



ISSJS.2014 FINAL REPORT

The 6W participants completed their independent research and made powerful presentations. Prof. Christopher Chapple and Dr. Shugan Jain attended these presentations made by them. Mr. Lucas den Boer's paper on “Guṇaratna's Rejection of the Cārvāka Perspective on Consciousness” was judged as the best paper while Ms. Anna Sokolova's paper on “Conversion in Medieval Jain and Buddhist Chinese Literature” was adjusted as the second best paper. They will get award of US\$ 300 and \$200 respectively from Mahavir Vision Inc. USA.

The first two batches i.e. ISSJS.2014-4W and ISSJS.2014-6W have returned home after successfully completing their studies. Details of their activities were sent to you earlier.

On July 9th Prof. Chapple arrived with 15 of his MA Yoga studies students to learn Jain Yoga. There were lectures by ISSJS faculty for the first three days followed by Prof. Chapple's teaching of Yoga in Tattvarthsutra, Yogadrsti Sammuchaya, Gyanarva and Yogshastra. The group left Delhi on July 16th for two days visit to Varanasi and Bodhgaya and returned to Jaipur to continue their academic program. On return to Delhi on July 25th, they joined the school teachers for a visit to Indira Gandhi National Centre of Art where they saw a very large library of Indian art, manuscripts restoration labs, documentary on Jain culture. This was followed by a quick lunch at Shugan Jain's home followed by visit to Ac Mahashramanji. The day ended with a visit to Sanskriti museum where they saw Indian life style museums followed by a sumptuous Delhi dinner. On July 27th all participants attended The Tenth Anniversary celebration of ISSJS at India International Centre, New Delhi. The participants enjoyed Jain music, dance, lectures of government authorities and Jain monks followed by a nice Jain lunch. Details are given in a separate bulletin. The program ended with a two days meditation session with Acharya Dr. Shivmuniji on Self meditation and lectures on Preksha meditation by JVBI professor Dr. Shekhawat.

The largest group of 32 school teachers, principals, UN experts and University professors in education and non violence and educationists from USA, Canada,

Mexico and Zimbabwe arrived on July 15th. ISJS faculty delivered more than 30 hours of lectures on various aspects of Ahimsa, its roots, causes, management and its impact on behaviour in class room and outside. Most focus was on improving the commitment of teachers on self improvement and treating their students as their objective of teaching rather just students. In the afternoons, the participants (5 per day) made presentations of their own experiences as sent to ISJS earlier (prior to their arrival in India) followed by discussions amongst themselves. This activity alone added a lot of learning experience to participants as they could see the relevance of what was being taught on morning in their own environment.

The program consisted of three modules, namely

- Module 1 Fundamentals & basic philosophy of Ahimsa
- Module 2 Applications & practice of Ahimsa for peace & harmony, visits to schools
- Module 3 Ahimsa as value education in schools

Similarly visits to Jain Bharti Mrgavati School and Hira Lal Jain SS School (associated girls and co-edu schools) were of great interest as the participants could observe and interact with teachers and students later about application of Ahimsa and Anekant in actual class rooms. The participants felt the time was too short and they wished to return to the schools again.

From Delhi the participants flew to Jalgaon to visit Anubhuti schools as model public and private schools run strictly on Jain values and producing excellent students. Incidentally Jalgaon also has the most modern and well equipped Gandhi museum and library which was enjoyed by one and all.

From Jalgaon the participants went to Naval Veerayatan, a heavenly place for learning and experiencing the sheer beauty of nature. At Naval Veerayatan the participants attended lectures by experienced teachers on Rational thinking, Using art to impart value education and resolving conflicts in the class room. After an enjoyable three days visit to Naval Veerayatan (courtesy Dr. Abhay Firodia who had built this superb meditation centre) the participants an afternoon at Bharatiya Jain Sangathna headquarter where Sh. Shantilal Muttha, founder chairman, interacted with participants about their experiences and

offering his full assistance to ISJS and participants in future as well. The program ended with valedictory function and lunch hosted by Sh. Muttha.

The overall performance and experiences of both participants and ISJS management was extremely satisfying. Majority of participants expressed the program as life changing one and wish to return again for this refreshing experience.

Just for record, the participants profile is as follows:

School teachers (elementary and high school)	25
Ahimsa and Peace Consultants	4
University faculty members (Ahimsa)	3

Twenty seven participants were from USA, two from Canada, one from Mexico and two from Zimbabwe. In fact forty five participants were offered admission but financial constraints for participants from Pakistan, Uganda and Philippines and family problems for others from USA resulted in last minute cancellations.

The program owes its success to the following organizations:

- Uberoi Foundation USA for assisting CLU in promoting the program in USA.
- Shri Firodia Trust for offering Naval Veerayatan, Pune
- Shri S. G. Muttha and BJS for offering experts and hospitality in Pune
- Dr. Bhavarlal Jain of Gandhi Research Foundation Jalgaon for enabling the visit to Jalgaon
- Shri Rajkumar Jain and Shri Narendra Kumar Jain for offering Smarak guest house facilities in Delhi
- Ms. Laura Hirshfield for coordinating the afternoon activities and promoting the program in USA.

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Photo Gallery - ISSJS.2014



4W & 6W Group at Jambudweep



Yoga group performing puja at Ashtapad



Lecture by Prof. Christopher K. Chapple



Teaching for Peace group photo at BJS



Group Discussion at Naval Veerayatan



Performing puja at Vallabh Smarak