



Seminar on ‘Challenges to Jain philosophy in the modern, scientific and social context’ conducted in Udaipur



JAS in association with Dept. of Jainology, Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, Udaipur organized a seminar on ‘Challenges to Jain philosophy in the modern, scientific, social context’ conducted in Udaipur on 25th & 26th April, 2025. It was attended by about 50 scholars and 50 students. Three Round Table Meetings were held on academics and research on Jain philosophy, social issues and Jain’s contributions to Indian Heritage and history. JAS is encouraged to note that About 10 institutions Joined this seminar and some provided financial support. This was the first interaction of JAS with a university.

A Declaration was issued during the Concluding session by Dr Sushma Singhvi. The following are the high lights and recommendations of the Seminar



1. Realising that The Jain principles and lifestyle can mitigate most of the problems the world is facing today, like global warming, pollution, intolerance, violence, health issues, and there is an urgent need to prepare Scholars of high stature, who can propagate Jain principles on world platforms, and it is necessary to present Agamic knowledge in simple and logical way on all platforms globally, it is therefore recommended that the leaders of society must encourage research and academic activities by way of offering scholarships and facilities to attract young generation, by creating a virtual platform for study, exchange of ideas and publications, and make all effort to preserve Jain heritage by creating a virtual and physical Jain heritage site.
2. We need to prepare Jain scholars and send them to various institutions in India and abroad. The aim is to try to prepare 100 scholars who will publish research articles, and books on Jainism in modern context and school/ college curriculum, study the importance of Jain lifestyle, its effect on body and mind and propagate it.
3. Prove the various principles of Jainism through experiments and theory and develop them mathematically and propagate them.

4. Jain society has a wide network of Jain temples not only in the entire country but also abroad. JASn has developed a temple model with a meditation centre, knowledge centre, worship centre and social cooperation centre. Such a scheme must be implemented in one temple as a pilot project and after evaluating its impact periodically, it can be implemented in other temples, if found to be effective.

5. The contribution of Jains to history and heritage of India should be documented and attempts be made to get it included in school and college curriculum. All the scholars present in this seminar unanimously reached the conclusion that the problems are serious but various components of society, institutions etc. can resolve these three challenges together.

To implement these proposals will require cooperation of leaders of the Jain samaj, Acharyas and significant amount of funds. Academic support, volunteers willing to implement these recommendations and financial support is solicited.

JAS awards 2025 announced

JAS has honoured Dr. Prem Suman Jain with “Life Time Achievement Award-2025”, Dr. Veer Sagar Jain with “Excellence Award-2025”, and Dr. L. C. Jain with “Appreciation Award-2025”. All three are well known senior scholars and authors who have made pioneering contributions.

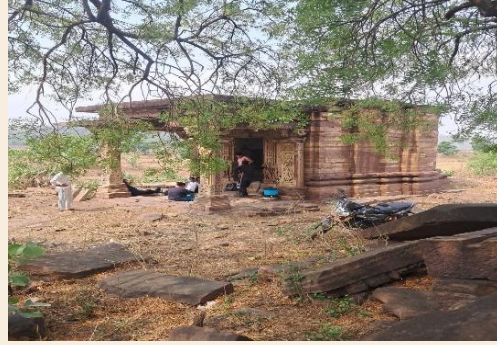
Fifth Annual General Meeting of JAS held

The Fifth Annual General Meeting of Jain Academy of Scholars was held online /offline on 25th April at M.L. Sukhadia University, Udaipur. It was attended by about 40 members. The meeting was attended by many scholars and students present during the seminar on ‘Challenges to Jain philosophy in the modern, scientific, social context’. Dr. Anil Kumar Jain chaired the meeting & Dr. Narendra Bhandari gave Presidential address. on Way forward for

JAS. The annual Progress was presented by Dr. S.S. Pokharna and statement of account was presented by Mr. Udayan Makwana. The floor was then open for suggestions and discussions. which have been already circulated as part of Minutes of the AGM. The AGM was concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Anil Kumar Jain.

Project carried out by JAS

“The relevance of the exploration and documentation in Chanderi, Ashok Nagar district, Madhya Pradesh”



Beethla temple which will be submerged this year

Extensive documentation in the Rakheta region near Chanderi, Madhya Pradesh was carried out by Dr. Shivam Dubey under a project of JAS supported by Jains India Trust, Chennai. The field work focused on the Jain heritage in the region: the Bhiyadant Jaina Caves and the Beethla Jaina temple complex, located ~24 km from Chanderi town. Both sites exhibit Jaina cultural features while Bhiyadant was recently documented in 2019 by Michael Willis, Beethla had only fleeting mentions (1925–2020) with no detailed archaeological recording. At Bhiyadant, the team recorded Jaina and Hindu rock-reliefs and their dimensions, noted attributes, and filmed footage—capturing 15–16 reliefs. At Beethla several sculptures scattered around were found. Their erosion was assessed and they were photographed and filmed with structural details. Over 80 sculptural remains were found on-site, plus additional fragments housed by locals for

worship, which documented. Interviews with



villagers provided insight into current maintenance and protection conditions. The team emphasized Chanderi's historical role in regional trade, prompting questions about why these sites were chosen and their societal functions. The immediate concern is that both sites face possible submergence due to the Aur River Dam Project. The team's priority is to publish thorough documentation, before the sites are lost forever.

New Projects

JAS has received six applications for the project work / job in Jain Philosophy. Promising candidates were interviewed and shortlisted. Any Senior scholar, willing to guide them may kindly contact Ms. Purvi Dave. JAS is looking for anybody who wants to offer scholarships to selected candidates.

Gratitude to Dr. S.S. Pokharna

Dr. S.S. Pokharna has resigned from the post of Executive Secretary due to his inability to continue because of other commitments and health issues. He is one of the founder members of JAS. During his tenure, he worked very hard to heighten the JAS. JAS thanks Dr S.S. Pokharna for his guidance in the growth of JAS as Executive Secretary since its inception. He has agreed to continue as executive committee member.

Executive Committee

Mr. Dilip Jain, an environmentalist from Mumbai has been unanimously elected as Executive Secretary of JAS on 1st June, 2025. Also, Mr. Vijay Sancheti, an educationist, associated with Jain Vishva Bharati Institute, Ladnun has been unanimously elected as council member.

The Office Beares of JAS are now as follows:
Dr. Narendra Bhandari, President
Dr. Dharmchand Jain, Vice-President,
Mr. Dilip Jain, Executive Secretary

Advisory Board

Dr. Narayan Lal Kachhara, Chair
Dr. Para Mal Agrawal
Dr. Pratap Sanchettee
Dr. Jeoraj Jain
Dr. Anil Kumar Jain
Dr. Sushma Singhvi
Mr. Vijay Sancheti

New JAS Fellows

JAS welcomes the following new fellows of JAS

1. Dr. Kundan Lal Kothari, Udaipur
2. Shri Fateh Chand Samadariya, Chennai
3. Shri Rajesh Kumar Parasramani, Chattishgarh
4. Ms. Indu Jhunjhunwala, Bangalore
5. Shri Kailash Mull Dugar

Book Release



Vimochan of Jain Academy of Scholars
Proceeding 4, Dravya issue and other books

was held in the international conference organised by Shrutratnakar, Dr. Jitendra Shah at Gujarat University, Ahmedabad on 11-12 January, 2025.



Mr. Udayan Makwana explaining the activities of JAS to the dignitaries in the conference.

Dr. Bipin Doshi honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award



Dr Bipin Doshi, Mumbai receiving Lifetime Achievement on 12th Jan 2025 in the same International Conference held at Gujarat University.

Dr Narendra Bhandari honoured with Acharya Bhikshu Pragya Samman



Dr. Dharmchand Jain, honoured with "Acharya Jawahar Jain Jyoti Purashkar"

डॉ. धर्मचंद जैन को 5 लाख रु. का आचार्य जवाहर जैन ज्योति पुरस्कार प्रदत्त

कोलकाता, 1 अप्रैल (जलतेदीप ब्यूरो)। जयनारायण व्यास विश्वविद्यालय, जोधपुर के पूर्व संस्कृत प्रोफेसर डॉ. धर्मचंद जैन को हाल ही कोलकाता में श्री श्वेतांबर स्थानकवासी जैन सभा, कोलकाता की ओर से 'आचार्य जवाहर जैन ज्योति पुरस्कार' से सम्मानित किया गया। सभाध्यक्ष सरदारमल कांकरिया, कार्यक्रम अध्यक्ष कलकत्ता उच्च न्यायालय के पूर्व मुख्य न्यायाधीश असोमकुमार बनर्जी, मुख्य अतिथि सचिन रांका और अतिथियों ने उन्हें शील, मुकाहार, सम्मान-पट्टिका और पांच लाख रु. के चेक के साथ यह सम्मान प्रदान किया। सम्मेलन प्रचार मंडल, जयपुर के पूर्व अध्यक्ष और सेवानिवृत्त प्रशासनिक अधिकारी चंचलमल बछवत ने परिचय देते हुए बताया कि

अनेक पुस्तकों के लेखक, संपादक एवं प्राकृत-संस्कृत के विश्वरुत विद्वान डॉ. धर्मचंद विगत 31 वर्षों से मासिक पत्रिका 'जिनवाणी' का संपादन कर रहे हैं। जैन विश्व भारती, तीर्थंकर महावीर विश्वविद्यालय सहित कई अकादमिक व शैक्षणिक संस्थानों के साथ उनकी विद्वत्तापूर्ण सेवाएं जुड़ी हैं। इस अवसर पर अपने उद्बोधन में डॉ. धर्मचंद जैन ने सभा के प्रति हार्दिक आभार जताया। उन्होंने आचार्य जवाहरलालजी महाराज के चिंतन को प्रार्थना बताया। उन्होंने आचार्य हस्तीमलजी, आचार्य आत्मारामजी, जैन दिवाकर चौधमलजी आदि प्रभावक संतों के योगदान को रेखांकित किया। सभा के मंत्री अशोक मिश्री ने बताया कि समारोह में रिद्धकरण सिपानी को आचार्य नानेश स्मृति सम्मान, प्रो. गिरीश्वर मिश्र को फूसराज बछवत सम्मान तथा राज्यसभा सांसद लहरसिंह सिरैया को विजयसिंह नाहर सम्मान प्रदान किए गए। संयोजक रिद्धकरण बोधरा ने बताया कि स्थानकवासी जैन सभा व सभा की इकाई विचार मंच द्वारा जैन समाज के चारों संप्रदायों की विभूतियों के नाम से साहित्य, शिक्षा, सेवा, संगीत, कला आदि विभिन्न श्रेणियों में सम्मान प्रदान किए जाते हैं। यह जानकारी कवि डॉ. दिलीप धींग ने दी।

Tribute to Dr. Viney Jain



On the demise of our senior member Dr. Viney Jain, JAS paid tribute to him in a condolence meeting held on 4th February 2025.

Dear Scholars,

We are glad to present you the 7th issue of the newsletter. If you have any suggestion, please let us know.

Dr. Anil Kumar Jain
Purvi Dave

Contact us

Purvi Dave:

m9712897976@gmail.com / 9712897976

Udayan Makwana

udayan.m89@gmail.com / 9727252290

SSRI/ JAS Address: 803, Yash Aqua, Vijay Cross
Roads, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380009.

Websites

JAS Website: <https://www.jainscholars.com/>,

SSRI Website: <https://www.ssri.global/>

**Lectures are available on YouTube Channel
Link:**

<https://youtube.com/c/JainAcademyofScholars>
[SSRI](https://youtube.com/c/JainAcademyofScholars)

**Tatva characha with Pujya Mahendra Muni are
available on YouTube Channel Link:**

<https://youtu.be/9buAC4AK1E8>

**Contribute to the academic / research
activities of JAS**

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