

## JVB International Reflections...



Lord Mahaveer

Volume 4 Issue 1



Acharya Mahashraman

#### JVB Orlando

Samani Bhavit Pragya Samani Sangha Pragya www.jainvishwabharati.org

#### **JVB Houston**

Samani Parimal Pragya Samani Amit Pragya www.jvbhouston.org

### <u>JVB New Jersey</u>

Samani Sanmati Pragya Samani Jayant Pragya www.jvbnj.org

## FIU, Miami

Samani Chaitanya Pragya Samani Unnat Pragya

## आचार्य महाश्रमण का अमृत महोत्सव पर संदेश

जन्म लेना सृष्टि की सामान्य घटना है। इसमे कोई विशेषता वाली बात नही लगती। हर प्राणी जन्म लेता है।

करीब ४९ वर्ष पूर्व मै जन्मा। परम पूज्य गुरुदेव तुलसी और परम पूज्य आचार्य महाप्रज्ञ का गरिमामय साया मुझे प्राप्त हुआ। अब मै ५० वे वर्ष में प्रवेश करने जा रहा हूं। इस प्रसंग को लेकर अमृत महोत्सव वर्ष मनाया जा रहा है। इसमें मुख्य कार्यक्रम 'ज्ञान, दर्शन, चारित्र, तप और वीर्य' इस पंचाचार के विकास का है। साधना में मेरी रुचि है। मै चाहता हूं -

मेरे पूरे धर्मसंघ में साधना का विकास हो। साधना के दो आयाम है -

- १. कषाय (क्रोध, मान, माया और लोभ) का मंदीकरण
- २. निर्धारित आचार के प्रति जागरकता।

मैं चाहता हूं - मेरा धर्मसंघ अध्यात्म के विकास की दिशा में आग बढे। साध्वीप्रमुखा कनकप्रभाजी, श्रध्देय मंत्री मुनिश्री सुमेरमलजी स्वामी, मुख्य नियोजिका साध्वी विश्रुतविभाजी आदि सभी साधु - साध्वियों का पराक्रम सुफल बने और धर्मसंघ द्वारा आयोजित अमृत महोत्सववर्ष निष्पत्तिमूलक बने, शुभाशंसा।

आचार्य महाश्रमण

## <u>Highlights</u> <u>of this issue:</u>

आचार्य महाश्रमण संदेश

NOT TO BE MISSED

# DRAUPADI PLAY



News - JVB Orlando

News - JVB Houston

News - JVB New Jersey

News-FIU, Miami





# जियो-जियो वर्ष हजार...

आचार्य महाश्रमण के जन्मोत्सव पर हर तरफ झलका उत्साह





## New from JVB Orlando

## Akshay Tritiya Celebration April 28th, 2012

With great enthusiasm and spiritual Sangh celebrated Akshay Tritiya tural program on the 28th of April The program began with Mangal from Devang Chitalia. There after presentation which included skits. ma on Bhagwan Rishabha's life stobe a very popular presentation Bhavit Pragyaji gave a message on mani Sangha Pragyaji handled a highly applauded by the attendees. place between 2:00 – 5:30 pm and

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vigor, the JVB of Orlando program and its annual culat the Orlando JVB center. Geet and welcome message the kids presented their The adults performed a drary. This drama turned out to throughout the day. Samani "the power of penance". Saquiz competition which was The culture program took involved people from various

places such as Tampa, Vero Beach, West Palm Beach, Jacksonville, Melbourne, Daytona Beach, as well as around Orlando. Finally, a vote of thanks was given by Ashok Shah and the program concluded after a Swamivatsalya. In honor of Amrit Mahotsav, the quiz competition was held.







#### 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Preksha Meditation Camp

January 13-15, 2012

"In Search of Peace", the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Preksha Meditation Camp of Jain Vishwa Bharati was held at Altamonte Springs, Florida. About 100 devotees including 30 youth and children from Orlando, Tampa, Miami, Ocala,



Vero Beach, Jupiter, Jacksonville, North Carolina, etc. participated in the camp. Four learned Samanijis, disciples of Acharya Mahashraman, from Orlando and Miami led this camp. Under the leadership of Samani Bhavit Pragyaji and her infectious powerful voice, the Samanijis touched the souls of adults, youth, and children. The camp was divided into three groups – Adults, Youth, and Children; and each group received a lecture by one Samaniji at a time. The series of lectures started with an enlightening lecture by Samani Bhavit Pragyaji on the 'Search of Peace'- with inspirational thoughts. Programs during the camp included daily sessions of Yoga, Meditation, Relaxation, and lectures on various life related topics. All the lectures were presented as PowerPoint presentations by Samanis Bhavit Pragyaji, Chaitanya Pragyaji, Sangh Pragyaji, and Unnat Pragyaji as well as Mumukshu Sheetal. The audio-visual presentations were received very enthusiastically by the camp attendees. On Sunday, at the closing of the camp, everyone claimed the camp to be highly beneficial and fulfilling --to them.

#### **In and Around Orlando**

#### Jupiter - Vero Beach

18-19 February, 2012

Samanis Bhavit Pragyaji and SanghPragyaji conducted a lecture session at Jupiter and Vero Beach on the topic, 'Right Vision is needed for Spirituality'. The lecture was enjoyed by the audience. The Samanijis were also invited by the Jain Society of Central Florida, Orlando to deliver religious discourses.

#### **Liberal Catholic Church**

The Samanijis visited the Catholic Church and had a provocative talk on 'Peace of Mind'. The pastor and other Americans were overwhelmed by the Samanijis' presence. The church appreciated

their chanting as they felt positive energy, peace, and harmony within the church. Thanks to Andrea Drake for making all the arrangements for the visit.



#### **Rollins College**

Samaniji addressed the students of Rollins College at the JVB center. The students were very appreciative of Samaniji's enlightening and uplifting talk.

#### **Farewell**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, a farewell program in honor of Tushar Shah was held at the JVB center. Tushar Shah is a well learned Jain shravak who has moved back to Mumbai, India to be with his parents. The event was very successful.

#### **Prayer Assembly**

A prayer assembly was held at the JVB center on April 7 in the memory of late Gunial ben, grandmother of Avaniben Shah. Samaniji lectured and wrote a special song which was very inspirational and motivational on this occasion.

## Mahavir Jayanti In Columbia, Greenville, Charlotte, and Jacksonville March 30 – April 2, 2012

Samani Bhavit Pragyaji and Samani Sangh Pragyaji were invited on the auspicious occasion of Mahavir Jayanti to the places above. More than 150 people gathered for the programs. Samani Bhavit Pragyaji explained the principles of Lord Mahavir, especially non-violence in day to day life. She emphasized on the development of compassion, love, and equanimity as these are powerful tools to make one's life purposeful, progressive, and productive. Samani Sangh Pragyaji asked people to try and develop the power of mind, body, and speech as Mahavir had. The program included a small skit on the life of Mahavir performed by Gyanshala children and a few presentations. The entire program was inspiring and well received.

#### Charlotte

The Samanijis were invited by the Hindu Society at the **Hindu Temple of Charlotte**. The program was attended by 700 people including doctors, engineers, medical professors, and accountants. Samani Bhavit Pragyaji lectured on a 'Bright Lifestyle' which was highly beneficial to all.

#### Jacksonville

On April 8<sup>th</sup>, the Samanijis delivered lectures to the Jacksonville Jain Center on topics of 'Self Realization'. On the auspicious occasion of Mahavir Jayanti, the children demonstrated their presentation in various styles. Everyone benefited from this event which was enjoyed by all.





## News from JVB Houston

#### Quarterly workshop at JVB - "Diabetes Management" held on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012

JVB along with India Culture Center and Sava International conducted workshops on "Diabetes Management". The principal speaker was Glenda M Trejo, gave a very informative speech about diabetes. Samani Parimal Pragya ji said, In today's high demanding fast and pressure filled society the statistics related to diseases such high blood pressure, heart disease, depression, obesity, diabetes and many more, have been increasing at an alarming rate. Changing life-style, diet, stress, lack of sleep, rank very high in the list of possible causes. If you manage stress and include healthy diet and life-style, chances are very good you will keep diabetes and other serious diseases at bay. For diabetes free life one should learn to live in present, meditate, practice kayotsarg, chant mantra and breathing exercise and so on.

#### Transform Yourself – JVB conducts 12<sup>th</sup> Annual 3 day Family Retreat

JVB Houston conducted a 3-day and 2-night Family Retreat Camp at calm and scenic 66-acre facility Camp Woodmen, Bellville, TX from April 6nd through April 8th 2012. The camp was attended by over 100 people - comprised of families from all over Texas. The theme of this camp was inspired by Acharya Mahapragya's recently released book — Transform Yourself. Samanijis Parimal Pragya ji & Amit Pragya ji lead an interactive program which included multiple lectures/presentations on achieving personal transformation. The daily program was initiated by chanting the Bhaktambar Strotra, Yoga & Preksha Meditation which provided participants with energy for the rest of that day. Samanijis presented their thoughts via



multiple discourses, namely "Where Does the Real Beauty Lie", "Tips to Transform Yourself", "Nurture your soul", "Understand your mind".

#### Ahimsa Diwas celebration - 29th April



JVB Houston celebrated Mahavir Jayanti, Akshay Tritiya & Acharya Mahashraman's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday ( Amrut Mohatsav) together by the name "Ahimsa Diwas". Lead by Samanijis, programs included skit by the Gyanshala kids, Pravachan from Samani Parimal Pragyaji and a special program "Kya Banoge" designed by Samani Amit Pragyaji. Samanijis highlighted to follow and practice the preaching's of all great souls like Bhagwan Mahavir. The cultural event "Kya Banoge" quizzed the participants to come out with their thoughts on how they can improve their lives. The program concluded with Dinner.

#### Visit to Rothko Chapel

Samaniji attend the program on Rothko Chapel which there was a meditation session was scheduled. In this program Preksha meditation lessons were taught to the members. A visiting to the Chapel was a great experience and full of joy



#### Upcoming Events:

Saturday May 12th - Monthly Preksha Meditation Workshop 9 AM - 1 PM (Register)

July 16th - 20th - Annual Children's Summer Camp for Ages 4-13

(Details) (Register)Center's daily Schedule can be viewed at

http://jvbhouston.org/dailyschedule.htm







## News from JVBNA, New Jersey

#### Feb 11, 2012 – Samanijis' Welcome Program

JVB NJ organized a welcome ceremony for Samani Sanmati Pragya and Samani Jayant Pragya at American Legion Hall. On this occasion, several members including Mr. Jaychand Dugar, Mr. Virendra Jain, and Gyanshala Students expressed their joy on having Samanijis back from India.. JVB *Bhajan Group and* Puja Nahar & Viraj Kothari presented a melodious welcome song. AGM meeting also happened on this occasion. Master of ceremony was done by Kiran Nahar.

#### March 31st, 2012 – Holi Milon Program

JVBNA organized first time 'Holi Milan' Program for fostering the values of Indian festival to its memebers. Many cultures program was performed on the stage by Gyanshala kids and JVB ladies. This 'Holi Milan' was prepared on the theme of Rajasthani Folk Dance. JVB heartily appreciates Madhu Bhandari's choreographies for all Dances and Puja Jain for younger kids. On this occasion, Surendra Kankariya, the chairman, gave the oath to Newly nominated EC for 2012. After taking oath the president Ramesh Parmar welcomed addressed to all. Himansu Shah, the president of Jain Center of New Jersey, shared the information about grant opening of JCNC temple. Rakesh jain (PR of DP) presented the detail of Draupadi Play. On this occasion Samani Sanmati Pragya's pravachan was very inspirational for Jain community. MC was done by Vivek Baid, NY and Vote of thanks by Sunilji Mehata.

#### Watch Holi Milan you tube:

 $\frac{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCLOZEr5eiU,}{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1sAgqQ1WNK0} \\ \frac{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmkTJcLDfnk,}{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFxQxrnlHyc} \\ \frac{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZe0CJrFLmM,}{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qwk0Lyc95YA} \\ \frac{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qwk0Lyc95YA}{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qwk0Lyc95YA} \\ \frac{http://ww$ 



Samanijis visited other Jain Organization for Mahaveer Jayanti & more...

Cincinnati: During 2days trip, Samanijis conducted yoga, meditation, pravachan and very interesting quiz competition on Bhagavan Mahaveer.

Jain center of America, NY: Samanijis appreciated the efforts of JCA and delivered pravachan on the anniversary Sthanakwasi Gorup.

Internation Jain Sangh, NJ: With all the programs Samaniji's pravachan was very inspirational.

# NOT TO BE MISSED Upcoming

Grand Event of JVBNA
Sat, May 19-4pm-7pm

Union County Performing Art Center 1601 Irving Street, Rahway, NJ 07065

Contact; JVBNA-732-404-1430



## News - JVB Miami (Florida International University)

Jain Studies and Research conducted by Samani Dr. Chaitanya and

Samani Unnata Pragya at Florida International University, Miami

#### Dr. Deepak Jain honored Doctoral Degree by FIU

Dipak Jain, Chairman of the Jain Education & Research Foundation, received an honorary degree from the College of Arts & Sciences. Dr. Jain currently dean of INSEAD, the chairman of the Jain Education & Research Foundation, has overseen the establishment of the Bhagwan Mahavir Professorship in Jain Studies at FIU. The evening before the April 30 ceremony, Jain was welcomed to campus during a reception at the Presidential





Residence by President Mark B. Rosenberg and College of Arts & Sciences Dean Kenneth G. Furton.

#### Lecture at FAU on 'Justified Violence" by Samaniji

Noemi Marin, Director of Peace Studies, at FAU invited Samaniji for a lecture on Jain concept of violence and nonviolence. Samani Unnata Pragya delivered a lecture exploring the issue of 'Justified Violence' and its healing component solidified by the enlightenment of Bhagawan Mahavir. The lecture raised awareness and furthered the connections between different US universities to promote Jain studies.

# Mumukshu Sheetal's initiation ceremony arranged at Florida International University

The Mahavir Jayanti ceremony at FIU started off by an inimitable "Ceremony of Initiation rituals" for Mumukshu Sheetal. Jain Shravikas carried out the graceful ritual first time in history to be in US University. Mu. Sheetal received her blessing to be ordained from Acharya Shree. The event attended by the Dean, the Professors with the students were impressed by the rich Jain culture and Philoso-

phy. Followed by this Prof. John Cort presented





#### **Preksha Meditation Research Project**

Preksha Meditation pilot project research was instigated by Samaniji at FIU. Pre and post-test were taken to analyze the benefits of it. Students meditated for a full month and enjoyed the experience.