



V EERAYATAN
compassion in action

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2017



TALKING POINT

Jainsim & Science

by Acharya Shri Chandanaji Maharaj

Jainism is a science. There is nothing like Jainism and Science, Jain philosophy itself is total science. To know is not a belief – it is a science. To believe, however, requires faith. For instance, we know that there is a sun, we do not say that we have a belief there in a sun, we just know it. In Jainism, it is said that foremost you should know yourself.

Jain philosophy says that there are 6 dravyas (substances) – 5 of these are Ajive (or non living) and 1 is Jive (or living). To us ajive and jive seem like one. Just as milk and water are separate, to us they seem to be one. However, to know that the living is different from the non-living, to make effort to know the nature of each is true Jainism. Each is separate but we cannot distinguish between them – but to come to know that they are distinct, to understand this, and to accept that they are different – this is the truth underpinning Jainism.

Not to eat this or that, to do penances, to restrict what work one can do or not do, all this is not Jainism. These are the methods, this is the discipline. Discipline is something different from the principle. The principle does not change. The foremost principle of Jainism is non-violence and this is sacrosanct. To respect every living being is a must, protecting nature is a must, if you want to survive. The reason for this is that to be

able to live we take things from others, and if in the process of taking we are cruel and harsh, then in return even nature will be harsh towards us resulting in unhappiness for us. However, if we live our lives through disseminating love and harmony, there will be no resulting sadness and, more importantly, even nature will respect us. This is not a belief – this is science. Actually this understanding and knowledge is the very foundation for our life. How will we attain bliss, how can we survive without harming others (and self) – this is Jainism. If you maintain a good relationship with every part of the universe, then the universe will reciprocate this love – this is the eternal truth of the universe. We are a very small part of this world and we need to understand what type of connection we should have with this world – to foster that love, that respect and knowing the interdependence of life. Understand and know your true nature – this is indeed the essence of Jain philosophy.

To summarise:

- The world exists in its own way.
- You are part of the universe, not a distinct unrelated entity.
- You should respect all if you want to live peacefully in this world. True protection of self and others is through love and friendship, not through causing harm.
- To know your nature and your connection with this world is Jain philosophy.
- And Jain philosophy is nothing else than a science.

A QUIET MOMENT

Meaning of Yoga according to Jain Philosophy?

by Acharya Shri Chandanaji Maharaj

There are two differing interpretations of the meaning of the word Yoga:

The first is that put forward by Patanjali Rishi in his world renowned text Yoga Darshan. Here Patanjali Rishi interprets the meaning of yoga as being stopping one's mind from being active, that is achieving a state where there is a cessation of thoughts and action (Nivrutti) and retreating in to one's inner self.

The second interpretation is that of Acharya Hemchandra, who has stated that in Jain philosophy yoga means activity (Pravrutti) of 3 types:

- a. Activity of mind – Mana yoga
- b. Activity of speech – Vachan yoga
- c. Activity of body – Kaya yoga

According to Patanjali Rishi, one needs to stop thoughts and move inwards. However, one has to also recognize that the cessation of the activities of mind, speech and body does not in itself lead to immediate inner peace and tranquility as our mental state remains disturbed due to the effect of the kashayas (passions of anger, greed, ego, deceit) which are within us. Just as we cannot control the

wind, in the same way we cannot control our thoughts which remain free and take us here and there and everywhere in the shortest of moments.

Acharya Hemachandra has therefore concluded that true spiritual practice is not to stop our thoughts, but instead to focus on getting rid of the negativities, the vices which are within us. It is the negative actions which we do as a result of the fruition of our kashayas which gives rise to new karmas. We have to stop yoga of this negative type and rid ourselves of these negativities. Mind, speech and body are only a conduit but ones which can take us either to bliss (moksha) or to hell. They are the vehicles to cross the ocean. So how can we even talk about quieting these activities? No, it is their very nature – mind's nature is to think, body's nature is to act and speech's action is to speak.

Can we ever stop our thoughts? Can we stop the wind? Just as we cannot get rid of the wind, so our thoughts, our speech and our bodily actions cannot be stopped.

The speech and words directed at us by others, who is it that is taking heed of these words and accepting them? It is the kashayas within us which are attracted by and hold on to these words, will not forget them and then lead us to react to what was said by the other person. Just as the camera captures a photo, in the same way our kashayas capture that which we see and hear. It is important to remember that we should try not to keep these resulting imprints stored inside us. We need to keep ourselves 'light' and vigilant. Then when we see or hear something, there will be clarity rather than negativity. Otherwise



even during meditation, we will visualise and recall only the negativities residing within us.

So what should our yoga be? According to Jain philosophy, there are 4 types of dhyana - Artha, Raudra, Dharma and Shukla. In each of these 4 types of dhyana, there is an intensity of focus and concentration directed in a certain way.

Artha dhyana - Here the concentration is inward looking, focusing on looking at ourselves and on the unhappiness and sadness we are experiencing which arise from our own actions and perceptions. We have forgotten our true nature and our self respect. Why accept negativities directed at us by others and make ourselves unhappy? One day spend time to reflect from morning until night and observe what happens inside you if someone insults you. Who is connecting with this insult? No one else but you! The person has not forced this insult on to you! It is up to you whether you want to receive and ingest this insult. It is open to you to refuse! For instance, if you go to the market and there you see a lot of unneeded items for sale, do these items end up in your home without effort? No, not unless you take the step to buy them and bring them home, which only you can do.

In the very same way you are standing in this worldly market- when sadness comes in then consider who has 'bought' this. Remember it does not come free, it requires 'money'. Our normal reaction is to listen to what has come our way, think about it, reflect on it and make it into something 'juicy' and then store it within you. This is just waste of energy!

This is artha dhyana where the intense concentration is directed on yourself and your needs.

Raudra Dhyana - On the other hand the focus of raudra dhyana is on blaming others or external things. He did this, he did that, he did not do this, he does not listen, it is hot, so cold, so much sun, so much rain, such peoplethe list is endless. Those who become saddened by looking at others is raudra dhyana. There is no passion to do any good work, just to keep on complaining

and only on thinking about how to put others down. If Duryadhan had not had this intense concentration of raudra dhyana, then he would not have been empowered to humiliate Draupadi.

Dharma Dhyana - To see good in this world and appreciate all is to nurture dharma dhyana. If our concentration is on looking at what is good in the world, have a desire to be part of this goodness and try to walk on this path of goodness - all these are dharma dhyana.

Shukla Dhyana - All the negativities, the goodness is all within you, not outside. This is reality. Everything externally is neither good nor bad. It is how you conceive everything. Everything is so transparent; there is no distinction between inside and outside. This is shukla dhyana and arises only after keval gyan is achieved.

To achieve both worldly bondage and liberation, requires intense concentration and focus. In our spiritual practices we need to move away from artha dhyana and raudra dhyana and move towards dharma dhyana. Shukla dhyana is still too distant for us. We cannot still discriminate between good or bad. All we can endeavor to do is to work on this and ensure we do not spend this precious human existence spending a lifetime collecting - through the yoga of mind, speech and body - only garbage rather than that which is good and wholesome.

In our conduct we should endeavor to disengage from all negative activities: we should not harm anyone; we should not hurt anyone; we should not cause damage; we should not put anyone into difficulties; we should not cheat anyone. We can stay silent or stay away but we should certainly not harm anyone. Can we eradicate the thorns in this world? No we cannot, but we can strive not to get affected by the thorns by taking support from spiritual practices and to move forward.

There are only two points where you can get hurt from thorns - on your feet for which the solution is to wear shoes or in your heart for which you need to wear the shoes of dharma dhyana. To strive towards this should be our yoga.....



DROP OF NECTAR

Exuding Nectar of a Saint

by Upadhyaya Shri Amarmuniji Maharaj

A saint was travelling, completely absorbed within himself. On the way, he met a shepherd who said, 'Oh Saint, ahead on this very path resides a most venomous cobra. Not only human beings but also other animals including birds are petrified by his furious hissing and have died as a result. I would advise you to take an alternative path.' The fearless saint, completely ignoring this warning, without any hesitation continued walking on the same path in silence and with a firm determination to change the vicious cobra's nature into love.

The Saint approached the cobra's burrow. The cobra, sensing his presence, immediately emerged and started hissing angrily upon seeing the saint. The cobra was curious to find out who this person was who had no fear of death. Anger raged within the cobra and he dug his fangs deep into the

Saint's foot. The Saint, however, remained calm and exuded nectar, a powerful antidote to the cobra's anger. The battle between nectar and poison continued but at last the nectar conquered the poison. The cobra realized the tyranny of his action and repented, retreating back into his burrow.

After that day, the cobra did not attack or kill anybody even though he himself was subjected to harass. Remaining calm and following the example of the Saint he too strived to exude nectar and progress on this spiritual path.

The Saint was none other than Bhagwan Mahavir whose mission was to convert vices into love. The one, who has no hatred within sees no hatred outside. This encounter is but the smallest example of the boundless power of His soul.

PUJYA ACHARYA SHRI CHANDANAJI MAHARAJ'S INSPIRATIONAL VISIT TO THE UK

Pujya Acharya Shri Chandanaji, the epitome of compassion, is an exceptional personality within the Jain community who has touched thousands of lives worldwide and continues to do so. Jains in the UK were fortunate to have the presence of Pujya Acharya Shriji (together with Pujya Sadhvi Sampragyaji and Pujya Sadhvi Sanghamitrajii) in April 2017 for a 10-day visit during which time various spiritual activities were organised.





Weekend Shibir

Nearly one hundred adults gathered at the two-day shibir (or spiritual retreat) to listen to Acharya Shriji who lucidly explained one of the most important Jain scriptures, the Kalpasutra written by Acharya Bhadrabahu, which depicts the lives of various Tirthankaras. Acharya Shriji's unique insights into, and understanding of, Mahavir Bhagwan's life made this an exceptional and thought provoking shibir. Acharya Shriji explained that we must not see the incidents occurring in Mahavir Bhagwan's life as being just stories. Rather we should think more deeply about His conduct and it is this conduct which needs to become an inspiration for us all. It was interesting to note Bhagwan Mahavir's spiritual journey started in his former life as Naysar - through the act of selfless giving of alms to the monks who were wandering in the forest. Mahavir Bhagwan loved all, irrespective of the nature of their conduct - including murderers, people who abused or tortured Him, nature, animals, plants etc.

Acharya Shriji presented her unique understanding of Raag (attachment) and Dwesh (hatred). She emphasised that we should certainly get rid of and distance ourselves from all hatred within and around us. However, she went on to say that Raag can be positive and can be what leads us to liberation. She explained that the relationship between Mahavir Bhagwan and Gautam Swami was built on love and attachment. Gautam Swami had so much love for Bhagwan and was not prepared to detach himself from Bhagwan despite knowing that liberation could not result whilst there was this continuing attachment. If we were in Gautam Swami's shoes, what would we choose to do?

During the shibir Sadhvi Sampragyaji taught all the participants the Gruha Shanti Stotra (written by Acharya Bhadrabahu) including the meaning of the prayer, whilst Sadhvi Sanghamitraji mesmerized all by her amazing singing.

Alongside the main shibir there was a children's shibir (run by volunteers and ex-students of the Shri Chandana Vidyapeeth Jain School) based on Acharya Shriji's life and her values. Children had an opportunity to talk to Acharya Shriji and Sadhvi Sanghamitraji went through Mahavir Bhagwan's life with them. The younger children presented a poster depicting Acharya Shriji's life and talked about her values which they thoughtfully summarised:

A = Acharyaji
 C = Compassion
 H = Humility
 A = Amazing
 R = Reliable
 Y = You are Devoted
 A = Awesome
 J = Joyous
 I = Independent

The group of older children developed a quiz and tested the adults on how much they knew about Acharya Shriji.

In all it was a truly stimulating and spiritually rewarding weekend for all!



Mahavir Janma Kalyanak Celebrations

The UK Jain community were very fortunate to celebrate Mahavir Janma Kalyanak in the presence of Acharya Shriji. The children and adults of Shri Chandana Vidyapeeth Jain School depicted the story of Mahavir Bhagwan's birth. We were transported back in time to over 2,500 years ago to the beautiful surroundings in which Mahavir Bhagwan was born. The glorious attire, the joy, gratitude and humility experienced by all present at this auspicious event – including King Siddharta, Queen Trishala, Maid Sarika and Indra Bhagwan – came across so vividly during the performance. The 14 dreams as relayed by the little children was simply stunning accompanied by the wonderful singing of Kaushikbhai Khajuria. The Namotthunam Sutra celebrating the birth was recited in such melodious voices and the song, A Man for all the People, composed by one of the teachers at the Jain School was sung beautifully by the children with so much bhav!

This was followed by a talk by Acharya Shriji and divine bhakti by Sadhvi Sanghamitraji.



Visit to Manchester

Following the programme in North London, Acharya Shriji then travelled to Manchester for a few days during which time morning meditation and swadhyaya (discourse) sessions and evening lecture sessions were held. The meditation led by Acharya Shriji was profound.

In one of the morning sessions Acharya Shriji spoke of the 4 Dhyanas (concentration), which is unique to Jain religion. The first two Dhyanas are 'artha' and 'raudra' Dhyana, which both concentrate on negative aspects of life – either in you or in others. The aim of our daily existence has to be to recognise this and to move away from this negativity and move towards 'dharma' Dhyana, that is, seeing good in others and concentrating on what is good.

Acharya Shriji informed the Manchester Samaj of the outstanding work which has been done by Veerayatan in the field of Seva, Shiksha and Sadhana in the last forty five years both in India and internationally and also detailed current projects.

The heart warming welcome received in Manchester was just amazing!

Visit to South London

Acharya Shriji together with Sadhvi Shri Sampragyaji and Sadhvi Shri Sanghamitraji also travelled to South London. On Saturday 15 April, about 80 people attended an excellent Swadhyaya session where Acharya Shriji gave clarity on being a Jain today in our conflicting lifestyle. Her key focus was on Bhagwan Mahavir's life stories and teachings, but adapting them to be meaningful to us today. We then enjoyed Sadhvi Shri Sanghamitraji's sweet harmony of stavans in many different languages, leaving us inspired to face life's challenges, the Jain way. We were also privileged to have a morning meditation session with Acharya Shriji on Sunday 16 April.

Acharya Shriji's visit to the UK was, everyone agreed, long overdue and everyone was of the view that she should now be a regular visitor to these shores to assist with our spiritual progress.



WHAT'S HAPPENING ACROSS THE GLOBE?

Veerayatan Global

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer Programme 29 July to 10 August in Rajgir, Bihar

An excellent not-to-be-missed opportunity to do voluntary work in Rajgir with Veerayatan, a leading NGO in India. The two-week programme will aid your self-development and assist you with your further education applications and opportunities. The perfect way to start the summer!

Participants (age 15-22yrs) will be international with a limit on numbers for each program to maximise the benefits for those enrolling. The dates for this first program are 29 July to 10 August 2017. Processing of applications has already commenced.

For further details, please contact:

Kenya: Bharat Doshi: bdoshi@ashbgroup.com

UK and India: Rita Shah: ritashah01@gmail.com

USA: Punita Shah: punita.shah@veerayatan-intl.org

Veerayatan Kutch

HIGHLIGHTS

All the students are busy with exams right now. We are pleased to inform that Meet Haria, BBA (Bachelor of Business Administration) student from Veerayatan Institute of Management and Computer Applications, will be awarded a Gold medal for the overall best student in Kutch University. The award will be presented in October 2017. Well done and congratulations!

Veerayatan Palitana

HIGHLIGHTS

We are delighted to announce that Tirthankar Mahavir Vidya Mandir in Palitana will be opening on 8 June with classes initially running from standard 1 to standard 4. Three weeks training of the teachers has already completed conducted by expert teachers from the Veerayatan Education Committee including Kanan Parikh, a teacher, Meera Jasani and Punita Jaswa, retired teachers, Bayjool Desai, a child psychologist and Dr. Pinky Jain, an educationalist working at University of Worcester in the United Kingdom. Around 20 teachers from Palitana and Osian have been trained. The aim of the teacher training was to build up the teaching team before the school starts in June, communicating to the teachers the ethos of the school and training them on using a unique way of teaching, that is moving away from didactic teaching and making the teaching child-centric. For these teachers, this is a completely new way of teaching, something which is being instilled at all levels. The teacher trainers were also involved in establishing educational systems within the school and reviewing the teachers' subject knowledge base. The aim is also to bring in UK based teaching standards with teachers being made responsible to comply with the standards and establishing reporting mechanisms to ensure quality. Reviewing teachers and teaching will be done on a 3 monthly basis so that teachers are further trained depending on their knowledge and skills gaps. It is hoped that the Palitana School will form a blueprint for other schools that are being planned in the future, and that, in particular, the training of teachers will lead to and support the more widespread aim of improving teaching standards in areas of deprivation.



Recruited teachers with teacher trainers

Veerayatan Sanchore and Osian

HIGHLIGHTS

We are pleased to announce that the Tirthankar Mahavir Vidya Mandir in Sanchore, Rajasthan was inaugurated, on 28 April and the school in Osian, Rajasthan is being currently refurbished. The aim is for both the schools to open in June with intake of children from the nearby area. We look forward to giving you more information in the forthcoming newsletters.



Veerayatan Nepal

HIGHLIGHTS

In the presence of Pujya Acharya Shri Chandanaji Maharaj, the Chief Guest Dr. Prakash Sharan Mahat, the Foreign Minister of Nepal, inaugurated a non-profit NGO Veerayatan Nepal on 20 May 2017. Established with the three-fold objectives of seva, shiksha and sadhna, the NGO is affiliated with Veerayatan International.

The welcome address was given by Shri Bachraj Tated, the President of Veerayatan Nepal, followed by a speech by General Secretary Shri Vinod Sethia about Veerayatan's much acclaimed philanthropic activities going on worldwide for the past 46 years. The earthquake-affected children presented the song 'Man Ka Manav' while one student, Manoj, recited the shlokas of the Tattvarth Sutra and Sabin, another student, delivered a moving speech which brought tears to everyone's eyes. These children have been supported by Veerayatan INGO (International Non-Governmental Organisation) and a permanent structure has now been planned by Veerayatan Nepal to support hundreds of such children. The programme continued with the heart rending speech of Sadhvi Shri Shilapiji, under the guidance of whom the organisation is planning to transform the lives of deprived children with the highest standards of value-based education without discrimination as to caste, race, religion, gender or otherwise.

The Chief Guest Dr. Mahat praised the activities of Veerayatan International and was overwhelmed by the skills presented by the earthquake-affected children of Veerayatan Nepal. The programme concluded with the blessings of Acharya Shriji. The function was graced with the presence of Pujya Shri Manibhadraji Maharaj and Shramni Nideshika Charitra Pragyaaji. Attended by prominent citizens, the programme was managed by Mr. K.N. Modi as patron and sponsored by Shri Radheshyam Saraf, Chairman of Hotel Yak & Yeti.

Veerayatan Kenya

HIGHLIGHTS

Seva work in Kenya by SCVP children: Feeding programme

Seven children aged 11 and above and two adults accompanied the Rotarian Club to give breakfast to the less fortunate children in Nairobi. It all happened on the Nairobi Show grounds on 25 February. Our children had a lot of enthusiasm to go there early on that cold Saturday morning. As soon as we reached there, the children helped to arrange the food bag, which consisted of a packet of milk, banana, biscuits and a bun. About 5000 children, some disabled, were given food. Our children helped to distribute the food bags and in between, they also made conversation with these children. Yet, one thing surely lit up our hearts - the ever-smiling faces of the children who received the food bags! Our children reflected on how content these children were with such a simple breakfast and got them thinking. They now appreciate all the food they get daily. It has also made them aware of the value of sharing food and the possessions that they have. What a great way to follow the footsteps of Mahavir Swami!

Visit to a children's home, Dada Centre

An afternoon well spent putting smiles on the children! The SCVP children, parents and teachers gathered up all the shoes and books for the library, donated generously by our community, and visited the children's home on 7 May. The shoes were donated to all the children in the home and the books were presented along with a cupboard to store these library books. It was lovely to observe children reading storybooks to each other, singing songs and dancing. And SCVP treated the children with ice cream and cup cakes. What an amazing experience for all!



Visit to a children's home, Dada Centre



Exhibition on transforming lives and communities

Exhibition on transforming lives and communities

Young Jains Nairobi took part in the exhibition on transforming lives and communities organised by the Asian Foundation from 12 to 14 May. Young Jains displayed SCVP activities portraying how lives are being transformed at SCVP, the Cerebral Palsy Unit and the support the children are receiving, the water project and a few other projects that have taken place over 20 years. A lot of effort and creativity was put together to make the exhibit stand out in a unique way and to create awareness to the public at large of the charities that Young Jains supports.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Paryushan

The festival of forgiveness shall be celebrated from 18-25 August, at Oshwal Centre whereby English Pratikraman will be conducted in the evenings. A children's camp is also being organised during the eight days of the festival..

For more details on the above, please contact:
Leenaben Shah: leena@insightconsultancy.net
Ritaben Sanghrajka: ritasanghrajka@hotmail.com

HIGHLIGHTS

BLESSINGS FROM ACHARYA SHRIJI

First SCVP couple - Anooj and Chandni



We are happy to announce that two ex-students of SCVP Jain School in UK, Anooj Dodhia and Chandni Mehta, are engaged to get married next year. Both Anooj and Chandni have made a great contribution to the school and still continue to do so always making themselves available to support our activities despite busy work schedules. Acharya Shriji gave her blessings to the couple.



Meera receives the prestigious Wellcome Trust Clinical Fellowship

We are happy to announce that Rohitbhai Mehta's daughter Dr Meera Mehta, one of the first graduates of SCVP in UK, has been awarded a clinical fellowship to conduct research into new therapies for tuberculosis (TB). Heartiest congratulations to Meera. Acharya Shriji was very interested in learning more about the research Meera is doing and gave her blessings.

Kajal wins the Churchill Fellowship

Kajal Sanghrajka, one of the first graduates of SCVP in UK and Navinbhai Sanghrajka's daughter, was recently awarded the 2017 Churchill Fellowship in the category of Enterprise. She is travelling within North America and Europe to research diverse entrepreneurial ecosystems. Her special focus is on how cities attract, integrate and accelerate the success of immigrant entrepreneurs. Kajal's work is unique within the Jain community and we applaud her efforts in carrying out this research.



SCVP NORTH LONDON

Annual Family Fun Day

The level of passion, energy, vibrancy and colour of the SCVP African themed "Hakuna Matata" Fun Day in March enthralled the record number of people who attended the event. There was delicious homemade mouth-watering dishes, lively African drumming and singing and lots of activities. Everyone enjoyed the fun activities organised and run by the children who along with their parents and teachers displayed wonderful qualities of selfless volunteering to ensure all the guests had a great time and help raise funds both for SCVP school and for the Cerebral Palsy unit in Kenya.

SCVP SOUTH LONDON

SCVP South London comprises of a small group of adults who meet every Saturday morning for Swadhyaya to read, understand and debate Jain texts in context of the modern world. This activity has been made possible by Prakashbhai Patalia's commitment and a dedicated study support from Dr. Harshadbhai Sanghrajka and our teachers. These classes have made a positive impact on our lives. Under the banner of "One Jain" we have formed a Jain Education Team with the Institute of Jainology with a brief to propagate the teachings of the Jain faith. As part of this initiative, a course entitled "Understanding Jainism" was conducted in South London during March/April 2017. Overall, about 60 people attended, of which 35 people were awarded a Certificate of Attendance, for attending four or more of the 6 sessions. An Interfaith Forum in London entitled "Exploring insights into existential questions based on science and religion" was held on 23 April where Dr. Harshadbhai Sanghrajka spoke on the Jain perspective and this was well received.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SCVP North London activities:

Samayik on 23 June – Come and join us for this wonderful event where everyone in the family – children, parents and grandparents - take part and understand the ritual of Samayik, all explained in English.

Pratikraman in English during all 8 days of Paryushan (18 August to 25 August 2017). A novel way of delivering Pratikraman so that people from all ages really understand the essence of and feel able to participate in this amazing ritual of forgiveness.

Forest walks in conjunction with Young Jains, UK

- On Sunday 25 June starting at 11am: Ivinghoe Beacon/Ashridge Walk
- On Sunday 23 July starting at 11am: Trent Park Walk
- On Sunday 13 August starting at 11am; Potters Bar Walk

For more information on UK activities:

North London:

Email: veerayatanuk@gmail.com

Telephone: Nilesh Kothari: +44 7718580596 | Pramit Shah: +44 7979536456

SCVP South London activities:

12 August: A workshop on an overview of Pratikraman Ritual at Oshwal Association UK, South Area

13 August: A workshop on an insight into Paryushan Parva at Navnat Centre, Hayes

19 – 26 August: Morning and evening lectures at Navnat Centre, Hayes

19 August: A workshop for children at Navnat Centre, Hayes

20 August: Lectures on an overview of Gunasthanaks and importance of Samyak Darshan at Oshwal Association UK, Northampton

18, 20, 23 August: Essence of Pratikraman (in English) at Oshwal Association UK, South Area.

South London:

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Veerayatan USA

UPCOMING EVENTS

It is our great joy and pleasure to share that along with Pujya Acharya Shri Chandanaji, Sadhvi Vibhaji, Sadhvi Shilapji and Sadhvi Sanghamitrajaji will be participating in the JAINA Convention on the week beginning July 4, in New Jersey, USA. There will be a day and a half of various interesting presentations and activities by Veerayatan dignitaries. Our Veerayatan President, Dr. Abhaybhai Firodia, has been invited as the keynote speaker. We are also planning to have a booth, which will display all the present and future projects of Veerayatan. Please make sure to stop by at our booth for all the updates on Veerayatan projects and to have blessings of Acharya Shriji and the Sadhvijis.

In honor of our Sadhvi Sanghamitrajaji's five years of Diksha, San Francisco Jain Centre is hosting a three-day event on July 14, 15 and 16. This centre had also hosted

the "Badi Diksha" celebration of Sadhvi Sanghamitrajaji five years ago. It was the very first Jain "Diksha Celebration" in the history of USA and people from all over the country had attended to witness this grand event. The centre is now planning to have Bhakti Sangya on Friday evening (July 14), on Saturday (July 15) there will be the grand finale with a cultural program, taking of five vows of Diksharthi and a procession (Vargodho) and on Sunday (July 16) there will be the "Aarshi Vaanchan" by Acharya Shriji. This is an event that should not be missed. If you are in the area, please take advantage of this opportunity.

Programs have also been planned in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, Houston, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

For further details, please contact: Punita Shah at punita.shah@veerayatan-intl.org



Contact Us

For more information and for further contact details, please visit www.veerayatan.org

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