



Science and Spirituality Research Institute & Jain Academy of Scholars



Newsletter # 2

Ahmedabad

July 2023

JAS completed 3 years

Jain Academy of Scholars (JAS) was established on 30th June 2020 with two main objectives- (1) Carrying out and promoting study and research on Jainology with scientific methodology and logic, (2) Enriching scientific theories by introducing Jain concepts. Initially, there were only 18 founder members. It is a matter of great satisfaction that now number of members is more than 70. JAS has made a very satisfactory progress during last 3 years with the support of all the members.

JAS Annual Awards

Upon recommendation by a committee constituting of Dr. D. C. Jain, (Chairman), Dr. Sushama Singhvi and Dr. M.S. Sisodia, the Awards for the year 2022-23 have been given to the following JAS members:

Lifetime Achievement Award

1. Dr. Bipin Doshi

Excellence Awards

1. Dr. Paras Mal Agrawal
2. Dr. C. Devakumar

Each award comprises of a citation and a trophy. These awards were presented by JAS President Dr. Narendra Bhandari and citation was read by Dr. D. C. Jain.

Collaboration with Organisations

With the efforts of JAS President Dr. Narendra Bhandari, JAS/SSRI has entered into academic collaboration with Suman Deep Vidyapeeth, Baroda, GJI JAIN university, Bangalore and Shankheshwar Parashvanath Karuna Trust, Palitana, while our activities with Shri Guniaji Teerth Trust, Bangalore and Spirituality Technology Research Foundation, Mumbai are continuing. We have also taken up some activities with ISJS, Pune and Shrut Ratnakar, Ahmedabad. Dr.

Sudhir Shah, Dr. Pratap Sanchetee and Dr. Narendra Bhandari are involved in studying physiological and psychological effects of long fasting with Sumandeep Vidyapeeth, specifically the long 171 days fast conducted by Pujya Virag Muni. All Fellows are welcome to work with the above institutions on activities of mutual interest.

Weekly Lectures by JAS scholars

Weekly lectures and Round Table discussions (on Pudgal) by eminent scholars are continuing regularly All lectures are available on JAS YouTube Channel Link:

<https://youtube.com/c/JainAcademyofScholarsSSRI>

Speaker	Topic
Dr. Dharamchand Jain lead the discussion	RTM-2 on Scientific Aspects of Dravya (Pudgal)
Dr. Varsha Shah	Dialogues between Kesi muni & king Pradesi. (Raipaseniyā sūtra)
Dr. Lata Bothra	चौबीस तीर्थंकर : पुरासाक्ष्यों एवं ऐतिहासिक परिप्रेक्ष्य में
Munishri Adarsh chandra ji	Prasun Wellness System of Jainism
Dr. Dharamchand ji & Dr. Kachhara ji lead the session	RTM-3 on Scientific Aspects of Dravya (Pudgal)
Samani Dr. Shashi Pragya	Environment Protection via Jain Business Ethics
Dr. N. L. Kachhara ji lead the session	RTM-4 on Scientific Aspects of Dravya (Pudgal)
Dr. G. C. Jain	Dr. G. C. Jain Jainism Science Vs Modern Science

231 videos have been unloaded. About 450 are its viewers and 326 have subscribes for JAS Channel.

The details of lectures and RTM conducted during April-June 2023 is given in the above table.

Ongoing Classes

Following two online classes are going on regularly

- (1) **Samaysaar:** It is conducted on weekly basis by Pt. Dipakbhai Kotadia, since June 2023. Earlier, it was conducted by (Late) Pt. Romeshbhai Shah.
- (2) **Shri Gommatsar (Jiv Kand):** It is continuing by Dr. C. Devakumar and Dr. S.L. Godawat w.e.f. 21st June, 2022.

Course on Karma and Genetic Science

A course on Karma and Genetic Science has been designed by Dr. N.L. Kachhara and Samani Dr. Chaitanya Pragya for Florida International University, USA. This course is currently being offered online. It is a multidisciplinary course inviting experts from various fields as below.

Instructor	Lecture topics
Samani Chaitanya Prajna	Soul in Jainism
Dr. Maheep Bhatnagar	Science of Genetics
Dr. C. Devakumar	Rise of karma
Dr. Shyam L. Godawat	Karma and Genetics
Dr. Anil Kumar Jain	Genetic Engineering, Cloning and karma
Dr. Pratap Sanchetee	Brain, Sensation, Perception, Cognition; Mind, higher brain functions
Dr. Narayan L. Kachhara	Karma, Vargana, Eugenics, Euphenics, Jain Life Style and Practices, Prana, Paryapti, Biophotons, Lesya, Mind, Dreams, Evolutionary History on Earth, Soul-mind-body model

Lectures' videos are available on the website of FIU google classroom.

Research Board constituted

A Research Board has been constituted, with Dr. Pratap Sanchetee as the Chair, with some seed money, to carry out small projects. Scholars are encouraged to submit Research projects to this Board.

Indian History and Culture Group Formed

A Group has been formed with the objective of bringing Jain contribution to Indian History and culture in the main stream of education and getting it recognised nationally, with Shri Shailendra Jain as the coordinator. About ten renowned scholars outside JAS have agreed

to contribute their knowledge. Scholars interested in this topic are requested to participate actively.

Books Published by Scholars

Following new books written by JAS Fellows have been published during April-June 2023:

- (1) 'Samaysaara - English Translation and Annotations' by Dr. Paras Mal Agrawal (Ph: 9784705711)
- (2) 'जैनागम – तत्त्वानुप्रेक्षा', लेखक-डॉ. धर्मचंद जैन (प्राप्ति के लिए संपर्क @ 9821533702/ 9137727109)
- (3) 'चिंतन के आयाम', लेखक-डॉ. धर्मचंद जैन (प्राप्ति के लिए संपर्क @ 9785297451)
- (4) 'जैनधर्म में कर्म-मीमांसा (भाग-3), लेखिका-डॉ. मंजू नाहटा (प्राप्ति के लिए संपर्क @ 033-22683992/ 46006562)
- (5) 'जैन विज्ञान और आधुनिक विज्ञान' (द्वितीय संस्करण), लेखक-डॉ. एल.सी. जैन (प्राप्ति के लिए संपर्क @ 7999224739)
- (6) 'Some Unanswered Questions of Life' by Dr. Anil Kumar Jain (available on Amazon, also may contact @ 7665634999)
- (7) 'A brief introduction to Jainism' by Dr. Anil Kumar Jain (available on Amazon, also may contact @ 7665634999)

Book on Anekantavada

A book on applications of Anekantavada is under preparation by ISJS and some other institutions. Its motivator is Dr. Shugan C. Jain. JAS is represented by its President Dr. Narendra Bhandari in this effort.

Dr. Bipin Doshi on “Ahimsa Yatra” *Received “JAINA Award”*

Senior Fellow Dr. Bipin Doshi is on three months “Ahimsa Yatra” to USA. He started his tour on 27th June 2023. He is visiting many Universities and Jain centres in USA to propagate Jainism.

He has been awarded the prestigious “JAINA Presidential Award 2023” The award was given at 22nd Biennial JAINA Convention held from June 30 to July 2, 2023 in Lakeland, Florida USA in presence of 4000 attendees.

“Maharishi Patanjali Samman” to Dr. Sushma Singhvi

Dr. Sushma Singhvi was awarded “Maharishi Patanjali Samman” on 4th July 2023 by Yoga Nilayam, Rajasthan Yoga Foundation.

Dr. Dilip Dhing Honored

On May 21, 2023, Dr. Dilip Dhing was honoured with 'Yugdhara Samman' by Rajasthan's literary organization Yugdhara (Udaipur). In the presence of many litterateurs, Dr. Dhing was given this honour for the creation of abundant public useful literature by him and for his remarkable contribution in the propagation of human values and vegetarianism. On 8th June 2023, Bhattarak Dhavalkirti also honored Dr. Dhing at the ancient pilgrimage Tirumalai under Tiruvannamalai district in Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Dilip Jain Honoured

On 11th May 2023 the Honourable 14th President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind awarded the prestigious Citizens' Gratitude to Gallant Warriors 2023 to DJED Foundation Directors, Dr. Dilip Jain (JAS Fellow) along with his wife Mrs. Shilpa Mehta Jain for their social, ecological, and educational work.

Various achievements of JAS Fellows

- With the efforts of senior JAS Fellows Dr. Sulekh C. Jain, Dr. Jasvant Modi and others, Shri Adinath Chair in Jain Studies at University of Wisconsin at Madison (USA) was established. Dr. Milaeka Chase is appointed as the inaugural Chair there.
- Dr. D.S. Kothari Research and Education Institute organized an international seminar on environmental protection. Vigyan Teerth (Palitana), JAS and SSRI were also its associates. Founder President of the Institute and General Secretary of JAS Dr. S.S. Pokharna played a special role in this event. He informed that Gandhi Jayanti (2nd Oct.) will be celebrated as Vishva Ahimsa Diwas.
- Prof. Priyadarshana is probably the only JAS Fellow who observed Varshitapa which concluded in April 2023. She delivered 3 lectures related to Jain Way of Healing, Understanding of Sanjna, Dimensions of Non-violence at different forums. One of her student was awarded Ph.D. She took Prakrit and Tattvartha Sutra classes for Sadhus and Sadhvijs.
- Ms. Sweety Bothra awarded Ph.D.
- Dr. L.C. Jain published 5 articles/papers.
- Mr. Nikhil Shah put exhibition on non-violence and vegetarian life style at several places.
- Mr. Sunil Kumar Mehta attended the three day exhibition at Palitana on Violence free world in association with Samast Mahajan Ahinsa Sammelan on 8, 9 & 10th July.
- Dr. Dilip Dhing is working on the research project 'Glorious Contribution of Jains in Tamil Nadu' sponsored by Shasun Jain College, Chennai. Through them, regular essays, research essays, memoirs, contexts, poems etc. are published in various character magazines.
- Dr. Vijay Sancheti had organized the Karnataka State Level Jain Vidya Workshop on 16.07.2023 at Mysuru Terapanth Bhawan, with the aim of training the workers of Karnataka to further Jain Vidya.
- Dr. Indrachand Dudhedia wrote about 60 pages on Mahavira for the book "Nirantara Varddhishnu Vaigyanik Mahavira" with emphasis

on scientific content in his life. He also delivered lectures online.

- Dr. Dhruti Rathi is the editor of Jain Avenue and Jain Digest. Her editorials are published regularly in these magazines.
- Dr. Jeoraj Jain is trying to have collaboration with Vigyan Tirth to work on 'Bhashmi Jal'.
- Dr. Vishal Mehta, Dr. Shyamlal Godawat, Dr. G.C. Jain and others took active participation in various activities.
- Mr. Pawan Jain informed that he is motivated with the regular attending JAS meetings.

Notifications

- The next issue of Proceedings of Jain Academy of Scholars is going to be devoted to Dravya (द्रव्य). Scholars are requested to contribute suitable articles based on their original research work.
- Scholars desirous of working on academic projects related to Jain philosophy are requested to contact JAS.

Tribute

JAS and SSRI pay tribute to Munishri Mahendra Kumar Ji, who was inspiration to us. His *Santhara* completed on 6th April 2023.

Dear Scholars,

The newsletter brings you the developments and information about SSRI and JAS activities. It also provides information about the achievements of our scholars. Your suggestions are important to us. Please feel free to give the suggestions.

- Anil Kumar Jain
Editor-Newsletter

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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

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

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

Contribute to the academic / research activities of JAS

Bank Account details

JAIN ACADEMY OF SCHOLARS TRUST,

ICICI Bank, A/C no.: 045705002648

IFSC: ICIC0000457 (Thaltej Branch)

Jai Jinendra

PHOTO GALLERY

AWARDEES OF JAS 2023

Lifetime Achievement of Award –
Dr. Bipin Doshi



Dr. Bipin Doshi – JAINA Presidential
Award



Excellence Award –
Dr. Paras Mal Agrawal



Mr. Dilip Jain, Mumbai



Dr. C. Devakumar



Dr. Vijay Sancheti



Jai Jinendra