and how they live a Jain way of life. The two young Jain professionals featured in the May and June newsletters, respectively, are Shreyans Parekh and Masum Momaya.

Shreyans Parekh
Company: Koyal Wholesale, Dress my Cupcake
Role: Co-Founder/Director of Business Development
Contact: shreyans.c.parekh@gmail.com
To read Shreyans’ interview with YJP go to: http://wp.me/p4cn46-1p

Masum Momaya
Employer: The Smithsonian Institution
Role: Writer, Activist, Curator of the "Beyond Bollywood" exhibit at The National Museum of Natural History from Feb. 2014 to Aug. 2015
Contact: masummomaya@gmail.com
To read Masum’s Interview with YJP go to http://goo.gl/RkqNCB
## JCSC Ongoing Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 6</td>
<td>JSG (Group B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11</td>
<td>Chaudas Pratikraman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 13</td>
<td>JSG (Group B)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 20</td>
<td>JSG (Group B)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 25</td>
<td>Monthly Bhavna bhakti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 25</td>
<td>Chaudas Pratikraman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 27</td>
<td>JSG (Group B)</td>
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## JCSC Lifetime Tithis

### July 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 4</td>
<td>Vadecha Vipin &amp; Jyoti - For father Devshibhai Bhuderbhai Vadecha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 5</td>
<td>Shah Nilesh &amp; Krina - Punya tithi of father Ratilal Mohanlal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 17</td>
<td>Chheda Vijay &amp; Madhu - Punya tithi of mother Panbai Dharshi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 24</td>
<td>Shah Nitin &amp; Kinna - Punya tithi of Kevin Gandhi</td>
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### August 2014

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 2</td>
<td>Navkar Mantra Jaap, Sntrapuja, Bhathu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 3</td>
<td>JSG (Group B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 9</td>
<td>Chaudas Pratikraman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 10</td>
<td>JSG (Group B)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 24</td>
<td>Chaudas Pratikraman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 29</td>
<td>Monthly Bhavna bhakti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 30</td>
<td>Navkar Mantra Jaap, Sntrapuja, Bhathu</td>
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### September 2014

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<tr>
<td>Mon 8</td>
<td>Chaudas Pratikraman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 14</td>
<td>JCYC Patghshala, Adult Swadhyay, JSG (Group A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 21</td>
<td>JCYC Patghshala, Adult Swadhyay, JSG (Group A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 23</td>
<td>Chaudas Pratikraman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 26</td>
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<td>Sat 27</td>
<td>Navkar Mantra Jaap, Sntrapuja, Bhathu</td>
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<td>Sun 28</td>
<td>JSG (Group B)</td>
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JCSC Upcoming Events: Swadhyays, Workshops and Shibirs

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>July 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 12</td>
<td>Shrimad Rajchandra Bhakti</td>
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<td>Wed 16</td>
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<td>Thu 17</td>
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<td>Fri 18</td>
<td>Rajpad Shibir by Atmarpit Smrutiji</td>
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<td>Sat 19</td>
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<td>Sun 20</td>
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<tr>
<th>August 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 3</td>
<td>Shri Neminath Kalyanak</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri to Fri 22 to 29</td>
<td>Paryushan Mahaparv</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 30</td>
<td>Tapsvi Parna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun 30/31</td>
<td>Das Lakshana Parv</td>
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<th>September 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon to Mon 1 to 8</td>
<td>Das Lakshana Parv</td>
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Paryushan Mahaparva 2014

JCSC PARYUSHAN CELEBRATIONS
We will celebrate Paryushan from August 22nd to August 29th.
We will be honored to have Jain Scholar Shri Champakbhai Mehta as our dignitary.
Morning session includes daily asthprakari puja, snatrapuja, Kalpsutra vanchan & Ekasana.
Evening session includes pratikraman, bhavna bhakti, Arti and lecture in Gujarati & English.
Every day Paryushan bhavna-bhakti will be performed by our local talents.
Every day ekasana will be sponsored by different groups.
In addition to the daily session, we will have other sessions as listed below.

| Sat 23 | Afternoon Session to include Cultural Prrogram and General Body Meeting |
| Sun 24 | Afternoon session to include Shree Mahavir Janm Vanchan & Swapna ceremony. |
| Fri 29 | Samvastari pratikraman |

JCSC DAS LAKSHANA CELEBRATIONS
We will celebrate Das Lakshana from August 30th to September 8th.
We will be honored to have Jain Scholar Dr Ramesh Parekh as our dignitary.
Morning session includes Pakshalji and Bhav puja.
Evening session includes Arti and lecture.
Sunday, September 7th, morning session will include various Digambar pujas.
Thank You!

We Would Like to Hear from You!

The JCSC Connect editorial team thanks you for your overwhelmingly positive feedback to the first issue published in July. We have received a few suggestions for improvement as well. We will continue to make needed changes and bring you articles that will cater to readers of all ages and interests. Please continue to tell us your candid opinion about the topics, the articles, the design, the pictures, the content organization, and anything else about the magazine. Your comments and suggestions will help us in making this magazine what you want it to be.

Please fill-out the form available at the link below to provide us your valuable feedback. https://goo.gl/uCJv69

Thanks for your support.

We Look Forward to Bringing you the Following in the Next Issue...

We plan to publish our next issue by the middle of September. We look forward to bringing you the following items and more.

• A Jain story, activities, JCYC Committee, and an interview in the “Young Generation” section
• Meaning of a puja and an article about types of Bhakti in the “Devotion” section
• Compassionate acts by our members and an article about a worthy cause in the “Compassion” section
• Synopsis of Thursday Swadhyay and continuation of the story in “Dharmakathanuyog” in the “Education” section
• Another inspirational story that endorses Jain values in the “Inspiration” section
• More personal experiences by our members about transformations in their lives in the “Transformation” section
• JCSC news and events in the “Information” section
• .. and more

Call for Articles

Thanks to those who have responded to our call for articles in the last issue. As a result, we have more contributing authors and the second issue has grown to 30 pages! We could not have done this without the support and interest of our readers. We certainly would like to see more people come forward and be a part of our devoted, wonderful team of writers and editors. Here are some ideas to stimulate your thinking and awaken the writer in you!

• Do you know an activity that our kids will love to do? Do you know a story that they will enjoy learning from?
• Do you know a bhakti song that wells up your eyes? Do you want to share it with others?
• Have you come across a compassionate selfless act someone has done?
• Would you like to explain a Jain “siddhant” that challenges and engages you?
• Do you want to tell others what inspires you to do your best?
• Do you want to share your challenges and experiences in practicing Jain principles?

If your answer is “YES” to any of the above questions, then don’t wait! Contact us as JCSC.Connect@gmail.com and tell us what you want to write about. We will provide you with guidelines, deadlines and provide any assistance you may need.
Executive Committee

**PRESIDENT**
Virendra Shah  
(H) (310) 326-5685  
virendra.shah@jaincenter.net

**VICE PRESIDENT**
Hemendra Doshi  
(C) (213) 448-7722  
hemendra.doshi@jaincenter.net

**SECRETARY**
Narendra Maniar  
(H) (562) 924-6055  
narendra.maniar@jaincenter.net

**TREASURER**
Vipul Udani  
(H) (714) 992-6138  
vipul.udani@jaincenter.net

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**
Vipin Vadecha  
(H) (909) 861-2677  
vipin.vadecha@jaincenter.net

**MEMBERS**
Bhavin Modi  
(C) (714) 943-1947  
bhavin.modi@jaincenter.net

Gaurav Shah  
(C) (818) 967-8297  
gaurav.shah@jaincenter.net

Kalpesh Jhaveri  
(H) (909) 598-7070  
kalpesh.jhaveri@jaincenter.net

Ketan Parekh  
(C) 714-299-6789  
ketan.parekh@jaincenter.net

Dr. Mahendra Shah  
(H) (714) 369-8701  
mahendra.shah@jaincenter.net

Premal Doshi  
(C) (213) 210-3711  
preaml.doshi@jaincenter.net

Ramesh Parekh  
(H) (949) 677-0980  
ramesh.parekh@jaincenter.net

Sanjay Shah  
(C) (951) 642-1160  
sanjay.shah@jaincenter.net

Sonali Shah  
(C) (714) 470-8734  
sonal.shah@jaincenter.net

Vijay Shah  
(C) (714) 496-8533  
vijay.shah@jaincenter.net

**PAST PRESIDENT**
Dr. Jayesh Shah  
(H) (626) 357-9888  
jayesh.shah@jaincenter.net

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

FROM E.C.
Virendra Shah*  
hemendra.doshi@jaincenter.net
Narendra Maniar*  
vipul.udani@jaincenter.net
Ashok Savla  
(H) (626) 287-6560  
asok.savla@jaincenter.net
Dr. Jaswant Modi  
(C) (213) 999-7011  
jaswant.modi@jaincenter.net
Kantilal Shah  
(H) (949) 459-8299  
kantilal.shah@jaincenter.net
Munubhai Shah  
(H) (714) 279-0279  
manu.shah@jaincenter.net
Prafulla Shah  
(C) (562) 576-2097  
pfaffula.shah@jaincenter.net
Yogesh Shah  
(H) (714) 936-5300  
yogesh.shah@jaincenter.net

**JCYC DIRECTOR**
Sailesh Jain  
(H) (714) 529-5874  
saileshjain@aol.com

**JCYC PRESIDENTS**
Rushabh Doshi  
(562) 884-7878  
rushabh1999@gmail.com
Sanam Chekuri  
(714) 423-9860  
sanamchekuri@gmail.com

**JAIN SENIOR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT**
Kantilal Shah  
(H) (949) 459-8299  
kantilal.shah@jaincenter.net

**RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE CHAIR**
Dr. Mahendra Shah  
(H) (714) 369-8701  
mahendra.shah@jaincenter.net

**MAHAVIR MAHILA MANDAL PRESIDENT**
Padmaben Shah  
(H) (714) 670-7854

**JAIN STUDY GROUP**
Prashant Shah  
prashant127@gmail.com

**JAIN ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG ADULTS (JAYA)**
Vipin Vadecha  
(H) (909) 861-2677

To make any general announcements to all members or to request a change of address, please send a message to jaincenter@hotmail.com.

**Temple Hours of Operation**
Monday to Friday: 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.